# The Piermont New/sletter

VOLUME XXXXVI NO. 1 PUBLISHED BY THE PIERMONT CIVIC ASSOCIATION SPRING 2016

# **On The Beach At The Tallman Pool Club**

t was a warm and sunny morning in early March that could have easily been mistaken for one in June. Billy Procida and I were touring the Tallman Pool and Beach Club as landscaping and construction were getting underway. Even though the property had a way to go before it would look like the rendered drawings on the club's website, I could easily imagine relaxing in one of its new Adirondack chairs, like the couple in the drawing. They are gazing out across the Piermont Marsh at the Hudson River. Their chairs sit on the club's brand new, sparkling white sand beach.

Billy, a Piermont resident and president of Procida Funding & Advisors, is heading the effort to reopen the Tallman Mountain State Park pool. As we walked the grounds, his phone rang non-stop. Every call was about the pool club. There's a lot to talk about: locker room renovations, stage construction for live entertainment, insurance, membership promotion. In between calls, we talked about our love for Piermont. Tallman Mountain State Park is across the creek from his backyard. Whether we discussed music, food, phragmites, or the pool, every topic circled back to this community, which he cares deeply about. "We need the community's support," Billy said. "The feedback we have received has been overwhelmingly positive."

Billy has assembled a team of locally owned and operated businesses for every part of the project, from the landscaping, construction and the electrical work, to the daily pool operations, including swim lessons. Tappan-based Northern Comfort Catering (NoCo) will operate the NoCo Beach Grill, an outdoor kitchen and bar, which will be serving some serious upgrades from your standard pool club fare. NoCo will also cater private events on the pool club's grounds through the end of October.

After spending a few minutes with Billy, one thing becomes very clear: only someone with his energy and vision could get this project off the ground. It is his business to transform possibility into reality for locations and projects that need an injection of financial support and heavy doses of aggressive cheerleading. Aside from the pool club project, Billy's Englewood Cliffs, NJ, company also financed the soonto-open Time Hotel in Nyack. His band frequently plays in the area. What's more, he sponsors area fundraisers, including the Rock the River Run on May 1. It benefits the Palisades Park Conservancy. He is planning on using the pool and its amenities frequently, and playing there with Billypulooza, his band, on the pool club's stage.

When New York State closed the Tallman pool in 2008, I was devastated. My family moved to Piermont in the middle of a steamy summer years before, and the pool was an affordable and convenient relief from the summer heat. Without a town pool in Orangetown, we had few local options *continued on page 16* 



Billy Procida at the Tallman pool. Fred Burrell photo

# **President's Corner**





A wall of weeds blocked some of the views of the Hudson last summer along the pier's Northshore Walkway. Because the village and the condo associations blame each other for the situation, nothing is likely to change this summer.

The Piermont Civic Association has been the unofficial guardian of the pier's spectacular North Shore Walkway since planners first proposed it. That's why we are so dismayed that another summer may pass with a wall of weeds growing in some sections on the seawall (see photo) blocking pedestrians' views of the Hudson River.

The village says that the condo owners should clear the weeds. The owners say it is up to the village. Both believe that if they do it, they'll be admitting responsibility for maintaining and, eventually, rebuilding the seawall. It is a classic he said, she said situation. Perhaps a marriage counselor could work things out for them.

The walkway, Flywheel Park and land for a new library, were some of what Piermont demanded from the developers before letting them put up the condos. It worked out great for Piermont, even better than those of us living here at the time dreamed.

Fears that the gated Piermont Landing would become a separate community proved unfounded. Instead, its residents became a vital part of Piermont. They are on most committees and associations, from the Village Board to the Civic Association. Landing residents generously give both their time and money to Piermont groups. Some of them even think it's funny when we teasingly tell them that they live in the projects.

After the condos were completed, and it was time to open the walkway, some of the new residents balked. They feared outsiders walking in front of their expensive homes. They actually put padlocks on the gates at both ends of the walkway. Police repeatedly cut the locks but for a longtime passive village officials sat on their hands and did nothing about opening the gates. Up until then, the village had thought it owned it. It turned out it didn't.

The Civic Association didn't give up. It kept pushing to get the walkway opened with articles in this Newsletter, and by speaking out at meetings. Finally, the Landing agreed to open it if the Village Board agreed to maintain it. That agreement did not include the seawall, Village Trustee John Gallucci, an attorney, recently assured the Board. The condo associations disagree.

The Board's newest member, Rob Burns, a Landing resident, just wants someone to cut the weeds but it doesn't look like it will happen. Weeds will again block some of our best Hudson views and that's a shame.

