



A MESSAGE OF THANKSGIVING & UPDATE FROM THE PELHAM TOWN BOARD

Dear Pelham Neighbors:

It's hard to believe that one year ago, we were entering one of the darkest winters of our lifetime due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since that time, things certainly got worse before they got better, with another one-half million Americans losing their lives. And we continue to deal with concerns for our community's health and well-being on a daily basis.

Despite all that we have been through this past 1.5 years+, however, there is much for us to give thanks for. Deaths and hospitalizations are way down. The widespread availability of the vaccine, including now for children aged 5-11, has given us hope that we are coming ever-closer to COVID-19 becoming endemic, like the flu. Currently, while there are 15 active cases in the Village of Pelham, and 37 in Pelham Manor, at least 86.8% of Pelham residents have at least one dose of the vaccine, and 75% have 2 doses, with those numbers improving every day. We are back to going to plays, movies, concerts and sporting events, and most everything in-person again. *And this Thanksgiving, most of us can be together again with family, friends and neighbors.* For all of this, we are grateful and wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving!

TOWN BOARD UPDATE

Next Town Board Meeting

Our next Town Board meeting is Monday December 6, 2021 in-person at Town Hall. We will also have live webcast, with the link available on our webpage:

<https://townofpelham.com/calendar/2021-12/>

Upcoming Town Holiday Events

- **Saturday November 27th.** The Town of Pelham and the Chamber of Commerce have partnered to bring a Winter Wonderland Celebration to Pelham. Activities will be held throughout downtown Pelham, including a Petting Zoo at Fireman's Park on Wolf Lane. The celebration will include pictures with Santa, a holiday market, and the annual Tree Lighting ceremony at 5:15pm. Visit our website for more details, including timing of events and activities: <https://townofpelham.com/2021/11/09/winter-wonderland/>

- **Tuesday November 30th:** Annual Menorah Lighting Celebration will take place at Daronco Townhouse at 5 PM with the lighting taking place at 6 PM.
- **December 26th - January 1st:** Kwanzaa display at the Town Gazebo.
- **December 14th:** Town of Pelham Employee Holiday Dinner.
- **December 16th:** Senior Citizens Holiday Dinner at 1 PM at the Davenport Beach Club in New Rochelle.

Town Election Results

- **Supervisor Daniel McLaughlin** was uncontested and returns to lead the Town Board for another two-year term. This will be Supervisor McLaughlin's 12th year as a member of the Pelham Town Board. He has served as Councilman since 2009. As Supervisor, Dan McLaughlin has played a crucial role in helping the Town navigate the extraordinary challenges relating to COVID-19. This included daily (and now bi-weekly) calls with the County Executive's office, drafting an Emergency Safety plan, and working with Town Board and Village leaders to maintain the health and safety of the Pelham community.
- **Rafaella ("Rae") Szymanski** returns to the Town Board for another four-year term. Rae has been a Town Councilwoman since 2001. Rae retired as the COO of the VNA of Hudson Valley after 20 years in that position. Rae was named the first female Deputy Supervisor in January 2020, and will continue in that role for the remainder of her term. As Deputy Supervisor, Rae plays a key role in serving as the liaison for employee relations with the Town Board. She ensures required trainings take place, such as the annual sexual harassment trainings. She also serves as liaison for emergency services in the Town of Pelham.
- **Kara McLoughlin** was elected to the open seat being vacated by outgoing Town Board member **Timothy Case**. The Town Board welcomes its newest member, who will be sworn in in January for the start of her four-year term. Next month we will highlight the tremendous contributions made to the Town of Pelham by outgoing Councilman Tim Case. In January, we will tell you more about newly elected Councilwoman Kara McLoughlin.

Other Town Updates

Veterans Day Ceremony

The Town honored its veterans in a ceremony held by American Legion Post 50 Commander Joseph Durnin on Saturday November 13th at Veteran's Park. If any resident is a veteran and would like to be involved with the legion, please reach out to Joe Durnin at pelmayor@aol.com.

Recreation

The Town had its Halloween parade and celebration on October 30th at the Gazebo. By all accounts, it was a huge success, with lots of kids and lots of smiles.

The Recreation Department has its full array of after-school programs up and running for children and adults. Sign-ups for winter programs are available online at: <https://www.pelhamrecreation.com/> For any questions, please contact: recreation@pelhamrecreation.com.

Senior Advocate

Pelham's senior advocate assists Pelham seniors with special needs, including in making doctor appointments. Please contact Carolyn Veith at recreation@pelhamrecreation.com for assistance. The Town of Pelham has ordered a new senior van, though it is currently on back-order.

Please also check out the Recreation page for information on the **Resident Emergency Assistance List (R.E.A.L) program**, which is a list of senior citizens and residents with special needs who reside in the Village of Pelham and Pelham Manor, providing the Town with important contact information so that the Town and both Village police departments can access in the event of adverse weather or power emergencies.

Senior Mondays at the Townhouse are back. While these are not organized through the Town, new members looking for information can contact Carolyn Veith at **Carolyn Veith, Senior Citizen Advocate Office may be reached at (914) 738-5004 or Recreation@PelhamRecreation.com** who can assist in getting them in touch with those responsible for admissions and membership.

Library

Novel Night, which took place on October 2nd, was a huge success!! After being postponed a year due to the pandemic, the Friends of the Town of Pelham Library pulled off one of the most challenging—and successful—Novel Nights ever in the event's two-decade history. The library would like to thank Debbie Winstead, President, Ginette Dean and Chelsea Spengelmann, Novel Night co-chairs, and every member of the Friends for their hard work and dedication; all of the hosts who opened their homes and hosted 20 spectacular dinners; and Benchmark Education, Meridian Risk Management, the Mellstrom-Bischof team at Julia B. Fee Sotheby's, Bill Taubner at Ball Chain, Jennifer Meyer at Compass, Sona Davidian at Compass and all of the generous corporate partners of the event.

The Town of Pelham Public Library is fully open and also continues to offer [curbside services](#). The outdoor events, including story times, have been a huge success and will continue pending good weather. Please check out their website for upcoming events and updates: <https://www.pelhamlibrary.org/>.

Courts

The Pelham Town court is fully open, though continuing to stagger court appearances for efficiency purposes. The 9th Judicial District approved jury trials again. Please visit our [webpage](#) for further updates and details.

Pelham Town Empress Fly Car

For the month of October 2021, the average response time for the BLS units backing up the fly car was 7:27. 63% of the calls were answered in under 6 minutes.

Calls on Hutchinson River Parkway: 5

Calls in Pelham Village: 46

Calls in Pelham Manor: 35

Pelham's Town Historian

Pelham resident Arthur Scinta is the Town's Historian. Please check out the webpage

<http://www.PelhamTownHistorian.com>, as well as the Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pelhamtown.historian> to view some of the Town's digitized historical documents, including photos of historical homes, churches, municipal buildings and commercial buildings, and read some of the stories about our former Pelhamites.

Town Website

Please check out the Town website and sign up for news and other updates by going to our main Town of Pelham page at <https://townofpelham.com/>, scroll down to the Stay Informed/Subscribe section.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Dan McLaughlin, Supervisor

Rae Szymanski, Deputy Supervisor

Kristen Burke, Councilwoman

Timothy Case, Councilman

Maura Curtin, Councilwoman