The Kinderhook Times

Spring - Summer 2023



NY Forward - Moving Our Village In The Right Direction

From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Residents,

We are thrilled to announce that the Village of Kinderhook has been awarded \$2.25 million through the NY Forward grant program!

There will be more to come in the weeks and months ahead as we begin the process of upgrading Rothermel Park, renovating Van Buren Hall, rebuilding the Bandstand, as well as improving several privately-owned historic buildings throughout the village!

This grant is in addition to the nearly \$1.9M that the Village received last year to improve Albany Avenue. Thank you to Renee Shur, Nicole Heeder, our current Trustees, and the many other village staff members and residents who participated in putting our grant presentation together.

Also, thank you to Governor Hochul and the Regional Economic Development Council for your trust and investment in our community!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me at <u>mayor@villageofkinderhook.org</u>.

Sincerely,

Mike Abrams

Mike Abrams, Mayor Village of Kinderhook



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For Your Information . . .

MONTHLY VILLAGE MEETINGS

Board of Trustees 2nd Wednesday – 7:00 PM

Climate Smart Community Task Force 2nd Tuesday – 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

April 1	April Fools' Day
April 1	Water bills mailed
April 22	Earth Day Dash for Trash
April 29	Columbia County Hazardous
	Waste Day
April 29 & 30	Artists' Studio Tour
April 30	Water bills due
May 6	Farmers' Market Begins
May 13	Village Clean Up Day
May 27	Spring Yard Sale
May 29	Memorial Day
May 29	Memorial Day Parade
June 3	KBPA Craft Fair
June 3	Fyfe & Drum Parade
June 5-June 23	KISS Program (document shredding)
June 10	ОК5К
June 26-Aug 4	Summer Camp Program
1h. A	Decelera Devede
July 4	People's Parade

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

<u>Mayor</u>

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 7:30 am-10:30 am Tuesday and Thursday 7am-10am and by appointment.

Inspections are scheduled by appointment.

THE VILLAGE OF KINDERHOOK CELEBRATES EARTH DAY WITH 'DASH FOR TRASH AND MORE'

The Village of Kinderhook Climate Smart Task Force and the Kinderhook Runners Club will again host Dash For Trash, a competitive cleanup event in celebration of Earth Day. This years' event will take place on Saturday, April 22^{nd,} rain, or shine.

Participants will meet in the Village Green at 9:00 am and take one hour to collect as much litter as they can before returning at 10:00am for the results. Prizes will be awarded to the individuals and groups that collect the most debris by weight. Trash bags and gloves will be provided. Last year competitors collected nearly 240 pounds of garbage from all over the Village.

NEW THIS YEAR

Competitors are invited to bring their kitchen scraps and try out the County compost collection container that will be on hand during the event. The collection is limited to fruit and vegetable scraps, eggshells, and coffee grinds. No meat, bones, pasta, grains, or dairy products will be collected at this time.

Also, on hand will be the **"Big Green Box"** for recycling batteries and cell phones. Additionally, a NexTrex container will be available for collecting plastic bags and plastic film. This past year in partnership with the Kinderhook Memorial Library, we have recycled over 400 pounds of batteries and small electronics. The Library's plastic collecting has also diverted over 1,333 pounds of plastic from landfills and earned the Village two recycled material Trex park benches. Earth Day will also be kick-off day for a new initiative co-sponsored by the Kinderhook Memorial Library and the Climate Smart Task Force. Between April 22nd and May 5th, bring your old computers, laptops, printers and more to the Library, and we will pass them on to **GE Elfun Computer Rehab of Schenectady** – a nonprofit group of engineers who restore old electronics and donate them to schools and other nonprofits. A complete list of acceptable items can be found at <u>www.computerrehab.org</u>.

The Climate Smart Task Force meets regularly on the second Tuesday of the month at 7PM. 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 e-mail Bill Mancini at <u>sammikit@hotmail.com</u>.





Super Stories All Are Welcome to Come and Get Creative

Local artists and educators Grace Lang and Ramiro Davaro-Comas are thrilled to launch the Super-Stories children's maker space this summer. Located in the old Rock Shop at 2 Chatham Street, Super-Stories is a non-profit focused on art education and public art. Until now, the organization's projects have been off-site, collaborating with public schools and other non-profits around the East Coast. Seeing the desire for more after-school and weekend arts programming for children, Super-Stories will be a dedicated space for workshops, private events, and drop-in maker hours.

