

**Village Meeting Schedule:**

**Second Wednesday of the month  
unless otherwise posted.  
Hoags Corner Ambulance Bldg.  
7 p.m.**



**Village Trustee Opening:**

**The Village Board has an open  
Trustee position. Interested?  
Contact the Mayor at  
mayor@villageofeastnassau.org**

**Village of East Nassau • 19 Town Garage Road • PO Box 268 • East Nassau, NY 12062**

# **Village of East Nassau Spring Update 2023**

*Jeffrey Root – Mayor*

## **A Change and An Introduction**

Adam Acquario has had to resign from the position of Village Mayor as he accepted an offer to become the Director of Labor Affairs in the New York State Comptroller's Office. In that role he is prohibited from holding elected office. If you see Adam, wish him the best of luck and thank him for serving on the Village Board since 2007.

Recently re-elected to his third Trustee term, Trustee Jeff Root has agreed to serve as mayor for the remaining year of former Mayor Acquario's term. Jeff has lived in Hoags Corners just short of 40 years. He has a history of serving in various managerial capacities and volunteering. As a clinical psychologist

(now retired) he saw patients for 52 years and was an administrator or manager in various mental health treatment settings. On the volunteer side, Jeff is a Life Member of the Hoags Corners Volunteer Fire Company, having been a firefighter with them for 27 years and, at various points, serving as Fire Chief and a Fire Commissioner. For many years he was active with Trout Unlimited, serving in various leadership positions at the local, state and national levels. Finally, he chaired the committee that drafted the original Town of Nassau Land Use and Development Regulations. But enough about Jeff.

## **Village Road Maintenance and Improvements**

Please welcome Doug Dobert as your new Public Works Superintendent. He unfortunately started by getting hit with the large and messy, heavy, wet snow storm in March. And extend many thanks to former Public Works Superintended Mike Dorr for his years of service. Thanks Mike.

When the Village was formed, upgrading many of our roads was a priority. From dirt to gravel to chip sealed. But road improvements are expensive, and the Village has a limited budget. And after 8 years a chip sealed road needs a new coating. This year,

thanks to money from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the Village has the resources to work on not one but two roads this summer. With \$30,000 from the ARPA, and some Village funds, Gardner Hill and Town Garage Roads, chip sealed many years ago, will have various improvements (ditches, culverts, etc.) made as well as be chipped sealed a second time. What dates this work will be done have yet to be determined. If you have any concerns about village roadways, please email Doug at [doug.dobert@villageofeastnassau.org](mailto:doug.dobert@villageofeastnassau.org).

## **What's Up?**

One important duty of a municipality is to provide ways for its citizens to stay informed about what the municipality is doing. These periodic Village Updates are part of those efforts. But updates can be sporadic, take time away from other important tasks, and may be after the fact. And they cost taxpayers money. But there other ways to stay informed and current;

1. Attend Village Board of Trustees meetings: These typically occur the second Wednesday of the month starting at 7 PM at the Hoags Corners Volunteer Ambulance building at 19 Town Garage Road. Occasionally, the meeting date/time may have to be changed, or an extraordinary meeting needs to be conducted (e.g.; End of Year meeting to "close the books"). This information is posted on the Village website. Check the Calendar section for times and dates of meetings, public hearings, Climate Smart Committee meetings, etc.

2. The Village website is filled with information ([www.villageofeastnassau.org](http://www.villageofeastnassau.org)). Meeting minutes, financial reports, Code Enforcement Reports, newsletters, etc. are all posted there. There are even audio recordings of Village Board meetings available. And links to multiple other sources of information are plentiful.

3. A reporter from the Eastwick Press ([www.eastwickpress.com](http://www.eastwickpress.com)) is present at Village Board meetings and an article appears in this paper the next week. Also, this is the official newspaper for the Village in which Legal and Public Notices are published. Print (\$50/yr) and digital (\$30/yr) subscriptions are available.

Let your Village Board know what is going right and what you think could go better.

## New Park in Hoags Corners Has A Name

During the March village election voting, voters were given the opportunity to vote, on a separate ballot, for the name of the new park across from the Bees Knees Bakery, from the nominations provided by residents. Selected was Old Tavern Park. Thanks to all those who came out to vote.

## Bayberries, Blueberries and Unlawning

Your Village's Climate Smart Committee has been busy since last fall designing and preparing the site at Old Tavern Park in Hoags Corners. Planned are a picnic table, benches, and perching rocks from which to enjoy the view of the tumbling waters of the Tsatsawassa Creek amid beds of mainly native Northeastern American plants--trees, shrubs, perennial flowers, grasses and sedges. Our effort is to restore a tiny piece of Northeast America's vanishing ecological habitat and provide food and shelter for our wildlife, which is in serious decline: "We fly on the wings of our pollinators"!

Old Tavern Park is just one of four sites in the Village in different stages of planning and planting as demonstration gardens to promote the importance of adding native plantings to our existing landscapes, and encourage residents and visitors to do the same. Besides the Old Tavern Park, these additional demonstration gardens, which are at different points in their development, can be visited at the Hoags Corners Firehouse, the Triangle on Route 66 across from the old East Nassau Post Office, and at Bell Park on Route 20. Watch these sites grow and develop! Why not come help us plant!

## Bell Park

The bell tower at Bell Park is in need of a new coat of paint. Do you have few drop cloths lying around doing nothing but collecting dust? Do you

## A Reminder on Open Burning

With all the debris created by the March snow storm you might be tempted; however, in all villages New York State law prohibits open burning. No household waste or yard waste may be burned in any village. The very few exemptions are as follows; campfires or any outdoor fires less than 3 feet in height and 4 feet in length, width or diameter, small cooking fires, a ceremonial or celebratory fire, and disposal of flags. Open burning in a village could result in you being charged with a misdemeanor. A minimum fine of \$375 is possible. This is in addition to the DEC Residential Brush Burning Prohibition that ends this year on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Welcome

Norma "Bunny" Face is the Village's newly appointed Deputy Clerk/Treasurer. Welcome Bunny, we look forward to having you as part of the team.



As part of our outreach concerning native plantings, especially the importance of considering replacing parts of our vast English-style lawns (the least productive form of landscaping!), Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Jean Howard will be giving a talk titled "Unlawning" on June 1 at the Hoags Corners Ambulance Hall, 19 Town Garage Road a 6 PM. Mark your calendars. The talk is free, with refreshments, giveaways, and a raffle. (By the way: The rumor making the rounds that the Village Board is going to ban mowing your lawn is not true.)

Please join us for large projects or small -- or just to help dig and water on planting days.

For more information, or to join the committee, please email Trustee Lydia Davis at [climatesmart@villageofeastnassau.org](mailto:climatesmart@villageofeastnassau.org). For updates check the Climate Smart Committee section of the Village website; [www.villageofeastnassau.org](http://www.villageofeastnassau.org). And check out <https://climatesmart.ny.gov>.

All these improvements are supported by donations of time from Village residents, a grant from the NYS DEC, and funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act.

enjoy painting on a pleasant, sunny day? Why not volunteer to spruce up the Bell Tower? Contact [mayor@villageofeastnassau.org](mailto:mayor@villageofeastnassau.org)

## 25 Years

Did you realize your Village was incorporated on January 14, 1998? That's right, 25 years ago! Fortunately, we are not facing the threats to our Village environment and community character that existed back then. So what will the next 25 years bring us? Well, that is up to you as it is your Village. The pandemic drove us into isolation and disconnection from each other. Now we can again come together to make our Village into something special. There are lots of opportunities. There is an open Trustee seat on the Village Board. Why not pick something and get engaged. Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something.