

Wesley's World

Village of Wesley Hills

May 2008

Road Paving

An extensive review of all the Village roads has been completed and analyzed by the Village Board, Village Engineer and Town Highway Department. The following is the list of roads currently scheduled to be repaved this season: Hillside Court, Park Terrace, Serven Road, Terrace Road, Timber Trail. The following roads will be partially paved: Baker Lane, Suhl Lane.

If time and budget allows, additional roads may be added to the list. As always, pothole and sewer repairs will be done on an as needed basis. We thank the Town Highway Department for all their assistance with these issues.

LOST AND FOUND

A watch was found on Wilder Road. Please call the Village at 354-0400 to claim it.

Senior Center Meetings

The Village is proud to say that our senior center is used on a regular basis by several senior groups and organizations. The following groups meet on a regular basis. Please contact the Village for more details.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Monday at 6:30 pm

Overeaters Anonymous

Sunday & Thursday at 8:00 pm

Wesley Hills Seniors

Wednesday at 12:00 pm

Bon-Aire Seniors

1st & 3rd Thursday at 12:00 pm

Joan of Arc Pythian Sisters

2nd & 4th Tuesday at 8:00 pm

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Recycling

When putting your recycling bins at the curb, please try to put them by your driveway, on the side that does not abut your neighbor's property. Make sure that garbage and bottles are secure and do not blow onto anyone else's property (we've had several very windy Wednesdays recently). In the event something does blow out, please pick it up. It is the neighborly thing to do.

2008 Budget

On Tuesday April 8th, the Village Board held its annual public hearing on the 2008-2009 budget. This budget included the smallest tax increase that the Village has had in several years. The increase is less than \$15 per year for most homeowners. We all dislike paying taxes, and certainly don't enjoy increases, but they are a fact of life. Costs of many items that the Village pays for are constantly increasing, but we've managed to save in some areas to keep the increase as low as possible. In fact, we've lowered the projected expenses this year by over \$63,000 dollars. Unfortunately, that is somewhat offset by lower expected revenues as well. I've lowered the Mayor's salary by \$2,000, and we are in the process of reviewing all the regular expenses associated with running and maintaining the Village Hall to find opportunities to save on costs. We're currently re-bidding several Village services (copiers, lawn maintenance, postage, etc.) to try to get better deals. We also contracted with a firm to review our O&R costs for street lighting. A detailed annotated version of the budget was sent to the entire Village email list. If you would like to receive a copy, please send an email to mayor@wesleyhills.org

Sidewalks

Our Village Engineering firm has been working on the plan for sidewalks on East Willow Tree Road. The initial analysis has been done, and the estimated cost is about \$400,000 dollars. In the interest of not wanting to raise taxes any more than necessary, the Village has applied for a grant to try to cover at least part of the cost.

Wesley Plaza Enhancements

Deputy Mayor Ed McPherson and Trustee Marion Ben-Jacob have been working with the owners of the shopping center to organize a much needed face-lift. This includes repaving the parking lot, fixing the rusting columns, and enhancing the landscaping. The shopping center is also currently appearing before the Planning Board to discuss other more technical issues, such as trash pickup and traffic flow.

Library pick up

Finkelstein library cardholders may request materials to be picked up at the locker outside of the Wesley Hills Village Hall. Books, movies and other library materials may be requested by calling the library reference desk (845-352-5700 ext. 243) or the children's reference desk (ext. 237). Just let them know what you'd like to borrow and they'll let you know if it is available to be delivered and when it will be available for pickup. Please place your requests an hour before the day's scheduled delivery if you want the materials the same day. Otherwise, you will receive materials in the next scheduled delivery.

Run Schedule:

Sunday	no delivery or pick up
Monday	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Tuesday	2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Wednesday	11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Thursday	2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Friday	12:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Saturday	12:30 PM - 2:30 PM
	no delivery, only pick-up from drops

Things to Know

Please make sure to call the Village before doing any kind of construction or home improvements, to find out if a building permit is required. Having the proper inspections, protects you, your neighbors, and the Village. Save yourself a lot of time and trouble by making the proper arrangements before you start work.

Please remember that two family homes and/or rental apartments are not allowed in the Village.

Village law requires that every house have at least one indoor parking space (garage). If you want to convert one part of a two car garage into living space, a building permit is required.

All swimming pools require a fence that completely surrounds the perimeter of the pool area. New pools should not be used until the fencing is completely installed. Any pool constructed after December 2006 requires an alarm device that sounds if a child inadvertently falls into the pool.

Tax Exemptions

Based on conversations with several residents, there seem to be some misconceptions about tax exempt properties in the Village. On last year's tax roll, there were 1664 lots in the Village. Forty of those were exempt from taxes. The tax exempt parcels include both vacant lots as well as ones with buildings on them. Some organizations own multiple lots; for example, there are three schools, but they account for five tax parcels. The total amount of tax exempt properties account for about 7% of the total assessed value of the Village.

The breakdown is as follows:

<u>Property type</u>	<u># of parcels</u>
Village of Wesley Hills / parkland . .	5
Town of Ramapo (vacant land) . . .	11
Group Homes	5
School (3)	5
Church (3).	4
Synagogue	5
Parsonage	3
Sewer District	1
Arts (Antrim Playhouse)	1

Patrick Farm Update

The Journal News reported recently that the Patrick Farm property on Route 306 and Route 202 has been removed from the list of properties available for development under the Town of Ramapo Adult Student Housing law. The current direction is to have some amount of affordable housing for emergency responders, along with one acre zoning around the perimeter of the property, and multi-family housing on the interior. We will keep you updated on any further developments.

Upcoming Events around the town

- Fishing Derby at Willow Tree Park on Sunday, May 18th at 12:30 pm. Rain date May 25th. No entry fee.
- Ramapo Town Fair at Levy Park on Sunday, June 8th from 1-4 pm. Rain date June 15th. Free.
- Fireworks at RCC on Sunday, June 29th rain date June 30th. Free.

We want your Emails

If you have not already done so, please send an email to mayor@wesleyhills.org, so we can add you to the Village email list.

Trash Reminders

- Trash must be outside and available for pickup by 6:00 am on your assigned pickup days.
- Do not leave trash or recycling bins at the curb on non-pickup days.
- Hazardous materials (paint, chemicals, car batteries, etc.) should not be put in the regular trash. They should be taken to the Fire Training Center on Fireman's Memorial Drive in Pomona.
- Construction and landscaping debris must be taken away by your contractor or landscaper.
- Large items should be placed at the curb on your second pickup day.
- Please call the Village if you have any questions. 354-0400.

VILLAGE OF WESLEY HILLS
432 ROUTE 306
WESLEY HILLS, NY 10952

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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MONSEY, NY 10952

May 2008 NEWSLETTER

Mayor	David Goldsmith
Dep. Mayor	Edward McPherson
Trustee	Howard Richman
Trustee	Marion Ben-Jacob
Trustee	Brett Bekritsky