

Wesley's World

Village of Wesley Hills

September 2014

New Mayor and Trustee Appointed

On August 1, 2014 the Village in an orderly transition of management saw a change of administration from Mayor David Goldsmith to Mayor Marshall Katz. Mayor Goldsmith resigned his position due to work commitments after 6.5 years of service as Mayor and 23 years of service to the Village as a Trustee and Planning Board member.

The Board of Trustees of the Village appointed Marshall Katz, a Village Trustee as Mayor. Marshall has been a Rockland County resident since 1968 who moved to Wesley Hills in 1992. He holds a BA in Economics from The State University of New York at Binghamton and an MBA from New York University's Stern School of Business. His prior community service includes serving as a member of the Wesley Hills Parks and Recreation Committee from 1993 to 1995, serving as a member of the Wesley Hills Planning Board from 1995 to 2004 and serving as its Chairman from 2004 to 2012. He was elected a Village Trustee in 2012.

The appointment of Marshall Katz as Mayor left an opening on the Village Board of Trustees. Mayor Katz appointed Ruth Ivey to serve as a Trustee. Ruth and her husband Arthur, moved to the Village after her retirement as Recruiting Director at the law firm of Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. During her legal career she worked with various civic organizations and committees helping to open a dialogue and develop strategies and action plans between law firms, law schools and law students. For the past three years she served as a member of the Village Planning Board and has continued her interest in civic affairs by being involved in community activities

Forshay Road Project

Rockland County will be undertaking a major renovation of Forshay Road from the Viola Road intersection to the Willow Tree Road intersection.

The project will include the following:

- Left turn lanes onto Forshay Road and College Road from Viola Road
- A left turn lane onto Viola Road from Forshay Road
- Left and right turn lanes onto Viola Road from College Road
- Left turn lanes onto Forshay Road from Grandview Avenue
- The creation of a roundabout at the intersection of Forshay Road and Willow Tree Road
- Replacement of existing and the addition of new sidewalks on the east side of Forshay Road from Viola Road to Willow Tree Road
- Raising of the roadway at the dip south of Willow Tree Road to reduce the change in grade.

In conjunction with this project the Village will relocate the existing flashing light at the Willow Tree Road intersection to the intersection of Wilder Road and Lime Kiln Road.

The County is expecting to begin construction this coming Spring and the project may take up to 1½ years to complete. Unfortunately, the project also anticipates that Forshay Road will need to be completely closed for a period of 2 months between Glenbrook Road and Willow Tree Road. The Village will send out notices in advance of this closing to all residents on our email list. If you wish to be added to our email list, please send your request to mayor@wesleyhills.org.

PROTECT YOURSELF

The Mayor and the Village Board want to take this opportunity to remind everyone to protect themselves and thus, make Village life even more pleasant. In this vein, we recommend that you:

- Lock your car even when it is in your driveway so no one can remove anything from it, e.g. your phone, your laptop or money.
- Shred all your personal documents, e.g. bank statements, personal statements with your social security number, etc. prior to disposing of them in recycling.
- Have your mail picked up by your neighbor or held by the post office when you will be away so no one will gain access to your incoming checks or personal information.

Identity theft is quite unpleasant and should you fall victim to this via the Internet, please to go www.IC3.gov, the website of the Internet Crime Complaint Center, and report it immediately.

Also, be on the lookout for the following scams top three fraud scams affecting seniors:

- **IRS Scam** – A caller pretends to be an IRS agent or police officer calling about a past due tax balance, threatening that unless the debt is paid immediately, the victim will be arrested.
- **Grandparent Scam** – A caller pretends to be a grandchild who has an emergency and needs money fast and begs the grandparent not to tell the parent.
- **Free Grant Scam** – A caller tells a senior that they have been randomly selected for a “free government grant” and asks for money up front or personal information.

How Your Village Communicates With You

There are a number of ways the Village communicates general information to its residents.

- We send out our Wesley's World newsletter periodically throughout the year.
- We send out periodic emails to those who have signed up for our email list. These emails cover Village issues, Indian Point siren tests, local events and other information (to be added to this list please send a request to mayor@wesleyhills.org with your name and home address)
- We maintain a website at www.wesleyhills.org with a treasure trove of information about the Village including a full set of our laws, forms, meeting agendas, meeting minutes and more.
- We have a printed guide to Wesley Hills available at Village Hall and in electronic format on our website.

