

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



Message from the Mayor

If you haven't walked around the Village in a while I recommend you take the time and see everything that is going on. Over the past two years the Village has replaced the sidewalk on Main Street from the Nice and Easy to Bombadil's. The Village board is hopeful that we can continue these large sidewalk replacement projects to make sure residents and visitors have safe and level areas to travel around the Village.

The second project in the works is the pond renovation. The goal is to restore the pond back to its glory that many remember it to be. The Village will be creating a walking trail around the pond by shoring up its sides. It will be dredged and seating and lighting will be installed along with a fountain to keep the water moving. The fountain will help promote a natural self-sustaining ecosystem to ensure that the pond will be around for years to come.

The last major Village project that is visible while walking around the Village is the improvements on Lock Island. The Village is upgrading some of the power and with the help from Phoenix Central School District Buildings & Grounds crew improving the landscaping. Other improvements such as painting and replacing tables and benches are being provided through the Phoenix Rising group in preparation of their sponsored event in September, "Rock the Lock."

While these projects are visual while walking around the Village there are many other projects that people might not see. A few of the projects are upgrading Village building lights to LED, replacement of water and sewer line, improvements to the wastewater treatment plant, and applying for numerous grants to help fund as many projects to minimize the impact to residents.

Mayor Ryan Wood

Village of Phoenix Newsletter

June 2018



Meet your Trustees

As a longtime resident of the Village of Phoenix I am proud to serve for many of the families that were friends and families of my ancestors. That being said this is an exciting era for the Village of Phoenix. A lot of nice things are happening and will continue to happen to bring this Village to its full potential and keep it, as one of our late residents Don Dauer would say daily on his morning talk show, "*Phoenix the garden spot of Central New York*".

Trustee Caleb Sweet



Hello everyone, this is Paul Griser, resident and trustee of Phoenix. I just wanted to personally thank the community as a whole for always being welcoming and helpful to one another. I think that is what makes Phoenix so special!

In that vein, the Village has started a Nice Neighbor Award. The award will be given to residents who take pride in their properties, display kindness to their fellow neighbors and go out of their way to help others. The award is designed for residents to nominate one another for the honor.

If you have a neighbor or know of a Phoenix resident deserving of the award, please feel free to pick up a nomination form today! Forms are available online or at Clerk's office.

Have a wonderful Fall season everyone!

Trustee Paul Griser

Police Department News

What an incredible summer we have had, and a safe one I would like to add. I would like to share with you a few thoughts and some updates since our last newsletter.

Firstly and most importantly, I want to wish our students of the Phoenix School District a happy and healthy school year. We would like to welcome Officer Paul Rose as our newest School Resource Officer who will be assigned to EJ Dillon Middle School. Paul brings many years of experience as an SRO at the City of Syracuse Police/School district. Our number one goal with our school resource officer program is to provide a safe and secure environment for our students and staff. We would like to remind parents that they can help us reach our goals by reminding your children to be courteous and respectful of other students and staff. Teach them to be good citizens and future leaders, and encourage them to put forth 100% each and every day. Lastly as parents, support your school staff and administrators, their job isn't easy and they too have the best intentions for providing a safe learning environment in an excellent school district.

I have some bitter-sweet news regarding our K9 grant. After almost two years of attempting to find the perfect handler and a grant extension, I am sorry to say we had to reallocate the grant monies with the permission of NYS. The Police department has purchased a Polaris 570 four seater UTV, the entire cost of which was covered under the grant. This vehicle will enable us to respond to emergencies in crowded areas and patrol on school grounds for sporting events. As you know as a Village we are hosting and encouraging festivals, programs, and activities that get our citizens out and showcases our Village that we are proud of. The UTV will also allow response into the proposed campground located on Lock Island where full size emergency vehicles may have difficulty maneuvering into. This purchase was made possible by Senator Patty Ritchie, myself and the Phoenix Police Department wishes to thank her from the bottom of our hearts.

I would also like to remind our citizens that parking on or across side-walks is a violation of the Village code. Please be courteous of those using our sidewalks. We will be seeing you at our festivals and events in the Fall and appreciate all of you that partake and act responsibly making a safe time for all.

