

# April 2022 Pelham Town Board Update

Dear Pelham Friends and Neighbors:

Happy holidays to those celebrating Easter and Passover!

We are seeing an uptick in the number of COVID-19 cases in our region and encourage everyone to remain vigilant and to continue testing when you have symptoms. Free athome testing kits are still available to anyone in the Town in the Pelham Public Library: <a href="https://townofpelham.com/2022/03/11/free-covid-19-home-testing-kits/">https://townofpelham.com/2022/03/11/free-covid-19-home-testing-kits/</a>

In addition, like all of you, we continue to watch the daily horrors of war unfold in Ukraine. The Town of Pelham denounces these acts of violence and stands in support with the Ukrainian community and is displaying the Ukrainian flag near the Gazebo in solidarity.

At the March Board Meeting, the Town voted to endorse the Healthy Yards Program. Please check out ways you can participate: <u>https://www.healthyyards.org/westchester/</u>. In addition, the Hudson Valley Clean Energy Community Coordinator presented on the grant opportunities available to the Town of Pelham, and the Town is currently reviewing all of the ways it can benefit from this program.

On Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup>, the Town of Pelham along with the Chamber of Commerce hosted Spring into Pelham at the gazebo, where we had our annual easter egg hunt, music with Zev and DJ Stephen Byfield, dance classes by Universal Moms, pony rides, a petting zoo, and more. A great time was had by all!

And finally, the Town of Pelham is supporting the Pelham Together **Project Hope** campaign. This month, you will notice beautifully knitted sleeves with the words Hope, Care, Kind and Love created by Pelham High School students around the trees along the Town House and the Gazebo area. We hope you come by and take a look!

## **Other Town Updates**

## **Courts**

The Pelham Town Court is fully open and continues to stagger court appearances. Arraignments will now be in-person. Masks are still required when entering the courthouse.

Pelham recently hired two new part-time court clerks, both local to Pelham, and are off to a great start. We are now currently looking to hire constables. Please check out the <u>webpage</u> for further details.

## **Empress Fly Car**

For the month of March 2022, the average response time for the ALS/BLS units backing up the fly car was: 8:37 minutes Calls in Pelham Village: 40 Calls in Pelham Manor: 30 Calls on Hutchinson River Parkway: 7 Calls on I-95: 1

Town representatives continue to work with Empress regarding its obligation to provide Advanced Life Support System (ALSS) backup if our Fly Car is in use. Staffing shortages for EMS vehicles is a problem being experienced by many municipalities. The Town is looking into various options for improved back-up services, such as partnering with local municipalities.

In addition, Pelham's new Flycar has been delivered. The purchase was made after a Board resolution allowed the purchase to come from the Town's Fund Balance account until we receive the reimbursement from the approved Grant. The Town has submitted the invoice for the grant and is waiting for the reimbursement of the \$109,000 that the Board authorized.

## <u>Library</u>

The Town of Pelham Public Library is fully open and also continues to offer <u>curbside</u> <u>services</u>. 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: <u>https://www.pelhamlibrary.org/</u>.

The Library has an opening on the Board of Trustees for a new member with digital communications experience. Interested residents can reach out to Board of Trustees President Terrence Mullan at <u>Tmurg86@gmail.com</u>.

## **Recreation Department**

**Spring programs for adults and youths**, are in full swing. An adult pickleball program was added this year, which has been a hit. Courts will be painted for the summer at Julianne's playground.

Summer camps are still available for Tiny Tots and Big Tots. Sign up online at: <u>https://www.pelhamrecreation.com/</u> For any questions, please contact: recreation@pelhamrecreation.com.

## Senior Advocate

The Town of Pelham has received its new **senior van** and has already begun assisting Pelham seniors in traveling to doctor appointments, COVID-boosters, etc. Please contact Carolyn Veith at <u>recreation@pelhamrecreation.com</u> for assistance.

## <u>Town Historian</u>

In his first year in the role of Town Historian, Art Scinta created a new website featuring original research and articles about Pelham people and topics. Some of the highlights are included in Art's <u>2021 annual report</u>. Please check out the Town Historian webpage: <u>http://www.PelhamTownHistorian.com</u>, as well as the Town Historian Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/pelhamtown.historian</u> to see some of these articles, as well as new stories, photographs and other documents that Art will continue to add.

### Next Town Board Meeting

Our next Town Board meeting will take place is **in-person** on Monday May 2nd, 2022, at 7pm in Town Hall. Please see our Town <u>website</u> for all updates.

Sincerely,

Dan McLaughlin, Supervisor Rae Szymanski, Deputy Supervisor Kristen Burke, Councilwoman Maura Curtin, Councilwoman Kara McLoughlin, Councilwoman