~Bob Samuels

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This issue of *The Piermont Newsletter*, and many past issues, can be found online at http://www.piermont-ny.com/newsletter/ thanks to volunteer Richie Stark.



# Piermont's House Band—Old Number 7

Tontrary to what you might assume. The Old Number 7 Band was not born in Piermont. Long Island native Bruce Tucker started it in 1979 when he was a student at SUNY Binghamton. Named for that beloved Tennessee sipping whiskey, it was a success from the beginning.

Two years later Bruce, having graduated and moved Rockland County for a job with a textiles firm, kept the band going. He added new musicians, but maintained its successful mix of Bluegrass, Blues, R and B, Classic Rock and a little new and traditional Folk.

In the early 1980's, Number 7 started appearing regularly at the Turning Point and has been playing gigs in Rockland, North Bergen and New York City ever since. Along the way, Bruce fell in love with Piermont. He and his family moved here in 1990 and Number 7 became village's unofficial "House Band."

They are a staple at many of Piermont's outdoor festivals, fundraisers and indoor concerts. They have played at the Civic Association free concerts in Flywheel Park and will do so again this year at 7:30 pm, Thursday, July 21. They've appeared at Piermont's Bastille Day, for Historical Society fundraisers and for two post Hurricane Sandy fundraisers that band member Jim Kimak organized.

Non-Piermont fundraisers include a yearly Barn Dance to benefit Rockland Center for the Arts (Bruce is on its Board of Directors), as well as concerts at Hopper House. They also play regularly here at Pier 701, the Whiskey Kitchen in Valley Cottage, and the American Roots Music Festival, in Westchester and other venues.

The band practices weekly. It now has seven musicians. All but one have regular jobs, including a contractor and an artist/designer. The members are Piermont native Len Hunt on drums, former Piermonter (now living in Sparkill) Jim Kimak on saxes and base, Lorena Mann lead vocals, Jeff Doctorow on lead guitar, Willey Loniewski on harmonica and percussion, Bobby Knee on keyboard and vocals and Piermonter Bruce Tucker on banjo, acoustic guitar and vocals.

Number 7 has a large fan base and sends out regular e-mail blasts announcing up-coming appearances. To get on their e-mail list, send your email address to Bruce at btucker1027@ gmail.com. You can also keep up with them on Facebook where at last count they've piled up hundreds of "Likes." ~Susan Freiman



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The Ice Cream Store with So Much Morel

# Piermont Is Hollywood On The Hudson

fter Woody Allen turned Piermont into a sooty Depression-era film set, the village washed its own face, becoming an even more charming place to live and visit. The Allen film also pointed other movie makers in our direction.

Producers, taking advantage of spring's longer days, will be making trips here from the huge sound stages in Astoria and Flushing with trucks bearing cameras, lights and masses of other equipment. Actors, camera men, lighting experts, best boys and grips will also head here.

We offer much to attract them. They love our neighborhoods of old houses, and our mountains, marshes, creek, pier and river. The castle, owned until recently by the Stern family, has been a favorite location. They'll be taking visual bites out of our natural world and the village will become still another filmic fantasy.

It starts with professional location scouts like R Richard Hobbs. "I get the script locations broken down," he explains. "My job is to put options in front of the director. Piermont is a friendly film location. There are pretty parts of it like the jetty and up Route 9-W." He's paddled a kayak up the Sparkill Creek for research. There are quaint houses," he adds. "It's a pretty paddle." An early filmmaker used the creek as a stand-in for a Venice canal

Film companies pay the village fees and police overtime

for the privilege of working here. In 2014 the village collected \$44,600; last year it totaled \$53,862.

Piermont has been the setting for many films including:

♦ "At First Sight," a 1999 movie starring Val Kilmer and Mira Sorvino had one of its main locations at a 100-year-old home at 32 Tate Avenue.

◆"A Good Marriage," a 2014 psychological thriller based on a Stephen King novella, had scenes shot inside the View on the Hudson. "Hide and Seek," the 2005 thriller with Robert DeNiro and Dakota Fanning was filmed at a house on Tweed Boulevard.

