



VILLAGE HALL

518-869-7562

Mayor Tom Tobin

518-869-6760

TRUSTEES

Ed Sim • 518-869-1742

Jack Murphy • 518-869-9638

Patty Schwarz Lockart

518-456-3866

Art White • 518-869-0812

The Villager

A Message from your **MAYOR**

It is with deep sadness that we dedicate this issue of The Villager to Frank Leak, who died on November 18, 2020.

For more than two decades, Frank served as the Mayor of the Village of Colonie - a place he truly loved and just like the motto - "A Place to be Proud of."

Frank lived in the Village of Colonie for more than 50 years and served as our Mayor for 24 years. He was a force within the community.

He always wanted people to know that his door was always open. He felt that it was his responsibility as Mayor to take care of the people in his community.

Along with the entire Village staff, Frank achieved many of his goals...a safe and prosperous community for all residents. Frank was proud of all the programs and facilities that were created under his watch, especially the Amphitheater for the Arts that bears his name. Frank had a special place in his heart for all children and seniors.

We extend sincere condolences to his wife, Mae, his daughters, and all family members. Frank, may you rest in peace, and know that we shall proudly carry on your vision today, tomorrow and into the future.

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom Tobin, Mayor

Jack

Jack Murphy, Trustee

Art

Art White, Trustee

Ed

Ed Sim, Deputy Mayor

Patty

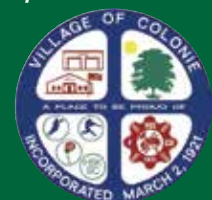
Patty Schwarz Lockart, Trustee



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar

- **December 12 & 13**
*COVID friendly
Santa Parade!*
- **January 15**
Sewer bills are due.
- **March 16**
*Village of Colonie
Election for Trustee*
- **March 21**
*Village of Colonie is
turning 100 years old!
Many fun events are
being planned.*
- **1st & 3rd Mondays
of each month**
*Village of Colonie
Trustee Meetings,
6:30 pm*



An Official Publication of the
Village of Colonie • Winter 2019

Village Directory

Department of Public Works **518-869-6372**

Les Decker, Superintendent
Chris Bisognano, Assistant Superintendent
Chris Ciota, Recycling Coordinator

Village Hall **518-869-7562**

Kathleen Haas, Treasurer
Jamie Blot, Clerk
Benjamin Neidl, Attorney
Victor Caponera, Attorney

Building Department **518-869-7562**

Trustee Jack Murphy, Liaison
Mike Cerone, Code Enforcement Head, 518-275-8770
Randy Rivera, Stormwater Management Officer, 518-857-3654
Steve Meservey, Code Enforcement Officer, 518-275-3666

Senior Citizens Center **518-869-7172**

Trustee Patty Schwarz Lockart, Liaison
Chrissy Lanza, Recreation Leader
Ginny Ritz, Office Administrator

Family Recreation Center **518-218-7782**

Brian Casey, Youth Monitor
Katie Ciota, Youth Monitor

Outreach Center **518-218-1030**

Trustee Patty Schwarz Lockart, Liaison
Sue Bredice, Outreach Worker
Joan Rueckert, Outreach Worker

Fire Company **518-869-9306**

Trustee Art White, Liaison
Jeffrey Kayser, Fire Co. Chief
Ronald Coy, Fire Co. President



Visit the Village Website at:

www.colonievillage.org

• Message from **Department of Public Works**

Did you know that shoveling, snow blowing or plowing snow into the roadway is a violation of the NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law?!

Section 1219(a) of the

law states: No person shall throw or deposit upon any highway any glass bottle, glass, nails, tacks, wire,

cans, snow or

any other substance likely to injure any person, animal or vehicle upon such highway.

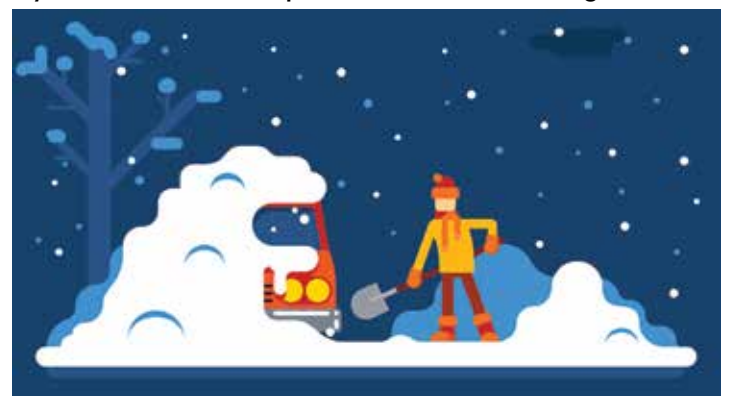
In addition to the issuance of a summons by the Colonie Police Department, if an accident is caused by your action, you may be held responsible for the injuries or damage caused.

