

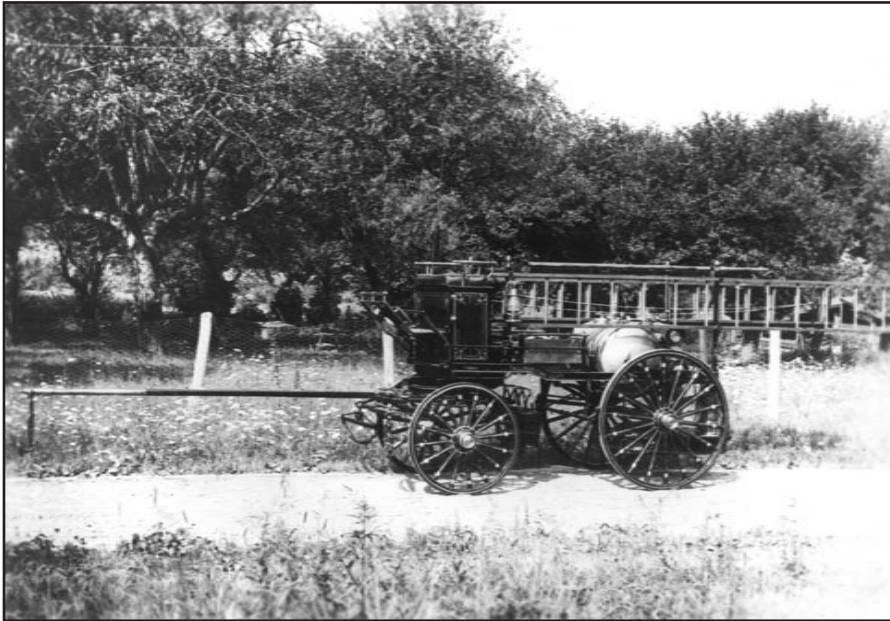
# Airmont Villager

Village of Airmont • 251 Cherry Lane, P.O. Box 578, Tallman, NY 10982 • 357-8111 • Fax 357-8307

VERONICA D. BOESCH, *EDITOR*

SEPTEMBER 2009

## ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY 1909-2009



*Tallman's First Fire Fighting Apparatus*

The Village of Airmont congratulates the Tallman Volunteer Fire Department on the 100th anniversary of its founding. Generation after generation of brave volunteers have given their service to protect our local residents from the devastation wrought by fires and other calamities. On Saturday, September 12, the celebration will begin with our firefighters hosting the 97th Annual Convention and Parade of the Rockland County Volunteer Fire Association. Included in the parade will be thirty-one fire departments from Rockland, Orange, and Bergen Counties. In addition, a European fire company which twins with Tallman will be present. The twinning company is the Homburg am Main fire company from Germany. The Lengfurt Musikkapelle Band, also from Germany, will be playing as they march along the parade route.

One hundred years of volunteer service to our community is a milestone worthy of the appreciation and respect of all of us in Airmont. When the fire alarm goes off in the middle of a cold and snowy night, most of us can pull up the covers and return to sleep. The brave volunteers of the Tallman Fire Department must leave their warm and cozy beds, not knowing exactly what may lay ahead for them. Firefighting is a dangerous activity, and each of the volunteers is acutely aware of the risks involved. We are thankful that we can rely on their professionalism and resolve. We wish them the best on their Centennial and in all the years to come.

**Due to the size of the parade, area residents should take notice of the roads that will be closed from approximately 2 PM until 5 PM. Affected will be South Airmont Road from Campbell Avenue to Route 59. The route takes the parade eastward past the Firehouse to the Cherry Lane intersection. From this point it will head southward on Cherry Lane to Camp Scuffy. Residents living on streets which intersect with Campbell Avenue, South Airmont Road, Route 59, and Cherry Lane should be aware of the road closures. Some of these streets are dead ends and have no alternate way out to bypass the parade. If you are among the residents who will be affected, please prepare plans ahead of time to avoid being delayed by the parade.**

The parade will end at Campy Scuffy on Cherry Lane. Food and beverages will be served to all participants as well as the general public. A ceremony will be conducted and trophies will be handed out. The Tallman Fire Department welcomes all residents to join in their celebration.