We still have some challenge coins left that are for sale for \$10 each, the proceeds go to



our community programs such as CHOOSE, KIND, and Shop with a Cop. They can be purchased at The Medicine Place on Main Street.

Finally, be a good neighbor, foster positive relations with all that enjoy and live within our Village. Look out for our youth and our senior citizens, and volunteer if you are able.

Thank You

Martin Nerber – Police Chief



**"SMALL ACTS, WHEN MULTIPLIED
BY MILLIONS OF PEOPLE,
CAN TRANSFORM THE WORLD"**

-Unknown-



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

**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
7:00 pm – Schroeppe Historical Society
"Camp Syracuse"**

**October 6, 2018
11:00 am-10:00 pm – Locktoberfest
State Street Business District
Sponsored by Phoenix Rising**

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

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

**November 17 & 18, 2018
10:00 am-3:00 pm – Schroeppe Historical
Society
"Local Art, Craft and Bake Sale"**

**December 1, 2018
6:30 pm – Sweet Memorial Building
455 Main Street, Phoenix, NY
"Christmas Tree Light-up & Visit from
Santa"**

Village Administrator News

Small Villages exist in movies, books and snow globes, as time capsules of a simple, forgotten way of life, perfectly preserved by those fiercely dedicated to "the way things always were".

At their cores are the original moms and pops: the proprietors of long-standing local hardware stores, salons, diners, and more—people you know on a nickname basis. I have spent the last five years as Village Administrator trying to maintain the small hometown feel that I have truly grown to appreciate and love. Trying to patronize as many of our local stores, shops, restaurants and more as much as possible. All this while maintaining an up to date and efficient way of conducting business in local government while maintaining that hometown feeling.

During the course of each business day I am continuously looking for ways to improve the working environment for my Village staff, researching creative ways of cutting costs of doing business, updating and adding various amenities for our residents and utilizing our own resources and the talents of all of our Village employees to deliver a quality and lasting end result. With an aging infrastructure, old municipal buildings, various compliance restrictions and mandates along with technology changing rapidly, maintaining this quaint old Village feeling becomes challenging at times.

While most of our merchants are usually positive and optimistic, they often tell me, "it's hard to make a living here," but this community is actually one of the lucky few. Increased tourism means the opportunities for entrepreneurship are growing in the retail, restaurant and service sectors here in our area.

I speak to interested developers who seek to enter our Village with various retail ideas on a regular basis now, I'm always looking for ways to make these developments happen, to broaden our tax base and add a few additional options for our residents to shop and enjoy. The hopes of a growing commercial strip of quaint shops running through our downtown waterfront district is now becoming more realistic. This is a rarity I know now—in America, for every gleaming 24-hour mega mart, there is a ghost town in its shadow.

So I ask, as you continue to see things evolve and improvements taking place, big or small, to your liking or maybe not, understand the challenges that we are presented with each and every day. At the end of each of these days, we as Village

employees are striving to grow in ways that will help build Your Village in many ways... Shopping and eating, tourism and activities, increased property values, government efficiency and accountability as well as fun and safety for all who live, work and visit our small Village. Remember, Life is 10% what happens to us...and 90% how we react to it!

Optimistically Yours,

Jim Lynch — Village Administrator



D.P.W. News

Throughout the summer the DPW crew has been working all over the Village on different projects pertaining to sewer, storm sewer, general clean up and improvements in the downtown area and Lock Island area. We still have a few projects as we get into fall. Sidewalk replacements and some road and tree work. Hopefully Mother Nature will treat us good this fall so we can get a lot of these tasks complete before we head into the winter months.

The DPW will be around collecting yard waste as they have all year. Normally a couples times a week depending on normal day to day work. Brush will still be chipped on Fridays with weather permitting and work load as well. Chipping will end at the end of October so the DPW can get equipment ready for winter.

Water main flushing went very well this summer. Our new water source has been a wonderful help with water quality in the Village. Hopefully no one experienced discolored water during flushing or during normal usage conditions.

I hope everyone had a great summer and please feel free to contact the clerk's office with any questions or concerns with water, sewer, or road problems.

