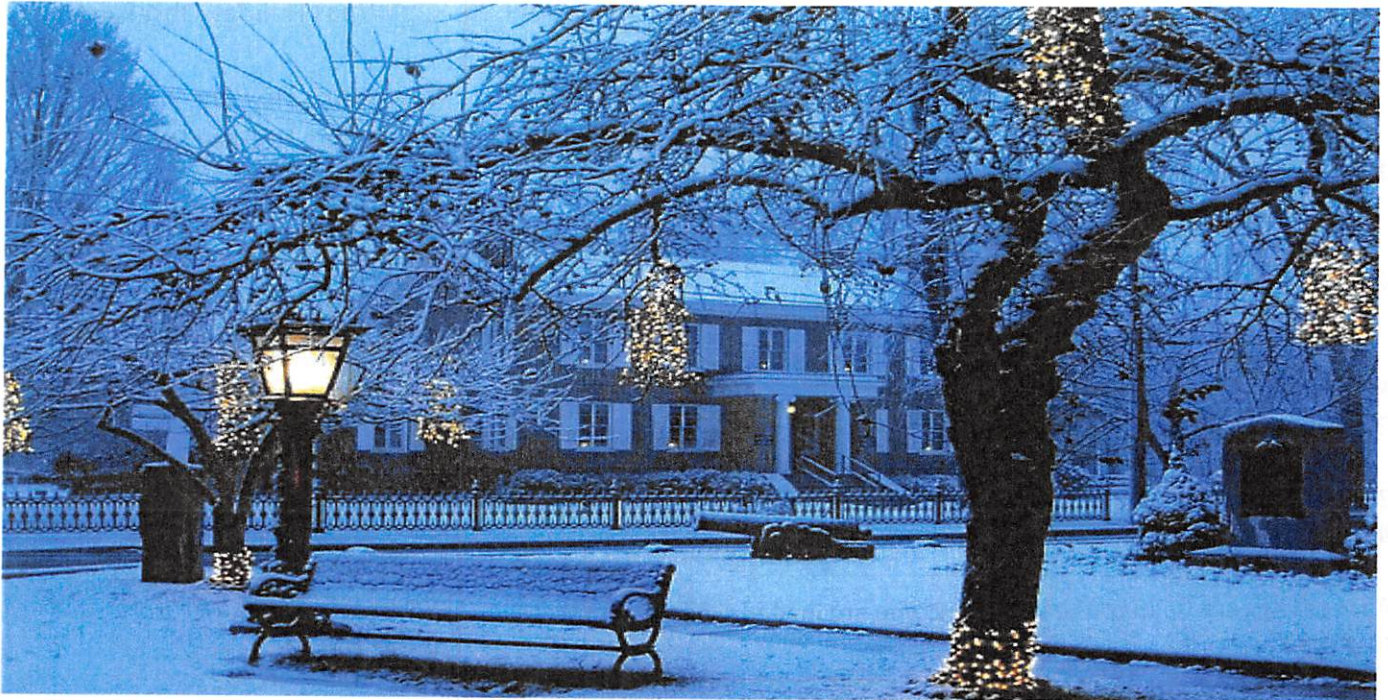


# The Kinderhook Times

Winter 2022-Spring 2023



## Holiday Wishes

As we quickly approach this holiday season, a lot of us will be reflecting on the past year and sifting out those moments that gave our families joy, laughter, and fond memories. These are the same memories that will be shared through embellished stories at family gatherings for years to come. Some of those memories were made right here in our Village during the Memorial Day Parade, the Farmer's Market, Community Night, or at a back yard family picnic.

The holidays also bring us intangible treasures like the spirit of the season, which is peace, the gladness of the season, which is hope and the heart of the season, which is love.

May the good times and treasures of the present, become the golden memories of tomorrow. Wishing you lots of peace, hope and love.