•"The Juror," 1996 film, had Demi Moore's pretend home on Piermont Avenue

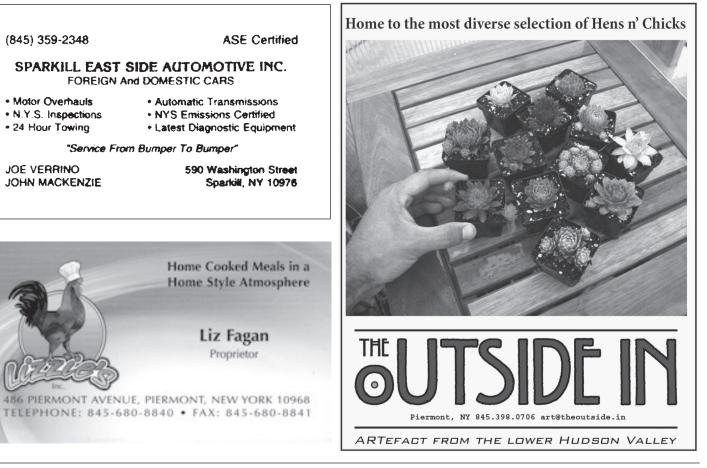
◆"Ricki and the Flash," a 2015 comedy starring Meryl Streep and Kevin Kline has scenes shot at Confetti .

•An untitled Danny Devito apocalyptic thriller starring William Fechter was partly shot here. It has not been released.

A number of TV series also have been filmed in Piermont:

♦ "The Black List," starring James Spader has scenes shot on Ferry Road at the end of the Pier and in the parking lot of the View.

♦"Blind Spot," an NBC series, used Tallman Mountain and parts of downtown Piermont.



◆"30 Rock," the Tina Fey and Alec Baldwin comedy has shot a number of its 138 episodes in Piermont.

◆ "The Following," with Kevin Bacon was filmed at the castle and Tallman State Park

◆"Neon Joe-Werewolf Hunter," a mini series set in the pretend sleepy enclave of Garrity, Vermont, has scenes shot on the pier, at the Village Hall both in and outside and in front of the Pizza Place.

The village has starred in many TV commercials. Verizon featured the Sidewalk Bistro, Piermont Avenue, Confetti looking through a window from outside.

With all this going on around us, it seems a reasonable fantasy that if you were to stroll around Piermont while a film is being shot, you might just wander in front of a camera and become part of the film.

Not so. Being an extra is a lot like having a real job.

You'll need a good photograph of your face and an accurate resume. You should get listed with a casting agency, such as www.centralcasting.org, the industry's largest. You should send them your headshot and resume and then follow up with a phone call.

Being hired would be a long shot. Of course, you can always make a selfie film with an iPhone, starring yourself in one more Piermont fantasy.

~Fred Burrell

### Piermont's Village Filming Fees and Red Tape

An application costs \$1,000 and must be completed and returned to the Village Clerk/treasurers office at least 3 full business days before the shoot starts. Filming permit ranges from \$250 to \$1,000 depending how many days in advance the permit application is received.

Piermont charges filmmakers \$500 a day to shoot on private property is. The fee is \$250 per hour (minimum 4 hours), for filming on public land. Students pay just \$50 a day.

Beyond those costs, the film company must indemnify the Village against any losses. Piermont also requires that the production company to have a \$5,000,000 insurance policy to insure the village against any claim, loss or damage that occurs during filming.

And the production company must give also the village a \$25,000 letter of credit guaranteeing the restoration of any public property damaged during filming.

One more detail. Production companies have to pay the Piermont Police Department for its services. It's up to Chief Michael O'Shea to determine how many hours of police presence are needed for a production.



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### **Piermont Police Now Have Crisis Backup**

Piermont Police Chief Michael O'Shea will tell you that a big part of his job is coming to the aid of people in crisis. "You guys are social workers with guns," the late Robert Sennish observed after riding a night shift with them.

Each year our police do in-service training to improve its crisis management skills. Now they have a significant partner to help them – the new New York State BHRT -Behavioral Health Response Team program. BHRT helps any person in Rockland County who is experiencing, or is at risk of a psychological or emotional crisis and requires behavioral intervention.

Piermont police can bring BHRT on board when they are called to a crisis situation. "What we are most happy with," says Chief O'Shea, "is that this team follows up with those they help, with referrals and ongoing care and counseling. These things that make a real and positive difference in the outcome for those folks."

Police call the BHRT team when they

feel its intervention is needed to prevent a crisis from escalating, but residents can call the team directly if they need help dealing with emotional distress, drug abuse, mental health issues. Interaction with adults, teens and children are kept are strictly confidential.

There have already been three successful interventions in Piermont this year involving BHRT. In one a teenager with a drug-related crisis found the rehabilitation placement he needed with the BHRT's help.

If you have an emergency or crisis, first call 911. The Piermont Police have a three-minute response time. For now, BHRT has a single mobile unit vehicle serving the entire county, but they've been able to get here when we've needed them, says Chief O'Shea. Their outreach and support line is manned 24 hours a day, and its help and services are free.

