

# Mayor's Newsletter - June 2015



## DOBBS FERRY'S WATERFRONT PARK IS OPEN

On Saturday June 13, 2015 the Waterfront Park was officially re-dedicated and re-opened. What a beautiful day it was!

Many residents came to the waterfront to be a part of the re-dedication ceremony. The village was proud to have so many government representatives in attendance, including:

Office of the **Governor** of the State of New York

**US Senator**

**New York State Senator**

**Westchester County Deputy Commissioner**

Current and former **Mayors** and **Trustees** were on hand and recognized for their support of the project which spanned several administrations.

**New York State Assemblyman**

**Westchester County Legislator**

**Town of Greenburgh Supervisor and Board Members**

Representatives of the **Department of State** and the **Hudson River Estuary Program** explained their

organization's role in planning and funding.

Funding for the project came from several sources, including **New York State Environmental Funds**, **Westchester County**, the **Village**, and a **major private donor**. Total funding amounted to approximately \$7,500,000.

**This project stands-out as a model for a successful public-private partnership.**

***Special recognition*** was given to **Marie McKellar** and her husband **Arch**. ***We cannot thank them enough for their generosity.*** Funding from the McKellars will exceed \$1.5 million; and their actions provided incentive for many other donors who gave meaningful amounts. With out the McKellar's commitment, the project could never have been completed. The Mayor presented a proclamation claiming the water area between Willow Point extending north to the immediate shoreline on the other side - to be forever known as '**McKellar Cove**'.







Over the years there were many people, organizations and volunteers involved in this project; from the early work by the **Land Use Committee** creating the **Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan 'LWRP'**, to all the members of the boards who supported the project over the years; the village administrator and staff, and importantly to every member of the **Waterfront Committee** who served for over 7 years organizing and planning the concept for a new park.

As the re-dedication ceremony demonstrated, the village is grateful to these and the many other people who were involved















**One important point to note:     *The boat dock is not yet open.***

The village is in the process of installing a gate at the end of the ramp to the floating dock. This is a safety issue; the village is also formulating a *dock policy*. Once a gate has been installed and the dock policy finalized, the village will then announce when the dock will be opened.

One thing that we do want to point out that *is* open at the waterfront is the new outdoor bar area at **Half Moon Restaurant**. Angelo, Bruce, and all the staff at Half Moon do a wonderful job ... and what a great spot to enjoy a meal and refreshments.

**PLEASE SUPPORT ALL THE LOCAL RESTAURANTS AND MERCHANTS IN DOBBS FERRY !**

**Village Administrator**

At the regular meeting on June 23, the board of trustees noted the acceptance of the resignation of Marcus Serrano as village administrator, effective June 19, 2015. The mayor and board have previously recognized and thanked Mr Serrano for the work he did as village administrator, and we wish him and his family *all the best of luck* in the future.

On June 23, the board voted to appoint **Betsy Gelardi** as interim village administrator.

The board also took action to form a dedicated **Search Committee** specifically to commence an immediate search for a new village administrator; this committee includes trustees Rossillo, Golio, Flynn. and O'Donnell; as well Betsy and 3 outside citizens/residents who will all work closely together finding the best candidates for consideration and recommendation to the board of trustees.

The board has complete confidence in Betsy to bring the highest level of experience and leadership - as well the professionalism of all the department heads and staff - so the village will continue to provide all the essential services and functions without any loss.

The village will communicate and keep everyone posted during this transition process.

Well, that is it for now. We hope everyone is having a great summer. We will be in touch in a couple of weeks with some reminders on a few dates and events, as well some new updates on things going on in the village.

Sincerely,

Mayor Connett

June 28, 2015

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