

The Kinderhook Times

Spring – Summer 2024



Spring, A New Beginning

From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Neighbors,

Spring, the season of renewal and new beginnings has arrived, and brings forth a sense of hope and transformation. As the winter fades from our memories, we happily embrace the fresh days of this time of year, except if you have allergies.

On March 18, 2024, like a new season, you elected a new mayor and two trustees to the Village Board. Our new team is in place and poised to tackle the challenge of delivering on the reasonable expectations of our residents, forging ahead with infrastructure projects,

maintaining the historical integrity of our Village and ensuring that the welcoming atmosphere that has blanketed our community for over a hundred years, will continue for our children and their children through this century and for many more to come.

Contact information for the mayor and the trustees can be found throughout this edition of the Kinderhook Times. Also details for office hours for the mayor will be provided in the very near future.

Dorene Weir, Mayor
Village of Kinderhook



INSIDE THIS

Important Information....2
Climate Smart.....3
Recreation Commission..4
KBPA5

That's A Fact.....5
Business Notes.....6
Albany Avenue Project7
Senior's Corner.....8

Cabin Fever.....9
Village Officials. 10
Kids Fun Page11
Spring Word Search.....12

Visit us at www.villageofkinderhook.org

For Your Information . . .

MONTHLY VILLAGE MEETINGS

Board of Trustees

2nd Wednesday – 7:00 PM

Climate Smart Community Task Force

2nd Tuesday every other month – 7:00 PM

Historic Preservation Commission

3rd Thursday – 7:00 PM

Planning Board

1st Thursday – 7:00 PM

Recreation Commission

2nd Monday – 7:00 PM

Zoning Board of Appeals

4th Monday – 7:00 PM

All meetings are open to the public and you are invited to attend.

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 4	Farmers' Market Begins – Village Square 8:30AM-12:30PM
May 4 -5	Artists' Studio Tour – KMArtTour.com
May 4	Village Clean-Up Day
May 4	Columbia County Hazardous Waste Day 8AM-12PM - 50 Grandinetti Dr. Ghent Contact Kinderhook Memorial Library
May 16	Spring Jam – LIVE Music by Soul Provider Village Square – 6PM (rain date May 23)
May 25	KBPA Spring Yard Sale
May 27	Memorial Day Parade – ICC Parking Lot State Farm Rd. to Volunteer Park – 10AM
June 1	Fyfe & Drumm Parade - Broad St – 12PM
June 1	KBPA Maker's Market – Village Square 9AM-2PM
June 8	OK5K Run - zippyreg.com/register/ok5k
June 15	Juneteenth @ Farmers' Market
June 22	Yoga – Rothermel Park - 10:30AM
June 29	Kinderhook Pride - Village Square 2:30PM
July 4	People's Parade
July 8 – Aug 16	Summer Camp Program
July 20	Firetruck Day – Rothermel Park - 11AM

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Mayor

Dorene M. Weir 518-758-1498
mayor@villageofkinderhook.org

Trustees

Susan Patterson 518-758-8727

Mark Browne 518-428-1967

Quinn Murphy 518-929-3347

Kevin Monahan 518-858-6083

Village Justice

Thomas Baumgartner 518-758-8778 EXT. 303

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Trevor Bean

518-758-8778. Ext. 302
CEO@villageofkinderhook.org

Office Hours:

**Monday through Thursday 8am-11 am
and by appointment.**

Inspections are scheduled by appointment.



Climate Smart Task Force

NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities (CEC) program provides the resources and funding to help local governments in New York create a healthy and sustainable environment by investing in future-focused clean energy solutions in their communities. By completing a variety of clean/efficient energy actions municipalities can receive monetary awards and accumulate points to be eligible for additional grant funding.

The Village's Climate Smart Task Force has participated in the program since 2018. Over that time, it has received more than \$60,000 in awards and grants for a number of actions taken including the installation of an electric vehicle charging station, community solar and clean heating and cooling campaigns. In turn these funds were used for other clean and efficient energy projects such as the installation of solar arrays on two municipal buildings.