The Village of Colonie takes great pride in maintaining your roadways. We are asking for your cooperation in this matter. Please help the DPW in keeping the Village roadways a safe place for those who use them.

Chris Bisognano, Asst. Superintendent of Public Works

Snow Emergencies

A snow emergency in the Village goes into effect after 6 inches or more of snow accumulates or there is enough snow, sleet or ice accumulation that it creates or is likely to create dangerous conditions for driving and walking. Vehicles cannot be parked on the street during a snow emergency. By keeping vehicles off the street this allows plowing, salting and snow removal to happen in a safe and timely manner. Notice of a snow emergency will be posted to local media, our posting boxes, and on our website colonievillage.org. Snow emergencies remain in effect for 48 hours or unless it is deemed safe to suspend one earlier. If a snow emergency is declared during the hours of 11pm to 7am, the snow emergency will not be enforced until 7am. If your vehicle remains parked on the road during a snow



emergency, it will be towed and the fines with the towing company will be the responsibility of the vehicle's owner.
Chris Bisognano, Asst. Superintendent of Public Works

• Message from Village Hall

JOB OPPORTUNITIES:

The Village of Colonie is seeking employees for the following two full time positions, Code Enforcement Officer and Mechanic. Contact Village Clerk Jamie Blot for more information at 518-869-7562 or jblot@colonievillage.org

EXEMPTION INFORMATION:

If you are a Senior Citizen, a Veteran, or a Person with a Disability, the Village of Colonie provides property tax exemptions for Village Taxes. For more information, or to apply for any of these exemptions please contact the Village Hall at 518-869-7562.

Senior Citizen Exemption renewal and Disability Exemption renewal forms were mailed out in November 2020. Please fill out all required fields and turn in your 2020 tax information with your submittal. All information must be returned by close of business, to the Village Hall office no later than Tuesday, February 16, 2021. Any and all renewals received after this date will not be accepted. If you have any questions, please contact the Village Hall 518-869-7562.

Village residents who are 65 years of age by 1/1/21 and whose total annual income is less than \$37,400 for the 2020 calendar year, may be eligible for a **Senior Citizen Exemption** in the Village of Colonie. For more information, or if you would like to apply, please contact Village Hall 518-869-7562.

If you believe you are eligible for a **Disability Exemption** and your 2020 income was less than \$37,400, please contact Village Hall for more information or to apply for a Disability Exemption 518-869-7562.

If you are currently receiving a Veterans Exemption with us, there is no renewal necessary. However, if you are receiving a Disabled Veterans Exemption from us and your disability level changes, please contact us at the Village Hall and provide us with proof of that change so we can update your exemption percentage. If you do not currently have a Veteran's Exemption and would like to apply for one, please call Village Hall and we will gladly provide you with the forms. With your application, we will also need a copy of your honorable discharge papers and if disabled, a copy of your military disability papers.

SEWER BILLS

Sewer bills will be in the mail the first week of December 2020 and are due by January 15, 2021. If you do not receive your bill by December 7, 2020, please contact the Village Hall at 518-869-7562. If, for whatever reason, you do not re-

Planning Commission Approvals

The Mayor and Board of Trustees would like to WELCOME the following businesses approved by the Planning Commission and wish them much success!

1440 Central Ave – Empire Wine & Liquor

Expanding into former Dress Barn tenant space

1500 Central Ave – 99 Dollar Income Tax Services Corp.

Performing tax services as well as various document preparation

1510 Central Ave Ste. 350-375 – The Empowerment Center - Church

1526 Central Ave – Green Catering & Meat Market
Catering business & meat market

1653 Central Ave – Goldstein Storage – New 107,000 sq. ft. building to be climate-controlled storage units

1693 Central Ave – Lyle's Hoagies – Third location of the existing hoagie sandwich shop

1704 Central Ave – Fade & Beard Barber Store
Barber Shop

1762 Central Ave – Marquis Certified Home Care
Certified home care services

1770 Central Ave – Plato's Closet
Moving locations from Albany. Sells and donates gently used teen fashion clothing

8 Petra Lane – USIC Locating Services LLC –
Underground utility locating service

12 Petra Lane – Van Rensselaer Management Inc. –
Construction and maintenance

12 Petra Lane Ste. 2 – Leaf Filter
Gutter cleaning services

18 Petra Lane Sect. 3A – Forsyth Wholesale LLC
Wholesale and distribution business for online retailers

29 Vly Road – TSL Adventures – Daycare Center

16 Walker Way Sect. 4 – Mint Models LLC
High end model car online business

18 Walker Way Sect. 3 – Sunship LLC
Sale of wholesale products to online retailers

18 Walker Way Sect. 3c – Motivated Auto Detailing
Auto detailing services



Please
Support
Your Local
Businesses!