We are here to work for you and are open to more ideas. We would like to get some feedback on the idea of creating a Village Facebook page. If we created one, would you “Like” us? If yes, please send an email to mayor@wesleyhills.org with Facebook in the Subject Field.

Reflectors

Please remember to wear reflectors when walking in the dark. Up to 10 reflectors are available free of charge to Village residents at Village Hall. Additional reflectors may be purchased for a nominal fee.

Wesley Hills Plaza

I am sure all residents would agree that things have gotten a little out of hand when it come to our very popular major shopping center, Wesley Hills Plaza. Please note the following to make your shopping experience safer and more pleasant:

- You may not make a left turn into the shopping center at the turn opposite Village Green. This is a very important safety issue that was put into effect several years ago to prevent the many accidents and near misses at that intersection.
- When you enter the shopping center from 306 near M&T Bank, there is a stop sign before you enter the parking area. Many near misses have occurred because people ignore this sign. Please come to a complete stop before making your turn.
- There is no parking, stopping or standing in the fire zone in front of the stores. Doing so causes a hazard to other vehicles driving along the lane in front of the stores and to vehicles trying to back out of parking spaces, not to mention pedestrians leaving or heading for their cars.
- Cars entering or leaving Greg Sikorsky Drive are not allowed to directly cross Route 306. The only legal turn out of Greg Sikorsky Drive is a right turn onto 306.
- Deliveries to stores are only allowed in the back of the shopping center.

The Ramapo Police Department has been requested to pay special attention to the violations that have been occurring and to issue warnings or tickets.

All of the above rules were put into effect for everyone's safety.

Garbage Cans

The Village has received a number of complaints recently about people leaving their garbage cans at the curb all week long.

As a reminder, household garbage is picked up twice a week from the top of your driveway and there is no need to bring the cans to the curb. If for some reason your garbage is not picked up, please call Village Hall 845-354-0400 and we will speak to the carter.

Please respect your neighbors and enhance the beauty of our community by storing your cans next to, or inside your garage.

In addition, unsecured garbage cans either at the curb or next to your garage may attract bears and other wildlife so it is important to us all that they are properly sited and secured.

Also note, bulk items are to be placed at the curb on the 2nd pickup day of each week, recycling bins should be placed at the curb each Wednesday, and empty bins should be retrieved from the curb after pickup.

Keep Our Water Clean

Did you know that one pint of oil can cause an oil slick the size of 2 football fields? Please make sure your vehicles, lawnmowers and other power equipment are properly serviced and are not leaking oil, gasoline or other chemicals.

Surface water is biological habitat, and it doesn't take much oil to smother or poison the vital organisms that live in the water.

Additionally small amounts of chemicals like pesticides and household soaps and cleaners (bleach etc) can kill plants, fish and other amphibians.

Please note that everything that enters the storm sewers eventually makes its way back into our drinking water. If you see any unusual items being discharged from properties into the storm sewers, including excessive dirt or mud from active job sites, please notify the Village immediately at 845-354-0400.

VILLAGE OF WESLEY HILLS

432 ROUTE 306
WESLEY HILLS, NY 10952

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #70
MONSEY, NY 10952

Septemeber 2014 NEWSLETTER

Mayor
Dep. Mayor
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee

Marshall Katz
Edward McPherson
Howard Richman
Marion Ben-Jacob
Ruth Ivey

***** REFERENDUM REMINDER *****

The Ramapo Town Board has scheduled a referendum vote concerning instituting a Ward System and increasing the number of Town Board Members

The referendum vote will take place September 30th.

Polls will be open from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm.

The Antrim Playhouse

Looking for some great inexpensive entertainment? Look no further than our own Antrim Playhouse. They are presenting their 78th consecutive year of exceptional community theater.

"12 Angry Jurors" will be presented in September and October followed by "A Christmas Carol – The Musical" in late November and December.

Visit www.antrimplayhouse.com for more information.

Route 306 Sidewalk Update

The Route 306 sidewalk project is moving along at a rapid pace. We have been assured by the project manager that they expect it to be completed on or before the end of the year. All residents are encouraged to use the sidewalk for their own safety.