

## CENTENNIAL EDITION

### VILLAGE HALL

**518-869-7562**

Mayor Tom Tobin

518-461-2954

### TRUSTEES

Ed Sim • 518-869-1742

Patty Schwarz Lockart

518-456-3866

Art White • 518-390-4888

Jim Rubino • 518-378-3312

# The Villager

## A Message from the **MAYOR**



As we all prepare for the holiday season ahead, Santa will be making his annual visit to the Village. Everyone is invited to enjoy the special activities of the Christmas Tree Lighting, the Santa Parade, and Breakfast with Santa in December. It's a great way to get into the holiday spirit.

I am happy to report that the Village has successfully concluded a busy Centennial 100 + 1 Celebration year. I want to thank everyone for being a part of this unique and special moment in the history of the Village of Colonie. Many residents and friends attended and enjoyed our events, bringing our community together.

Please enjoy the photos in this issue that highlight many of our Centennial events.

We now turn our attention to the year ahead and welcome the beginning of our second century as a Village that is truly "A Place to be Proud of."

Sincerely,

Tom Tobin, Mayor

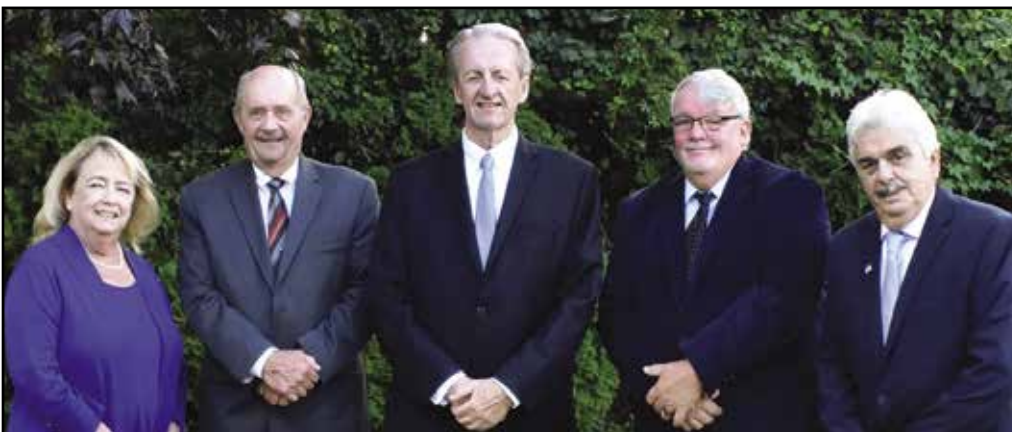


Photo L to R: Patty Schwarz Lockart, Art White, Tom Tobin, Ed Sim, Jim Rubino.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

— Your Calendar —

**December 6, 2022**

*Tree Lighting*

**December**

**10 & 11, 2022**

*Santa Parade*

**December 17, 2022**

*Breakfast with Santa*

**January 14, 2023**

*Boy Scout Bottle Drive*

**February 21, 2023**

*Grievance Day*



An Official Publication of the  
Village of Colonie • Winter 2022

# Village Directory

## Department of Public Works

518-869-6372

Trustee Art White, Liaison  
Les Decker, Superintendent  
Chris Bisognano, Assistant Superintendent  
Chris Ciota, Recycling Coordinator

## Village Hall

518-869-7562

Jamie Blot, Clerk  
Christina Secor, Treasurer  
Benjamin Neidl, Attorney  
Victor Caponera, Attorney

## Building Department

518-869-7562

Trustee Patty Schwarz Lockart, Liaison  
Steve Meservey,  
Code Enforcement Officer, Head, 518-275-3666  
Randy Rivera, Stormwater Management Officer,  
Code Enforcement Officer, 518-857-3654

## 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  
Joan Rueckert, Outreach Worker

## Fire Company

518-869-9306

Trustee Jim Rubino, Liaison  
Jeffrey Kayser, Fire Co. Chief  
Lou Van Buren, Fire Co. President



## • 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 [www.colonievillage.org](http://www.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*

For a complete list of all Village board and commission members, please visit the Village Website at

**[www.colonievillage.org](http://www.colonievillage.org)**

## • Message from **Village Hall**

### 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. Village residents who are 65 years of age by 1/1/2023 and whose total annual income is less than \$37,400 for the 2022 calendar year, may be eligible for a senior citizen exemption.

If you believe you are eligible for a disability exemption and your 2022 income was less than \$37,400, please contact Village Hall for more information or to apply for a disability exemption.

Senior citizen exemption renewal and disability renewal forms were mailed out in November 2022. Please fill out all required fields and turn in your 2022 tax information with your submittal.