Additionally, the Village has accumulated 3,200 points in the current Clean Energy Communities Leadership program achieving a two star designation. At this level, the village is now eligible to receive an additional \$60,000 in NYSERDA grants. These funds are available for the Village to use on energy efficiency and clean energy projects.

The Climate Smart Task Force is currently exploring two projects, an LED street light conversion and an additional solar installation. We have prioritized these projects as they are the most doable and, besides earning an additional 1,700 CEC points upon completion, they both will result in significant long term energy savings for the Village and its residents.

On August 3rd, 2023 the Task Force initiated an electric vehicle campaign. When five village residents purchase a new electric vehicle, the Village will receive a \$5,000 grant and an additional 200 points. With the addition of those 1,900 points, the Village will be eligible for a \$100,000 grant.

The Task Force continues to work in partnership with the Kinderhook Memorial Library with its "BIG GREEN Box" battery and small electronics recycling campaign. To date, more than 1,200 pounds of these materials have been properly recycled. Boxes are available for drop-off at the Library and Village Hall.

Additionally, since 2017 the Task Force has assisted the Friends of the Library with its deposit bottle and can recycling campaign, CLYNK. Also, this campaign has raised over \$10,000 contributed to the library. The energy savings from this campaign is equal to the energy needed to light 331.2 light bulbs, 24 hours a day for a year or for the elimination of auto emissions equal to driving a car 62,609 miles.



The Climate Smart Task Force meets every other month on the second Tuesday of the month at 7PM. If you are interested in the Climate Smart Community program or joining the Task Force, please check the Village website's calendar for the dates, times and locations of future meetings or e-mail Bill Mancini at sammikit@hotmail.com



VILLAGE OF KINDERHOOK RECREATION COMMISSION 2024 EVENTS

MAY

5/16 SPRING JAM
VILLAGE SQUARE 6PM
5/23 RAIN DATE

JUNE

6/15 JUNETEENTH
VOK FARMERS' MARKET
6/22 YOGA IN THE PARK
ROTHERMEL PARK 10:30AM
6/29 KINDERHOOK PRIDE
VILLAGE SQUARE 2:30PM

JULY

7/20 FIRETRUCK DAY
ROTHERMELL PARK 11 AM

SEPTEMBER

9/14 COMMUNITY NIGHT
ROTHERMEL PARK 4-7:30PM

OCTOBER

10/26 HALLOWEEN PARTY
VILLAGE SQUARE 1:30-3PM

Kinderhook Business and Professional Association

2024 Upcoming Events

May 4	Kinderhook Farmers Market 2024 Opening Day
May 18	Opening for Artist Nina Chanel Abney at The School Jack Shainman Gallery 2 pm to 6 pm - All Are Welcome!
May 25	Village-Wide Yard Sale Day
June 1	Kinderhook Makers Market also Fyfe and Drum Parade
June 8	OK5K Race
June 15	Juneteenth Celebration – Kinderhook Memorial Library at Kinderhook Farmers Market
July 4	People’s Parade
July 12	Outdoor Film Night at The School
July 13	Tanglewood Marionettes at Kinderhook Farmers Market
September 14	Fall Yard Sale Day
October 12	Fall Festival and Final Day of Kinderhook Farmers Market
October 26	Reading of Legend of Sleepy Hollow
December 6	Candlelight Night
December 14	Holiday Lights

That’s A Fact!

Kinderhook is one of the most historically significant places in the Hudson Valley. The name Kinderhook appeared on Dutch maps as early as 1614 making it one of the oldest names in the state. In the early days, Kinderhook (Dutch meaning children’s corner) embraced all of Stuyvesant, parts of Chatham, Stockport, and Ghent. Kinderhook was chartered as a township in 1687. The first town records were kept in Dutch and the language was spoken here until the 1840’s. As Americans we tend to view our history through English eyes, however the Dutch were here first and their impact culturally, architecturally, and agriculturally remains today.

