

Village of Cavuga Heights

MARCHAM HALL 836 HANSHAW ROAD ITHACA, NEW YORK 14850

(607) 257-1238 fax (607) 257-4910

Kathryn D. Supron, Mayor Mary E. Mills, Clerk Angela M. Podufalski, Deputy Clerk Joan M. Mangione, Treasurer Brent A. Cross, Engineer

Happy New Year from the Board of Trustees and The Village staff.

The Village website at www.cayuga-heights.ny.us contains information on current meetings, agendas, reports, draft ordinances and much, much more. Stay in touch through up-to-the-minute E-Blasts by signing up at the bottom left of the website home page. Please let us hear from you, whether by email, phone calls, visits at Marcham Hall, or anywhere we may meet.

Deer Control

Under contract with the Village, White Buffalo, Inc. successfully completed the surgical sterilization of 137 female deer in December as a major step in managing the deer population. The Village Board of Trustees decided in favor of mass sterilization as the best option to control growth of the deer herd, given the lack of an adequate number of sites on which to cull. White Buffalo's report on the December sterilization project will be posted on the Village website shortly. Data therein will provide the basis for a deer population survey to be undertaken by Cornell University in January, which will, in turn, be used to pursue further options.

Draft Comprehensive Plan Review

The latest draft of the Comprehensive Plan is available on the Village website, and paper copies may be borrowed from Clerk Mary Mills at the Village Hall. There will be informal public meetings to discuss the draft on **Thursday**, **January 17 at 7 pm** at Kendal of Ithaca and on **Wednesday**, **January 30 at 7 pm** at the Village Hall.

The volunteer Cayuga Heights Planning Board has prepared a truly comprehensive analysis of your Village in the plan. What is needed now is your input and your buy-in. Please, give it a read and provide your feedback.

Water Rate

Your next water bill will show an increase of 14%. The Bolton Point drinking water facility has raised the rate it charges the municipalities it serves by 27% to pay for capital replacement needs in our aging system. The difference between the 14% land 27% will be absorbed by a reduction in the surcharge the Village adds to your water bills for the maintenance of the water distribution system within Cayuga Heights.

This year the Village will map and evaluate the piping system through which water is carried to all our users. Our water infrastructure is decades old and may, in the future, require repair and replacement, making it necessary to raise the surcharge.

Village Trustee Elections

Election season is here, with three Trustee seats to be filled at the Kendal polling place, Tuesday, March 19.

Signature collection for Independent Nominating Petitions began on 1/3/13, with nominating forms due at the Board of Elections on 2/12/12. Those with questions on the process for Village elections should contact the Tompkins County Board of Elections, www.tompkins-co.org/boe/ or 607-274-5522.

Any current member of the Board of Trustees will be glad to discuss the work involved in serving as a Trustee with anyone considering running.