All exemption applications, renewals and supporting tax information must be returned by Grievance Day, Tuesday, February 21, 2023 by 8:00 p.m., to the Village Hall office. Any forms received after this date will not be accepted.

If you are currently receiving a Veteran's exemption with the Village, there is no renewal necessary. However, if you are receiving a disabled Veteran's exemption, and your disability level changes, please contact Village Hall and provide us with proof of your new percentage level so we can update our records. If you do not currently have a Veteran's exemption and you would like to apply for one, please call the 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 mailed the first week in December and are due by January 15, 2023 (we will accept them on January 16, 2023 since the 15th is a Sunday). If you do not receive your bill by December 9, 2022, please contact the Village Hall at 518-869-7562. Cash or check is acceptable; we also accept credit card payments in-person with a 3% service charge added. Payments may be mailed to Village Hall or deposited in the drop-box located at curbside. The drop-box is checked daily. Please do not staple checks, as they go through a check reader. Please do not post-date checks. If your June 2022 sewer bill is still unpaid it will be included on the December sewer bill. The Village Hall is open 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday.



## 2022 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!*

**AR Powders** – 134 Lincoln Ave. Suite 202  
Powder Coating Business for metal materials

**Fatboy Kababz N Wings** – 1526 Central Ave.  
Fast Food Restaurant

**Pinto Thai** – 1540 Central Ave.  
No changes to food being served, just a new owner

**Alpha Formz** – 16 Walker Way – Sec 6  
Soccer instruction for children

**J.S. Held, LLC** – 3 Walker Way  
Evaluates evidence that has been damaged by fire, water or electrical

**Lyca Mobil Inc.** – 1524 Central Avenue  
Mobile virtual network

## Join us for our Santa Parade!

**We are continuing our 40 plus-year-old tradition of driving the Village's residential streets bringing the Christmas magic to you! Santa and his elves will be out and about on the weekend of December 10th & 11th. Bring your Christmas cheer!**

**If you are new to the Village or have new family members for Santa to greet, you can call the Family Recreation Center at 518-218-7782 to get an estimate on which day and time frame Santa will be coming around to your neighborhood. Very Important: On the days of the parade, keep an ear out for the music truck playing Christmas tunes, when it goes by grab your coats and head on outside, because Santa Claus is on his way!**



# Thank You to our generous Centennial Sponsors

1ST NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTIA

COLONIE BLOCK

COLONIE INDUSTRIAL

ECLIPSE NETWORK SOLUTIONS

GILLETTE SHOWS

LABERGE GROUP

MEGHAN GUDELSKY

MAYOR TOM & LYN TOBIN

---

AURORA INSURANCE INC

LINCOLN STORAGE

---

COLONIE FIRE COMPANY

---

WARRIOR WILL FOUNDATION

YOUR VILLAGE PARTY

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NORTHWAY RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

# Village Centennial Dinner Celebration

## Saturday, October 8, 2022



Photographs by Kevin Curran <https://www.kmcurranphotos.com/>



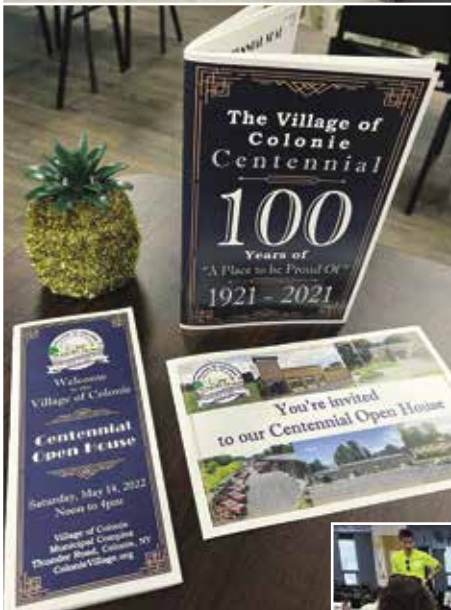
Photographs by Kevin Curran <https://www.kmcurranphotos.com/>



Photographs by Kevin Curran <https://www.kmcurranphotos.com/>

# VILLAGE OF COLONIE

## Centennial Open House Saturday, May 14, 2022



Photographs by Kevin Curran <https://www.kmcurranphotos.com/>

# Centennial 100 +1 Celebration Recap

## Centennial Picnic Saturday, July 16, 2022



Photographs by Kevin Curran <https://www.kmcurranphotos.com/>

# REMINDER

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

- **Monday, December 26th  
for Christmas**
- **Monday, January 2nd for  
New Year's**

*All garbage and  
recycling pick ups  
will remain the same.*

**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

### 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.*

## Centennial 100 +1 Celebration Recap

# Mayor's Cup 5K & Fun Run Saturday, August 13, 2022



Photographs by Kevin Curran <https://www.kmcurranphotos.com/>



## Tips to Help Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

Here are a few reminders to help you reduce, reuse, and recycle, while you celebrate the holidays.

