

## **From the Mayor's Desk – November 16, 2013**

We made it through October without any severe weather! After several years of punishing storms, I have really enjoyed one of the most beautiful autumns that I can remember.

### **Peter Oley Turkey Trot**

The unofficial start of the holiday season is this afternoon at 1:30, the starting time of the annual Peter Oley Turkey Trot. One of the great Irvington traditions, the Turkey Trot is named in honor of the great Peter Oley, teacher, coach and longtime Irvington historian. The race is truly for everyone: from elite runners trying for time, to plodders like my eight-year old son and me who are elated simply to finish the 2.5 mile course. If you have said in the past "I am going to run that next year," please consider coming out to Dows Lane and trying it. Registration begins at 12:15 and costs \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under (non-residents are \$20 and \$15). It looks like the weather will be beautiful and I could use some company bringing up the rear! Coach Oley always found a spot for any skill level of athlete on his teams and that spirit lives on in this special event.

I would also like to thank the Irvington Girl Scouts for once again sponsoring this tradition.

### **Please Shop Locally**

In addition to my family's tradition of running the Turkey Trot, we also always head down to Geordane's to order our Thanksgiving Turkey. We are lucky to be able to outfit our entire meal from the small family run businesses that populate our downtown. From pies at Red Barn Bakery, to centerpieces from Sunnyside Flower Shop, to carefully recommended Pinot Noir's from Irvington Wine and Liquors, we are able to simplify our holiday preparations with a short trip "down the hill." You cannot beat the convenience of shopping locally – in fact Geordane's and Sunnyside Flower Shop even deliver. I urge you to consider our friends who run businesses on Main Street when you are preparing for Thanksgiving.

Hanukah is very early this year (the annual Village Menorah Lighting is Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm) and Christmas always seems to be here before we know it (the annual tree lighting is Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30, capping off the annual "Holiday Happening" with events all day on the 7<sup>th</sup>). The Village has many unique shops to save you time and from the crowded malls and shipping costs of the internet. You can buy everything from power tools to jewelry or even the latest video games or Apple products. I am confident you can truly find something for everyone on you holiday list right here in our little Village.

I do not need to mention the numerous restaurants, delicatessens and cafes that have brought Irvington fame in the tri-state area. However, if you would like some recommendations, please email me. Unfortunately even the mayor is often shut out for reservations so make sure you call ahead! So, while we might "lack" big supermarkets and chain stores in Irvington, the personal service and friendly atmosphere of our local establishments more than makes up for their limited size.

### **Affordable Housing Committee**

In early December we will be reconvening the Irvington Affordable Housing Committee. We have received the names of several residents who would like to serve on the committee, if you would like to consider serving, please send me an email so I can add you to the meeting distribution list. This is a very important initiative for the Village and the BOT and I are very excited to get working again on our goal to expand our affordable housing offerings.

Thank you for reading my update, please never hesitate to contact me.

Brian C. Smith, Mayor  
Village of Irvington  
[bmith@irvingtonny.gov](mailto:bmith@irvingtonny.gov)