Here, like the rest of Rockland County, domestic violence is one of the two biggest problems dealt with by the police. The other is traffic-related. When it comes to domestic violence, Chief O'Shea says the department is pro-arrest and has a mandatory arraignment policy in place -- the possibility of jail time is a strong deterrent. The police department does whatever it can to support victims of domestic violence, and BHRT, with its resources and on-going assistance, is now an important part of that support.

Ray Florida, the Executive Director of the Rockland BHRT program, points out that people will often not seek out the help they need with behavioral issues because of the fear of being stigmatized. He encourages residents and their families to see past that worry and take advantage of the many services that are there available for them. "Call when there is smoke, don't wait for the fire".

Rockland's Behavioral Health Response Team can be reached by phone at 845-517-0400, and online at www.Rockland Help.org.

~Margaret Grace

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# **Poison Ivy Loves Piermont**

You may find living here agreeable, but poison ivy finds Piermont paradise. The 60 – 80 percent of us already sensitized and allergic to it will tell you poison ivy is a scourge to be purged. The tenacious plants caused some of my Piermont friends' faces swell to the point where they could barely open their eyes. Last summer we found poison ivy growing in the Community Garden and in some village parks.

Despite its ubiquity and its toxicity to humans, most people don't know enough about poison ivy to properly protect themselves or others from it. While the Piermont Parks Committee is working to eradicate it in two of Piermont's parks, my plant nerd research has led to some jaw-dropping facts about this plant which explains why that will be a challenging task. I truly hope the Committee, and the Community Garden, succeed! To help all Piermonters deal more successfully with poison ivy, here are some amazing basic facts:

The active irritant in poison ivy – Urushiol – is in all parts of the plant except for the pollen and nectar.

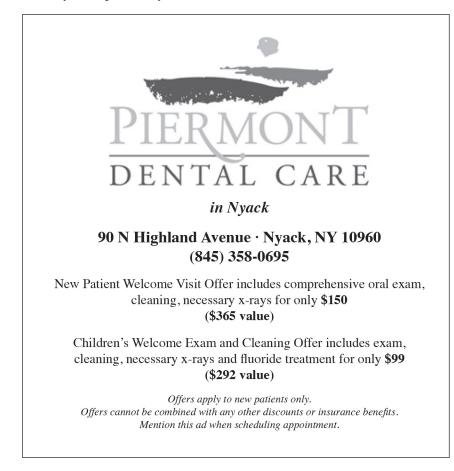
\*Urushiol is super sticky, not water soluble, hard to remove, quick to absorb into skin, is toxic whether the plant is alive or dead.

It retains its toxic properties up to five years after the plant dies and it stays toxic despite exposure to sun, heat, fire, air, cold, and water in all its forms.

Lurushiol can stick to pet fur and garden tools as well as to skin and clothing. Since it doesn't dissolve in water alone, trying to remove it using only water can just spread it around even further.

"Uroshiol dissolves in alcohol.

Humans become allergic after contact -- animals are immune.





Poison ivy can grow like a vine over the ground and up rock walls and fences, or it can grow like a freestanding bush or shrub up to 4 feet high, or it can grow up to 100 feet up the trunk of a tree and then send out its own numerous branches so it ends up looking like a tree itself.

The give away with poison ivy "trees" are the tiny "furry" rootlets that totally cover the woody climbing stems.

Poison ivy leaves grow in groups of three, and the three leaf groupings grow on alternating sides of the stem.

The shape, color and shine of poison ivy leaves is extremely variable.

The leaves and stems can, especially when young, have a red tinge, or not. They can also have a partial serrated or notched edge, or not. The leaves also can be shiny, or not.

In fall, the leaves can turn red, yellow, orange or purple.

Poison ivy is a perennial so each plant

continued on page 13



### **From The Library**

The Piermont Library is proud to present our new music series entitled Homeland in Harmony: American Roots Music. The first performance will take place on Sunday, May 22 at 1 pm. Please join us in welcoming the Bunkhouse Boys and their punchy mix of Cajun and Creole French music. Laren Droll on accordion is a Nyack native whose obsession with Cajun and Zydeco music stretches back over 25 years. Fiddler Roger Weiss from New Paltz honed his skills playing in the Cajun duo Cleoma's Ghost and is now active in Krewe de la Rue along with Droll. Mark Sagar on guitar and Maggie McManus on triangle form the rhythm section. Bunkhouse Boys are excited to bring the two-steps and waltzes much beloved in the dance halls of Cajun country to Piermont.