- Don't forget your reusable bags for all your holiday shopping.
- Wrapping paper belongs in the trash. Please, **DO NOT** recycle wrapping paper, it has plastics, foil and finishes on it that are not recyclable.
- The holidays are one of our biggest times for cardboard recycling. Please remember to break down all your boxes flat.
- 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, [colonievillage.org](http://colonievillage.org) when our garbage and recycling days change.
- Old Christmas tree lights? Consider mailing them to be recycled. Check out this great programs: <https://www.holidayleds.com/free-light-recycling> or [https://www.christmas-light-source.com/Christmas-Lights-Recycling-Program\\_c\\_210.html](https://www.christmas-light-source.com/Christmas-Lights-Recycling-Program_c_210.html) for more information.
- What should you do with your old Christmas tree? 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.

**Keep it Green, Keep it Clean**

**Chris Ciota, Recycling Coordinator**

## Centennial 100 +1 Celebration Recap

# Centennial Parade

### Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022

#### • Mayor and Board of Trustees:

Thomas Tobin, *Mayor*  
Edward Sim, *Village Trustee/*  
*Deputy Mayor*  
Patty Schwarz Lockart,  
*Village Trustee*  
Art White, *Village Trustee*  
James M. Rubino, *Village Trustee*



Tomas Tobin

#### • Planning Commission Committee Members:

Chris Dennis, *Chairman*  
Kenny Hart  
Dan Judge  
Mark Keegan  
John Martin  
Jim Splonskowski  
Joan Rueckert, *Coordinator*  
Patty Schwarz Lockart,  
*Village Board Liaison*



Patty Schwarz  
Lockart

#### • Sign Review Board Members:

Bill Levy, *Chairman*  
Jason DePaulo  
Sue Dickinson  
Carole Trifiletti  
Cynthia Calabrese  
Christina Secor, *Coordinator*  
Art White, *Village Board Liaison*



Art White

#### • Zoning Board Members:

Lou Van Buren, *Chairman*  
Christopher Larrabee  
Phil Minissale  
Trevor Normandin  
Frank Prevratil  
Joshua Rowinski  
Stacie Douglas, *Coordinator*  
James M. Rubino,  
*Village Board Liaison*



James Rubino

#### • Traffic Advisory Committee Members:

Frank Prevratil, *Chairman*  
John Gillivan  
Daniel Hornick  
Dan Judge  
George Lashoff  
Les Samiof  
Hannah Curran, *Coordinator*  
Edward Sim, *Village Board Liaison*



Edward Sim



Photographs by Kevin Curran <https://www.kmcurranphotos.com/>



# SENIOR CORNER

## For village residents 55+ and Village Senior Center members

We are here for you Monday-Friday 8:30am to 2:30pm. Delicious lunches are served Monday-Friday 12pm-12:30pm. We end the week (Friday) with popcorn and a movie during lunch. Come join us!

Homemade lunches are available for our Village Residents and Senior Center Members. Dine-in meals are \$5 each, take-out meals are \$6 each, cash & checks are accepted. To pick up a take-out meal, you must come into the building for pick up. Parking for the Senior Center is located behind Village Hall in front of the main Senior Center Entrance. Seniors, you **MUST ORDER MEALS A WEEK IN ADVANCE** at 518-869-7172 so we are able to honor your lunch request, we frequently sell out! Menus and order tickets are currently released weekly, check out our website at [www.colonievillage.org/senior-citizens/](http://www.colonievillage.org/senior-citizens/) You can order and pay in advance! If you are shut in and can't leave your home, we can arrange for accommodations.

### SPECIAL:

Keep an eye out for the Seniors Special Christmas Brunch and the New Year's Get Together! Call the Center for all the information and make sure you order early, quantities are limited (and always delicious)!

Let's do our part to keep our Center open this winter! Everyone is welcome, but if you are not feeling well, please be mindful of others and **PLEASE STAY HOME!** We want to keep our Center and our Seniors as safe as possible!

**Not a member yet?** Our Senior Center is **FREE** to join for all VILLAGE residents 55 years plus! Call 518-869-7172 today for more information. We would love to have you join our Center Family!



*Seniors Halloween Party*

# Halloween Party

We had a spooktacular time at our Kid's Halloween Party! It was so great to be back having fun in person, and we were so happy to see so many of our residents and their families in their costumes and Halloween swag. Thank you to our staff and iCare volunteers for helping to make this a great event!



