# **Summer 2016**





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Kate Supron has faithfully served as the Village Mayor since 2010. She has accepted a full-time position at Cornell and resigned from her position as Village Mayor effective May 31, 2016. Kate will continue to serve the Village as a trustee until August 31, 2016. At that time Planning Board member Meloney McMurry will take her place.

In her letter to Village residents published in the Village of Cayuga Heights May 13<sup>th</sup> eNewsBlast Kate stated, "I have loved serving the Village -- as a Trustee starting in 2009 and then as Mayor since 2010. I have considered it a privilege to work with

our professional staff, and with the other elected and appointed Village officials to meet the needs of our residents and deliver the high quality of services that are a hallmark of Cayuga Heights."

Village trustee Linda Woodard was appointed Mayor by the Village Board, effective June 1, 2016. She will serve as Mayor until the next election, to take place in March of 2017, at which time the public will elect the person who will serve as Mayor for the remainder of the current term through March 2018.

Kate went on to say in her letter, "The Board and Linda have my complete confidence and I feel very positive about the future leadership of the Village."



### Meet Our New Mayor

On May 31, 2016 Village Trustee Linda Woodard was appointed the 21st Mayor of the Village of Cayuga Heights. Linda joined the Board of Trustees in 2014, and since then has served on the Public Safety Committee, the Finance Committee and as the Deputy Treasurer. She was also a member of the IT Committee that decided on the best choice for the upgrade of the Village telephone and internet connections. Currently she is modeling the water rate structure at Bolton Point to determine the effects of lowering the minimum billable quarterly water consumption from 10,000 to 5,000 gallons.

Linda is a long time Ithaca area resident, having moved to Ithaca in 1978 and to the Village in 2005 after meeting her husband David Woodard. She retired over a year ago from Cornell University where she had provided computer modeling, database management and statistical support to a number of faculty in various departments, the last 15 years at the Center for Advanced Computing (formerly the Theory Center).

In her retirement Linda keeps busy cross country skiing in the winter and rowing on Cayuga Lake in the summer. She also likes gardening, canoe camping and hiking the many trails around Ithaca with her dog, Lucy. You will find her at the Kitchen and IC theaters and at every Cornell hockey home game.



## Your Elected Officials

Mayor - Linda Woodard

Village Board of Trustees

Jennifer Biloski, Deputy Treasurer

Mary Ann Friend

James Marshall

Richard Robinson

Peter Salton, Deputy Mayor

Kate Supron

**Justice Court** – Judge Glenn Galbreath



## Boards, Appointments, and Committees

#### **Planning Board**

Fred Cowett, Chair; Sean Cunningham, Graham Gillespie, Roger Segelken, Diedre Hay, Alternate: Meloney McMurry

#### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

Jack Young, Chair; Rosemarie Parker, Alison Shull, Kirk Sigel, Anita Watkins; Alternates: Mark Eisner, Sue Manning

SCLIWC Bolton Point Commissioners - Roy Staley, Kate Supron

Time Warner Cable Access Oversight Committee Delegate: Wies van Leuken

Environmental Management Council Delegate: Brian Eden

Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium Joint Committee Delegate: Joan Mangione Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium Board of Directors Delegate: Peter Salton

Tompkins County Transportation Council Delegates: Kate Supron, Brent Cross

Tompkins County Council of Governments Board of Directors Delegate: Kate Supron

Communications Committee - Mary Ann Friend, Kate Supron; Joan Mangione (ex officio)

Finance Committee - Jennifer Biloski, Richard Robinson, Linda Woodard; Joan Mangione (ex officio)

Forester - André Bensadoun Gardener - Doug Murray

Historian - Beatrice Szekely Deputy Historian - Patricia Longoria

Historic Preservationists - Carole Schiffman, Randi Kepecs

Human Resources Committee - Maryann Friend, Kate Supron; Joan Mangione, (exoffiaio)

IT Committee - Richard Robinson, Peter Salton, Linda Woodard; Joan Mangione, James Steinmetz (ex officio)

Planning Board Liaison - open

Public Safety Committee - Jennifer Biloski, PeterSalton, Linda Woodard, Jim Steinmetz, George Tamborelle (ex officio)

Public Works Committee - Mary Ann Friend, James Marshall, Richard Robinson, Peter Salto (alternate); Brent Cross (ex officio)

Shade Tree Advisory Committee - André Bensadoun, Chair; Fred Cowett, Fairfax Gouldin; Brent Cross (ex officio)

District No. 10 County Legislator: Dooley Kiefer

Village elections are scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2017. This year seats currently held by Mayor Linda Woodard and Trustees Supron, Friend, and Marshall, are up for election.