**Happy Holidays!**  
**The Village of Kinderhook**

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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

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| December 25 | Christmas Holiday                      |
| December 26 | Christmas Holiday Observed             |
| January 1   | New Year's Holiday                     |
| January 2   | New Year's Holiday Observed            |
| January 16  | Martin Luther King Holiday             |
| February 14 | Valentines' Day                        |
| February 20 | Presidents' Day Holiday                |
| March 11    | Registration Day for Village Elections |
| March 21    | Village Election Day                   |
| March 17    | St. Patrick's Day                      |
| April 1     | April Fools' Day                       |
| April 1     | Water Bills Mailed                     |
| April 30    | Water Bills Due                        |

### VILLAGE OFFICIALS

#### Mayor

Mike Abrams 518-929-0519

#### Trustees

David Flaherty 518-758-7733

Dorene Weir 518-758-1498

Susan Patterson 518-758-8727

Mark Browne 518-428-1967

#### Village Justice

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

### CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Peter Bujanow

518-758-8778. Ext. 302

[pbujanow@villageofkinderhook.org](mailto:pbujanow@villageofkinderhook.org)

#### **Office Hours:**

**Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 7am-10am**

**and by appointment.**

**Inspections are scheduled by appointment.**

## *From The Mayor's Desk*

Dear Neighbors,

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving! As the end of the year approaches, it is a natural time to reflect on the past year to count our blessings, as well as look with excitement and hope to the year ahead.

Over the past year, we have welcomed ten new businesses to our village, received a \$1.9M grant to improve Albany Avenue, received the honor of having the Water System of the Year across NYS, hosted the town's Memorial Day Parade and the village's first Family Pride Parade and Juneteenth event, and elected two women to our Board of Trustees.

We also started work on a variety of initiatives that you will begin to see progress on in 2023 and beyond. These initiatives include a focus on delivering our essential services exceptionally well; revising and updating our village code book to include enhanced enforcement; long-term financial planning to ensure we can maintain and replace aging infrastructure in the years ahead; and starting improvements for Albany Avenue.

I would like to thank all the village staff members, volunteers, and trustees for all their hard work this past year. I sincerely appreciate your commitment to our village.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve you! Thank you for making Kinderhook a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

*Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays*

*Mike Abrams*

Mike Abrams, Mayor  
Village of Kinderhook



P.S. For regular updates, please visit <https://mayorsblog.villageofkinderhook.org/>.

### **Kinderhook Business and Professional Association Membership**

The KBPA invites you to become a member. Membership is open to Kinderhook businesses, organizations, and residents. Membership provides an opportunity to become personally involved in strengthening Kinderhook's business community and shaping the future of our village.

For more information, contact Kim Voltz at [realty@andersonagency.com](mailto:realty@andersonagency.com).

## *Business Notes from Around the Square*

### *Kinderhook Welcomes the Shaker Museum*

The Shaker Museum of Chatham is partnering with the Kinderhook Knitting Mill on the opening of a new community-based exhibition space at 4 Hudson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. According to the museum, this exciting addition to Kinderhook's cultural scene "enables the museum to deliver more programming and access to the collection to wider audiences, even while its new permanent home is in development."

The museum's first exhibition, entitled *Shades of Shaker*, debuted Saturday, December 3, 2022, and will be on view until February 25, 2023. The exhibition features the showing of more than twenty historical objects exploring the bold use of color in iconic Shaker design.

Exhibition hours are Fridays and Saturdays, 10am to 6pm, and Sundays 11am to 4pm. The exhibition is free to the public, and people with disabilities may access the space via elevator.

### *Congratulations to Kinderhook's 13 Winners in the 2022 Rural Intelligence Readers' Choice Awards.*

#### First Place Winners

September Gallery & The Kinderhook Bottle Shop

#### Runners-Up

Bill Arning Exhibitions, Hudson Valley

Bones Barbershop

El Toro Mexican Restaurant

Julia Jayne Pilates

Kinderhook Farmer's Market

Morningbird (2 categories)

Roxbury Farm

Saisonnier (2 categories)

Samascott's Garden Market

The School | Jack Shainman Gallery

2 Note

### *Economic Development Projects & Grant Updates*

**NY Forward and NY Restore.** In Fall 2022 the village applied for a \$2.5 million NY Forward grant. Award announcements are expected early in the new year. The village also submitted an "Intent to Apply" application for a second grant opportunity called NY Restore.

**Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP).** The villages of Kinderhook and Valatie are joint recipients of a grant from the NYS Department of State for the preparation of an LWRP. The initial kick-off meeting with the two village's LWRP committees and the engineering firm Barton & Loguidice took place in the first week of December 2022. Public engagement is a vital component of the development of the LWRP. Both committees encourage residents to get involved and provide their input. Watch for future notifications of upcoming public meetings.