### THE HISTORY OF THE TALLMAN FIRE DEPARTMENT

In the autumn of 1908, three Tallman friends were having their usual pinochle game when they began discussing the need for a fire brigade to serve the local area. As they played, Abraham H. Straut, Reginald Osborne, and Henry Schwartz made plans to call upon other residents to join them at an organizational meeting. One of the people they contacted was Judge Charlie Bevans. Bevans lived on the corner of Spook Rock Road and today's Rte. 59, the present-day location of Markauto. For those who can remember, the Bevans home later became Delmonico's Restaurant. With Bevans' input they went ahead with their plans to attract local interest in their project. In November, 1908 they held their first meeting at the nearby Grange Hall. Sadly, both the Straut house on Cherry Lane and the Grange Hall on Spook Rock Road (near where the Goddard School stands today) no longer exist. The end result of this effort was the creation of the Tallmans Fire Department (yes the "s" was added by the organizers).

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If you would like to learn more, the history committee of the fire department which is headed by Robert Doremus, is compiling information from documents and the memories of local "old timers". The committee members are putting all the information they gather about the history of the Tallman Fire Department in a book which is soon to be published.

### **PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF PAST ANNIVERSARIES**

When the Tallman Fire Department celebrated its 60th anniversary in 1969, the Fire Association Parade was staging in front of my parent's home on Mary Beth Drive. As the participants lined up I recognized faces in the crowd. I had finished my student teaching in the spring and was preparing for my first year as a professional. Apparently some of my former students were lining up to participate in the parade. They were part of the fire contingent from Park Ridge, New Jersey. It was great to greet and talk with them that lovely day. My mother opened our home to anyone who needed to use our powder rooms. Everyone was in a spirited mood, even our Chihuahua Sandy. As the parade began to move, a horse came up the block. Sandy was over-awed at the sight. He reminded me of a tourist who had seen the Empire State Building for the first time!

When the Tallman Fire Department celebrated its 75th anniversary in 1984. I was married and had two small children. Once again, I was thrilled to find out that the staging area was to be in front of my own home on Blossom Road. And once again, I greeted former students from the Ladies Auxiliaries of the Wayne Hose, David B. Roche, and S.W. Johnson Fire Departments from North Rockland where I was teaching. A number of participants were relieved to find out that I, following my mother's hospitality, opened my home for their convenience!

*Veronica Boesch*

### **SPIRIT OF AIRMONT GRADUATION AWARD WINNERS**

Each June, our Village awards plaques to Airmont elementary graduates who have been chosen to receive the award by their school principal and teachers. The criteria on which the students have been selected includes the following:

"A student who embodies the characteristics of kindness, cooperation and respect for his or her peers and teachers."

This year's awards were presented to:

Cherry Lane Elementary students: Ashley Bottamedi, Emily Codispoti, Jessica Hosier, Taylor Sullivan

Montebello Elementary student: Alexandra Canty

Elmwood Elementary student: Thomas Ludwig III

We congratulate the student winners and their families for receiving this recognition from our Village. Each student's name will be added to a multi-year plaque located in their elementary school.

### **COMMUNITY TAG SALE**

The Village is interested in holding another community tag sale. If you are in the mood to clean out your attics, crawl spaces, and basements (and to make a little money!) please contact Village Hall (357-8111). We are planning the event for Sunday, October 18 from Noon until 4 PM at our Village Hall and Community Center. The Tag Sale will be held rain or shine. Vendor participation is limited to Village of Airmont residents only. The fee will be \$25 for a "spot" which consists of one 8' X 30" table or a space equal to the size of a table. The fees we receive will help to fund future programs for our Airmont community. We will determine whether to hold the tag sale based on the number of responses we receive. If we do not get enough participants, we will try again next spring.

### **AIRMONT DAY WILL NOT BE HELD THIS YEAR**

As many of you may already know, the Village will not be holding an Airmont Day this fall. Due to the difficult economic conditions, we anticipate that the donations which we depend on to make the day a success may not be forthcoming this year. Airmont Day also incurs a large expense for the Village. We hope that next year brings a brighter economic outlook for our residents and village businesses. We would like to allocate some of the funds we set aside for Airmont Day to use for the upcoming youth activities at our Community Center.