## Professional Staff

#### Clerk's Office 257-1238

Clerk & Treasurer – Joan Mangione Deputy Clerk – Angela Podufalski Information Aide – Tayo Johnson

#### Public Works 257-6166

Engineer & Superintendent of Public Works – Brent Cross

### Police Department 257-1011

Chief of Police – James M. Steinmetz Police Clerk – Jackie Carr Police Clerk (part-time) - Jim Conlon

#### Fire Department 266-7454

Fire Superintendent – George Tamborelle

#### Justice Court 257-3944

Court Clerk – Pat Kannus Acting Justice - David Klein



House Historians on Board by Beatrice Szekely, Village Historian

Three house historians have joined the Cayuga Heights History Project team Lee Moon, Gail Wagner and Gail Cashen. Lee, who worked in preservation planning at Cornell, has written up the family home at 630 Highland Road and the laboratory next door at number 624, both designed by Lakin Baldridge and built in 1930 for the chemist William C. Geer (http://cayugaheightshistory.weebly.com/interactive-map.html#). Gail Wagner has written for the "Then and Now" column in the *Ithaca Journal* and about the Ithaca College president's house. Gail Cashen, who recently moved into one of the 19th century farmhouses in the Village, was previously involved in Hudson Valley local history.

No matter what your experience, please consider this your invitation to join the team too. We share resources in close collaboration by crowd-sourcing stories that have made Cayuga Heights the village we all share.













### The Cayuga Heights History Project Receives Historic Ithaca Award

At the 2016 Annual Preservation Awards, Historic Ithaca's Preservation Services Coordinator, Christine O'Malley, presented the Historic Ithaca award to Village Historian Beatrice Szekely, and her colleagues Deputy Historian Patricia Longoria, Randi Kepecs, and Carole Schiffman for their work on the Cayuga Heights History Project for the Village of Cayuga Heights. Her remarks at the awards follow:

"Everybody has a story. Tell it. Every house has a story. Learn it." These words form the motto for the Cayuga Heights History Project, an extraordinary website project weaving together village history, house history research along with personal and community experiences and events.

Launched to help celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Village of Cayuga Heights in 2015 and using a proverbial shoestring of a budget, the project team of Randi Kepecs, Patricia Longoria, Carole Schiffman, and Beatrice Szekely, put in thousands of hours of research and production to raise awareness of Cayuga Heights' history and foster a sense of community. Tabs on the website allow web visitors to explore the village's history, people and places arranged by themes such as the literary heights and World War II physicists, detailed information about the village's landscapes, place names, schools, and the Pleasant Grove cemetery and a remarkably detailed interactive map with numerous thematic options.



The website not only provides well researched information but it also directly engages with its users by encouraging them to research their own house histories and to participate in the village's oral history project. As a way of promoting and preserving the village's history and its historic built environment and landscape, the Cayuga Heights History Project stands as an outstanding example of local history enlivened through a dynamic website reaching local residents and audiences far from the village.

# From Marcham's Attic





From Marcham's Attic covers the ongoing work of the Cayuga Heights History Project (CHHP). It takes its name from a surprise discovery in the attic of Marcham Hall in 2013: two Art Deco crystal chandeliers that Dorothy Cornell, the building's original owner, had installed in her lofty studio. Wrapped in newspaper for decades, the light fixtures were restored and re-hung in the studio, today Marcham Hall's timbered courtroom, to accent the building's gracious architectural heritage.