## Outdoor Boy Scout Bottle Drive

On Saturday, January 14, 2023, Scout Troop 278 here in the Village of Colonie will be conducting their annual winter bottle/can drive. This Drive will help the troop financially in providing the scouts with opportunities to go on different outings and to attend scouting events. They are asking you drop off your bottles at the DPW Garage (1 Thunder Road) between 7 A.M. – 12 P.M. If you are unable to drop them off, a small group of scouts will be driving around to pick them up. If you have any questions, please contact Scoutmaster Brian Casey at 518-218-7782

**October Bottle Drive Result:** Boy Scout Troop 278 collected over 14,600 recyclable cans, and bottles in their bottle drive on October 15, 2022.



## Scouting for Food

Village Residents once again showed their support! Thank You to all who donated and helped with the Village of Colonie Scout Troop 278's Scouting for Food Drive on November 19, 2022. The food collected serves over 200 families which is over 1500 people in the Colonie area.

*Food Drive Donations being delivered to a local food pantry in the Village.*



## • Message from **The Chief**

### **Seasonal Safety Tips**

A reminder that with the heating season upon us, residents should get their heating systems properly maintained and if you utilize a fireplace or wood burning stove then you should have your chimney cleaned on an annual basis.


**Time change** - If you have battery operated smoke detectors, please change your batteries with the time-change each spring and fall.

With the holiday season approaching, please refrain from over-loading electrical outlets or power strips. Overloaded electrical outlets and power strips are a very common cause of fire!

A reminder that we are approaching the time of year when firefighting becomes extremely difficult due to the inclement weather patterns of the northeast. Most especially concerning is the amount of time it takes to clear-out accumulated snow from around a fire hydrant during a fire. Every second counts in firefighting and you never want the supply of water to be delayed during a fire due to firefighters having to dig-out a hydrant. ***PLEASE take a few moments and dig-out your closest hydrant – it could mean a big difference during a fire.***

## **TREE LIGHTING**

**Join the Village of Colonie in our annual Tree Lighting Ceremony to be held at the Colonie Firehouse on Tuesday, December 6th, 2022. The Tree Lighting festivities will begin at 6:00 pm. Students from Forest Park and Saddlewood Elementary Schools will be singing Christmas carols. Cocoa with Santa to follow!**



**Make a Difference...**

# **VOLUNTEER TODAY!**

**Colonie Fire Company is always looking for volunteer firefighters... so why not be a part of something special?**

***Join the Colonie Fire Company today.***

**Find us at**

**[www.coloniefire.com](http://www.coloniefire.com)**

**and volunteer today!**



**Breakfast with Santa is back!** On Saturday, December 17th at the Village of Colonie Family Recreation Center with seating's at 8:30am & 10:30am by reservation only. We will have a pancake breakfast served by VFW Post 869, goodies, crafts and of course Santa!

Parents/Guardians are required to bring a present for each of their children which is wrapped and clearly marked with the **FIRST AND LAST NAME OF THE CHILD** for which the gift is intended.

Please, in fairness to all, keep your gift within the \$10 to \$20 range. Don't want to ruin the surprise the day of the event? We highly recommend everyone who can, drop your children's presents at the Rec Center early! Early present drop-off begins Wednesday December 14th. We are open Wednesday (12/14) & Thursday (12/15) 7:30am-6pm and on Friday (12/16) from 7:30am-4pm.

If you plan on attending, RSVP is required by December 14th to 518-218-7782. Space is limited, spots fill up fast!

# The Villager

## VILLAGE HALL

2 Thunder Rd, Albany, NY 12205

518-869-7562

villagehall@colonievillage.org

Visit the Village website at...

**www.colonievillage.org**

**MAYOR • Tom Tobin**

## TRUSTEES

Ed Sim

Patty Schwarz Lockart

Art White • Jim Rubino

## VILLAGER EDITORIAL STAFF

Katie Ciota • Carl Fleshman

Susan Tobin • Tom Tobin

## DESIGN AND PRINT

Silver Griffin Business Services

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

## Klahr Electric

Klahr Electric Co. started out as Klahr Oil Co. Located behind the house at 3 Fermac Street (Current location of Walgreens) in a 3-stall garage with 2 tank trucks and a service truck. It was owned by Henry Klahr Sr. and had 3 to 4 employees: Joe Savoca, Paul Uhl, and Kelton Klahr Sr. All 3 were at one time Colonie Police Officers, Joe and Paul becoming detectives. Kelton Sr started a small electric motor shop in the one bay of the garage. Eventually Klahr Electric was built on 1846 Central Ave. The oil business was sold, but Kelton Sr kept the electric motor shop. When Kelton Sr died, Kelton Jr ran the business for 25 years.

*Klahr Electric at  
1846 Central Avenue.*



*Klahr Oil Co. truck at 3 Fermac Street.*