Workshops will be offered for children of all ages, in a variety of mediums. Free drop-in hours will begin in Summer 2023, during Saturday farmers' market hours. More structured workshop schedules will launch in Winter 2023/24. The space will also be available for children's art-making parties, as well as other one-day events hosted by local creatives. To learn more about Super Stories or if you have questions or ideas, please visit: https://www.super-stories.org.

Village Yoga Welcoming All Ages, Levels of Experience and Physical Needs

Village Yoga is set to open in late spring on the second and third floors of 6 Hudson Street. Before moving to Kinderhook, this husband and wife teaching team Sam Breschi and Catherine Zack taught yoga and meditation in Washington, D.C. "We couldn't imagine a better place to raise our kids than Kinderhook," Catherine says. "The natural beauty, warmth of the community, and the vitality of local businesses is a truly special combination. We're excited to create a business that will serve the people of Kinderhook and Columbia County." Reflecting on one of the most important goals for their new venture, Sam emphasizes that the couple "wants everyone to feel welcome at Village Yoga."

Saying Goodbye To Gallery Northeast

Thank you to Kinderhook resident and gallerist Ruth Moore, for enriching the village's cultural scene by showcasing the works of regional contemporary Impressionist painters. Since the summer of 2021, Moore's fine-arts commercial gallery, located at 12 Broad Street, helped attract a diverse audience of art enthusiasts to Kinderhook. The gallery will close in April 2023.

Upcoming KBPA Events

Farmers' Market	Μ
Spring Village-Wide Yard Sale	Μ
Kinderhook Makers' Market	Ju
Muster & Parade	Ju
ОК 5К	Ju

May 6 to October 7 May 27 June 3 June 3 June 10

Arbor Day Celebration	June 17
at Kinderhook Farmers' Market	
People's Parade	July 4
Arm of the Sea Puppet Theater	July 15



Restricted Firefighter Programs Are Setting The Path For Future Firefighters

Palmer Engine & Hose Company The Village of Kinderhook Volunteer Fire Department

WHAT ARE RESTRICTED MEMBER FIREFIGHTER PROGRAMS?

Restricted member firefighters are elected members of the fire company who are approved and authorized by the authority having jurisdiction ("AHJ") to engage in volunteer firefighting activities. Restricted members (sometimes called Restricted Active Members or "RAMS") exist in a distinct class of membership or as a subset of active membership within the bylaws of the fire company. Typically, membership in fire companies is limited to those who are 18 years of age and older. The obvious reason for this is because persons under the age of 18 are minors. The term "restricted" is utilized in the classification of the program to designate that this group of firefighters, ages sixteen and seventeen, are active members of the fire company but have restrictions in place that limit their participation as opposed to active firefighters in the fire department who are over the age of 18.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS IN HAVING A RESTRICTED MEMBER FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM?

The two most obvious benefits of a restricted member program are that: 1. participants in the program are deemed to be active "firefighters" and covered by the Volunteer Firefighters' Benefit Law ("VFBL"), and 2. because they are covered by VFBL, restricted member firefighters may participate in New York State sponsored fire service training with parental approval.

WHAT TYPES OF RESTRICTIONS ON ACTIVITY WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN A RESTRICTED MEMBER PROGRAM?

- Limitations on the restricted member's duties at fire scenes (e.g., no interior firefighting ever).
- Limitation on the restricted member's access to the fire station and restrictions on how late a restricted member may be at the fire station for drills, meetings, and social events.
- Limitations on the types of training the restricted member may participate in.
- Limitations on the restricted member responding to calls during the day and on school nights.
- The restricted member's continued attendance in high school and obtaining passing grades; and
- Limitations on voting on fire company matters and continued probationary status while a restricted member.

FASNY's scholarship and college tuition assistance programs are two of the perks available to Restricted Firefighters:

- The Gerard J. Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer Scholarship is awarded annually to 25 college-bound high school seniors. Each scholarship provides a one-time \$1,500 award for college-related expenses. More information is available at: fasny.com/awards/scholarship
- The FASNY Help Tuition Reimbursement Program provides up to 100% tuition reimbursement to active volunteer firefighters who attend an accredited college or university located in New York State. More information is available at: fasny.com/resources/fasny-help-tuition-reimbursementprogram

For additional information regarding the Restricted Firefighters program, please contact the Palmer Engine & Hose Company at 518-758-9220.