# THE CAYUGA HEIGHTS HISTORY PROJECT

"The chief value of history," wrote the historian and 30-year Cayuga Heights resident Carl Becker, "is that it is an extension of the personal memory, and an extension which masses of people can share." This understanding of the pursuit of history as something that everyone can take part in informs the activities of the CHHP.



Launched in 2013 as part of the centennial celebration of the Village's incorporation, it set an ambitious goal: to collect the stories of every house (and its residents) in order to help tell the Village's social history. The project's motto, "Everybody has a story. Tell it. Every house has a story. Learn it," encourages residents to delve into the rich history of their homes and share it with the greater Village community.

To achieve this goal, the CHHP (1) collects and preserves sources that document Village history, (2) researches and interprets Village history, (3) collaborates with municipal, regional, and national history and preservation organizations to understand Village history in multiple contexts, and (4) shares our history with a wide audience. We bring together members of our community around our shared history with an eye to preserving the Village's built and natural environments, as well as the histories of its residents.

#### THE CCHP WEBSITE

The Project's website—<a href="http://cayugaheightshistory.weebly.com">http://cayugaheightshistory.weebly.com</a>—has become a vital tool for collecting and sharing these stories and house histories, as well as maps and other primary sources.

It has become a rich repository of engaging stories of Village history researched by Village residents and local historians compiled on the website by project members. Currently it is organized into six topical sections or tabs.

The Village History tab traces the general history of the Village from its early days as the Cayuga Nation territory, through its agricultural roots and suburban development.

The People+Places tab provides background about specific Village architects and builders, as well as a slideshow of more than 300 drawings of Village life by the artist and former resident Jack Lambert. A page on the Manhattan Project discusses this significant wartime effort from the perspective of the project scientists who lived in Cayuga Heights.

The Explore tab offers a virtual expedition to notable Village homes, schools, cemeteries, and farmhouses. First under the Explore tab is our interactive map.



Cayuga Heights

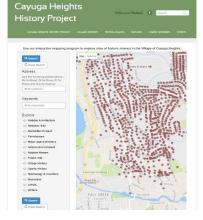
From Marcham's Attic August 2016 Volume 1, Issue 1 Page 1

This innovative, fully searchable map of nearly a thousand Village homes and sites is central to our archive. You can check a suggested category, search by keywords, or click on a point to discover information about a home, a site, or its residents. Create your own tours and dig deep through hyperlinks to enjoy the available content and photos.

Next under the Explore tab, the Preservation and Restoration section showcases early photographs of Stonecroft (today's Marcham Hall) built by Dorothy Cornell, Ezra Cornell's granddaughter. Digitized historic maps reveal changes in land use over the past hundred-plus years. The Place Names section includes a booklet in which you may find the origins of the name of any Village street.

We hope that you will help us fill in missing information about your home by clicking on the tab labeled House Histories. Here you'll find the resources necessary to begin researching your house. We provide a template for you to begin, and an online form for

submission of information as you discover it.





Cayuga Heights

Finally the Events tab includes an archive of past community history events. Videos, photos, and digitized materials capture the speakers at the 2015 Cen-

tennial Lecture Series and trace the path of the 2015 Historic Ithaca House Tour. "When people feel connected to a place they are more likely to work to enhance and protect that community," observed Rod Howe, Executive Director of the History Center in Tompkins County, in support of the work of the Cayuga Heights History Project website. The website showcases our rich heritage, and we are proud to have you, our neighbors, part of the effort to research and share its highlights. Our continuing goal is to convey a sense of place to those who live here, past and present, and strengthen our enduring, hundred-year-old community.

#### CHHP WEBSITE RECEIVES AWARDS

On May 12, 2016 the website received an Award of Merit from local preservation organization Historic Ithaca for promoting our community's built heritage. "The project has helped define the Village and provided material that helps ground residents in that place," noted Howe, who nominated the website for this award.

Additionally, in June, the project received national recognition from the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH). Evaluated by a committee of state and local historians at both the regional and national levels, the website was singled out for its mission to encourage local historical research by Village residents. The Award of Merit will be officially presented at a ceremony at the AASLH's annual meeting in Detroit in September.