REMINDER

The Village Offices and D.P.W.
will be closed:

- **Friday, December 25th**
for Christmas Day *
Garbage & recycling will be picked
up Monday, December 28th.
- **Friday, January 1st**
for New Year's Day
Garbage & recycling will be picked up
on Monday, January 4th.
- **Please have all garbage & recycling
out by 6 AM.**

**Please contact the Recreation Center at
518-218-7782 for their holiday hours.**

HAPPY
holidays

IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

*For all village meetings residents can contact the Village Hall
at 869-7562 the day of the meeting for the agenda and to
confirm the quorum available for the meeting.*

Senior Citizens

1st Tues. of Month 10:00 am

Planning Commission

1st & 3rd Tues. of Month 6:30 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals

1st Wed. of Month as needed 7:00 pm

Sign Review Board

4th Thurs. of Month as needed 6:30 pm

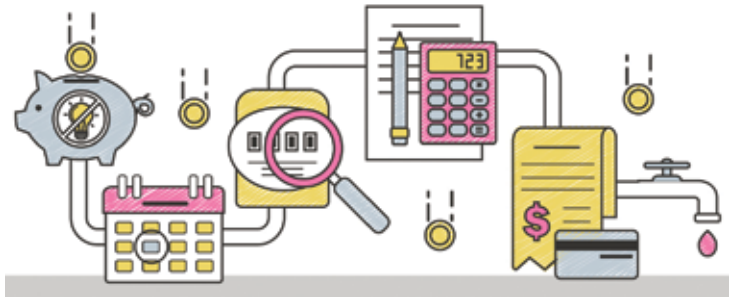
Youth Commission

When Scheduled

Traffic Advisory Committee

2nd Thurs. of Month 6:30 pm

*If you are handicapped and need any assistance to attend
a public meeting in the Village of Colonie, please notify the
clerk 24 hours before the meeting.*



ceive a bill you are still liable for payment. Please remember that you can also mail your payment or drop it in the drive-up lock box in front of the Village Hall. Methods of payment: cash or check, we also do accept credit card payments, in person only at this time, there is a 3% service charge for the use of credit card. If your June 2020 sewer bill was unpaid it will be included on this bill. If you receive a sewer bill with a past due amount included and believe you have paid this please contact our office as soon as possible. We will be sending receipts back on a "receipt requested" basis only. If you would like a receipt for your payment, please check the box on the payment stub marked "receipt requested" and we will gladly stamp your payment receipt and mail it back to you. The Village Hall is open 8:30 to 4:30 Monday- Friday. ***Please do not staple checks* Please no post-dated checks***

• Message from the Chief's Office

COVID 19 – Since the beginning of the COVID 19 epidemic last March, the members of the Colonie Fire Company did not stay at home when the bell rang – they responded to ALL of your calls for help and the manpower response was incredible. Considering that we were faced with a situation that most of us had never faced before, several operational adjustments needed to be made within the fire department. We persevered and continued our service without any interruption or decrease in response staffing. In addition, we managed to provide drive-by birthday parades for over 60 children. These birthday parades were an attempt to provide children some sort of special occasion on their birthday, at a time when all but essential businesses were closed and parents had limited options to celebrate their child's birthday. Doing something for the children in our community and seeing them smile always makes our members happy.

9-11 Never Forget ceremony cancelled - Unfortunately, we were forced to cancel the ceremony that we had scheduled at Forest Park School on 9-11 due to the death of a 40+ year member of our department. We apologize for any inconvenience that this cancellation caused our residents, however we tried our best to get the word of the cancellation out to the public through several media channels and postings. We did post a fire truck at Forest Park School that

evening to meet any residents who did not get the word and explain our cancellation and we appreciate the support and understanding that those residents offered to us. We hope to see you next year when we take time to recognize the 20th anniversary of that terrible loss to our state and nation.