**Village of Kinderhook GeoTourist app. Supported by a Grant from the Hudson River Valley Greenway - Maurice D. Hinchey Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area.** After more than two years of development, a GeoTourist app illuminating the cultural history of the Village Square and select surrounding sites is ready to launch. Watch for notification via email about the official launch date. Thank you to the following individuals who generously donated their time and expertise to the completion of this project: the late Ruth Piwonka, Village Historian Kate Johnson, photographer Siobhan Connally, Ann Birckmayer, Renee Shur, and narrators Stephen Lang and Wendy Spielman.



## Recycling Today For A Better Tomorrow

There are several important reasons why we need to recycle our waste at home, but the following list summarizes some of the main reasons why we should recycle waste in our homes:

- Recycling reduces the air, water and land pollution that is caused by discarded or burnt waste, meaning that the air we breathe, the water we drink and the land we live on is safer and healthier.
- Recycling reduces our reliance on increasingly scarce natural resources and raw materials when manufacturing new products.
- It takes less energy to recycle used materials than it does to produce items with raw materials, which is good for the environment, but also good for us, because it brings down the prices of products.
- Recycling also creates jobs for people, as recycling companies employ over 1.1 million workers all over the world. The reasons why we need to recycle are therefore to help more than just the environment.

### What to Recycle

- Glass Bottles
- Aluminum and Steel Cans
- Cardboard/Paperboard/Boxboard
- Paper of all types
- Plastic Bottles and Containers
- Aluminum Foil (Balled Up)
- Egg Cartons
- Drink Cartons (Milk, Juice Boxes)
- Pizza Boxes (Please remove the Pizza)
- Paper Towel/Bath Tissue Rolls
- Large Plastic (Clothes Hamper, Buckets, Coolers)
- Paper Bags

### What NOT to Recycle

- Styrofoam
- Film Plastic (Plastic Bags, Wrappers, etc.)
- Soiled Paper (Paper Plates, Tissues, Napkins, etc.)
- Garden Hoses/Rope
- Clothes/Clothes Hangers
- Yard Waste
- Food Waste
- Electronics
- Hazardous Waste
- Biomedical Waste
- VHS Tapes

The Village Climate Smart Community Task Force (CSCTF) was established by the Village Board of Trustees in 2016 to consider initiatives that may be suitable for Kinderhook under the Climate Smart Community (CSC) program sponsored by New York State Department of Environmental Protection. This Task Force is an advisory group of resident volunteers and Village Trustees. The program's purpose is to provide local governments with guidance on how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save tax dollars and advance community goals for health and safety, economic development, energy independence and quality of life.

Meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month at 7PM, in the Village Hall and are open to the public. To join the Climate Smart Task Force, have a question, or to offer a suggestion, please contact the Village office at 518-758-9882 or email to [okvillagehall@villageofkinderhook.org](mailto:okvillagehall@villageofkinderhook.org).

COLUMBIA COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Belsnickel*

By Geoff Benton

While the Dutch children of Kinderhook spent early December waiting for the arrival of Sinterklaas and his presents and perhaps dreading his partner Zwarte Piet, Palatine children, their neighbors to the south were awaiting an entirely different entity. They were awaiting Belsnickel.

Belsnickel was the traditional visitor for the Palatine region. Belsnickel was a crotchety old man in dirty furs of some kind. Sometimes he wore animal hides, sometimes a cloak decorated with fur. Sometimes he wore a mask to disguise his face. Occasionally his hood or hat was decorated with antlers. He carried a sack of treats and a stick because Belsnickel was both the gift giver and the punisher as opposed to separating the roles as Sinterklaas and Zwarte Piet did.

There are a few versions of what would happen upon Belsnickel's arrival. First, he would rap on a window or a door with his stick before bursting into the house. The children of the house would then be lined up. In some houses they were quizzed, asked to recite a verse from the bible, sing a song or tell him something learned in school. If they were able to answer the question, they were given a treat. If they couldn't answer the question Belsnickel gave them a whack with his stick. This ensured that children were paying attention to their lessons. In another version of the legend, he would throw candy on the ground, if the children grabbed for the candy before he gave permission, he would give them a whack or two with his stick, whatever it took for them to back away from the candy. This version of the legend taught the children not to be greedy. After the treats or discipline were delivered, Belsnickel would rush out the door and disappear as quickly as he had appeared.

The specifics of the origins of Belsnickel are hidden in the mist of time. Belsnickel probably dates back to at least the Middle Ages. Bels is probably a corruption of "Pelz" the German word for fur or pelts, "nickel" probably relates to St. Nicholas. As mentioned by before he sometimes wears horns which could indicate a pagan origin of the character.

