# Village of Phoenix Board & Administration

## **Mayor**

Ryan Wood

## **Trustees**

Paul Griser John Musumeci David Pendergast Caleb Sweet

# Village Administrator James Lynch

Village Clerk/Treasurer Roxanne Demo

## **Deputy Clerk/Treasurer**

Laura Gonzalez

## Village Attorney

Steven Primo

## **D.P.W.** Crew Leader

John Kerfien

#### **Police Chief**

Martin Nerber

## Historian

Barbara Dix

## **Village Contact Information**

www.Villageofphoenix-ny.gov

Mayor

Ryan Wood (315) 289-8153 rwood@villageofphoenix-ny.gov

**Village Administrator** 

Jim Lynch (315) 695-1307

Clerk's Office

Roxanne Demo (315) 695-2484 Laura Gonzalez (315) 695-4084

D.P.W (315) 695-4300

Code Depart. (315) 695-1307

Village Fax (315) 695-3311

Police Department Please dial 911



# Village of Phoenix

Newsletter

June 2018

## Message from the Mayor

For the past 13 years the Village has had a "consent order" from the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) because during rain events the sanitary collection system is overloaded. This is caused by two things: a few outdated broken pipes in laterals (from the house to the main) and main pipes and illegal sump pumps that discharge directly into sewer drains. Both problems need to be addressed under the DEC consent order.

Over the past years the Village has identified the main pipes that need to be replaced. In 2014 the Village board took action and replaced two major sections along Cherry Street and Bridge Street. These projects, while necessary, did not relieve the overflow issues that caused a Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) violation. The Village has also completed some improvements at the Wastewater treatment plant to help increase capacity. These projects were approved by the DEC and shows that the Village is working to correct issues throughout the Village.

Going forward, the Village is required to complete a series of main pipe replacements in accordance with an approved plan while completing a strategic plan to increase capacity at the plant and eliminate sump pumps. The Village board is mandated to comply with DEC while understanding the hardship it could cause on residents. The board is pursuing different grant opportunities and has already passed local laws to help finance stormwater laterals that will be used for residential rainwater removal.

The removal of rainwater from the sanitary collection system is important because it will lower the cost of processing wastewater. Along with the benefit of lower cost is the ability to bring in more customers to help spread out the cost of personal and building/system maintenance. The end goal that the Village board is working to achieve is improving the Village's environmental responsibility while maintaining or lowering the cost of sewer to customers.

## Planning/Zoning Board

The Village is searching for residents that are knowledgeable about Village and State



the board please reach out to Mayor Ryan

Wood at rwood@villageofphoenix-ny.gov.

Mayor Ryan Wood



## **Meet your Trustees**

Hello, my name is Dave Pendergast, resident and Trustee of the Village of Phoenix. We all have a duty to keep the Village clean and looking nice.

To the residents that keep their properties looking nice, I say thank you! To other residents let us try a little bit more to keep your own neighborhoods picked up and free of garbage around your residence. The following are some things that can be done:

- No electronics in the garbage, our trash hauler will not pick them up, they are your responsibility to get rid of televisions, computers, etc.
- Please take a minute to pick up items that don't belong on the ground and place them in your garbage cans. Some examples are: phone books, coffee cups, wrappers, cans, paper plates, pizza boxes, etc.
- Garbage haulers do not pick up building materials. Examples are: wood, sinks, toilets, sheetrock, bathtubs, etc.
- Lawn clippings and leaves should be put into the recyclable paper bags not plastic bags.

Thank you for your future cooperation. Lets clean up the Village and keep it

# Trustee David Pendergast



#### Hello Phoenix!

My name is Paul Griser, a relatively new resident of Phoenix and even newer member on the Board of Trustees here in the Village. My fiancé and I moved in the Village last winter and quickly fell in love with the area. I joined the board to immerse myself in the community, meet the great people that make up the Village and help further the great things happening in Phoenix. I would love to hear any feedback from residents on issues or ideas they have and make sure those thoughts are heard. As a lover of the outdoors, I also have a goal to continue Phoenix's stellar landscaping practices. In that vein, I have worked together with Village Administrator Jim Lynch, and the DPW to secure a flower and plant donation from Lowes to help with beautification efforts throughout Phoenix's downtown area. Thank you for the honor of serving as a trustee. I look forward to meeting you!

