

# The Kinderhook Times

Summer - Fall 2023



## From The Mayor's Desk

Dear Residents,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer! We have A LOT going on in our community right now. It is important for you to make your voices heard and participate in our meetings. Please be sure that you have enrolled online to receive our village emails. I post regularly on our village website under "Mayor's Updates," and we also post updates on the Post Office bulletin board.

Topics that are being discussed right now are:

- Albany Avenue Water Main Upgrade Project
- Albany Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Project
- Length of Service Award Program referendum vote for our volunteer Fire Fighters
- NY Forward grant projects that will be funded by New York State
- Village Code Book Updates
- Short-Term Rental Code

If you have any questions about these topics or would like to understand better how to receive regular updates from the village to stay up to date, please stop by the Village Hall or call at 758-9882. You can always email me at [mayor@villageofkinderhook.org](mailto:mayor@villageofkinderhook.org) as well.

See you at Community Night!

*Mike*

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Visit us at [www.villageofkinderhook.org](http://www.villageofkinderhook.org)

# For Your Information . . .

## MONTHLY VILLAGE MEETINGS

**Board of Trustees**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – 7:00 PM

**Climate Smart Community Task Force**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 7:00 PM

**Historic Preservation Commission**

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – 7:00 PM

**Planning Board**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday – 7:00 PM

**Recreation Commission**

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday – 7:00 PM

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

4<sup>th</sup> Monday – 7:00 PM

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

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| August 11      | Under the Sky – Free Outdoor Film Night at The School I Jack Shainman Gallery |
| August 16      | Ghent Band – Village Square   |
| August 23      | Ghent Band – Village Square   |
| Aug 28- Sept 9 | KISS Program – Town Hall  |
| September 9    | Village-Wide Yard Sale  |
| September 16   | Community Night – Rothermel Park  |
| October 1      | Water Bills Mailed  |
| October 7      | Fall Festival – Village Square  |
| October 7      | Final Day of Kinderhook Farmers Market  |
| October 17     | Begin Leaf Pickup   |
| October 10-12  | Hydrant Flushing  |
| October 28     | Reading of Legend of Sleepy Hollow  |
| October 31     | Water Bills Due   |
| Nov 27-Dec 8   | KISS Program  |
| November 27    | Leaf Pickup Ends  |
| December 8     | Candlelight Night   |

## VILLAGE OFFICIALS

**Mayor**

Mike Abrams 518-929-0519  
mayor@villageofkinderhook.org

**Trustees**

- Dorene Weir 518-758-1498  
Susan Patterson 518-758-8727  
Mark Browne 518-428-1967  
Quinn Murphy 518-929-3347

**Village Justice**

David A. Dellehunt 518-758-8778 EXT. 303

## CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Trevor Bean

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

**Office Hours:**

**Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
7:30am – 10:30am**

**Tuesday and Thursday  
7:00am-10:00am**

**and by appointment.**

**Inspections are scheduled by appointment.**

## Business Notes from Around the Square

### Old Dutch Inn Opens

#### Village of Kinderhook Celebrates the Reopening of the Historic, 200-Year-Old Lodging Venue

Built in 1820 by Calvin Herrick and Charles Bray, Old Dutch Inn began its life of service as a public hall, shoe shop, and private residence. The property has maintained its status as the hub of local hospitality while operating over time as a restaurant, bar and inn under the names Lindenwald Hotel, Kinderhook Inn, Petrillo's Inn and Van Buren Inn.

Often referred to as "the heart of the Village," Old Dutch Inn holds a special place in the memories of many Villagers who held their first job, met their spouse, or even honeymooned at the inn. Following an extended period of dormancy, Jennifer Ose-MacDonald and Jake Samascott acquired the property and spent the COVID years overseeing its rejuvenation.