#### Contacts:

Visit our Website: <a href="http://cayugaheightshistory.weebly.com">http://cayugaheightshistory.weebly.com</a>
Like our Facebook Page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/cayugaheightshistory/">https://www.facebook.com/cayugaheightshistory/</a>

Beatrice Szekely, Village Historian, <u>bszekely@cayuga-heights.ny.us</u>
Patricia Longoria, Deputy Historian, <u>plongoria@cayuga-heights.ny.us</u>
Carole Schiffman, CHHP Co-chair and Village Preservationist, <u>cschiffman@cayuga-heights.ny.us</u>
Randi Kepecs, CHHP Co-chair and Village Preservationist, <u>rkepecs@cayuga-heights.ny.us</u>

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Historic Ithaca Award continued...

As nominator Rod Howe, Executive Director of The History Center, noted about the success of this project, "Whenever residents of a community feel engaged and have a sense of history there can be additional benefits. The project has helped define the village and provided material that helps ground residents in that place. When people feel connected to a place they are more likely to work to enhance and protect that community." This website provides a valuable service to the village and the county, and its creators have taken a multi-faceted approach by also arranging an art exhibit, a lecture series, and last year, a house tour.

This award of merit is presented to Randi Kepecs, Patricia Longoria, Carole Schiffman and Beatrice Szekely in recognition of excellence for the Cayuga Heights History Project for the village of Cayuga Heights."







## NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD HUBS JULY 1, 2016 - OCT 1, 2016

Extra produce from your garden or CSA share? Don't let it go to waste! Donate it!



Are you a gardener, homesteader, CSA member, or anyone who sometimes has an excess of vegetables or other produce that ends up in the compost? The Neighborhood Food Hubs program of the Friendship Donations Network (FDN) has an easy way to help others with that surplus.

Since 1988, the FDN has played a key role in redirecting hundreds of tons of good food to food pantries instead of to the landfill or the compost pile. Much of this food comes from grocery stores and restaurants, but individuals like you can make a meaningful contribution as well by dropping off surplus produce at one of the many Neighborhood Food Hubs around the county. Last year 8,268 pounds of food were donated.

#### How the neighborhood food hubs work:

- Check the maps on this website to find a food hub near you www.friendshipdonations.org/hubs/
- During open hours, drop off your food in the marked cooler
- FDN will distribute your donation to a local food pantry, meal program or individual.



The First Congregational Church, 309 Highland Road in Cayuga Heights, will host a hub on Sundays from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Help us lend a hand to our neighbors and put your delicious produce to good work. Thank you!



### Stay up to date and sign up today!

The Village of Cayuga Heights Community eNewsletter is a free, consolidated listing of information and alert system that is useful for our community. This service is offered to help communication with residents by keeping them up to date on upcoming meetings, road and office closures, police alerts and more! Sign up by visiting our website at

### http://www.cayuga-heights.ny.us/



### The New Fire Truck



The Cayuga Heights Fire Department recently took delivery of its new fire truck. We replaced our aging Engine 203, a 2001 Pierce Contender, with a 2016 KME Rescue Engine. The new truck, also designated Engine 203, is a near twin to Engine 202 which was purchased five years ago.

It has many features that were not available five years ago. All of the lighting is LED which provides more light for less power. This allows us to reduce the size of the on-board generator, since all the lights can now run off power from the alternator. Because the Cummins Diesel 325 HP engine was no longer available this truck has a 350 HP diesel engine with the latest emissions control devices, allowing it to run more cleanly. The cab is six inches longer than that of the previous truck providing more room for the firefighters to prepare for calls while on the road. In anticipation of this new engine we purchased a second hydraulic rescue tool so we now have vehicle extrication tools on both engines. The driver and officer in the truck each have a wireless headset system, allowing for clearer communication with the 911 center as well as between the driver and officer.

Tompkins County received a grant for mobile data systems and the new Engine 203 is the first truck in our fleet to be equipped with the computer aided dispatch (CAD) system. It will enable the officer in the truck to have access to all information in the 911 systems data base while en route to calls. The new truck's layout is identical to that of Engine 202



which will allow us to streamline training. Since the two trucks share the same layout and function in the same way, training on both trucks takes much less time, resulting in drivers moving through the training process more quickly. We are very pleased with the new truck; it is everything we hoped it would be.