Our second performance in the series will take place on Sunday, June 12 at 1 pm and will focus on Bluegrass music with Wild Bill and the Mountain Oysters. The Mountain Oysters are a bluegrass/country music fusion band. Their members include the legendary Roger Sprung on banjo. Roger has played with the bluegrass greats including Doc Watson and Bill Monroe. He is featured on the Smithsonian American Heritage Music recordings. Their bass player is Richard Hawthrone. Emily Eastwick plays autoharp and Wild Bill is the lead singer and guitar player. The band has played together for over eight years.

For the month of May, join us at the Library for the talk From Here to Scribners, or Black Ink, White Paper: The Little-Known History of Writers in Piermont, given by local history librarian, Lara Jacobs. Writers in Piermont, you say? No way! Well, who lived in a castle, gave Piermont its name, wrote religious pamphlets, and ruled the Erie Railroad? Who lived in a cottage, edited a historic New York literary magazine, and played word battles with rival critic Edgar Allan Poe? Wait, there's more! Yet another authored articles and biographies, some scribbled in diaries, a few dashed off poetry, and others penned murderous mysteries.

Several went on to win National Book Awards, and saw their novels made into blockbuster Hollywood movies. Despite the varying genres and subjects they tackled, all of these writers had one thing in common: at some point, they called Piermont home! Just who were these authors, why and when did they come here, and where exactly did they live? The reception, which will be held on Sunday, May 1, from 2 pm to 4 pm, will include a PowerPoint presentation at 3 pm where one can learn the answer to the above questions as well as further fascinating details about these engaging literary figures and their time spent in Piermont.

Ms. Jacobs received a Bachelor's in English Literature from Bard College, and a Masters in Library Science at Pratt Institute. Having grown up in Piermont, she loves delving into the history of her native village and the people who formerly inhabited it. She now lives in Brooklyn, and also works at the Union League Club's library in Manhattan.



During the month of June, the Library is proud to present Daily Drawing by costume designer Annie Hickman. Ms. Hickman, a former Piermont resident, who now lives in Chestnut Ridge, NY. Her art career has evolved around the artistry of basketry, costumes of insects and other creatures, combined with her flamboyant style of dance, yoga and performance art. She has performed her own shows for festivals, schools, theaters, botanical gardens and zoos.

She and her husband, Allynn Gooen, have collaborated on productions that have taken them to faraway lands. She also has taught yoga for many years and she specializes in Ashtanga yoga and Fairy Tale yoga for kids. She currently teaches yoga and arts and crafts at NYU's Langone Medical Center to children with brain tumors.

This exhibit of Daily Line Drawings marks a leap away from Ms. Hickmans's costume designing career into a new medium- pen on paper. Ms. Hickman finds the drawing process to be relaxing and playful. By embracing art as a daily ritual it is framed in an exploratory and journalistic atmosphere where Ms Hickman marvels at the process- is it meditation? Is it medicine? Or is it just plain fun?

The reception, which will be held on Sunday, June 5th,

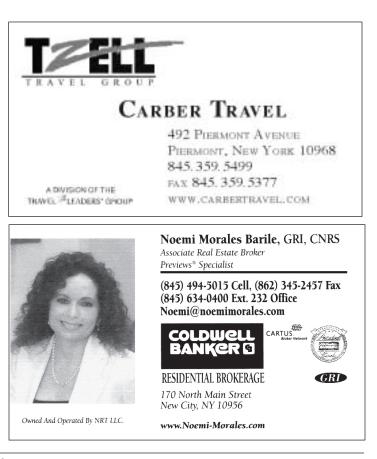


from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm, will include a workshop demonstration at 3:00pm for children and adults, markers and paper will be provided. Balloon Wizard Allynn Gooen, Ms. Hickman's husband, will enchant and delight the little ones with his colorful balloon artistry at 3:30 pm.

The Library's annual Summer Reading Program for kids 3 – 12 years-old is titled "On Your Mark, Get Set…". We will have a kick-off program on Tuesday, June 21 at 7 pm; all are welcome! Programs start Monday, June 27 and end with a family pizza party on Thursday, August 4th from 6:00 to 7:30 pm to celebrate all our terrific readers. Check in with us in June for further details.

Don't let the kids have all the fun, either. The 2016 Adult Summer Reading Program, "Exercise Your Mind: Read!" will be an eight-week reading raffle. Submit a raffle entry form, where we ask for your feedback, for each book you read in July and August to enter for your chance to win. Prizes will be awarded every Friday beginning on July 8 and concluding on August 26.

For more information on any of the events at the Dennis P. McHugh Piermont Public Library, please feel free to contact us at (845) 359-4595 or check us out on our website www. piermontlibrary.org, where you can join our mailing list to receive notifications of upcoming Library programs.