The Belsnickel tradition continued in some families in the Hudson Valley into the twentieth century. In Pennsylvania Dutch country and in parts of Indiana the tradition is still going strong. Belsnickel has also seen a resurgence in pop culture in recent years.

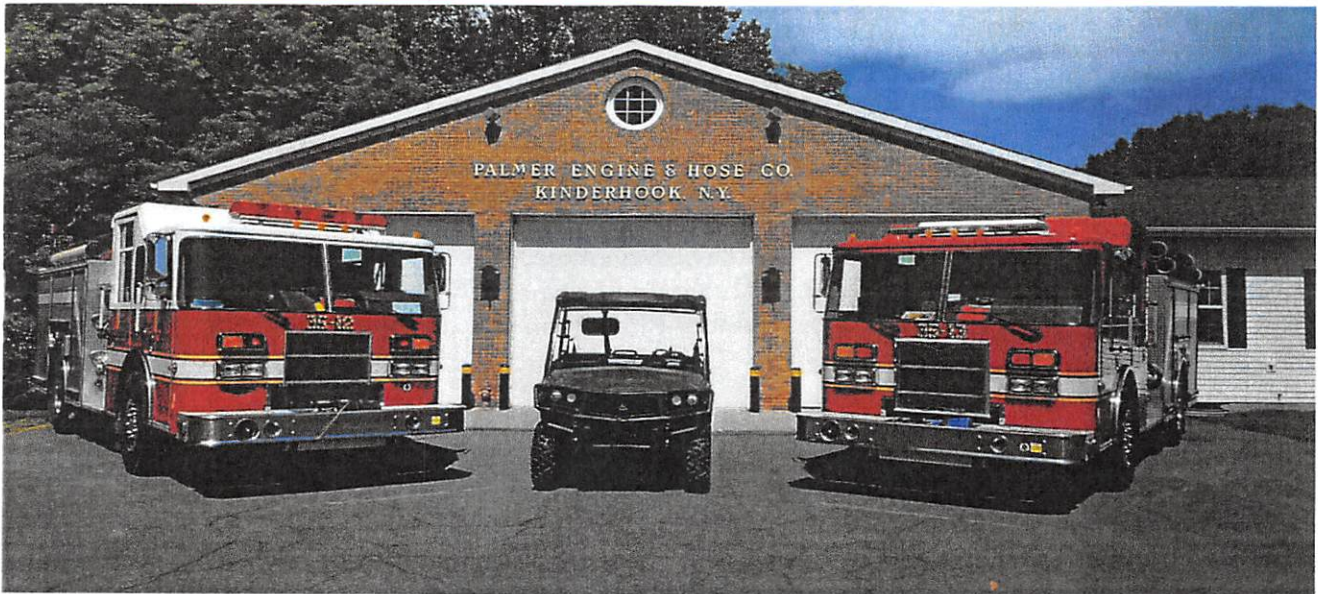
So, this December if you hear a rapping on your window make sure to check the door, Belsnickel may be coming for a visit.

**Belsnickel**



# *Season's Greetings*

From  
**Palmer Engine & Hose Co.  
Kinderhook Fire Department**



Dave Bartlett, First Assistant Chief  
Keith Beebe  
Bruce Charbonneau  
Ben Cohn  
Dan Cohn  
Matt Cohn, Chief  
Frank Curran  
Eric De Kraai  
Larry Eisen, 2<sup>ND</sup> Assistant Chief  
Nick Eisen, 2<sup>ND</sup> Lieutenant

Larry Enoch  
Chris Fitch  
Peter Hunter  
Robert Hunter  
Dennis Kinnicutt, President  
Ray Lauster  
Frank Masten  
Andy Monell  
Mat Morgan  
Tom Mueller, 1<sup>ST</sup> Lieutenant

Quinn Murphy  
Stuart Peckner  
Andy Pelletieri  
Mary Anne Perez  
Richie Phillips  
Gordon Pratt  
Chuck Rothermel  
Francisco Santiago  
Erick Schmidt  
Mike Urbaitis, Captain  
Matt Wilson

