

The Lancaster Villager

STAY INFORMED AND BECOME
INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY!



A Message from the Mayor

It is exciting that it is starting to feel like spring and there is so much to look forward to! We are now well into our 175th anniversary celebration and if you have yet to participate, I encourage you to look at the schedule of events. Thank you to Chairman, Gavin O'Brien and the entire 175th anniversary committee for their continual efforts throughout this year. We have already had a great gala to kick off the year and an entertaining Trivia Night. Our first ever restaurant week was a success and brought in many people to our community to support our restaurants. The guest speaker series is a fascinating look into our incredible history and there is so much more to come! From historical walking tours to an event of the Eclipse, to bringing back Old Home Week, the Village of Lancaster has something for everyone. As we celebrate our 175th anniversary, our Fire Department is celebrating their 150th anniversary and we are looking forward to completing the new Firefighters' Park to celebrate this milestone. Our community is fortunate to have such a treasured history and I hope that you find a way to celebrate it with us. More information about events can be found on our village website and by following our social media page. Cheers to 175 years!

- Mayor Lynne Ruda -



John Stevens performs at the Semi-Demi Formal to kick off the 17th anniversary

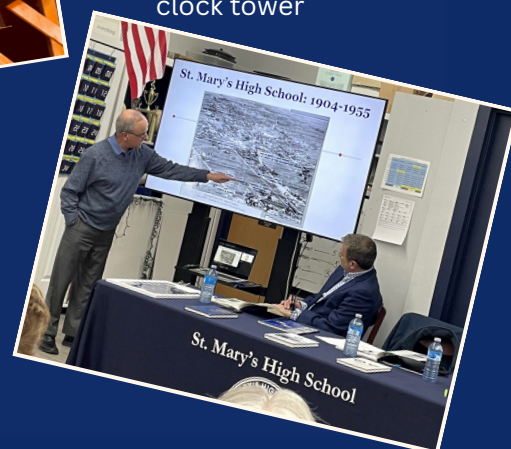
The Quiz Master hosts a fun Trivia Night at St. Mary's High School



Carmen Ciccarelli presents in the guest speaker series about the history of our clock tower



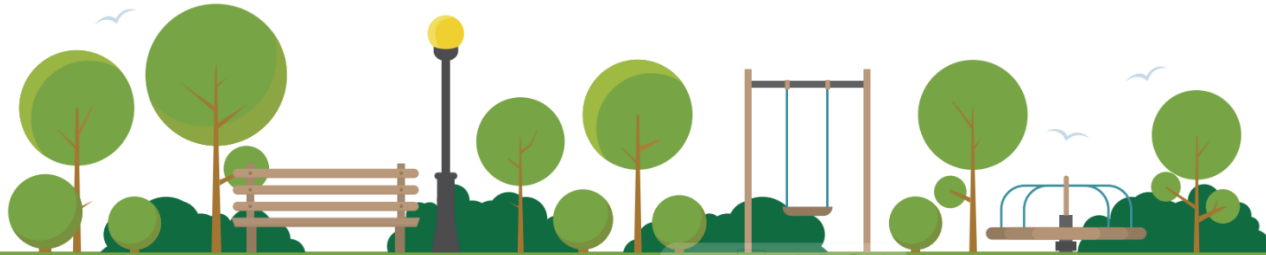
Kevin Kelleher, Don Monnin, and Neil Connelly lead a panel for the guest speaker series about the history of St. Mary's High School.



The Village of Lancaster's Tree City USA status has been approved for our 5th year to go along with our recently approved Growth Award!

Village of Lancaster

is a proud **Tree City USA®** community



A Message from the Department of Public Works:

After a long winter, spring is right around the corner! The time has come to assess the post-season plow damage. Weather permitting, the DPW will begin repairing snowplow damage village-wide. If your property has suffered any damage, please contact the Village Department of Public Works so that we can schedule your repairs. Once the repairs have been completed, it is your responsibility, as a homeowner, to water and maintain the property. We do not return to water the grass seed. For assistance, please call (716) 683-1028.



Spring is just around the corner, and what better time to start thinking about sustainable practices for your home?