Close to the Hudson River on Kinderhook Creek, a stream noted for powerful waterfalls and edged with fertile farmland, Kinderhook has long been a prosperous and prominent place. As roads settled into place, the village grew. Kinderhook became a major stagecoach stop on the route connecting Albany with New York City as well as one of the first post offices. An 1808 map indicates that roads today are much as they were then. The New York Gazetteer reported in 1842 a population of 1400; two coach factories, two hat factories, two public houses, 200 dwellings, a printer, numerous trade shops and an Academy. Fashionable houses, may built on ancestral lands, reflecting early Dutch design and later Federal style, sprang up. Fine examples of Dutch, Greek Revival, Georgian, Carpenter Gothic, and Italianate remain today.

The Kinderhook area was the site of many historic events during the American Revolution. In the winter of 1775, Colonel Henry Knox transported vital artillery through the village on horse drawn wooden sledges on his way from Ticonderoga to Boston. Turncoat Benedict Arnold spent a night here and British General John Burgoyne was entertained as a prisoner of war at a village mansion after his defeat at Saratoga.

Business Notes from Around the Square

Saying Goodbye. This past February Kinderhook said goodbye to **Dyad Wine Bar**. For nearly nine years, Dyad was known for its famous burger, dinner menu, and wine list. Looking back, founder Alex Van Allen mused that “the memories, joy, and happiness that we established with our time in the space is enough to carry me through a lifetime. We opened our doors and welcomed in patrons, but we will be closing it and saying goodbye to our friends.”

Welcoming New Businesses.

Slated to open this summer, **Isola Wine Bar** is the new business venture of Hillary Zio, a seasoned sommelier known to local wine enthusiasts for her classes at The Kinderhook Bottle Shop. Kinderhook’s newest bar at 16 Hudson Street will feature a rotating selection of mineral-driven wine, beer, and cider, along with a *cicchetti* (small-plate) menu inspired by the coastal regions of Spain and Italy. Zio’s vision for a welcoming, old-world inspired space will feature food with an international flare that celebrates local and seasonal ingredients.

This summer, one of Kinderhook’s favorite Saturday market vendors will be taking the leap into the brick-and-mortar world after purchasing and renovating 3 Albany Avenue. **Hamrah’s Lebanese Foods**, a business venture of Kinderhook residents Julie Hamrah Fels and Theo Fels, will be selling eat-in and take-out Middle Eastern specialties inspired by Julie’s Lebanese and Syrian heritage. Hamrah’s expanded menu will feature classics like salads, felafel, shawarma, kebab wraps, rice bowls, and more.

Twenty-year food-service veteran James Mannix founded **Hudson Meal Co** in 2023. James brings an impressive resumé to a business that provides healthy, ready-made meals to customers across Columbia County. Now operating out of Simons Catering at 86 Broad Street, this innovative meal-prep delivery company draws on Mannix’s experience as a private chef, caterer, menu developer, and international restaurateur.

Settling In.

Local book lovers celebrated a milestone when **Kinderhook Books** opened its doors at 10 Broad Street last December. Just four months later, owner Mindy Kay Bricker’s hope that her shop would become not only a place where goods could be purchased but also a place of community has become a reality. After completing the first chapter of the shop’s story with the opening of the charming first floor, the second chapter is well on its way with the projected opening of the upper floor and garden area this summer.

Community building was also high on the list of artists and educators Grace Lang and Ramiro Davaro-Comas when they founded **Super Stories**. Now, just ten months after opening their community-storytelling nonprofit and makers space, the partners and new parents are busy expanding their roster of free and paid art-making opportunities for all ages, while responding to an outpouring of enthusiastic community support and input.

Did You Know?

Kinderhook might be defined as a “tiny town” but the village’s expanding business community tracks as a microcosm of larger, national trends. From exponential growth in the food industry, to the ever-increasing numbers of women-owned small businesses, to the resurgence of independent bookstores, to the role of the arts in business expansion and economic revitalization, Kinderhook reflects trends of economic investment that create jobs, preserve cherished historic assets, and promote local community life.