Now back in operation and open year-round, Old Dutch Inn's nine king and queen guest rooms have been refined to the elevated standards of contemporary travelers. Each room is appointed with luxurious amenities including down bedding, plush robes, marble-finished guest baths, and select rooms with cast-iron soaking tubs. Modernized facilities offer an elevator, advanced air purification technologies, and safety and accessibility enhancements. Nods to our area's Dutch history include a striking entry room mural inspired by the Golden Age of Dutch painting, custom wallpaper made from etchings of Dutch rolling pins, and subtle tulip-shaped light fixtures and chandeliers throughout the property.

Jennifer and Jake wish to thank the many local professionals who aided in the long process of returning Old Dutch Inn to service. For information: [theolddutchinn.com](http://theolddutchinn.com)

### Muse Aesthetics Opens Kinderhook's First Full-Service Skin-Care Salon

Located at 12 Broad Street, partners Jhori and Julia offer customers of all ages and skin types the latest technology in skin-care and rejuvenating treatments. For information: [museaestheticsny.com](http://museaestheticsny.com)

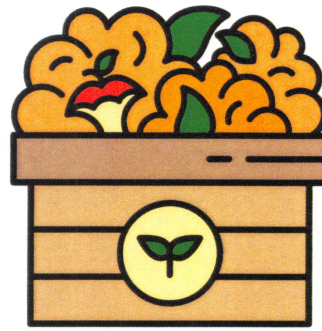
### Kinderhook Businesses Celebrate Openings, Anniversaries, and Milestones

Three Kinderhook businesses hosted official opening ceremonies in the early summer. The **Kinderhook Farmers Market**, **Super Stories**, and **Old Dutch Inn** welcomed representatives of Columbia County Chamber of Commerce, along with staff, family, and enthusiastic supporters, for festive ribbon cuttings. **Saisonnier**, one of the region's most popular gastropubs, celebrated its 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Kinderhook with crowds of well-wishers and special hard-to-find kegs. Five businesses in the **Kinderhook Knitting Mill** also celebrated important milestones and first anniversaries. **The Kinderhook Bottle Shop** voted #1 wine shop in 2022; **September Gallery**, representing more than 300 artists since its founding; and **2 Note**, now in its seventeenth year as a brand, all marked their first-year anniversaries in the village. **OK Pantry**, with its collection of home goods and fun stuff for kids, is proud to be celebrating its second summer in Kinderhook. And just in time for the hot weather, **The Aviary Kinderhook** introduced its first season of outdoor dining.

#### Upcoming KBPA Events

August 11	Under the Sky – Free Outdoor Film Night at The School I Jack Shainman Gallery
September 9	Village-Wide Yard Sale
October 7	Final Day of Kinderhook Farmers Market and Fall Festival in the Square
October 28	Legend of Sleepy Hollow Reading
December 8	Candlelight Night

# RECYCLE AND COMPOST



Trash disposal is not exempt from the rising costs all of us experience today, and it also contributes to climate change. In 2018 the EPA estimated that about 146.1 million tons of municipal solid waste were landfilled nationally. Food was the largest component at about 24 percent, plastics represented 18.5 percent, paper and paperboard made up about 12 percent, and rubber, leather and textiles comprised over 11 percent. Other materials accounted for less than 10 percent each.

Much of the trash collected in our Village and our County eventually winds up in landfills. This waste is broken down by a process called anaerobic decomposition which produces methane gas into the atmosphere. The release of methane produces greenhouse gas with a global warming potential approximately 85 times higher than carbon dioxide over a 20-year time period.

But there are ways for everyone to hold down the expense of waste disposal, and at the same time lower its negative effect on our climate by reducing the amount of trash going to those landfills.

One way to reduce your trash is to separate food waste and compost it. Many DIY gradeners in the Village are probably already doing this. But if you're not for any reason, there is still a way to keep your food waste out of landfills and lighten that trash bag you put out most Thursdays. The Task Force is looking into the possibility of having food waste containers available in the Village in the future as part of the County's program.