Safety Reminder... As the colder weather months set upon us and residents are heating their homes, please remember to have your heating systems serviced on a regular basis and if you have a fireplace or woodstove, remember to have your chimneys cleaned and checked for any physical damage.

Safety Reminder...

Some older smoke alarms and/or C-O Detectors are still battery powered so they need to be maintained. An easy way to remember when you should change those old batteries for fresh ones is when the Day-light Savings Time change take place in the Spring and Fall, those two days are excellent times to change those old batteries.

The Colonie Fire Company is always looking for new volunteer firefighters. Contact us at www.coloniefire.com if you might be interested.



• Message from Code Enforcement

Basketball Apparatus

With the winter season coming, we ask that all basketball apparatus be removed from the street and Village right of way so they aren't damaged by snow plows. There is a Village of Colonie ordinance that addresses this issue:

Local Law #4 of 2010:

Sec. 1 242 (l) (4) (e) Portable Basketball Apparatus

1. No portable basketball apparatus, hoop, pole, backboard or other attachment may be placed in or upon any public street or highway, or encroach upon any Village of Colonie right-of-way or public thoroughfare. In no event shall any such apparatus, hoop, pole, backboard or attachment be placed within 10 feet of any Village street line.

2. Any such basketball apparatus found to be in violation of this restriction may be removed by Village of Colonie personnel, upon ten (10) day written notice to the property owner.

3. In the event that the Village of Colonie shall determine a public hazard exists and a threat to public safety and motor vehicle traffic, the basketball apparatus may be removed immediately.

Join us for a socially distanced COVID friendly Santa Parade!

We are continuing our 40 year old tradition of driving the Village's residential streets bringing the Christmas magic to you! To keep things safe for you and your families as well as the big man, there will be a few small changes this year. Kids and adults will be able to stand in front of the Santa trailer for pictures and Christmas wishes, but climbing into the trailer, hugs, and high fives will have to be saved for another time. We hope to see you out and about on the weekend of December 12th & 13th. Bring your Christmas cheer!



Sneak Peak for 2021

The Village of Colonie is turning 100 years old on March 21, 2021! We are planning many fun events for our residents for our Centennial Celebration. Our Centennial Committee is working on a host of events such as a parade down Central Ave, bringing back the Mayor's Cup Run for this year and so much more. Check out the Centennial page on our Village website this winter and our special Spring Centennial Edition of The Villager, to watch for what is coming up next!



Village Boards & Commissions

Planning Commission

Chris Dennis, Chairman 518-869-9452
Peter Chudzinski
Kenny Hart
Dan Judge
John Martin
Jim Splonskowski
Mark Keegan, Alternate
Patty Schwarz-Lockart, Liaison
Alexandra Hart, Coordinator

Zoning Board of Appeals

Lou VanBuren, Chairman 518-869-7562
Chris Larabee
Phil Minissale
Trevor Normandin
Frank Prevratil
Joshua Rowinski
Jack Murphy, Liaison
Julianne Okun, Coordinator

Sign Review Board

Jim Rubino, Chairman 518-869-7562
Sue Dickinson
Bill Levy
Dennis Michalski
Michaela Pochily
Carole Trifiletti
Art White, Liaison
Alexandra Hart, Coordinator

Traffic Committee

Frank Prevratil, Chairman 518-869-7562
John Gillivan
Daniel Hornick
Dan Judge
George Lashoff
Les Samiof
Edward Sim, Liaison
Julianne Okun, Coordinator

Ethics Committee

Henry Landau, Chairman 518-869-7562
Jason DePaulo
Dennis Michalski
Frank Prevratil
Carole Trifiletti

Thunder Road Seniors

Ned Johnson, President 518-869-7172
Barbara Williams, Vice President
Helene O'Clair, Treasurer
Jackie Mendini, Secretary
Dottie Willey, Chaplain

Cook Park Veterans Day Ceremony

On November 11th, Mayor Tom Tobin, Deputy Mayor Edward Sim, Trustee Patty Schwarz Lockart & Trustee Art White, together with members of the Weininger Memorial VFW Post 8692, Girl Scout Troop 1110, Boy Scout Troop 278 and other members of the public, paid tribute to veterans with a wreath placing ceremony at Veterans Memorial at Cook Park for Veterans Day.