Feel free to stop by the station on Tuesday evenings through the summer to take a look at the truck and catch a movie.

## Mandatory Bolton Point Water Meter Upgrade Project



The Bolton Point water meter upgrade project is now underway. In April 2016, our contractor Saks Metering began an area-wide water meter upgrading project in the Southern Cayuga Lake municipalities (Town of Dryden, Village of Lansing, Town of Lansing, Town of Ithaca, and Village of Cayuga Heights). Current water meters will be replaced with new Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system meters at no costs to the residents. These automated meters will send hourly meter readings to the Bolton Point water plant, which means residents will no longer be required to send quarterly meter readings.

Beyond this added convenience, these meters can also help detect possible leaks. Traditional meters measure total monthly, quarterly or semi annual water consumption in a building or home. This means that leaks are difficult to detect and customers can't pinpoint inefficiencies. On the other hand, AMI system meters are more sensitive to low water flows which allows for the continuous monitoring of water consumption. With the ability to detect leaks in a timely manner, Bolton Point can call or be asked to investigate water loss or possible property damage.

The AMI system meters could result in a more efficient management of water resources. They will allow Bolton Point staff to compare weekly or monthly master meter readings with weekly or monthly individual meter readings for a particular zone which in turn would allow staff to determine how much nonrevenue water is lost in each area. Increased resource conservation (water, electric and chemical costs) and revenue protection will be possible benefits from an AMI system by lowering loss of non-revenue water.

Residents of the Village of Cayuga Heights should have received a notification letter from the South Cayuga Lake Water Commission around mid-July with instructions to contact Saks Metering for making an appointment for the upgrade. If you have not done so, please make an appointment with Saks Metering by the end of August to receive the upgrade. You may do so by visiting <u>SaksMetering.com</u> and clicking on "Make an Appointment", emailing upgrade@saksmetering.com, or calling their office at 315-889-6089 or 877-583-7257.

We thank you for your cooperation and apologize for any inconvenience.

### From the Justice by Justice Glenn Galbreath

I am not going to focus on the Court's Annual Report from 2015, because in most ways the year was not especially remarkable, although I was re-elected for a seventh four-year term. The number of cases and the fines collected dropped a little, but both were still significantly higher than the average for prior years. The annual report for 2015 may be seen on the Village website at <a href="https://www.cayuga-heights.ny.us/Court.html">www.cayuga-heights.ny.us/Court.html</a>. Instead, I will outline briefly two other court related activities of 2015 and 2016, my appointments to the New York State Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics and to the Tompkins County Council of Governments (TCCOG) Municipal Court Task Force.

The New York State Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics is a group of New York judges who respond annually to hundreds of inquiries on ethical issues from judges at all levels in the New York Court system. If a judge follows the committee's advice, then s/he is presumptively protected from an ethical complaint that might arise from following that advice. The committee meets seven times a year in New York City. Meetings usually require a couple of days of preparation which often includes drafting written opinions in advance. I participate in all decisions, but am the sole voting representative from the town and village court system. It has been a fascinating experience and it is interesting to observe how wide the range is of Judge's views regarding these often complex issues. Additionally, since the spring of 2015 I have been a member of the TCCOG task force reviewing the organization of the municipal courts (city, town and village courts) in Tompkins County, with a view to improving the efficiency of their operations and the quality of justice they provide <sup>1</sup>.



The committee met 25 times, discussed and heard testimony from stakeholders and consumers. A report to TCCOG has been prepared (at the time of writing only the latest draft of the report was on the TCCOG website, although the final version may be there by the time this article is published. See <a href="https://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/tccog/municipal\_courts">www.tompkinscountyny.gov/tccog/municipal\_courts</a>). A wide range of "recommendations" was made by the committee, with their degree of acceptance by the committee members ranging from unanimous to consensual to highly divided. One really needs to read the report to understand the advantages and concerns identified in the recommendations, but I will outline a few here.