All County transfer stations are equipped with specially marked **GREEN** containers where you can drop off your food waste. It is then transported to Greenport and processed in the EcoRich aerobic composter. You can save on waste disposal and reduce greenhouse gas all at once!

For more details on the do's and don't's of food waste recycling, go to the County's website:

<https://solidwaste.columbiacountyny.com/food-scrap-program>

The Task Force is looking into the possibility of having food waste containers available in the Village in the future as part of the County's program.

The Task Force meets regularly on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 PM. If you are interested in the Climate Smart Community program or joining the Task Force, check the Village website's calendar for the dates, times and locations of future meetings or email Bill Mancini at [sammikit@hotmail.com](mailto:sammikit@hotmail.com).

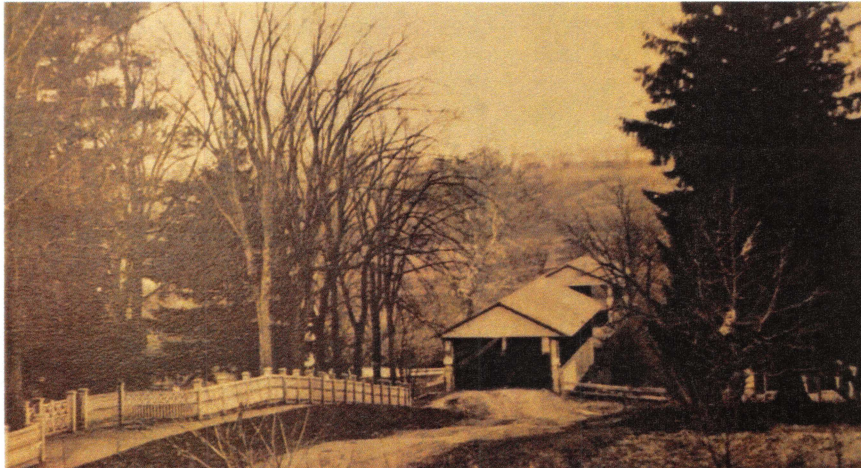
## KINDERHOOK'S DOUBLE BARREL BRIDGES

By James Benton, Senior Historian,  
Columbia County Historical Society

Depending on sources, there are eight, 13 or 22 wooden covered bridges still in use in New York State. While none of those are in Columbia County, there was a rich tradition of covered bridges in the area from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century through 1945, when the county's last covered bridge, spanning the Kinderhook at Rider's Mills, was swept away by high water. The water was so high and flowing so fast that the remnants took out the steel bridge at Malden Bridge.

The bridges on Hudson Avenue in Kinderhook suffered a less dramatic end, being taken down in 1928 and replaced by a series of steel and concrete spans that persist today. In their heyday, however, the Kinderhook Covered Bridges were among the most picturesque and unusual in the state.

The "double barrel bridges," called that because there were actually two bridges separated by an island, were built in 1840 and replaced earlier bridges dating to 1816. (While it is likely there were bridges on the site prior to 1816, no description of them survives.) Architecturally, they were known as Town Lattice bridges, built on a plan patented by Connecticut-born architect and engineer Ithiel Town in 1820. The design was popular because it used lightweight planks woven together into lattices rather than massive beams and posts. Planks required less labor to create and put in place than beams, and less woodworking skill. The byproduct of the truss construction was a visibly light, airy structure that was well-lit inside, unlike the dark tunnel that most covered bridges resembled.



In addition to connecting Kinderhook with points south, the bridges in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century served an additional purpose. The Methodist Episcopal church frequently held services on the bridge during the hot summer months. Given the coolness of the shaded bridge deck, the gurgle of the water flowing beneath, and the serenity engendered by the setting, it must have been a truly religious experience.