## Trustee Paul Griser

## **Police Department News**

With the long awaited summer weather here and being a river community, our Police boat is in the water and ready to help promote a safe boating season. We remind you that while enjoying the water, please wear your personal floatation device at all times. Please remember to refrain from drinking and operating a vessel. Remember safe boating is NO accident.

Recently our CHOOSE program was featured on News Channel 5, Reporter Michael Benny did an amazing week long story on Senior Citizens and their battle against loneliness. I would like to ask that our community go that extra step and reach out to a senior, they could be your neighbor or even a relative. Make a difference in someone's life, be a strong member of your community.

The school year is coming to a close, please be aware that our children will be out and about crossing our streets and playing in our parks, take that second look for the child or that motorcycle. I would also like to thank the Phoenix School district for being one of the most proactive districts in Oswego County, they were a leader in school safety by incorporating our officers in the schools, they plan to add another, having each school equally protected. We are committed to continuing this relationship with the district, making school safety one of our top priorities.

Our Village again will be host to many activities throughout the Summer and Fall, we look forward to meeting many of you as you come out and show your support. Look for us at some of these events promoting our community programs. Don't be shy, stop our officers and learn who they are, they are proud to serve here.

Be a good neighbor, promote Village life, and embrace what we have here. Be kind to each other, especially our Senior Citizens. Our office isn't generally staffed by an officer; they are usually out patrolling, so should you need to speak to one, please call 911.

## Martin Nerber - Police Chief



For more information call (315) 695-1307 or visit www.Villageofphoenix-ny.gov

June 8, 2018 9:00am – 2:00pm – Canal Days Lock Island, Phoenix, NY

June 9, 2018 9:00am – Bratty Fun Run/Walk 5K Henley Park

June 18, 2018
7:00pm – Schroeppel Historical Society
"Elmira Spencer: Civil War Nurse from
Oswego"

June 22, 2018 4:00 pm-Dusk, St. Stephen's Church & Henley Park

Summer Strawberry Festival, Food & Music (Night Life Band) at Bridge House and FIREWORKS

July 6, 2018 6:00 pm-8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park The Other Guise

July 9, 2018 6:00 pm-8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Matt Chase & Thunder Canyon

July 13, 2018 9:00 am-11:00 am – Lock Island Children's Fishing Derby

July 13, 2018 6:00 pm-8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Hendry Band

July 14, 2018 1:00pm - ??? – Summer Kickoff Block Party "Flip-Flops and Firebirds" – State Street Business District Sponsored by Phoenix Rising

July 16, 2018 6:00 pm-8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Tom Gilbo & The Blue Suedes

July 20, 2018 6:00 pm-8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Two Feet Short

July 21, 2018 11:00am-3:00pm – Schroeppel Historical Society

July 23, 2018 6:00 pm- 8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Moonshine River Band

"Blueberry Fest"

July 27, 2018 6:00 pm-8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Joe Whiting Duo

July 30, 2018 6:00 pm-8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Phoenix Community Concert Band (Rain location JCB)

August 3, 2018 6:00 pm-8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Hendry Band

August 6, 2018 6:00 pm-8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park The Other Guise

August 10, 2018 6:00 pm-8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Flat Face & the Shempdells

August 13, 2018 6:00 pm-8:00 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Dan Elliot & The Monterays

August 15, 2018 1:00pm – Schroeppel Historical Society "Visit to Skä·noñh – Great Law of Peace Center" August 17, 2018 5:30 pm-7:30 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Vote for Pete

August 20, 2018 5:30 pm-7:30 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park The Terry and Joe Acoustic Show

August 24, 2017 5:30 pm-7:30 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park Nite Life Band

August 27, 2018 5:30 pm-7:30 pm – Henley Park Music in the Park American Eagle Band

September 11, 2018 6:30 pm, Henley Park Community Vigil in Memory of those who lost their lives.