One recommendation is to create a court that focuses solely on alcohol and drug related driving offenses. We already have such in Ithaca City Court, but it handles only about one-third of the annual load of 300+ cases county-wide. The rest are heard in the town and village courts. The procedures for these cases are complex, the paperwork burdensome and they tend to clog the courts' dockets. They also can result in sentences that vary among jurisdictions. If consolidated into a single court, there might be more administrative efficiency. Moreover because these are often addiction-related offenses, a single court might be better able to see that the appropriate treatment resources are made available, thereby dealing more effectively with the underlying causes.

Another set of recommendations includes a Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion program, and possibly a Mental Health Court and a Youth Court. These programs and courts are seen as means of keeping low level offenders out of the criminal justice system entirely and diverting them to community resources that will more appropriately meet their needs and help avoid recidivism.

Other recommendations include: improved electronic access to the courts; coordination of court schedules for benefit of the public, law enforcement and counsel; using pretrial detention less frequently by not requiring bail or by setting bail at lower amounts; providing criminal records to the parties more frequently; utilizing partial payment options and legal judgments or liens when defendants are unable to pay, rather than re-sentencing them; establishing a centralized countywide after hours arraignment program so that judges and defense attorneys could schedule their after-hours obligations as opposed to the random and uneven process used now; and requiring the transfer of misdemeanor cases from non-lawyer judges to lawyer judges if a defendant requests it.

Some of the underlying controversies created by this study relate to the fact that the current 18 town and village justices all serve on a part-time basis and that only three are lawyers (including myself). Additionally, to the fact that there are 12 town, village and city courts, which could result in some unevenness in how cases are handled. There is a tension between two polar opposite views on how our justice system should function. One view is that all these courts should be consolidated into one or two courts with full time professional staffing. The other view is that such consolidation would add significant costs and bureaucracy, as well as widening the gap between the justice system and the parties and community it is intended to serve.

For more information, you might want to read the report on the website identified above. At this point it will go to TCCOG for its consideration and possible action.

The Village Court is open to the public, and I strongly encourage you to attend and see the justice system in actual operation. You can enter and leave according to your own schedule and do not need an appointment. Court sessions normally take place on Tuesdays from 6:00 PM until the cases are finished and on the first Thursday of each month starting at 5:00 PM. Observers have the option of contacting the Court Clerk, Patricia Kannus, at 257-3944 to find out what court nights are likely to have the most interesting cases.

One interesting fact I learned was that based on 2014 data, the operation of all the town and village courts costs their localities more than they retained from their collected fines and surcharges because New York State took almost 1 million dollars of the 1.5 million these courts collected. Even more interesting is that our Village had the lowest cost above collection in the County. The Village only paid about \$5,000 more than it collected, notwithstanding my tendency to fine at fairly low levels. By comparison, the cost of operating the Town of Ithaca court was more than \$300,000 above what it collected.

836 Hanshaw Road Marcham Hall Ithaca, NY 14850

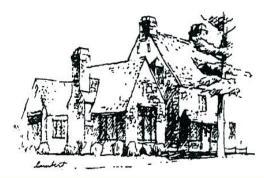
Phone: 607-257-1238 Fax: 607-257-4910

Email: info@cayuga-heights.ny.us

Office Hours Weekdays: 9 a.m.— 4: 30 p.m.

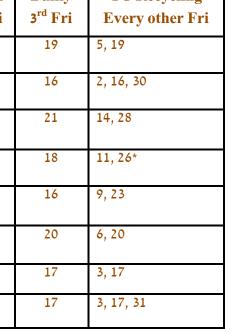
## www.cayuga-heights.ny.us

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## -BRUSH-- BULKY TRASH -- RECYCLING -**SCHEDULE**

Date	Brush 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri	Bulky 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	TC Recycling Every other Fri
Aug. 2016	5	19	5, 19
Sept. 2016	2	16	2, 16, 30
Oct. 2016	7	21	14, 28
Nov. 2016	4	18	11, 26*
Dec. 2016	2	16	9, 23
Jan. 2017	6	20	6, 20
Feb. 2017	3	17	3, 17
March 2017	3	17	3, 17, 31





<sup>\*</sup>Late due to holiday