	Piermont Civic Association 2016 Summer Schedule
	Pull-Out Calendar
Saturday, May 14	Village Wide Yard Sale sponsored by Piermont Civic Association. Flywheel Park. Rain date, May 15
Sunday, May 22	First day of the Piermont Down to Earth Farmer's Market. M&T Bank Parking Lot – Sundays through November
Sunday, May 29	Memorial Day Commemorative Watchfire at end of Piermont Pier – lighting at midnight on Sunday
Monday, May 30	<b>Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies.</b> Parade from Fire House to Memorial Park for Memorial Day Program at 10am. Memorial Day services follow at end of Piermont Pier
Sunday, June 5	<b>Annie Hickman Exhibition Opening</b> and family artistic workshop along with balloon wizardry by Allynn Gooen, sponsored by the Piermont Public Library. At the library, beginning at 1pm. <b>Piermont Train Station Open to the Public</b> Noon-3pm.
Sunday, June 12	American Roots Music – Wild Bill and the Mountain Oysters. Presented by the Piermont Library, 1pm at the library
Saturday, June 18	Piermont Democratic Committee Ballgame and Family Picnic. Goswick Pavillion, noon – 4pm.
Sunday, June 19	Piermont Train Station Open to the Public. Noon-3pm. Pier Closed to Motor Vehicles.
Tuesday, June 21	Summer Reading Program for Kids. Kicks-off at 7pm at Piermont Public Library
Monday, June 27	St. John's Church Vacation Bible School Begins. 8:30 am – 3pm, for grades 1-5. Thru Thurs. June 30th
Sunday, July 10	Piermont Train Station Open to the Public. Noon-3pm.
Sunday, July 17	Pier Closed to Motor Vehicles
Thursday, July 21	Free Outdoor Summer Concert - Old Number 7 Band. Sponsored by the Piermont Civic Association. Flywheel Park
Thursday, July 28	Free Outdoor Summer Concert – EV Band. Sponsored by the Piermont Civic Association. Flywheel Park
Sunday, July 24	Piermont Train Station Open to Public Noon-3pm.
Sunday, August 7	Piermont Train Station Open to Public Noon-3pm.

Thursday, August 11 Free Outdoor Su Saturday, August 13 Hudson River Es	Free Outdoor Summer Concert - Cousins Moran. Sponsored by the Piermont Civic Association. Flywheel Park	Hudson River Estuary Fish Count. Flywheel Park. 3 – 5 pm. Sponsored by New York State DEC
	Thursday, August 11	Saturday, August 13

- Pier Closed to Motor Vehicles Sunday, August 14
- Piermont Train Station Open to the Public. Noon-3pm. Sunday, August 21
- Piermont Train Station Open to the Public. Noon-3pm. Also, Ramble Historic Hikes (tba) Sunday, Sept. 4
- Labor Day American Roots Festival. Sponsored by the Piermont Police Athletic League (PAL) and The TurningPoint. Goswick Pavillion/ Rittenberg Field. Noon-5:00pm Monday, Sept. 5
- Piermont Lobsterfest. Sponsored by the Piermont Civic Association. Goswick Pavillion, 2-6pm
  Art In the Park. Sponsored by the Piermont Chamber of Commerce and the Piermont Strauss Foundation.
  1-6pm. Flywheel Park
  Piermont Train Station Open House, Piermont Walking Tour. Sponsored by the Piermont Historical Society.
  1-6pm Piermont Station, Ash Street. Also, Historic Hikes (tba) Sunday, Sept. 18



### **Piermont Needs You**

The Piermont Fire Department and the Piermont Waterfront Resiliency Commission need volunteers for a new Village Wide Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

The CERT Program educates people about disaster preparedness and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. Using their training, CERT volunteers can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an emergency and can take a more active role in preparing their community.

As part of the CERT Team you may be asked to do the following when a disaster or overwhelming event occurs in the Village and responders are not immediately available:

- Check in on neighbors during emergency situations to ensure their safety

- Establish and maintain communication with responders

- Promote community awareness of potential hazards and preparedness measures

- Locate and turn off utilities during an emergency

- Perform basic First-Aid / Triage and treat victims

- Perform basic fire-fighting techniques: i.e., using a fire extinguisher to extinguish small fires

#### **Be Involved**

After joining the Piermont Village CERT, volunteers will have opportunities to participate in disaster exercises, promote emergency preparedness at community events, and respond to disasters in coordination with emergency responders in our Village.