(Bring a candle and chair)

September 17, 2018 7:00pm – Schroeppel Historical Society "Camp Syracuse"

October 6, 2018 11:00 am-8:00 pm – Locktoberfest State Street Business District Sponsored by Phoenix Rising

October 15, 2018
7:00 pm – Schroeppel Historical Society
"All Things Cemetery"

November 12, 2018 7:00 pm – Schroeppel Historical Society "Membership Meeting"

November 17 & 18, 2018 10:00 am-3:00 pm – Schroeppel Historical Society

"Local Art, Craft and Bake Sale"



# Village Administrator News

# How We Can Create a Stronger Community

A hive of bees is a perfect example of a community working together in harmony and for the common good of all its members. After all, a bee living alone can barely survive, let alone prosper. But in a hive made up of hundreds of other bees, each taking responsibility for the various jobs necessary for the survival of the community, the lone bee not only survives, it contributes mightily to the success of the hive.

The secret of the bee's success in living together in a close-knit community is that each bee not only understands the interrelationships that exist between it and the rest of the members of its community, but is willing to accept some of the responsibility for the hive's prosperity by expanding their role in the community whenever necessary.

As homeowners and Village residents, we too can choose to recognize the interrelationships that exist between ourselves and our neighbors and how those interrelationships have a direct impact on our quality of life. We can also choose to take some of the responsibility upon ourselves to contribute to improving those relationships and in the process improve our neighborhoods. In order for our Village to protect, preserve and enhance our assets and our property values, each member of our community has to acknowledge their role and, at times, be willing to expand their role to take on some added responsibility. We have code enforcement, fire and police protection as well as a board of trustees that live right here in our Village. Please do not be afraid to reach out and contact the appropriate people when necessary.

Some of you may find this silly to read and perhaps even a waste of time. I, however feel much different. In the world we live in today, it is important that we all work together, be kind to each other, teach our youth the value of pride and responsibility and look out for our neighbors. If you see or say something that you like or dislike, let us be aware of the situation. I use the adage "It Takes a Village" frequently and I believe in it.

Jim Lynch - Village Administrator



"THE GREATNESS OF A COMMUNITY IS MOST ACCURATELY MEASURED BY THE COMPASSIONATE ACTIONS OF ITS MEMBERS"

-Coretta Scott King-





Small businesses and local businesses are still the backbone of our economy. They are local people serving local people and are generally committed to staying local and raising their families. After all, most businesses started out as a small, local business and earned the success of growing and expanding... It's the American Dream. There are quite a few small businesses within our community, north and south of the Village and down Lamson Road...

# Here are 15 reasons to keep your cash close to home:

Keep Money Local— Sales taxes fund our communities and provide vital services such as police and fire protection, street repairs and trash collection. Local businesses are more likely to shop with other local businesses, keeping money moving in our local economy even longer.

Local Investment— Local businesses are less susceptible to national downturns and more likely to work harder to stay open. Local ownership means that important decisions are made by people who live in our community and feel the impact of those decisions.

**Locally-Made Products**— Local business owners often sell local products, which helps preserve the community's distinction and creates more jobs locally.

**Support for Nonprofits**— Local businesses support good work in our community. "Studies show that nonprofits receive 250 percent more support from small businesses than large ones".

**Discover Interesting Things and People**—One-of-a-kind shops and restaurants are part of what makes our Village a great place to live

**Personal Connection**— Getting to know the store owners is a great reason to shop local. "It's their business, they are the decision-makers and they build a personal relationship with their customers.

Product Knowledge— Local business owners are well informed about their products and services and know what they are selling. Because they know their customers, they can easily adjust their inventories to include the goods and services local people want to buy.

**Diverse Products**— Local stores carry inventory you might not find at national chain stores. Local business owners choose products based on what their customers want and often carry unique items from local artists and farmers.

Cost Effective— Sometimes prices at local businesses are better because they don't have the overhead that larger stores may have and they may be more willing to negotiate to meet your price needs.

**Better Experience**— Local shopping can translate to more convenient retail experiences.

Less "Leakage" — Local businesses tend to buy and sell with other local businesses. "With national or multi-national firms, a percentage of that profit 'leaks' out of the community, the state or even the nation".