REMINDER

The Kinderhook Fire Department wants to remind you that the annual brush burning ban started in New York State on March 16, 2023, and runs through May 14, 2023.



In this edition of The Kinderhook Times, we shine the spotlight on Nate Becker, who is in our Department of Public Works. Nate began his career with our village in June 2014. At that time, it was supposed to be a temporary position to paint the fire hydrants. Nine years later, Nate is doing a great job that helps to keep our village running smoothly and looking good. It's no wonder that his favorite tasks are snowplowing and mowing the village lawns.

Born in Hudson, New York, Nate graduated from Ichabod Crane High School and currently lives in Valatie. While he does not presently have a pet, he would like to own a Vizsla, a special breed of dog, one day. Nates' family includes one sister, two brothers, several nieces, and nephews and over thirty cousins.

Nates' hobby is camping, so it came as no surprise when he told us that at one time, he was employed at a hiking lodge with the Adirondack Mountain Club. Broadcasting is another interest of Nates' who received the designation of "Best Demo Reel" for radio broadcasting, from the National Radio Broadcasting organization. On weekends, Nate prefers "not working" to any other option. As a sports enthusiast, Nates' favorite team in hockey is the Pittsburgh Penguins, in baseball he favors the Atlanta Braves and in football, his team is the Buffalo Bills. He doesn't have a favorite movie, but Nate likes season one of the television show, True Detective. In literature, Nate has a favorite book entitled Franny and Zooey, by his chosen author J. D. Salinger. Winter is Nates' preferred time of year.

As a traveler, Nate has already visited Switzerland, England, and the Czech Republic. He would like to visit Newfoundland and Labrador, because of their beautiful coastlines and they are not heavily populated areas of Canada.

Thanks Nate, for letting us shine the Employee Spotlight on you!

New Village Website

The Village of Kinderhook has contracted with Revize Government Web Design to create a new website for our Village. The website will have many featres that will allow the user to easily locate information and to interact with our Village government. The Village has also agreed to contract with HeyGov, a company that designs software for payment programs specific to needs of each municipality. This site will allow our residents to pay online for property taxes, water bills and permit fees. HeyGov will also be digitizing all Village documents, which will help with the Villages' operational efficiency. The first phase of this project is expected to be completed by this July. As this endeavor moves forward, additional details will follow.

VILLAGE-WIDE

SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

It's that time of the year again, County Waste and Recycling Service will pick up items at your home on

Saturday, May 13, 2023

Please see the list below for the items that are not accepted. Items to be picked up may be placed out by the street where you put your regular garbage and they will be removed.

Please do not put items out more than 48 hours before the Saturday pick-up. Collection will begin at 7am so please make sure your items are out prior so that you will not be missed! Regular household garbage and recycling will be picked up as normal in the village on Thursday, May 4th and Thursday, May 11th.

The following items are NOT to be put out for pick-up and will not be picked up by County Waste & Recycling Service:

PAINT & TAR CANS 5 GALLON PAILS ANYTHING CONTAINING LIQUIDS SOLVENTS, THINNERS **INSECTICIDES, PESTICIDES** COMPRESSED GAS CYLINDERS **HOUSEHOLD & POOL CHEMICALS** LAWNMOWERS, MOTORBIKES, ETC. CONSTRUCTION-DEMOLITION DEBRIS **TELEVISION SETS**

TIRES & BATTERIES AUTOMOBILE FILTERS **BRUSH & YARD WASTE** ASHES LARGE APPLIANCES MATTRESSES UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE **ANIMAL WASTE MEDICAL/INFECTIOUS WASTE** COMPUTER MONITORS



KISS PROGRAM

Even a partial account number, coupled with the name of your bank, or other information can be matched with any other info that's been gleaned to open accounts in your name. That's why it's important to shred mail or other documents containing potentially sensitive information.

The Town Hall in Kinderhook will once again be participating in the KISS Program, providing shredding bins for our Seniors. Please see below for dates in 2023:

June 5th to June 23rd August 28th to September 8th November 27th to December 8th

The Kinderhook Town Hall is located at 3211 Church Street, Valatie, NY and is open Monday-Thursday from 9am-3pm.