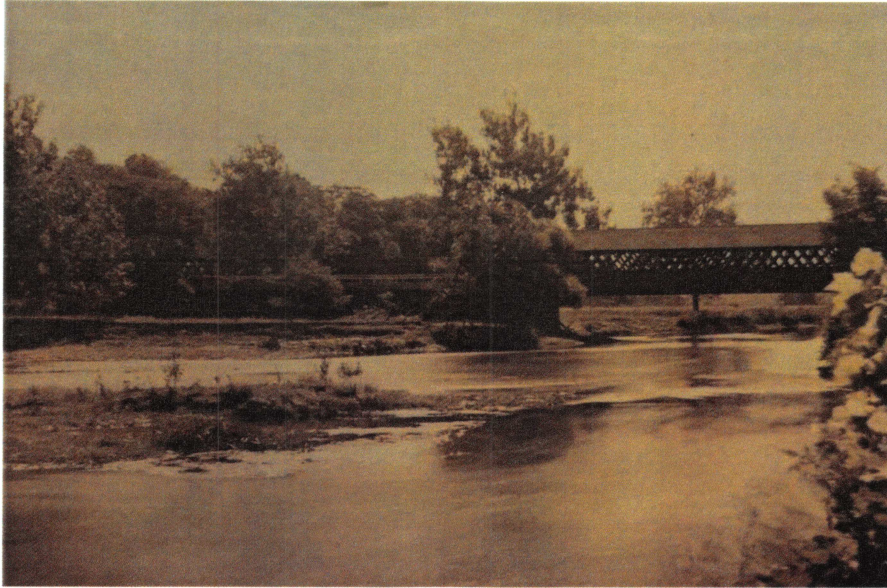
Covered bridges in general, and the Kinderhook bridges specifically, reflect a defining moment in American History, representing as they do a time when the population and the economy were becoming more mobile. While there may have been covered bridges built in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the vast majority of them were built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Commerce, and particularly the efficient movement of goods and people, needed better roads than the cart paths that had sufficed in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Covered bridges represented a leap forward from the fords, ferries, and log bridges they replaced, allowing a freight wagon or stage to move in a timely manner from one town to another. In an effort to maintain the structure and the deck from the ravages of the weather, and thereby prolong their lifespan, the bridges were covered. (Counterintuitively, in times of heavy snow when roads were rolled to provide a smooth surface for sleighs, bridges often had snow shoveled onto the deck to allow the sleigh's ease of transit.)

(Continued on page 6 )

## KINDERHOOK'S DOUBLE BARREL BRIDGES

(Continued from page 5)

As vehicles throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries became bigger, heavier, and more common, covered bridges, with their relatively narrow roadways and low overhangs, were problematic. Also, since trucks and cars were powered by flammable liquids and gave off sparks, the wood bridges often caught fire. Covered bridges, especially older dry ones, burned easily.



Covered bridges were replaced first with cast iron and later with steel frame bridges, many of which were made using the same truss design with a change in materials. As mentioned above, Kinderhook's double-barreled bridges were taken down in 1928. While their removal was probably necessary, imagine if they had been preserved instead of replaced. What a tourist trap they would be!

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## Did You Know?



The Luykas Van Alen House, located at 2589 Route 9H, in Kinderhook, New York, was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1967. This historical landmark is a restored house museum representing 18th century rural Dutch farm life in the Hudson River Valley. The house also represents the traditional Dutch building practices as embodied by its combination of a structural timber frame with brick veneer, and the lateral expansion of the original two-room plan with an additional room.

Also available on the property is the Dutch Colonial Farming Heritage Trail linking the Luykas Van Alen property with the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, 'Lindenwald.'

## HEAP Clean and Tune Program

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) Heating Equipment Clean and Tune Program, is a service, which aids a HEAP eligible applicant household to have their primary heating system cleaned and tuned in the summer months, prior to the cold weather period. This allows for safe, efficient operation of the household's heating equipment.