Kids Halloween Drive-Thru Event



Our Halloween Drive-Thru was a great success! We were so happy to see so many of our residents and their families in their costumes and Halloween swag! We know times aren't easy around the holidays with kids during COVID and we were happy to be able to do something fun for you all again. Mayor Tom Tobin, Deputy Mayor Edward Sim, Trustee Patty Schwarz Lockart and Trustee Art White were joined by volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 278 and Family Center Employees to hand out bags to kids and their families.



- A message about **Recycling**

Keep it **GREEN**, Keep it **CLEAN**

The holiday season is in full swing, but remember that recycling is a year-round activity. Here are a few ideas to help remind you to reduce, reuse, and recycle, while you celebrate the holidays.

- **Wrapping paper belongs in the trash.** Please, do NOT recycle wrapping paper, it has plastics, foil and finishes on it that are not recyclable. If you put it in your recycling bin you could contaminate your recyclables.

- **Old Christmas tree lights?** Consider mailing them to be recycled. Check out these great programs: <https://www.holidayleds.com/free-light-recycling> or https://www.christmas-light-source.com/Christmas-Lights-Recycling-Program_c_210.html for more information.

- **The holidays are one of our biggest times for cardboard recycling.** Please remember to break down all your boxes flat and recycle all the loose pieces of cardboard that come in your packages or toys.

- **This is a great time of year to reuse all those old gift bags you've been saving.** Gift bags are usually sturdy enough to last quite a few gift givings, but remember to take off last year's tags! Or consider giving your gifts in reusable bags or containers, the recipients will appreciate the thought and the bonus gift!

- **The NYS bag ban is back in effect,** remember to bring your reusable bags with you when you do your holiday shopping.

- **Need to clear some room before the big day?**

Consider taking your old clothes, toys and electronics and donating them. Items broken or ruined? Consider how to properly dispose of those items so they do not end up in the landfill. Some organizations take ruined clothes to turn into new ones and others take old or broken electronics to be recycled and disposed of properly.

- **Make sure you pay attention to your garbage and recycling day pick-ups during the holidays.** Check this Villager to see if your pick-up day is affected. We also post on our website when our garbage and recycling days change.

- **So, what should you do with your old Christmas tree at the end of the season?** The Village has a fantastic service where if you leave it by the curb, we will pick it up and have it chipped (please remove all lights, decorations, tree stand and bags). All the chipped trees are delivered to a local recycling facility to be composted. This service is for real trees only, your artificial trees can be bagged if possible and placed in or next to your trash.

- **Cleaning out your pantries before or after your holiday meals?** Consider donating nonperishable food items to our Village Outreach Center, who helps local families in need throughout the entire year. Please give them a call 518-218-1030.

Keep it Green, Keep it Clean

Chris Ciota, Recycling Coordinator



Did you know that the Village has a dog park at Cook Park? Destiny Schanz, a local Girl Scout, is working on building special agility course features to enhance the park for the benefit of the dogs and their owners. She is doing this as a part of her Girl Scout Gold Award Project to be completed by Summer 2021. As part of her project, she researched Pet Safety Tips for this Villager. These safety tips will also be on display at the Dog Park in Cook Park.

Ground Breaking

At the ground breaking ceremony for Capital Volvo new location on Rte. 155.

Pictured left to right: Dan Judge of Village Planning commission, Village Trustee Art White, Eric Kahn Owner of Capital Volvo, Mayor Tom Tobin, Deputy Mayor Ed Sim, Trustee Patty Schwarz Lockart



Reservations & Rentals Posponed due to COVID



Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Village has decided to post pone rentals of the Family Recreation Center and the Cook Park Pavilions until at least April 1, 2021. No reservations or holds will be accepted before this time. The decision to reopen the rentals will be revisited by the Mayor and Board of Trustees in the early spring. Please check your Spring Villager for updated information on rentals for the 2021 season.

• A message from the **OUTREACH** Center

Capital Church service team with Outreach worker, Sue Bredice, after cleaning up the yard of an area resident who was recently hospitalized. The church members cleaned the yard, pulled weeds, and planted flowers. The Village is thankful to have our community come together to help neighbors in need.



• A message from the **Traffic Committee**

Dear Village of Colonie Residents,

As we approach Winter, the Village of Colonie Traffic Committee would like to remind you all of some safety concerns to consider as you drive on and around Village streets. Continue to be on the lookout for children at and around bus stops as well as school areas. Anticipate children walking and running to catch their buses and remember, "Children may not always use best judgment and safety skills". School buses that are stopped with red flashing lights and a stop sign extended mean STOP! Do Not Pass or Attempt to Go Around!

The change of season will bring us ice and snow, which can cause driving conditions to change very quickly.