Increased Expertise— Shopping at a local store means you can get an expert opinion about the products that you're purchasing. "Local shop owners have to be experts in their field to compete. Use them—ask them questions and get advice about their products and services.

Create Community— We are a transitory society so people don't always have a connection with the communities where they live. I would encourage people new to our area to ask the locals where they shop.

Better Service— Local business owners do what they do because they are passionate about their products and services and typically take more time to get to know their customers. They'll often go the extra mile to help you and to ensure you're a satisfied customer.

**Support Future Growth**— Our experts agree on the last reason—shopping locally is the best way to show pride in your community and help protect the businesses that make our Village unique.



## D.P.W. News

The DPW has been doing a lot of clean up throughout the Village this spring. They have been chipping brush, picking up bagged and loose yard waste and fixing plow damage. Please be patient as they finish up cleaning through the Village. Brush pick up is normally done Fridays. We ask that everyone stack brush neatly in one direction so it can be chipped efficiently. Bagged yard waste is normally picked up a

couple times each week. Waste should be put in biodegradable paper bags. Bags must not have dirt, stones or concrete in them. Those items must be piled neatly in front of properties to be picked up. Bags must weigh less than 50 pounds so they can be picked up and loaded into trucks.

The DPW has been planning a very busy summer with sidewalk work, some road repair work and multiple tasks at Village parks and buildings.

Please feel free to call if you experience any water or sewer issues and we will be happy to assist as much as we can. Thank you and have a great summer.

John Kerfien – D.P.W. Senior Crew Leader



# Happy Summer!

# Value of Code Enforcement to a Neighborhood

Older Villages like ours especially need to rely on code enforcement to make sure that buildings are maintained sufficiently to keep up property values and also to keep pace with new technologies and safety research. While property owners often think that the way they take care of their property is their own business, the major impact that neighboring properties have on one another's value and enjoyment means that building maintenance and safety becomes the business of everyone in the neighborhood.

When I hear someone loosely talking about code violations and why the Village isn't enforcing the codes, the first question I ask myself is whether our Village actually has adopted by ordinance a code that would cover the offending situation.

If so, I might have a clear path toward making property owners accountable for maintaining their buildings (both, the main building and any garages, storage sheds, and such). I also may have a way to deal with some ugly or inappropriate things people keep outdoors.

But if your neighbor leaves their old sofa on the porch, and you don't like it, that doesn't necessarily mean it is a code violation. Our particular Village code would have to speak directly to the situation. Although there's a bit of personal judgment on the part of any officer involved, it doesn't stretch far. Codes do not necessarily address everything that you might find offensive aesthetically. I hope you can appreciate that what you may think is an "old sofa" might be considered a quirky porch chair by your neighbor. In the end, our local codes won't address anything and everything you might find ugly, but it certainly helps maintain a basic standard. Along with the basic house numbering, lawn mowing, unlicensed vehicles, construction and trash piles, the code enforcement department also reviews building permit applications, reviews plans and drawings, prepares building permits, perform initial, periodic and final inspections as well as many additional office tasks related to overall code enforcement. I always encourage and accept additional eyes and ears to help make our Village cleaner and safer for all of us. If you see something that you feel needs attention, there are many ways to help me out. On our Village website you can download a code complaint form, contact our Village Clerk or myself directly. All calls or submittals will be kept anonyms when requested.

My Village code request for the quarter, as you have seen many times in past articles, is adequate house numbers... My home was clearly identified with a house number, however as my home caught fire and police and fire responders arrived very quickly and effectively, we lost our home and fortunately nobody was hurt. I can only imagine what could happen in an emergency situation where first responders cannot quickly identify a home because the lack of or unclear house identification numbers. This code compliance issue is in my opinion, the most important issue and the least expensive way to become compliant and potentially save you and your loved ones in the case of an emergency. To all my Village residents, please take a few short minutes and walk outside, take a look at your home and feel confident that it is clearly marked with a large enough contrasting house number. If you are a tenant and you feel your property is not clearly marked with an adequate apartment or house number, please call your landlord and my office for some assistance.