We're excited to announce the Erie/Niagara County 2024 Rain Barrel & Compost Bin Sale!

If you've been considering starting to compost in your backyard but weren't sure where to begin, now's your chance! The compost barrels make it easy to turn your kitchen scraps and yard waste into nutrient-rich soil for your garden. Plus, with the rain barrels, you can harvest rainwater to use in your garden, reducing your water consumption.

Let's make this spring the season of sustainability! Join us in doing something good for the environment while also nurturing your garden!

Orders must be placed by April 15th, with a pickup date of April 27th. Go to <https://erie.compostersale.com/> to order yours today!

Still have questions? Contact sustainability@lancastervillage.org

SAVE MONEY AND THE ENVIRONMENT WITH COMPOSTING AND RAIN BARRELS!

LEARN HOW TO REDUCE WASTE AND
CONSERVE WATER AT HOME.

<https://erie.compostersale.com/>



Village of Lancaster- 2nd in the Region for Clean Energy Communities Program

As a part of our commitment to sustainability, the Village of Lancaster is participating as part of NYSEERDA's Clean Energy Communities Round 3.0.

By completing a series of high-impact initiatives, Lancaster not only earns recognition but also becomes eligible for grant funding to further bolster its clean energy endeavors. These actions range from implementing energy-efficient measures to promoting renewable energy adoption within the community. As Lancaster earns points for each completed action, it gets closer to higher designations and more substantial grant awards. To date, the Village of Lancaster has completed 10 high impact actions for a total of 2,900 points. The Village is ranked second in the region and one of only eight Advanced Communities in the region. Lancaster is a designated one-star community and will soon earn the two-star status! This tiered approach not only encourages sustained engagement but also rewards communities for their dedication to advancing clean energy objectives.

The program provides municipalities like Lancaster with the necessary tools and resources to effect change. Whether it's through streamlined access to grant funding or ongoing support from dedicated coordinators, the program empowers local municipalities to take tangible actions. The program offers a customizable approach that allows Lancaster to tailor its involvement based on its specific circumstances. Through the updated Clean Energy Communities program, Lancaster finds itself in a prime position to enhance the community through targeted clean energy endeavors.

For a more comprehensive understanding of the Clean Energy Communities program and its impact, consider visiting the program's website.

Engaging Residents in Village Climate-Smart Initiatives

As we navigate the challenges of a changing environment, it's crucial for each resident to play an active role in shaping our community's response. Village climate-smart initiatives are not just plans on paper; they require the collective efforts of all residents to succeed.

As our village's Sustainability Coordinator, I invite each of you to join us towards a greener, more resilient community. Our current efforts include conducting a community greenhouse gas inventory and developing a municipal climate action plan. These tasks help lay the foundation for projects that will mitigate our environmental impact and build a more sustainable village for generations to come. Our plan is to outline specific goals, policies, and projects aimed at reducing our greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing resilience to climate impacts, and fostering sustainability in all aspects of village life.

Whether you're a homeowner, a business owner, or a student, your insights are invaluable in shaping these plans to reflect the needs, priorities, and aspirations of our diverse community. I encourage each of you to get involved, make recommendations, and ask questions. Attend community meetings, join working groups, and share your ideas for a more sustainable village. Together, we can make a difference.

Contact sustainability@lancastervillage.org if you want to be more involved in your community!

NYSEERDA Clean Energy Communities Scorecard

Thank you for participating in NYSEERDA's Clean Energy Communities Program. This scorecard shows your community's accomplishments and how they compare to others in your region and across New York State.