The national average of women-owned businesses stands at 47%. **Kinderhook beats the national average**, with the number of women-owned or co-owned businesses soaring to just shy of 50%.

Construction Time for Albany Avenue By Mark Browne, Village Trustee

There were two (2) simultaneous design efforts underway this Winter for Albany Avenue. The Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project (think Roads, sidewalks, and bike traffic) and the Watermain Upgrade Project (think pipes under the road that distribute water to resident homes along Albany Avenue and in need of replacement).

Hudson Valley Engineering Associates, (HVEA) is engaged in this planning exercise working in conjunction with the Village of Kinderhook Project Manager – Trustee Mark Browne - and our grant funding sponsor the New York State Department of Transportation, (DOT). The preliminary road design is being meticulously and thoroughly reviewed by DOT and we are hoping to be granted approval soon. Thereafter, we will be diligently working on the final detailed design to be completed by June 2024. Road re-construction to occur thereafter.

With regards to the Watermain Upgrade Design, HVEA engineers worked in conjunction with engineers from Tighe and Bond and the Village of Kinderhook Project Manager – Trustee Mark Browne, DPW Supervisor, Dave Booth and Water Commissioner, Dale Leiser, to review and approve the preliminary and detailed designs. We intend to replace the 10” cast iron watermain under the roadway and deploy new cellular radio frequency water meters, appropriate back flow prevention devices, and implement alternative methods of construction such as the use of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe. The request for proposal (RFP) was issued in February and a Construction firm was selected in late March 2024. The contract was awarded to Birdsell Excavation and Construction LLC – the low bidder. Materials acquisition has begun, and construction will start soon. There will be a construction workshop meeting held this Spring with residents to explain the construction execution plans.

With regards to the Road Design and preparations for construction, Almark Tree Services, Inc. was awarded a procurement contract based on a competitive bid to remove fifteen (15) trees along Albany Avenue. National Grid assisted the Village in this regard in that many of these Trees were entangled in the power and signal wires. The project plans to plant new trees and perform landscaping along the construction corridor in the Spring of 2025.

The Project Status and Schedule covering the Watermain Construction and the Road Design are as follows:

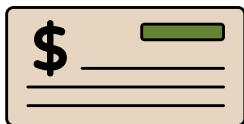
- Start Watermain Construction April/May 2024
- Finish Watermain Construction June 2024
- Final Road Detailed Design Submission to DOT May 2024
- RFP Issued Covering Road Re-Construction May/June 2024
- Upon Approval From DOT - Proceed with Road Re-Construction July/August 2024
- Finish Road Re-Construction October/November 2024
- Punch Down List Resolution December 2024 and possibly early Spring 2025
- Tree Replanting and Landscaping Spring 2025
- Contract Close-Out 2025

In addition to periodic public hearings/workshops held throughout the Project, the Village of Kinderhook continues to utilize a project steering committee to provide oversight and assist in decision making.



Tips FOR THE AGING GARDENER

- USE POTTED FLORA OR RAISED GARDENS TO WARD OFF STRAIN AND DIZZINESS.
- TRADE HEAVY TOOLS FOR LIGHTER ALTERNATIVES.
- SEEK REFUGE FROM THE SUN'S GAZE.
- KEEP SEATING CLOSE AT HAND.
- EMBRACE TRELLISES OR VERTICAL GARDENS TO EASE BENDING.
- CRAFT LOFTY RAISED BEDS FOR SEATED GARDENING.
- EMBRACE SPECIALIZED TOOLS LIKE SEED SYRINGES AND SEED TAPE.
- OPT FOR TRANSPLANTS FOR EASE OF HANDLING AND PLANTING.