Thank you

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



Village of Phoenix Household Christmas Decorating Contest

RULES & INSTRUCTIONS

The Village of Phoenix will be holding a Business and Household Christmas Decorating Contest this season with the following dates:

**Registration Deadline: December 7, 2018
(Contact the Village Office)**

Judging Will Take Place: December 10, 2018

**Winners Announced: December 18, 2018
at our Village Board Meeting**

Registration can take place at The Village offices, 455 Main Street, Phoenix NY. Please read these rules and instructions and if you have any questions contact the Village Office at 315-695-2484.

1. Participation is open to all **Businesses** and **Households** within the Village of Phoenix limits.
2. Entry is free, no cost or fees apply.
3. Employees and board members of the Village of Phoenix are encouraged to participate but will not be eligible to be awarded a winning vote.
4. Must be registered no later than 4:30pm on Friday, December 7, 2018.
5. Contest is for exterior decorations only, including decorations in windows that are visible from the exterior. Judging will be done from outside the residence only.
6. Judging will be based on "curb appeal" as viewed from the street only. Therefore only those decorations located on the street side of the property will be judged (corner lots will be judged from both streets). Judges will not enter the property to view back or side yards.

7. Participants agree to have one or more photos of their decorated residence exterior posted on the Village website and social media pages. Participant agrees there will be no compensation of any kind for said posting or publication.
8. Judging criteria will include [a] Unique design and creative use of lights and decorations; [b] Storyline or theme; [c] Display and placement of decorations, animated objects, etc.; and [d] Overall presentation.
9. Judging will be done from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on December 10, 2018.
10. Participants should ensure that all lights, animations and decorations are in place and activated for the judging period.
11. Prizes will be awarded: One 1st prize of a \$50 local area restaurant gift certificate for Business Winner; one 1st prize of a \$50 local area restaurant gift certificate for Household Winner – 2nd prize for each category will be awarded a \$25 local area gift certificate.
12. Winners will be announced at the Regular Village Board Meeting on December 18, 2018.
13. Winners need not be present to win and if not present will be notified by telephone.

14. Be creative, be festive, have fun!

Sponsored by Phoenix Rising

Nice Neighbor Award

As a way to recognize Phoenix's outstanding residents, the Village recently started the Nice Neighbor Award, which will be given out monthly at board meetings.

The award will be given to residents who take pride in their properties, display kindness to their fellow neighbors and go out of their way to help others. The award is designed to allow residents to nominate one another for the honor.

"This award is designed to recognize community members who go above and beyond what is asked of them. These are the residents that deserve to be recognized for their efforts in making Phoenix such a wonderful place to live," said Trustee Paul Griser.

To nominate one of your neighbors for the award, please stop by the Village office to pick up a nomination form, or download the form online at www.Villageofphoenix-ny.gov.



Kayleigh Moyer filmed as Drummer with Big & Rich for ESPN College Game Day intro

Kayleigh Moyer, a John C. Birdlebough graduate from the class of 2011, was a featured musician performing with Big &



Rich for the filming of ESPN's new College Game Day intro which premiered Saturday, September 1st. Kayleigh is a proud alumni of the Marching Firebirds as a snare drummer, as well as Phoenix's indoor drum line. Now in Nashville, TN, Kayleigh is usually hired to perform/record on Drum Set or as a classical percussionist, but in June she was asked to play marching snare with Big & Rich for ESPN College Game Day. For those of you who watch College Game Day, you may be familiar with Big & Rich's intro every Saturday Morning of them performing their hit, "Comin' To Your City." This year's intro was filmed at the Fontanel Amphitheater in Nashville, and will be aired every Saturday morning on ESPNU during football season.

After graduating from Phoenix high school, Kayleigh moved to Nashville to study at Belmont University, where she graduated in 2015 with her Bachelor of Music Degree with an emphasis on Commercial Percussion. During her time in Nashville so far, she has performed with Keith Urban on the CMT Artists of the Year Awards, which was nominated for CMT's Performance of the year in 2015, performed several times at the Grand Ole Opry, performed in China with the Hollywood Film Music Orchestra, as well as toured or recorded with the following artists: Whitney Woerz, Barrage 8, Mary Sarah, Ashley Clark and Reignite. Kayleigh was Courtesy Faculty and Artist in Residence at

Florida Gulf Coast University with Barrage 8 as well as toured internationally in Europe and North America with that same group.