Select Your Community: Village of Lancaster

Village of Lancaster



A NYSEERDA Clean Energy Community

10,352

POPULATION (2010 CENSUS)

Western New York
REGION

Erie
COUNTY

55

DESIGNATED COMMUNITIES
IN THE REGION

8

ADVANCED (v3.0) COMMUNITIES
IN THE REGION

547

DESIGNATED COMMUNITIES
STATEWIDE

105

ADVANCED (v3.0) COMMUNITIES
STATEWIDE

Accomplishments

Advanced (v3.0) (★)

(Earn 100 points for 2-Star status)

10

ACTIONS COMPLETED



2,900

POINTS EARNED

High Impact Actions

	Count	Points
Benchmarking	2	300
Buildings and Facilities	2	200
Clean Energy Upgrades	1	500
Climate Smart Communities Certification	1	600
Energy Code Enforcement Training	1	200
LED Street Lights	2	900
Transportation and Landscaping	1	200
Grand Total	10	2,900

Leaderboard

Regional Leaders

	Points
Erie County	5,200
Village of Lancaster	2,900
Town of Evans	2,800

Statewide Leaders


	Points
Village of Croton-on-Hudson	13,500
City of Kingston	10,800
Town of Bedford	10,500



NYSEERDA

Read more at:
www.nyserda.ny.gov/cec

Lancaster Garden Walk 2024



A call out for those interested in putting their gardens into the 21st annual Lancaster Garden Walk 2024. Anyone who lives in the Village or Town can partake in this great family friendly community event. There are no fees, no prizes and you can choose to show for one day, two days or all three days. Our updated 2024 Entry Form is available at lancastervillageny.gov under the events section. Print it out, fill it out and mail it to the address on the form. Two Chicks And A Rooster on Aurora Street will be your contact point for the Garden Walk details.

Visit our Facebook page at Lancaster Garden Walk. For more detailed information and for any questions you might have, please contact Julie Curtis (716) 572-6124.



CONTACT: Lancaster Fire Department // Steve DeMarzio // sdemarzio@lancasterfd.org

LANCASTER FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN STATEWIDE "RECRUITNY" OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND APRIL 13th AND 14th

(Lancaster, N.Y.) — As part of the annual RecruitNY statewide initiative, the Lancaster Fire Department (LFD) will open its doors so residents can learn how they can serve their volunteer fire department.

Volunteer fire departments across New York state have been faced with decreased membership and increased call volume. Like most volunteer fire departments, the LFD needs to bolster its ranks so it can continue to provide the optimum level of protection for its residents.

As part of RecruitNY Weekend, the LFD will open its doors on Saturday April 13th and Sunday April 14th from 11am – 1pm. The department has two stations that are 5423 Broadway Street & 24 West Drullard Avenue both located Lancaster, NY 14086. It will join hundreds of volunteer fire departments across New York to raise public awareness regarding the need for volunteers and to highlight the rewards of being a member of a volunteer fire department.

Throughout the time period, the LFD will conduct tours of the station and apparatus, allow visitors to try on gear, demonstrate firefighting activities, provide information, and address questions on becoming a member. These activities give visitors a taste of what it means to be in the fire service. Volunteer firefighters will also be on hand to discuss the requirements and rewards of joining. All are welcome and encouraged to attend, including families with children.

"We welcome the community to join us during RecruitNY Weekend," said Steven DeMarzio; Captain. "This is an excellent opportunity for people to meet their local volunteer firefighters and learn more about the fire service. We are always looking for new members, and it is our hope that after meeting us, more people will be interested in becoming part of our family."

The Firefighters Association of the State of New York (FASNY) is committed to assisting New York's 1,700-plus volunteer departments connect with their communities and have sufficient members to protect them properly. Established in 2011, RecruitNY is an undertaking of FASNY. It is made possible by the continuing support and generosity of Lincoln Financial Group (LFG). In 2012, LFG announced the introduction of a new National Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) HEROPLUSSM Program. A first of its kind, LOSAP was designed for individual fire and emergency services departments to help recruit, retain, and reward dedicated volunteers with a program that will help boost their retirement readiness.

For more information, visit <https://www.lancasterfd.org> or call us via our non-emergency phone number at (716) 683-1901.

Think Spring!!

Did our mid-February warm spell put thoughts of Spring into your head? Are you starting to get the itch to spend time in your garden and be outside in nature without all your snow gear on? If the above rings true and also want to make a difference in your community, would you consider being part of Lancaster Beautification? This is a group of Lancaster residents (and some outside of Lancaster) who help with the beautiful area gardens and vibrant blooming potted gardens you see driving through the village business district. There is no long-term commitment or any meetings to attend. You don't need to be a master gardener. Just having an appreciation of the beauty of flowers is all that is needed. You decide how much you can help and where you would like to help out.