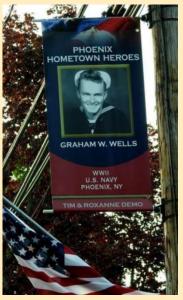
Thank You!

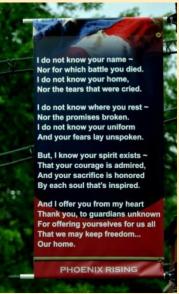
Jim Lynch — Code Enforcement

## Hometown Hero's Street Banner Program

You may have noticed a new addition to our telephone poles along the Main Street. This is a program created by Phoenix Rising with minimal labor from the Village DPW. The brackets that were purchased by Phoenix rising and installed by the Village DPW will become property of The Village and can be used for various Village welcome and seasonal decorating projects.

Phoenix Rising advertised this banner recognition program through various social media sites, newspaper articles and word of mouth. The response was wonderful and the initial installment was for 24 banners which were produced and installed by Memorial Day for all to see and pay their respect to. Since the banners went up, several new orders have been received and we hope to see this program blossom and continue next year.





The following is an email that was received from an individual visiting from out of state and allowed us to print her email testimonial.

"We are in the area for our annual family visit. The banners in town are impressive. I noticed one banner had writing, but no picture. Where can I find out what that says? How were the images obtained? What company printed the banners? We would like to take this concept to our home in Louisiana."

#### Thank You, Maria Sanchez

Thank you to all of those who have participated in this program and if anyone wishes to honor their loved ones, we are taking orders for next year. Please contact The Clerk's office at 315-695-2484 for application instructions.



# LIBRARY SUMMER EVENTS

- Every Friday 11:00am – Story Time with Miss Katie
- Thursday, July 12 6 to 8 pm is a Family Dance Party
- Monday, July 16 at 1PM is Digeridoo Down Under
- Tuesday July 31 at 1PM is Out of the Cage Pet Mobile
- Wednesday, August 8 at 2PM is Tom Sieling He is a musician.
- Wednesday, August 15 at 11am is G and G Animals

# Water Conservation Tips for Residents



# For Every Room in the House With Plumbing

- Repair leaky faucets, indoors and out.
- Consider replacing old equipment (like toilets, dishwashers and laundry machines).

#### In the Kitchen

• When cooking, peel and clean vegetables in a large bowl of water instead of under running water.

- Fill your sink or basin when washing and rinsing dishes.
- Only run the dishwasher when it's full.
- When buying a dishwasher, select one with a "light-wash" option.
- Only use the garbage disposal when necessary (composting is a great alternative).
- Install faucet aerators.

#### In the Bathroom

- Take short showers instead of baths.
- Turn off the water to brush teeth, shave and soap up in the shower. Fill the sink to shave.
- Repair leaky toilets. Add 12 drops of food coloring into the tank, and if color appears in the bowl one hour later, your toilet is leaking. Or you can pick up tablets at the Village Clerks office.
- Install a toilet dam, faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads.

#### Laundry

- Run full loads of laundry.
- When purchasing a new washing machine, buy a water saving model that can be adjusted to the load size.

#### **Outdoors**

- Maximize the use of natural vegetation and establish smaller lawns. For portions of your lot where a lawn and landscaping are desired, ask your local nursery for tips about plants and grasses with low water demand (such as creeping fescue). Consider planting more trees, shrubs, ground covers, and less grass. Shrubs and ground covers provide greenery for much of the year and usually demand less water. Use native plants in flower beds. Native plants have adapted to rainfall conditions and often provide good wildlife habitat. Cluster plants that require extra care together to minimize time and save water.
- When mowing your lawn, set the mower blades to 2-3 inches high. Longer grass shades the soil improving moisture retention, has more leaf surface to take in sunlight, allowing it to grow thicker and develop a deeper root system. This helps grass survive drought, tolerate insect damage and fend off disease.
- Only water the lawn when necessary. If you water your lawn and garden, only do it once a week, if rainfall isn't sufficient. Avoid watering on windy and hot days. Water the lawn and garden in the morning or late in the evening to maximize the amount of water which reaches the plant roots (otherwise most of the water will evaporate). Use soaker hoses to water gardens and flower beds.