Tune in Saturday mornings to catch former Marching Firebird Kayleigh Moyer drumming with Big & Rich on ESPN College Game Day.



Local Phoenix Resident Turns 106



Looking to honor the contributions of one of the area's oldest residents, the Village of Phoenix is proud to announce August 29 as John V. Currier Day.

Born August 29, 1912, Currier has lived locally most of his life. Currier, 106, has a large loving family which includes his three sons, 15 grandchildren, 26 great grandchildren and 29 great-great grandchildren.

John enjoys SU sports, hunting, fishing and outdoor wildlife. John has been a well respected neighbor and community member for many years, and the Village thanks him for his countless contributions.



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-nv.gov



Code Enforcement News

Creative strategies that can work for our small Village

What can we as a Village do about code issues? Not everything... Taking too big a step with sending out violations for every violation will certainly hurt my enforcement efforts in our Village. Most of my compliance history has been positive through friendly Code Enforcement letters to residents making them aware of their violations and providing them a reasonable amount of time to remedy the situation(s). If no communication takes place and the issue does not get resolved in the time frame allowed, unfortunately stricter measures must take place and violations will be served.

A more diplomatic approach that builds capacity with compliance as it increases enforcement measures is more typical of my approach. I have three general areas where I continue to improve our code enforcement measures:

1. Have a positive view. Paint my enforcement measures in a positive light by focusing on compliance (rather than incompliance) and the benefits community members receive as you come into compliance and help your neighbors comply as well.
2. Involve my community. Make enforcement a community effort through strategies that incorporate the entire community where possible. Community clean-up days, assistance programs for the elderly, and I am even investigating small funding opportunities that can be started to involve small portions of our community.
3. Take a measured approach. Community members and our board members will need to take their time understanding how enforcement can and should happen within our community. Taking small, incremental steps that slowly grow the community enforcement program to the right size will ensure our community can handle more difficult enforcement questions in the future.

Leaders in every community face difficulties enforcing code. Taking a measured approach to enforcement that places the general plan first will help our community overcome the negative stereotypes of code enforcement. This approach will also help our small Village in particular develop programs that can be

implemented even with limited staff and time. Communities such as ours can develop enforcement programs that match our culture, resource capacity, timelines, and use code enforcement as a tool in reaching our community vision.

So in closing, please remember to work together in your neighborhood, assist your neighbors where possible, lend a hand if available and do not hesitate to contact me with any Village code related issues that you may have or you have noticed in your neighborhood.

And with this all being said, please remember a few simple things that we can all do on a regular basis to not just stay in compliance, but also to make a small mark on making our Village look better and better...

Mow and trim our grass, sidewalks, fire hydrants and sign posts in our yards

- Do not put our trash out prior to 12:00 pm Wednesday for Thursday trash pick up
- Do not put any construction debris and carpet out for trash pickup – we all know that it will not be picked up and will only result in a clutter at our curbsides and potential code violations
- Store our trash cans in an area not visible from the street (side or back of our home, garage, shed, etc.)
- Check our home for contrasting house identification numbers
- If you have a vehicle that is unlicensed and unregistered, please put it under a fitted car cover.

Thank You,

Jim Lynch – Code Enforcement



LIBRARY FALL BOOK SALE



- Friday, October 19 11-5pm
- Saturday, October 20 9-1pm
- Monday, October 22 11-8pm
- Tuesday, October 23 11-5 pm
- Wednesday, October 24 11-8 pm



P NICE NEIGHBOR AWARD

NOMINATION FORM

(Winners will be selected each month and will be recognized by the village board.)

NOMINEE NAME _____

NOMINEE ADDRESS _____

NOMINATOR NAME _____

NOMINATOR ADDRESS _____

NOMINATOR PHONE NUMBER _____

REASON FOR NOMINATION: _____

Village of Phoenix
455 Main Street
Phoenix, NY 13135

Trick or Treat with The Chief and Village Staff

October 31, 2018 - 5:45pm – 8:00pm

Meet us at the Municipal Parking Lot or Police Department

8:00pm-9:00pm – Party at the Fire Station

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Village of Phoenix
455 Main Street
Phoenix, New York 13135

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