CHECK WASHING SCAM ALERT

It was brought to our attention that on a recent visit to a bank branch, someone spoke with an individual who assisted in opening an account. The conversation focused on her dealing with multiple Check Washing Scams. This is a process in which checks are stolen and chemicals used to remove the ink from the check. Once the ink is chemically removed and the check dried, the scammer is then free to place whomever they want to as the payee and write the check in any amount they desire. Chemicals remove the handwritten ink, not the preprinted ink, and scammers often will put tape over your signature to preserve it. After drying the check, and removing the tape, the scammer has a blank check signed by the writer. To prevent detection, scammers will often deposit checks by scanning the check with a cell phone and doing a remote deposit or via ATM machine and avoid any human contact with bank tellers. Checks are stolen from personal individual mailboxes, so it is advisable that you remove your mail shortly after delivery. Also, if sending checks, mail them directly inside the post office. Mailing payments from the traditional blue post office receptacles are subject to scammers fishing mail out of the box. Scammers can also steal checks from your personal mailbox. Again, the safest location to mail payments is inside the walls of the post office.

2024 Seniors Cabin Fever Party



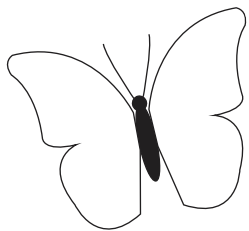
The first annual Senior Cabin Fever Day Party was held on February 7, 2024, at VanBuren Hall in the Village of Kinderhook. With 28 attendees, the event featured competitive mini golf, cornhole, and beach bingo against the backdrop of a sunny beach scene. Memorable photos, healthy snacks, and delightful ice cream sundaes contributed to the festive ambiance. It was a unanimous decision to bring this event back for 2025, so mark your calendars!

VILLAGE OFFICIAL	RESPONSIBILITIES
<p>Dorene Weir, Mayor mayor@villageofkinderhook.org 518-758-1498</p>	<p>Personnel Liaison to CEO Emergency Management Celebrations Liaison Parks and Recreation Commission Resident Communications Coordinator & Newsletter Landscape, Beautification, and Decorations Liaison to Greenway Council and Hudson River Heritage Chair for NY Forward Strategic Investment Plan Liaison to County Board of Supervisors and Town Supervisor</p>
<p>Mark Browne, Deputy Mayor, and Trustee mbrowne@villageofkinderhook.org 518-428-1967</p>	<p>Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project Manager Albany Avenue Water Main Upgrade Project Manager Long-Term Budget and Financial Projections Albany-Hudson Electric Trail Budget and Insurance Oversight</p>
<p>Kevin Monahan, Trustee kmonahan@villageofkinderhook.org 518-858-6083</p>	<p>Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Manager Cable Contracts Policy Coordinator Office Technology & Records Management Budget and Insurance Oversight Liaison to the Planning Board Liaison to the Zoning Board of Appeals</p>
<p>Susan Patterson, Trustee spatterson@villageofkinderhook.org 518-758-8727</p>	<p>Recodification of Village Code Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project Deputy Manager Albany Avenue Water Main Upgrade Project Deputy Manager Policy Coordinator Long-Term Budget and Insurance Oversight Village Parking Liaison to the Historic Preservation Commission Liaison to the Village Historian</p>
<p>Quinn Murphy, Trustee gmurphy@villageofloderhook.org 518-929-3347</p>	<p>Fire Commissioner Traffic Safety Municipal Buildings Refuse Collection Sidewalk Snow Removal Liaison to the Climate Smart Task Force Streetlights Liaison to National Grid</p>

SPRING



It's Spring Time!



Q E Q M K I T E
J F Z C O D U Y F B K C
X Y Y G F J P B O R L C E G
R M P J E A R T H D A Y Z M Y R
U J E G G S C A N D Y Y M A R C H E
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BASEBALL
BLOSSOMS
BUNNY
BUTTERFLY
CANDY
CHICK
EARTH DAY
EASTER
EGGS

FLOWERS
GARDEN
KITE
LAMB
MARCH

MAY
MOTHERS DAY
NEST
RAIN

RAINBOW
SPRING BREAK
SUNSHINE
TULIP
UMBRELLA
WINDY