

## **From the Mayor's Desk...April 21, 2014**

I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter and Passover. The spring weather has finally arrived and it feels wonderful. A few items to highlight today:

### **2014-2015 Budget**

I expect that, by the time you read this, the Board of Trustees will have voted on the 2014-2015 Village budget. While the public hearing on next year's budget was officially closed on April 14<sup>th</sup>, the members of the Board of Trustees have been open to input from residents on all aspects of the budget.

As a summary, the tax rate increase of the proposed budget is 1.99% while the tax levy increase is below the 1.48% allowed by the NYS tax levy cap. **The largest change to services for residents is the proposal to eliminate curbside pickup of loose leaves, replacing it with a requirement to bag leaves.** This is proposed to not only save about \$30,000 from next year's budget but to also free up our reduced Department of Public Works staff to perform tasks we feel add more value to our infrastructure than chasing leaf piles.

### **Arbor Day**

While Arbor Day is officially celebrated around the country this Friday, Irvington will be having its own celebration this Saturday, April 26. I hope you will join the members of the Irvington Tree Preservation Commission, our Village Arborists, and me as we plant a tree to celebrate Arbor Day.

The celebration will take place this Saturday at 11:00 a.m. We've chosen a spot near the middle of the Main Street Historic District, on the east side of South Dutcher Street near the corner of Main Street for our new tree. A new small tree will be planted. There will be temporary tattoos for the kids, and I might even say a few words. I hope to see you there!

### **Saw Mill River Clean Up**

The Groundwork Hudson Valley organization is, once again, sponsoring a cleanup of the Saw Mill River this Saturday. After you're done celebrating Arbor Day on Main Street, please consider signing up at one of the available cleanup sites. There are two sites in or close to Irvington, along with others in Yonkers. To see a list of the cleanup sites and to register ahead of time, please visit:  
<http://www.eventbrite.com/o/groundwork-hudson-valley-438918069>

Registration is not required, although it is recommended to assist the organizers in planning for this event.

### **Hydrant Flushing (again)**

We had to delay this spring's flushing schedule to avoid the recent curb replacement projects going on around the Village. Flushing is now scheduled to start this Wednesday, April 23 and continue through May 2. The exact schedule is published on the Irvington web site ([www.irvingtonny.gov](http://www.irvingtonny.gov)). If there are revisions to the schedule due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, they will be posted to the web site. During flushing operations, you might experience some slight discoloration in your water. If this happens, you should run your faucets for several minutes until the discoloration is reduced.

I hope to see you around the Village, please never hesitate to contact me with thoughts and concerns.

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