*Happy New Year!*



# Happy Holidays from the Village of Kinderhook

## **Village Board**

*Mayor*

Michael Abrams

*Trustees*

David Flaherty - Deputy Mayor

Dorene M. Weir

James Mark Browne

Susan Patterson

*Clerk-Treasurer*

Nicole H. Heeder

*Deputy Clerk*

Kristy Silvia

*Recording Secretary*

Susan Pulver

## **Department of Public Works**

*Superintendent*

David Booth

*Assistant Superintendent*

Robert Meehan

*Motorized Equipment Operator*

Nathaniel Becker

*Water Commissioner*

Dale Leiser

## **Planning Board**

Kristina Lang - Chair

Kevin Monahan

Abram Van Alstyne

Andrew Pellettieri

David Pesano

*Secretary*

Melanie Brodowski

## **Recreation Commission**

Amber van Moessner - Chair

David Dellehunt

Cammy Salazar

Mark Plakias

Quinn Murphy

Peter Santamaria

*Secretary*

Jacqueline Bujanow

## **Economic Development**

Renee Shur - Director

## **Climate Smart Committee**

William Mancini

Warren Applegate

Aileen Leventon

Ann Birckmayer

Sandra Tolosa

## **Zoning Board**

Kimberly Gray - Chair

David Sullivan

Gregory Seaman

Nolan Robinson

Terence Farrell

*Secretary*

Melanie Brodowski

## **Historic Preservation Commission**

Timothy Husband - Chair

Kenneth Neilson - Vice Chair

Randal Dawkins

Sean Sawyer

Elizabeth Martin

*Secretary*

Jacqueline Bujanow

## **Village Court**

*Village Justice*

David Dellehunt

*Court Clerk*

Susan Bauman

*Deputy Court Clerk*

Tina Puckett

## **Code Enforcement Officer**

Peter Bujanow



## Moving Forward With A Plan

By Mark Browne, Village Trustee

HVEA has been Awarded the Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project for the Village of Kinderhook – This firm has a separate Regional Design Service Agreement in Region 9, Poughkeepsie, NY to provide services to local municipalities.

The Village of Kinderhook selected HVEA for this 2-year term agreement to provide consultant design services encompassing the following tasks: Preliminary and Detail Design Services, to Evaluate if there is a need for Right of Way Incidentals and Right of Way Acquisition, and to Provide for Construction Management Oversight Services to include; Assistance to Select Construction Contractor (s) and Inspection Support Services for the Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project: NYS DOT PIN 78762.83.

**The Village of Kinderhook intends to utilize a project steering committee to provide oversight for this Project. Their role will include:**

- Provide guidance to the Village of Kinderhook Project Manager and Mayor on all aspects of how the design and construction serves the residents and our stakeholders.
- Ensure continuing alignment with Village of Kinderhook's goals and priorities.
- Communicate with the Village Board and other participating Village Committees/ Commissions and residents as deemed appropriate.
- Ensure the necessary Village of Kinderhook staff resources and other subcontracted resources and materials are available at critical points to meet agreed upon schedules.
- Ensure that unintended consequences and project activities are minimized and that the project impacts are fully understood by the Village of Kinderhook board, residents, and stakeholders.
- Review and provide feedback on project plans, approaches to work and detailed work plans.
- Make decisions on critical issues and /or approaches to project execution.

### A REMINDER ABOUT SNOW REMOVAL

**Clearing Sidewalks** - All properties adjoining a sidewalk are required by Village Law to remove snow and ice 24 hours after the snowfall has ended. The **full width** of the sidewalk must be cleared to allow people with disabilities to be able to pass through. If the snow and/or ice are not removed, the Village may hire a contractor for the removal of the snow and ice chargeable to the property owner.

The cost of the removal and a \$15.00 processing fee will be billed. Please make every effort to clear your sidewalks of snow and ice.

# Seniors' Corner

## Name That Singer

Let's test your memory and see if you can recall the singer to these popular songs from the 1950's.