Visit our Facebook page at Lancaster Beautification. For more detailed information and for any questions you might have, please contact Julie Curtis (716) 572-6124.





175th Speaker Series 2024

175th Anniversary Committee

Upcoming Events:

March 24, 2024 @
2:00p.m.
Dennis Upton
at The Senior Center

April 2024
(Day and time-TBD)
Audrey Keysa
at The Sassafras B&B

May 23, 2024 @
6:30p.m.
Kara Stock
at The Lancaster Library



Eclipse Event
April 8, 2024
Cayuga Creek Park/ West Main St.



Car Show
June 22, 2024
Village of Lancaster



Preservation Walking Tour
May 18, 2024 @ 1:00p.m.
Broadway Historic District



Old Home Week
July 1-7, 2024
Village of Lancaster

A Message from the Chair, Gavin O'Brien

The celebration is in full swing for the Village of Lancaster's 175th Anniversary, and there's much more to come. The monthly speaker series has a great list of guests in March and Beyond: Dennis Upton in the guise of Joseph Ellicott will discuss the Holland Land Company's role in the history of the Village. Audrey Keysa will talk about her family's storied history and Kara Stock will present on the History of the Lancaster Library. Watch out for future discussions on the history of the Lancaster Police, Fire Department, and many more. The chamber of commerce and the Village are excited to invite the community to the Eclipse Experience on West Main St. on April 8th. What better place to celebrate 175 years of history than at a historically significant event like a total solar eclipse! Preservation Buffalo will host a walking tour about the Broadway Historic District in May. Sign up information about that event will be available as we get closer to the event. Likewise, keep an eye out for more details about the Car Show in the Village on June 22nd and the Lancaster Police Benevolent Association in partnership with the Rotary Club of Lancaster continue to plan for that exciting day. Finally, on the horizon is the return of Old Home Week as part of the Village's July 4th Week Celebration. Keep checking the Village of Lancaster Facebook page and the Village's website as more speakers, dates, and events are revealed in coming months.

The Village of Lancaster and the  Lancaster Bee

announce the

2024 Village-Wide Garage Sale!

May 17, 18 & 19, 2024
8AM-5PM

All participants in the Great Garage Sale weekend receive a **FREE AD** in the Bee! Garage Sale goers will be told to "Look for houses with the yellow balloons!" Stop by the Village of Lancaster office to pick up your yellow Bee balloons starting May 1st. Village of Lancaster households only.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone 9AM-5PM: _____

Email: _____

Return form no later than **May 3, 2024**, to:

Village-Wide Garage Sale
Village of Lancaster

5423 Broadway • Lancaster, NY 14086 or fax to 716-684-4830

I will participate on the following day(s): ☐ **FRIDAY** ☐ **SATURDAY** ☐ **SUNDAY**

CLASSIFIED AD (Maximum 20 words) PLEASE PRINT:

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____



Village Board Meeting Dates

The Village Board meets on the 2nd & 4th Monday of the month at 7pm on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building at 5423 Broadway.

Monday, March 25th

Monday, April 8th

Monday, April 22nd

Monday, May 13th

Monday, May 27th*

Monday, June 10th

Monday, June 24th

Monday, July 8th

*The May 27th meeting may be rescheduled or cancelled due to the holiday

Clerk-Treasurer Office & Main Village Contact:

Michael E. Stegmeier

5423 Broadway

Lancaster, NY 14086

(716) 683-2105

mstegmeier@lancastervillage.org

Important Contact Information

Mayor Lynne Ruda

lruda@lancastervillage.org

Deputy Mayor & Trustee
Cynthia A. Maciejewski

cmaciejewski@lancastervillage.org

Trustee John Mikoley

jmikoley@lancastervillage.org

Trustee Tammie Malone
Schaefer

tschaefer@lancastervillage.org

Trustee Dave Santoro

dsantoro@lancastervillage.org

Fire Chief Paul Stencil

pstencil@lancastervillage.org

Events Coordinator- Nolin
Jackson

events@lancastervillage.org

Village Justice Court

716-683-6780