The HEAP Clean and Tune benefit may provide for all or some of the following, depending on each case's circumstances: clean and tune of primary heating equipment; chimney cleaning, if the primary heat source is wood or wood products; minor repairs essential for safe operation of the heating equipment; and labor, materials and administrative costs.

The 2022-2023 HEAP Clean and Tune benefit opened October 3, 2022. Applications are currently being accepted. The program is scheduled to close September 29, 2023, or when funds are exhausted. Please call the Columbia County Department of Social Services at 518-828-9411 to apply.

## Upcoming Senior Trips

The Office for the Aging will be offering the following trips during the months of August and September. Seating is limited and reservations are required and can be made by calling 518-828-4258 and pressing option # 1. Please leave a message on the non-medical transportation voicemail and a driver will get back to you. Pick-up times will be in the morning and will be scheduled by the driver prior to the date.

### August Trips

Tuesday, August 8th - Shopping at Target, Burlington Coat Factory and lunch at the Mid-Hudson Buffet, Kingston  
Thursday, August 24th - Lake George boat ride and lunch

### September Trips

Thursday, September 14th - Office for the Aging Senior Event Day Picnic, Stuyvesant Falls VFW  
Wednesday, September 27th- Shopping and lunch at Colonie Center

- 
1. Ward and June were two main characters from what famous TV show of the late 50s and early 60s?
  2. What did the U.S. Postal Service add in 1963 that is part of every address today?
  3. What year did the Beatles officially disband?
  4. What color is the M in McDonalds?
  5. In which film did Humphrey Bogart say, "We'll always have Paris?"



# Trail Safety Tips



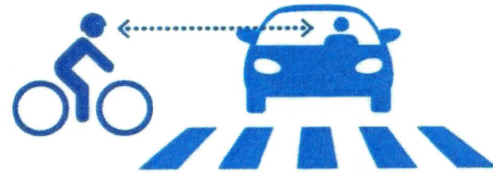
The AHET trail welcomes bicyclists, walkers, and runners of all ages and abilities. For everyone's safety, please follow these rules.

## FOR EVERYBODY



### Be Alert

Don't use devices that prevent you from hearing what's happening around you.  
The AHET trail is open from dawn to dusk.



### Stop at Trail/Road Crossings

Make eye contact with drivers and other trail users before proceeding.  
Use the marked crosswalk.

## BICYCLE SAFETY



### Go Slow

When the trail is busy.



### Alert Other Users

When passing.



### Wear a Helmet

NYS law requires helmets for everyone under the age of 14.

## ON-ROAD SECTIONS



### Bicyclists:

Ride single file on the road shoulder, in the same direction as traffic.



### Pedestrians:

Use sidewalks where available.  
When traveling on road shoulders, walk or run against traffic.



# **PALMER ENGINE AND HOSE CO.**

## **Kinderhook Fire Department**



### **New Member Campaign**

The Kinderhook Fire Department has a long history of providing emergency services and assistance within our fire district and to adjoining communities. The men and women who respond for the Kinderhook Fire Department take pride in helping their neighbors whenever and wherever support is needed. Fact: The reliance on Community Fire Departments continues to rise, yet the number of responding Volunteer Firefighters is on the decline. So, the question remains: "Will we have enough firefighters to handle emergencies when called?" In response, the Kinderhook Fire Department is sounding a Recruitment Alarm. Like many fire departments in the Capital District, we need to increase our membership to respond to fire calls and other 911 emergencies. As of July 31, 2023, the Kinderhook Fire Department has responded to 63 calls this year.

Membership is made up of people like you, that live or work in the Village of Kinderhook Fire District and are willing to join other dedicated men and women volunteer firefighters who serve this community proudly. Join the Kinderhook Fire Department and receive free training in any of these vital positions: Interior Structural Firefighters, Exterior Firefighters, Fire Apparatus Drivers, Fire Police, Pump Operators, Safety Officers, and many more.