### **UPDATE ON THE SALE OF AIRMONT SCHOOL BRICKS**

After the first of the year, we hope to begin the sale of the commemorative bricks to be placed at the foot of the Airmont School cupola. Many residents and former residents have shown an interest in purchasing bricks. The Eagle Scouts of Troop 25 will construct the base on which the cupola will rest. We will keep you informed with our community email blasts and our next Airmont Villager newsletter. If you haven't signed up to receive email updates, please call or email Camille Guido-Downey at Village Hall. The telephone number is 357-8111. Camille's email address is [cdowney@airmont.org](mailto:cdowney@airmont.org).

## **ASSEMBLYWOMAN JAFFEE TO MEET WITH AIRMONT RESIDENTS**

New York State Assemblywoman Ellen Jaffee will be holding a Neighborhood Assembly in our Village Hall on Wednesday, September 23rd at 7 PM. If you have any concerns or questions for her, please come and share them.

## **NEWS OF INTEREST TO AIRMONT RESIDENTS FROM COUNTY LEGISLATOR JOSEPH MEYERS**

There have been several significant issues before the County Legislature in the last few months: The first was my proposed law to require chain restaurants to post calorie information on their menus and menu boards. Studies show that people know fast food can be caloric but do not have the information at the point of service to make good relative choices on what they order. Calorie posting has been successfully implemented in Westchester, New York City, the State of California, Philadelphia and many other areas. I am hopeful that this will become the law in Rockland soon.

Secondly, it was recently proposed by County Executive Scott Vanderhoef that we have a new tax on our cell phone bills of \$.30 per month per cell phone to defray the cost of Rockland's 911 service. I strongly oppose the idea because Rockland County already collects 911 fees

in our land phone bills and similar fees are already charged by New York State on our cell phones. I oppose the drip, drip, of user fees and taxes by government as a way of raising money from taxpayers without taxpayers really noticing it. It just leads to more and bigger local government at a time when local government should be paring down to reduce the property tax burden on strapped citizens. I will vote against the measure when it comes up in September.

It was also recently proposed that we allow deer hunting by bow and arrow in County parks to reduce the size of the deer population. While I am concerned about the incidence of car accidents involving deer- and the risk it poses to our residents- there are other ways to address the deer population problem without utilizing such a cruel and inhumane technique. Also, stray arrows in our parks could pose a physical risk to our citizens. Of course, one way to manage the deer problem - which I have been advocating for years- is to control the rising overdevelopment in Ramapo which is reducing the available forested land for the deer population and other wildlife- forcing them into our residential areas to seek food.

If you have a question or concern on a County issue please e-mail me at [joe@legislatorjoemeyers.com](mailto:joe@legislatorjoemeyers.com) or reach me at the Legislature at 638-5100.

All the best for a wonderful autumn season.

County Legislator Joe Meyers

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## **SAFE DRIVER COURSE OFFERED AGAIN THIS AUTUMN**

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Please note the following change: The complete Driver Improvement Course will be held on one day this fall. The date is Saturday, October 10, 2009 from 9am until 3:30 pm. The fee is \$45.00.

Upon completion, attendees will be eligible for a 10% reduction on auto liability and collision insurance and can have as many as four points reduced from their driving record. If you have any questions, please contact the Village Clerk at 357-8111. You may use the coupon below to register

### **NEW YORK STATE SAFETY PROGRAM**

Yes, Please sign me up for the Driving Improvement Course to be held on October 10, 2009.

Enclosed is my check for \$45.00

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

*PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: VILLAGE OF AIRMONT*

*MAIL TO:*


Village of Airmont, • 251 Cherry Lane  
P.O. Box 578 • Tallman, New York 10982

## ***ATTENTION AIRMONT PARENTS***

Please note that you can access registered sex offender information by going to the following website: [www.co.rockland.ny.us/sheriff/default.html](http://www.co.rockland.ny.us/sheriff/default.html). You may also call the Rockland County Sheriff's office to seek assistance on finding this information.

Thank you again to *Steve's Lawns, Inc.* for maintaining our lawn At Village Hall at no cost to the Village.  
We truly appreciate Steve's generosity and fine service.

*Thank You!*

  
VILLAGE OF  
**Airmont**  
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Anthony Valenti, Deputy Mayor  
Veronica Boesch, Trustee  
Dennis Cohen, Trustee  
Ralph Bracco, Trustee

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