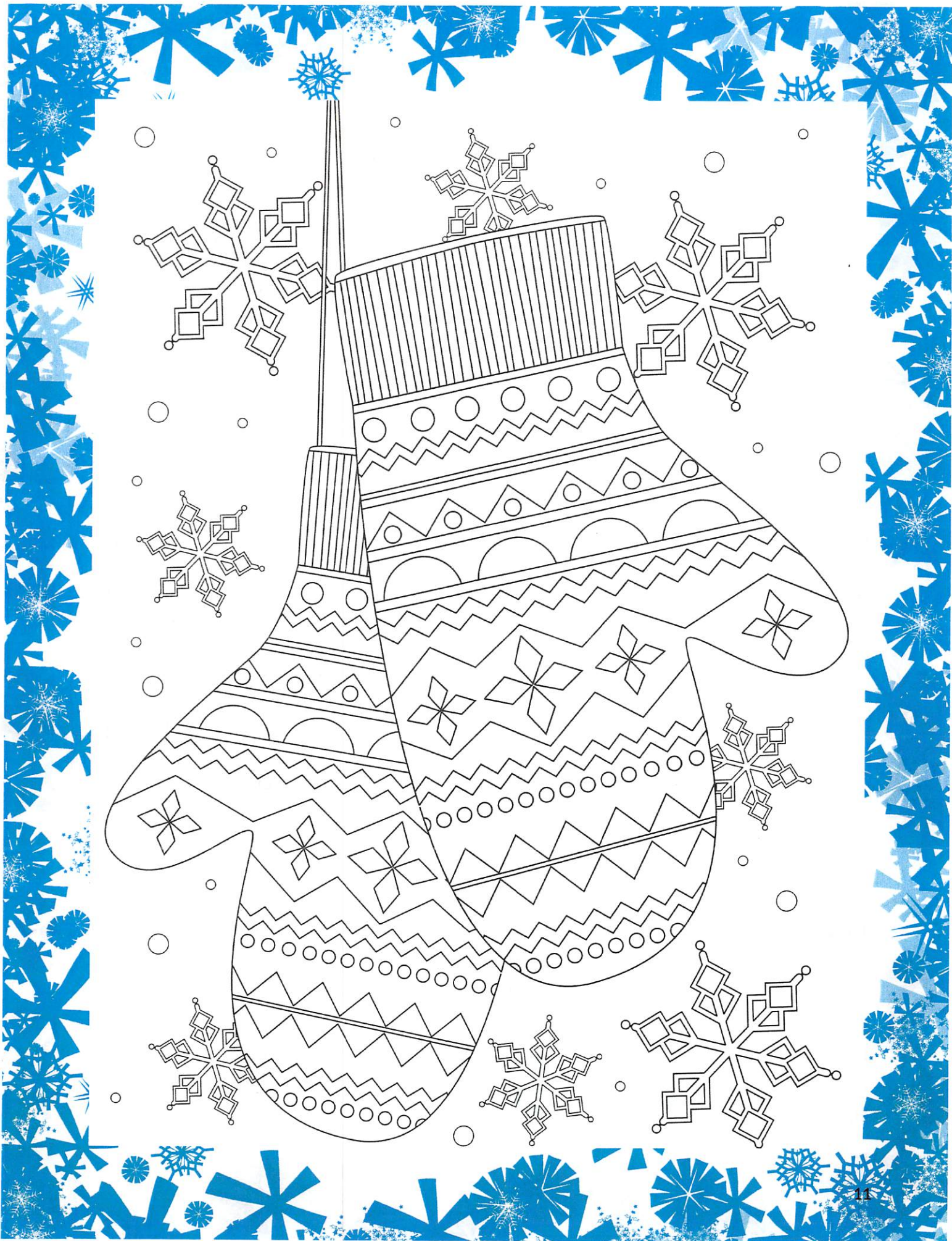
That's Amore  
Rock Around The Clock  
Johnny B. Goode  
Hound Dog  
Tequila  
Put Your Head on my Shoulder  
Wake Up Little Susie  
Blueberry Hill  
The Great Pretender  
All I Have to do is Dream  
(answers are listed below)



## Amtrak Senior Discount

Amtrak Senior Discount: Amtrak travelers of at least 65 years are eligible to receive a 10% discount on most rail fares on most Amtrak trains. On cross-border services operated jointly by Amtrak and VIA Rail Canada, a 10% senior discount is applicable to travelers of at least 60 years. For more information on the program and to see any limitations, visit the Amtrak website - [www.amtrak.com/seniors-discount](http://www.amtrak.com/seniors-discount)

**Answers:** Dean Martin, Bill Haley & His Comets, Chuck Berry, Elvis Presley, The Champs, Paul Anka, Everly Brothers, Fats Domino, The Platters, Everly Brothers



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

BLIZZARD  
 BOOTS  
 COAT  
 COLD  
 FLURRY  
 GLOVES  
 HAT

ICE  
 JACKET  
 MITTENS  
 PLOW  
 SCARF  
 SKATING  
 SKIING

SLEDDING  
 SNOWFLAKE  
 SNOWMAN  
 SWEATER  
 TOBOGGAN  
 WINTER