To learn more about CERT training courses and joining with other CERT volunteers, contact Lisa DeFeciani: Village Trustee : Email: ldefeciani@piermontny.gov



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#### Poison Ivy Loves Piermont continued from page 7

lives for many years.

\*It likes many types of soil and can live in many place.

\*Poison ivy can grow from seed, or from root shoots which can pop up at any point along existing roots, or from stems which touch the ground and then root themselves.

Poison ivy roots can grow very far horizontally – about 20 feet – but they are shallow and only grow about 1 foot down into the soil.

The stems can grow fast and far - up to 20 feet in one season. The seeds can stay viable up to 6 years.

Poison ivy's non-toxic look-a-likes

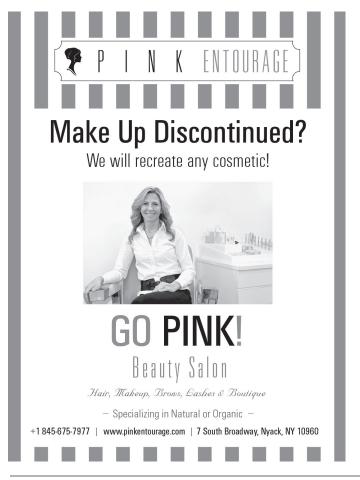
include very young Virginia creeper, very young maple tree seedlings and raspberry and blackberry leaves.

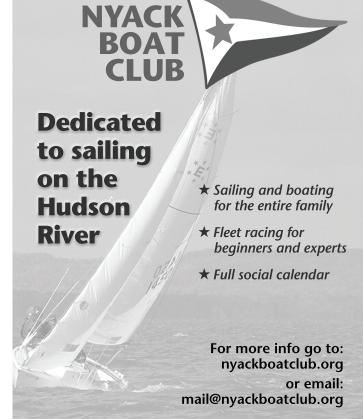
If you remember the saying "Leaves of three, let it be"!, as well as the fact that the leaf groups grow on alternate sides of the stem, you will go a long way in identifying it.

I strongly recommend that Piermonters learn to identify poison ivy and read up on various safe options for its removal, remembering to include caution, persistence, and neighborly consideration in their plans.

~Susan Freiman







# The Front Line

#### Police Warn of Phone and Internet Scams

Be on your guard against phone and internet scams, warns Piermont Police Chief Michael O'Shea. "Don't answer phone calls or internet solicitations about fines from the IRS, a court or other government agencies," he adds. "Also be wary of solicitations for home repair and landscaping work. Get references from workers and check with consumer protection for licenses before hiring a contractor."

#### **Rubbish Collections Begins Early April**

Piermont rubbish/debris collection runs through October 4, said Tom Temple, Piermont DPW Chief announced: "All items should be placed curbside for pickup in a neat and orderly fashion," he added. "We also ask that residents be sensitive to the timing of when they put out items for collection because it affects the appearance of our village. Don't put trash curbside until the weekend before the scheduled pick-up date." Contractors' must remove their own debris.

Household hazardous waste (chemicals, paints, batteries, etc.), including all Electronic Waste (e-waste): "televisions, computers, computer peripherals (i.e. monitors, keyboards, mouse), small electronic equipment (i.e. VCR's. DVR's, cable box receivers) and small scale servers) need to go to the Rockland County Household Hazardous Waste facility in Pomona ((845) 364-2444).

Don't use plastic bags to put recycling items curbside since these bags cannot be recycled. Instead, use villagesupplied recycling containers. If yours have been lost, the DPW has a small supply of new ones. Call the DPW at (845)



359-1717. A full guide to recycling can be found at www. rocklandrecycles.com.

#### **Building Department Revamps Fee Schedules**

The Piermont Building Department is updating all of its fee schedules for new home construction and remodeling projects in the village. We will have a full report on those new fee schedules in the next issue of the newsletter.

#### Fire Department Looks for Volunteers

The Piermont Fire Department is always looking for new members. Anyone interested in joining the Department should come to the firehouse on any Monday evening between 7-9 pm.

