

# The Villager

## VILLAGE HALL

2 Thunder Rd, Albany, NY 12205  
518-869-7562  
villagehall@colonievillage.org

Visit the Village website at...  
www.colonievillage.gov

### Dept. of Public Works

518-869-6372

### Building Department

518-869-7562

### Senior Citizen Center

518-869-7172

### Family Recreation Center

518-218-7782

### Colonie Fire Company

518-869-9306

### VILLAGER EDITORIAL STAFF

Jamie Blot - Katie Ciota  
Hannah Curran - James Rubino  
Susan Tobin

**VILLAGE  
NEWS ALERTS**



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# The Villager

**VILLAGE HALL**  
**518-869-7562**

### MAYOR

Jim Rubino - 518-859-4464

### DEPUTY MAYOR

Frank Prevratil - 518-727-7505

### TRUSTEES

Patty Schwarz Lockart  
518-456-3866

Jason DePaulo - 518-869-7562  
Mark Stevens - 518-598-3305

## Staying Informed

In the Village of Colonie, there are many opportunities to stay informed and involved in our community. We want to share just some of the ways we can work together to keep our Village "A Place to be Proud of."

- **Public Meetings** - All regularly scheduled meetings are open to the public, and we encourage residents to attend! These meetings include the Board of Trustees, Planning, Zoning, Traffic and Sign Review.
  - **Website** - [www.colonievillage.gov](http://www.colonievillage.gov) - The website is regularly updated with information about Village programs and services. Prior to a board or commission meeting, agendas are posted up to two weeks in advance, but no less than 48 hours before. Minutes are posted after approval at the following meeting.
  - **The Villager** - This newsletter is an important resource that keeps residents informed and connected. Published regularly, it provides updates on news, events, recreational programs, meetings, and services. It is mailed to all residential addresses and is posted on the website.
  - **Village News Alerts** - Email and text alerts are used to notify Village residents of issues and emergencies. You can sign up on the website or scan the QR code on the back of this issue to receive direct alerts.
  - **Facebook** - The Village posts upcoming events as well as emergencies (ex. water breaks). Facebook is not monitored 24 hours per day, so residents should call the Village directly with a serious issue.
  - **Public Hearing** - All Village meetings are public meetings; however, some actions may require a public hearing. If so, notice is made in accordance with NYS Open Meetings Law. This includes a notice in the Times Union, notices at six posting board locations, and notifications to residents in the affected area. Public testimony is required and encouraged before the Board renders its decision. Please see our website for your nearest posting board location.
- If you have any questions or concerns, call or visit Village Hall for more information. We will be happy to help you.

## BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

### Mayor & Board of Trustees

*Meets 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:30pm.*  
The Board makes financial and procedural decisions for the Village. Residents have an opportunity to speak with the Mayor and Trustees and may raise any issues or concerns.

### Planning Commission

*Meets 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm; as needed.*  
The Commission reviews applications for development in the commercial and residential districts.

### Zoning Board of Appeals

*Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm; as needed.*  
The Board reviews applications and may grant variances for projects that do not conform to Village code.

### Traffic Advisory Committee

*Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm; as needed.*  
The Committee discusses traffic issues, makes recommendations to the Board, and operates the lawn sign program.

### Sign Review Board

*Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm; as needed.*  
The Board reviews applications and may grant variances for proposed signage that does not conform to Village code.

## NOTEABLE EVENTS

### Easter Parade

The Easter Bunny will be hopping through the Village on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. The Easter Bunny, along with Mayor Rubino and the Trustees, will have sweet treats for all little Villagers. If you are new to the Village or have new family members for the Easter Bunny to greet, you can call the Family Recreation Center at 518-218-7782 to get an estimate on the day and time frame the Easter Bunny plans to come to your neighborhood. **VERY IMPORTANT:** On the days of the parade, keep a lookout and listen for the music truck playing Easter tunes, then grab your coats and head outside so our volunteers can see you. The Easter Bunny is on his way!



**COLONIE**  
BASEBALL  
**Opening Day**  
**April 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Spring Fling Dance**  
**May 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
at the Family Recreation Center  
More info to come soon!



## A Message from the **MAYOR**



Dear Residents and Friends,

This winter has reminded us all of what “cold” truly means. Special thanks to our DPW employees, our staff and volunteers who keep our services running smoothly, our roads clear and our residents safe. Despite the weather, it has been a busy and productive few months.

- attended the 2026 Mac and Chili Cook-Off held by the Colonie Central High School ICARE Program;
- enjoyed a delicious Valentine’s Day Luncheon at the Senior Center; and
- participated in NYCOM’s Winter Legislative Meeting where many New York officials met on current and upcoming policies.

Before we know it, spring will arrive with longer days and warmer weather. We are preparing for exciting projects and events that will bring everyone together: the Easter Parade, Tuesday Nights in the Park Concert Series, A Spring Fling Dance and The Veterans Stand Down.