Know Your Neighbor

Warren Applegate

Twenty-five years ago, the Village of Kinderhook welcomed Warren Applegate as its newest resident. He and his partner, Kathy, reside in the historic district of the Village.

Born in Trenton, N.J., Warren graduated from high school in Dryden, New York. He completed both his undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of Albany. He taught in the Schodack Central School District's High School English department for over 30 years, at one time named by NYS as Gifted and Talented Teacher of the Year. On retirement, Warren was appointed Assistant Director of the Capital Area School Development Association, where he soon became Project Director of the NYS Wired Scholars, a video production created for PBS. In retirement, he has served as a Coordinator of Volunteer Services for Literacy Volunteers of America and has also moderated support groups for the Alzheimer's Association. He was CO-Chairman of the Town of Ghent Planning Board.

A strong supporter of volunteerism, Warren has recently worked with other citizen volunteers to support the Kinderhook Memorial Library. He assisted in grant writing which resulted in Kinderhook's national award as a Preserve America Community, and more recently in Kinderhook's effort to restore and achieve national recognition for the Persons of Color Cemetery. He is quick to credit the volunteer efforts of the community, especially the Department of Public Works and the Kinderhook Garden Club as the cemetery has evolved into a memorial, now appearing on the National Register of Historic Places. Currently, Warren serves on the Clean Energy Task Force.

When it is time for relaxation, Warren enjoys watching a variety of movies and his taste in music ranges from Jazz to Classical. Warren also enjoys gardening and writing. He is the proud author of "Regards, Walter" a book for young readers set in Kinderhook.

Of the four seasons, our neighbor favors autumn. Warren enjoys vacationing in the Acadia National Park area of Coastal Maine, which he describes as stunning.

Thank you Warren, for letting us get to know our neighbor!

Did You Know?

The James Vanderpoel House, also known as the "House of History", was originally the Federal-era home of prominent lawyer and politician James Vanderpoel and his family. The house reflects an elegant lifestyle in a prosperous, early 19th century upstate New York village. The property is now an exhibit space featuring galleries of paintings and decorative arts from the Columbia County Historical Society (CCHS) permanent collection.

Board of Trustees

Comings & Goings

Congratulations to Mark Browne who was recently elected to his second full term as a Trustee on the Village Board. Mark has played a significant role in coordinating the Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project and the Albany Avenue Water Main Upgrade Project. At the recent Organizational meeting Mark was appointed Project Manager for each of these initiatives along with managing Long Term Budgeting, the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail and Budget and Insurance Oversight. Additionally, Mark was designated Deputy Mayor by Mayor Mike Abrams.

On March 21, 2023, Quinn Murphy was elected to his first term as a Village of Kinderhook Trustee. Currently in his third year at Siena Collage, Quinn will be graduating a year early in May 2023. He currently serves our community as a volunteer fire fighter and was also a very active member of the Village of Kinderhook Recreation Commission. In a statement from this newly elected official, Quinn said, "I am incredibly excited to get to work on the Village Board of Trustees, to further serve the village to the fullest I can". For the first year of Quinn's two-year term, he will be assisting Mark Browne with the Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project, the Albany Avenue Water Main Upgrade Project and Long-Term Budget and Financial Projections. Additionally, he will be responsible for Traffic Safety, Municipal Buildings, Refuse Collection, Sidewalk Snow Removal, Liaison to the Historic Preservation Commission, Liaison to the Village Historian, Liaison to the Zoning Board of Appeals, and Liaison to the Climate Smart Task Force. Best wishes to Quinn for a successful term in public service.

A special "Thank You" goes to David Flaherty, who just completed his sixth year as a Village of Kinderhook Trustee. In 2016, David was appointed to the Village Planning Board by Mayor, Carol Weaver. He served in that capacity for two years before being elected as a Trustee on the Village Board. Over the last six years, David served under mayors Jim Dunham, Dale Leiser and Mike Abrams. He was appointed Deputy Mayor in April 2019 and was reappointed to that position by the succeeding mayors. When asked about his time in office, he said," My most important accomplishment in my term as a Village Board member was working with mayors and village board members who never brought their personal political feelings or agendas to a meeting. Every board decision was made for the common good of the village and its' residents. In 2023, David decided not to seek reelection and to end his public service". As he moves into the next chapter of his life, we wish David and his family all the very best that life has to offer.