This Fall, Village of Kinderhook residents will have an opportunity to vote to approve the Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) for the volunteer firefighters of the Palmer Engine and Hose Company. The Length of Service Program(LOSAP) is a plan that offers financial rewards for volunteers based on their longevity of service. These benefits are provided when a volunteer reaches "retirement age".

The Restricted Fire Fighter program offers the 16 and 17 year olds in our Village an opportunity to serve their community on a limited basis. Additionally, FASNY's scholarship and college tuition assistance programs are only two of the perks available to Restricted Firefighters.

If you are at least 16 years of age, a resident of the fire district or work in the Village and are interested in serving as a volunteer, please contact the Palmer Engine and Hose Company at 518-758-9882.

# Recreation Commission

The Village of Kinderhook Summer Program ended on Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, and all signs are pointing to another successful event. A variety of activities like field trips to the Fun Plex, Super Stories, Ooms Conservation, East Greenbush Bowling Alley and a wagon ride to Samascott's for blueberry picking, provided fun for everyone. Other great activities included Tye Dye Day, a Mad Science presentation, three Fire Truck Water Fun Days, a Magic Show, and a Camp Kickball Tournament. A special thank you to the Kinderhook Fire Department, who provided some much-needed cool water fun on those hot summer days.

Our biggest event of the year, Community Night 2023 is on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at Rothermel Park, from 4:30 to 7:30. We have brought back some favorites like the Rock Climbing Wall, Pony Rides and Petting Zoo, Hay Wagon Rides provided by Samascott's, free popcorn, cotton candy, Stewarts ice cream and several Food Vendors. Music will be provided by Jared Widjeskog of Upstate Celebrations. Also, Saisonnier will be back this year featuring their craft beverages.

## Dunham Park Dedication

According to historical documents, the grandparents of James C. Dunham, George E. C. Dunham and Jean A. Dunham formalized their gift to the Village of Kinderhook of the land comprising the park at the western corner of Broad and Hudson Streets through a deed dated May 11, 1945.

Jim has been a model community leader serving in the political arena as a Village Trustee and as the Mayor of the Village of Kinderhook. He also coached the Little League for more than 30 years. Jim is also an involved member of the Kinderhook Reformed Church. Jim's wife Bonnie Becker Dunham, has also served our community, impacting many lives as a dedicated and skilled educator. Bonnie has also assumed lead volunteer positions at local organizations including the Columbia County Historical Society and the Kinderhook Reformed Church.

On July 12, 2023, the Village of Kinderhook Board of Trustees, recognized the many contributions James C. Dunham and his family have made over several centuries to our community. Through a resolution, the Village Board proclaimed the park located at the western corner of Broad and Hudson Streets be named "Dunham Park" in honor of James C. Dunham and the Dunham family.



The dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, July 29, 2023. Guest speakers included past mayors Richard Phillips, Carol Weaver, and William Van Alstyne. Mayor, Mike Abrams was the master of ceremonies.

## Design Time for Albany Avenue What are the Next Steps?

By Mark Browne, Village Trustee

As previously reported to residents, there are two (2) simultaneous design efforts underway 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). On June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, an Albany Avenue Projects Public Information Workshop Meeting was conducted at the Palmer Engine and Hose Company, Kinderhook Fire Department Site. This interactive meeting was well attended where approximately fifty (50) residents heard about the current project status, made comments, and asked questions. The presentation materials and summary minutes can be found on the Village of Kinderhook web site under the Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement tab <https://www.villageofkinderhook.org/albanybike.html>

### OK – So what is next?

The Village Board discussed this project at the July 12, 2023 board meeting. Thereafter, the Village Board will provide direction to Hudson Valley Engineering and Associates (HVEA) as to what to present to the NYS Department of Transportation (DOT) in order to get the preliminary design approved and gain permission to proceed with the final detailed design under the terms and constraints, as found in the Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project Agreement. It is envisioned that DOT may ask for changes in the submission and possibly request clarifications on some items. After resolving the issues raised by NYS DOT – HVEA will proceed with the Final Detailed Design. The Village Board will direct HVEA as to what preliminary design option to convert into a final detailed design relative to completing this task. A State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) form may be required to advance from the preliminary stage to the final detailed design and that will be accomplished at a Village Board Meeting.