Also, please plan to join us at the Colonie Baseball’s Opening Day Ceremony, April 18th. Be on the lookout for more information.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming events.

Jim Rubino, Mayor



Mayor Rubino and his wife Sue at ICARE’s Mac & Chili Cook-Off.

## Village Election

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

6:00am – 9:00pm

Village Hall

2 Thunder Road, Albany, NY 12205

**Two (2) Trustee positions – 4-year term each**

For questions about the Village Election, please contact Jamie Blot, Village Clerk at 518-869-7562 or [jblot@colonievillage.org](mailto:jblot@colonievillage.org).

## A Message from the **Fire Chief**



In 2025, the Colonie Fire Company responded to 551 calls that brought 4,550 firefighter responses for a total of 3,280 man-hours. In addition, the members of the CFC put forth 3,237 hours in training and 2,581 hours for work details. These three areas alone totaled 9,098 man-hours and do not account for several other aspects of what we do, such as fire prevention, public education details, fund-raising efforts, department meetings, etc. We are a busy fire department, and we could always use more help. We accept applications for volunteer firefighters from the age of 16 and older and you can find us at [www.coloniefire.com](http://www.coloniefire.com). Please do not forget to clear the nearest hydrant to your home of any accumulated snow – every second counts when fire strikes!



## Water Service Lines

The EPA requires all water systems to maintain an inventory of water service line materials. This requirement ensures a community’s water service is safe and up to code. The Village of Colonie is required by law to identify and inventory water service pipes as they enter a house/building. If you have not yet had your water service line identified, please call 518-869-6372 to set up an appointment. A Village Water Department representative will check your water service and take a picture of your pipes. Failure to have your service line logged in may result in penalties. Thank you for your cooperation.



## Summer Employment

The Village of Colonie is currently accepting applications for summer employment with our Parks and Recreation Department. These positions are open to individuals 18 years old and up, from students to retirees or those looking for additional part-time work. Join us for an exciting summer serving our community as a Village summer employee! If you are interested, contact the Village Hall at 518-869-7562 or go to our website at [www.colonievillage.gov](http://www.colonievillage.gov) for the job description and application.

## TUESDAY NIGHTS in the **PARK** 2026

Please consider becoming one of our many generous sponsors by supporting our Summer Concert Series - Tuesday Nights in the Park. All concerts are free to the public and paid for entirely through donations from individuals and community businesses. Donation forms can be found on our website [colonievillage.gov/amphitheater-for-the-arts/](http://colonievillage.gov/amphitheater-for-the-arts/) or picked up at Village Hall and the Family Recreation Center. Sponsors are featured in our weekly concert programs and receive recognition at all events. If you wish to become a sponsor and be on a concert banner, your donation form must be submitted by May 25<sup>th</sup>.



## Scout Bottle Drive

Scout Bottle Drive

Saturday, April 4

7:00 am - 12:00 pm

DPW Garage, 1 Thunder Road

Drive up and drop off your redeemable bottles and cans. Pick-up is available for those who are unable to leave their homes. Please contact Scout Master Brian Casey 518-218-7782 with any questions.

**We thank you for your continued support!**

## A Message from the **Department of Public Works**

### Recycling Pick-Up

1. Leaf and brush pick-up begins on March 23rd and continues until fall.
2. Place leaves/grass in brown recycling bags or labeled barrels ONLY; up to 40 lbs. ROCKS, GARBAGE, SOD OR PLASTIC MAY NOT BE PLACED IN LEAF BAGS.
3. Cut branches in lengths of 4 feet or less and securely tie with string in bundles not to exceed 40 lbs. The diameter of branches MUST BE 3 INCHES OR LESS.
4. Yard waste stickers are available for purchase at Village Hall; \$3.00 each.

### Hydrant Flushing

The 2026 hydrant flushing program begins on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, to ensure there is no stagnant water within the system. All flushing will be done between 11:00 pm and 7:00 am. Residents may notice discoloration in their water during this process; it is normal and not harmful. Residents are advised to run cold water before using washing machines, etc.

If you have any questions, please call the Department of Public Works at 518-869-6372.



## Reminder

**The Village Hall, DPW, Senior Center & Family Recreation Office will be closed:**

**Village Elections - Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**

\*Garbage & recycling pick-up will be picked up as usual

**Please have all garbage & recycling out by 6:00am**

## Business Spotlight



Mayor Rubino wishes to recognize long-time business owner, Scott Bendett in our first official “Business Spotlight”. Mr. Bendett owns several commercial properties in the Village of Colonie, some for more than 20 years, including Habana Premium Cigar Shoppe, located at 1645 Central Avenue.

If you would like to recognize a Village business that has been a dedicated contributor to our community for more than 20 years, please contact the Village Hall.