If sprinklers are used, take care to be sure they don't water walkways and buildings. When you water, put down no more than 1 inch (set out a empty cans to determine how long it takes to water 1 inch) each week. This watering pattern will encourage healthier, deep grass roots. Over-watering is wasteful, encourages fungal growth and disease, and results in the growth of shallow, compacted root systems that are more susceptible to drought and foot traffic. If an automatic lawn irrigation system is used, be sure it has been properly installed, is programmed to deliver the appropriate amount and rate of water, and has rain shut-off capability.

- Apply mulch around shrubs and flower beds to reduce evaporation, promote plant growth and control weeds.
- Add compost or an organic matter to soil as necessary, to improve soil conditions and water retention.
- Collect rainfall for irrigation in a screened container (to prevent mosquito larvae growth).
- When washing a car, wet it quickly, and then use a bucket of water to wash the car. Turn on the hose to final rinse (or let Mother Nature wash your car when it rains).
- Always use a broom to clean walkways, driveways, decks and porches, rather than hosing off these areas.
   (Text extracted from EPA website).



Welcome to our first article sharing Hometown news and events! I am hoping to give readers more of what you want to read with community news, interesting features, entertainment, business news and more. Whatever your interests may be, I hope that this newsletter section has something appealing to everyone.

Our vision is simple: we seek to reconnect the community with itself, by giving you, our readers more of what you want in your community newsletter: informative and engaging stories and features that directly impact them. This is your Village, neighborhood and your news.

So... Our Two First articles are quite impressive...

## "Miss Teen New York Teen International"



Two young ladies, Shelbie and Cassadee Handville both grew up in Phoenix. Shelbie, 25 years old and Miss New York International is a JCB High School graduate, has a Master's degree in Criminal Justice and is currently in the process of starting her own business. Shelbie's platform is "Save the Bees", her goal is to plant gardens in schools and in towns that help promote the health of honey and bumble bees. Cassadee, 15 years old and Miss Teen New York Teen International is currently a sophomore at JCB High School with hopes of going to veterinarian school in the future, she also has a great passion for interior design. Cassadee's platform is animal rescue, and she is currently working with Mountain Rottie Rescue.

Both girls love volunteer work and their hometown! If anyone wishes to book them for an appearance, volunteer work or wishes to sponsor them in any way, please contact Melanie Handville at sewmelsjc@gmail.com The Miss International Pageant will be held in Charleston, West Virginia on July 27<sup>th</sup> & July 28<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in attending or to support our local girls, please contact Melanie. You may also send them a message and follow their journey to Nationals on their Facebook page New York International Pageants.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS GIRLS!**

Please contact me, with any Hometown news article, history or trivia information you may have to continue to grow our Hometown News Newsletter article.

Submittals or ideas: jlynch@villageofphoenix-ny.gov



## "Lock 1 Distilling Company"

Lock 1 Distilling Company is proud to announce its grand opening to

the public on June 22, 2018. Thanks to New York State and The Village of Phoenix, Lock 1 Distilling Company has utilized a Restore New York Grant and has just completed a \$330,000 renovation to our distillery. Our industrial themed tasting room will feature New York State beer, wine, cider, and spirits available for on premise consumption as well as by the bottle, can, or growler to take with you. Lock 1 Distilling company has been creating gold medal award winning products such as Ryze Vodka and Inferno Cinnamon Whiskey since May 28, 2017. Our products are featured in many liquor stores, bars, and restaurants all over Central New York.

Come join us on Friday June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 3 p.m. to 2 a.m. 8 different NYS beers/ciders will be on tap as well as L1DC featured cocktails. Wolf's Woodfired Patio Pizza will be there serving gourmet wood fired pizzas as well. This event is the same day as the Village's annual fireworks at Henley Park, so come down for some good spirits, food, and fun!

# 2018 Summer Guides are here!



These guides are available at the Clerk's Office and at the Bridge House in Henley Park

Village of Phoenix 455 Main Street Phoenix, New York 13135

**Local Postal Customer** 

PRSRT STD ECRWSS U.S.POSTAGE PAID EDDM Retail