The results of the Final Detailed Design will first be shared with the Steering Committee and shortly thereafter with a Public Hearing for the Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement in the Fall of 2023. After approval of the Final Detailed Design the “bid packages” will go out at the end of 2023.

It should be noted that the federal grant administered by NYS DOT supporting the Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project is paying for 80 % of the approved costs of this endeavor. The Village of Kinderhook has submitted an application to the New York Forward, Downtown Redevelopment Initiative (NYF/DRI) committee to finance the remaining 20 % of the approved costs for this project at the conclusion of the construction effort. A determination as to whether the Village of Kinderhook will be approved for the 20 % grant has not yet been determined. Please go to the Village of Kinderhook web site under the Mayor’s Desk Blog for details at <https://mayorsblog.villageofkinderhook.org/>. Please note that approval of this application would reduce our project borrowing costs and your local taxes.

In parallel with the progression of tasks on the Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project, the design of the Watermain Upgrade Project will proceed as per the plan. The Village of Kinderhook is awaiting to hear whether New York State (NYS) Department of Health and/or the Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) will either provide a grant and/or a loan to cover the costs of this project. If this does not occur (NYS grant and/or a loan approval) the Village Board intends to bond/borrow funds to finance this endeavor. Regardless of the financing outcome, the Village Board will be conducting a Public Hearing for the Albany Avenue Watermain Project in the Fall of 2023 and explain to residents the detailed design and the financial status of the project. A SEQR form will be required to proceed to the start of the Watermain Upgrade construction, and this will be done following the Fall 2023 Public Hearing.



# Volunteer Firefighters Are Needed

We are all created equal, but only a few become firefighters.  
- Author Unknown

for more information go to

**Palmer Engine & Hose Co.**

**518-758-9220**

[Kinderhookfiredept@yahoo.com](mailto:Kinderhookfiredept@yahoo.com)



# ANIMALS WORD SEARCH

H R D R T C F B E C K A A E N T H L C J  
G D S B J G M T H O D H M G O D C L D F  
J Y Q P A H K O H N R A B B I T K A U I  
Z U G E H E M R A H R V X O F B A M C Q  
E N G N Y D C P A M P M H Y I Y J A K K  
H P T G N G D Q L I P L L S H E E P R K  
A A E U W E A W U C D W A L U T R I E V  
M O H I R H O Y G B U Z M T B N P Q E C  
S R S N T O Q F Y A X J B Q Y E O G D A  
T P Z X U G I Z H S I F C Z U P A G S T  
E W K Z G J E I Y N Y N L U R M U V F Q  
R F L N N Z O L G D N I L Q L O X S E Q  
R N A R O C L F E H I H R P N U F I C R  
T T E J D O L G H M Y P K F C S H K Q K  
S U G K K D C A T A T L Y Y K E O E W O  
E R Y X C H N C H P H O G V U A Z C C V  
B T K D P I X E A W O D P L L L E M A C  
H L H O M C H T T R R H I A V O Z V J S  
Z E S W V M L C D U M A G D V A T R C L  
M Y M S N P K T I U S P N K N D H J L G

## WORD LIST

BEAVER  
CAMEL  
CAT  
CHICKEN  
DEER  
DOG  
DOLPHIN

DUCK  
FISH  
FOX  
HAMSTER  
HEDGEHOG  
KOALA

LLAMA  
MOUSE  
NARWHAL  
OWL  
PENGUIN  
PIG

PLATYPUS  
RABBIT  
RACCOON  
RED PANDA  
SHEEP  
TURTLE