Seniors' Corner

WITH AGE COMES CHANGE

With age comes different lifestyle choices and requirements, and this is especially true for senior citizens. This includes everything from finding the right dental plan to researching affordable living. For seniors, this can be a daunting and sometimes overwhelming task. But if the right fit is found, it can be extremely beneficial to the individual's overall standard of living. Some opportunities that are catered towards this age group offer plenty of great opportunities to continue exploring the world around them.

LIVING INDEPENDENTLY

Many may wish to continue staying in their own place as they age and avoid going to nursing homes. It is important to find the best place for seniors to live and independent living for seniors can be a great option. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has various funding programs, one of which is the Senior Housing Program, created to assist seniors in rent, home ownership and assistive services.

ADAPTING AT HOME

Choosing to live in a home or an apartment rather than a nursing home, for example, can require numerous adaptations to the home, especially if there are disabilities that need to be taken into consideration. Some changes may include widening of doorways and passageways, adding a railing and possibly a chair lift for seniors and updating the current bathroom to include hand bars, modified showers and bathtubs, and raised toilets. All seniors have different needs so plan ahead and consider the current and potential renovations that may need to be made.

TAKING UP A NEW HOBBY

Those that live in an area with a large senior population have many benefits. There is a higher chance that there will be activities for seniors at centers in the local area. In our area, we have the Valatie Senior Center, located on Williams Street in Valatie. Their contact number is 518-758-1308. Events could include group walks, picnics, arts and crafts classes, computer classes, dance lessons and possibly fitness classes. Also, check the activity calendar for seniors within the county to see what new hobbies sound interesting. It is never too late to start something new.



May 18, 2023 "Beatles Ticket to Ride" at the Log Cabin, Holyoke, MA - \$78.00 June 26-28, 2023 Amish Country Tour - \$469

August 22, 2023 "Kenny Rogers Tribute" at the Log Cabin. Holyoke, MA - \$78.00

All trips leave from St. Luke's parking lot in Valatie. For more information, please call Milly at 518-392-3261



Design Time for Albany Avenue

By Mark Browne, Trustee Village of Kinderhook



There are two (2) simultaneous design efforts underway for Albany Avenue at present. 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).

With regards to the Road Design, note that National Grid assisted the Village by contacting Spectrum and Consolidated requesting both utilities to move their signal wires off the old poles and onto the new poles. Once this was done, the old poles were removed in preparation for construction along Albany Avenue. Project manager Mark Browne and Trustee Susan Paterson met with National Grid and HVEA staff to request their assistance in this regard and to discuss the current pole structure and the feasibility of power distribution alternatives for residents along Albany Avenue – more to come on this subject and it will be discussed at a Public Design Hearing in the Spring of 2023.

A Kickoff meeting was held on Friday, February 24th, 2023, with DOT and HVEA staff as well as Village of Kinderhook leadership in attendance now that Design work has started. Most of this meeting's content centered around our adherence to administrative regulations and invoicing matters, however, the Project Status covering ongoing Road Preliminary Design efforts were discussed as follows:

- Surveys underway take core samples, review documentation, and conduct engineering analyses
- Perform environmental analyses
- Perform historical analyses –address cultural and historic section 106 National Historic Preservation Act
- Develop Preliminary Designs with Evaluations of Alternatives
- Prepare for Preliminary Design Discussions with the Steering Committee, the Public and DOT
- Prepare to Submit Comprehensive Preliminary Design Report to DOT seeking authorization to proceed with Final Detailed Design and Construction Phase

With regards to the Watermain Upgrade Design, we have asked our HVEA engineers working with engineers from Tighe and Bond to work in conjunction with the Village of Kinderhook Project Manager Mark Browne, DPW Supervisor Dave Booth, and Water Commissioner Dale Leiser to produce a preliminary and detailed design to replace the 8" cast iron watermain under the roadway and evaluate the use of new cellular radio frequency water meters, appropriate back flow prevention devices, and alternative methods of construction such as the use of high density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe.