~Ron Derven

#### Piermont Government

Piermont Village Hall 845-359-1258 Police Department Emergencies: 911 845-359-0240 Water Rescue 911 Emergencies: 911 Fire Department Emergencies: 911 845-359-1208 Department of Public Works 845-359-1717 Dennis P. McHugh Piermont Public Library 845-359-4595



#### Looking for an Alternative?

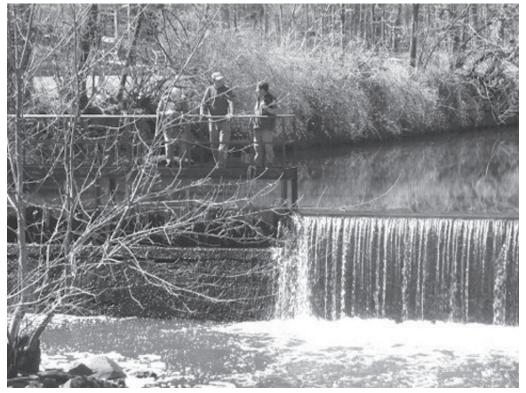
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Piermonter Ron Derven (left) discusses plans for a fish ladder at the Sparkill Creek dam with officials from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Chris Bowser (center) and Daniel Miller. Plans call for them to install the ladder—actually a bucket system to rescue baby eels—soon.





#### On The Beach At The Tallman Pool Club continued from page 1

outside of paying a bond on top of a private pool club membership, or relying on invites from friends with pools. I learned that my father and my aunt used to swim at Tallman State Park when they were kids growing up in Washington Heights.

The Tallman pool was closed in 2009 during a round of major budget cuts to the state park system after the 2008 recession. In 2010, Tallman itself

appeared on a list of parks threatened with closure. The cuts to the parks system have continued, but attendance at parks has gone up. Tallman has seen a steady increase in visitors since 2010, even without the pool, according to the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Almost 300,000 people visited the park in 2014.

The pool club's lease is private, but the pool property exists within the Tall-



man Mountain State Park so it must remain open to the public. Day passes will be available to the public for \$10/ person, but seasonal memberships come with some key benefits. These include members-only morning hours, private events and yoga classes, and discounts on food, beverages, swimming lessons and sundries. Members also receive an Empire Passport from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Passport holders get free admission and parking to most New York State parks, including Tallman.

About 150 Tallman Pool and Beach Club memberships were sold during the early registration period. Even though the discount offered then is gone, online registration is still open. Prices are \$600 for an individual; \$750



for a couple or single parent; and \$975 for a family. All volunteer firemen and EMT volunteers get a 20 percent discount.

The Tallman Pool and Beach Club is set to open on Memorial Day weekend. For more information, visit https://tallmanpoolclub.com.

~Jessica Kesselman





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Art Talk III: "House In Piermont", by William Riggs, circa 1940s. Ellis SIR collection.



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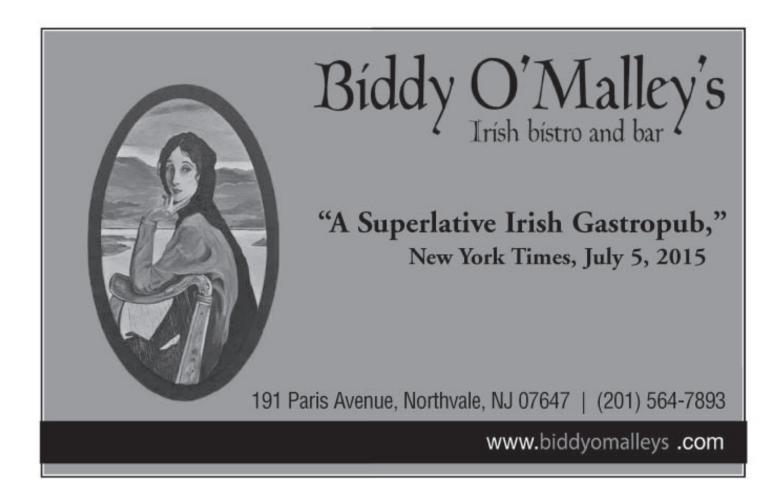


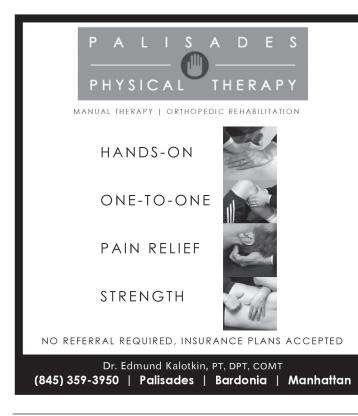
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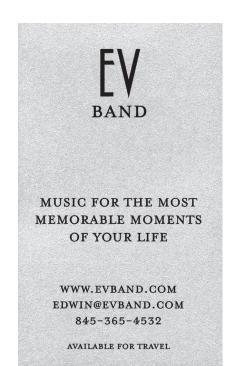


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#### **Spring Selling Tips:**

- Do some Spring cleaning
- Whip your yard into shape
- Wash windows inside and out
- Box up winter wardrobe
- Spruce up the entryway
- Bring out the bright colors

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