1. Please drive cautious and be prepared.
2. Before you drive, clear your entire vehicle from snow and ice. This will keep snow and ice from falling onto your windshield or blowing onto the vehicle behind you.
3. Your vehicle stops and turns differently on snow and ice, so give yourself extra time to get where you need to be. When the temperature is at or below freezing, Slow Down.

4. Be extra cautious around snowbanks especially around driveways, street corners and intersections where visibility is limited.

5. Please remember to not park on the streets during or directly after a snowstorm. This will give our plow crews a better chance to clear the streets for you.

6. Even though it is cold outside we still share the roads with bicyclists and pedestrians, as well as people in wheelchairs or mobile devices. That being said, the sidewalks and roads may be hard to use or navigate and cause people to be in the driving lane, so please be extra careful.

All plow drivers as well as any other driver, please be aware that children may be playing in, on and around snowbanks!!

Plain and simple; Go Slow in the Snow!!

The winter in the northeast can be beautiful but it is not always safe to drive on, so always use caution and remember to Drive 25 on Village streets unless marked otherwise.

Thank You,

The Village of Colonie Traffic Committee

CLIP AND SAVE

**GO SLOW
in the Snow,
Get home safe!**



VILLAGE OF COLONIE

DRIVE 25 CAMPAIGN

Senior Corner

**For Village Residents 55+ and
Village Senior Center Members:**

***The Senior Center To-Go lunches
have been a resounding success!***

**We will continue offering
curbside To-Go lunches
throughout the winter months!**

**Monday – Friday from 12-12:30pm
Drive-up for pick-up,
no need to leave your car.**

**You MUST CALL AHEAD
at 518-869-7172**

**Meals are \$5 each,
cash & check are accepted.**

- Menus are released monthly on the Village's website www.colonievillage.org/senior-citizens/ you can order and pay up to a week in advance!

- Call the Center at 518-869-7172 if you are unable to do curbside pick-up.

- If you need anything or have any questions, please call Chrissy or Ginny at 518-869-7172. If no one answers, please leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

- We love our Seniors and want them to stay happy and healthy during this cold season.

- In case of inclement weather, please tune in to your local news station for updates on closings or call the Senior Center for updates, there will be a message on their machine and on the Village's website if the Center is closed for the day.

- We cannot wait to see you all back at the Senior Center when we can safely open back up!

SPECIAL:

**Christmas Luncheon
is Wednesday, December 23rd.**

Order early quantities are limited!



Seniors Drive-thru Halloween Luncheon

Senior Center member Tony Rozniewski picking up his lunch from Christmas tree Trustee Art White, Mayor Tom Tobin, Trustee Patty Schwarz Lockart and Deputy Mayor Ed Sim.



Senior Center Staff giving out goody bags during Halloween Drive-thru Luncheon

Historian Donna Fleshman, Senior Center Recreation Leader Chrissy Lanza, Christmas Tree Trustee Art White and Office Administrator Ginny Ritz.

The Villager

VILLAGE HALL

2 Thunder Road
Albany, NY 12205

518-869-7562

villagehall@colonievillage.org

Visit the Village website at...

www.colonievillage.org

MAYOR • Tom Tobin

TRUSTEES

Ed Sim

Jack Murphy

Patty Schwarz Lockart

Art While

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBANY, NY
PERMIT NO. 532

You're Invited

Village of Colonie Trustee Meetings
held 1st & 3rd Monday of each
month at 6:30 pm, Village Hall.

Please...
make sure your
garbage and recycling
is out by 6 AM.

Village of Colonie ELECTION Tues., March 16, 2021

There will be a Village election held on
Tuesday, March 16, 2021 from 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
in the Village of Colonie, at Village Hall,
2 Thunder Road, Albany, NY 12205, for
one (1) position of Trustee, to fill the
vacancy that will end in April 2022.

To request an absentee ballot application, please
contact Village clerk Jamie Blot at 518-869-7562.

Join us for a socially distanced COVID friendly Santa Parade!

We are continuing our 40 year old tradition
of driving the Village's residential streets
bringing the Christmas magic to you! To keep
things safe for you and your families as well
as the big man, there will be a few small
changes this year. Kids and adults will be
able to stand in front of the Santa trailer for
pictures and Christmas wishes, but climbing
into the trailer, hugs, and high
fives will have to be saved
for another time. We hope
to see you out and about
on the weekend of Decem-
ber 12th & 13th. Bring your
Christmas cheer!