In addition to periodic public hearings to be held throughout the Project lifecycle, the Village of Kinderhook will utilize a project steering committee to provide oversight and assist in decision making. A committee has been established.



Sponsored by

The Village of Kinderhook Recreation Commission

Summer Camp Program – June 26 – August 4, 2023, Rothermel Park, 9am – 3pm weekdays.

This full day program is for children entering kindergarten through ninth grade whose parent/guardian or grandparent reside in the Village of Kinderhook as well as children/grandchildren of Village of Kinderhook employees. The registration fee is \$100.00 per child. Those children with a parent/guardian working DAILY in the village will also be able to attend for a registration fee of \$200.00 per child. Please register by April 30th to be guaranteed a spot. Please make checks payable to: Village of Kinderhook. For more information, please visit: villageofkinderhook.org under Rothermel Park/Recreation. Village office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9am-2pm, 518-758-9822.

Juneteenth Celebration – Rothermel Park, June 17

Pride Celebration – Village Square, June 24

Summer Jam – Village Square, music by Brasskill, July 13, 6PM Rain Date - July 20

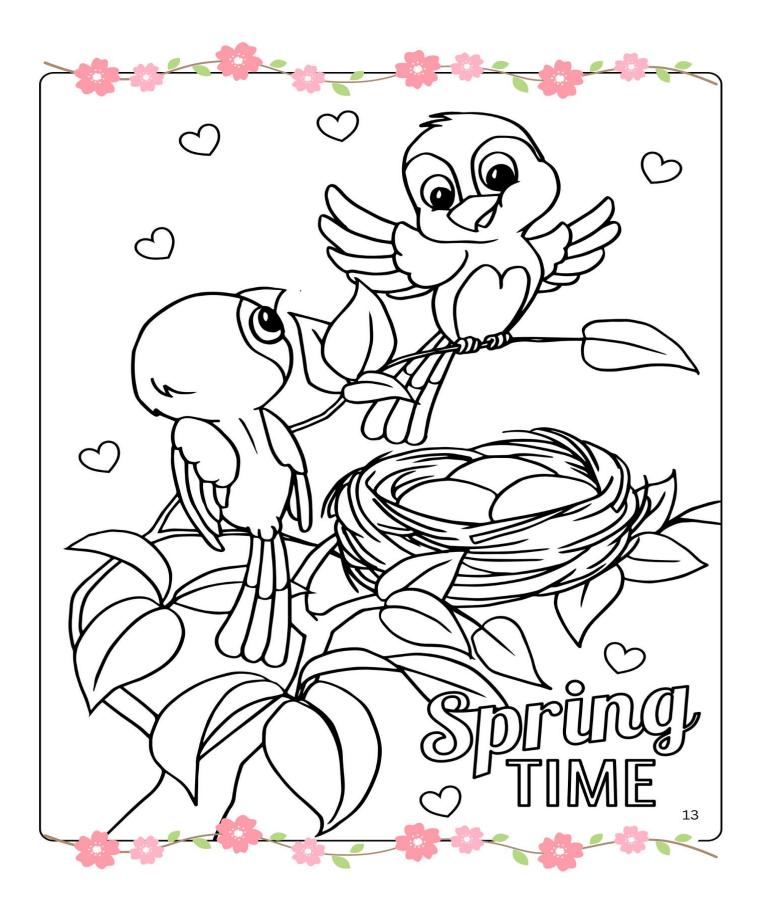
Fire Truck Day – Rothermel Park, July 22, 11 AM to 1 PM

Community Night 2023 – Rothermel Park, September 16, 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Village Halloween Party – Village Square, October 28

OPEN POSITION AVAILABLE:

The Recreation Commission is seeking a Village volunteer to fill the open Alternate position. If you have an interest in recreation/programs for all ages, organizing events, marketing & social media, sharing of ideas that will encourage community involvement, assisting and participating in planned activities, creating plans and goals for future playground expansion, and knowing that you are part of what makes the Village of Kinderhook a refreshing and unique place to live, please provide a letter expressing your interest to the Village of Kinderhook Recreation Commission. Email to: okvillagehall@villageofkinderhook.org



SPRING word search





BLOSSOMGARDENBLUEBIRDGRASSBOOTSGReenCHICKSkiteDAFFODILMUDFLOWERSNEST



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