

# The Lancaster Villager

STAY INFORMED AND BECOME  
INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY!



## A Message from the Mayor

Eight years ago, I launched this newsletter as a way to stay connected with our residents. Over the course of my time in public service, I've consistently encouraged community members to stay informed and actively participate. Reflecting on my journey, I'm proud of the many high points I've experienced, first as a Village Trustee and later as Mayor. I remember when I would talk to residents about redeveloping our community, many were skeptical. They'd say, "People have tried for 50 years. Why would now be any different?" But now, when I speak with them, they're filled with excitement, sharing stories about the shops, events, and the pride they feel bringing friends and family to visit. I am deeply grateful for the incredible people I've met and worked alongside during this time. I hope the dreams that drive our community continue to overshadow the cynics and critics. I also hope that the board takes on the same work ethic demonstrated by those who are stepping down, and that our political leaders continue to prioritize the community over personal interests. The progress of the past four years wasn't a stroke of luck—it was the result of time, effort, and dedication. Countless long days and sleepless nights made possible the vibrant community we enjoy today. I'm incredibly proud to have left a lasting mark. All the best and God Bless.

- Mayor Lynne Ruda -

THANK YOU TO MAYOR RUDA, TRUSTEE MACIEJEWSKI, AND  
JUDGE BUMBALO FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE  
VILLAGE OF LANCASTER!

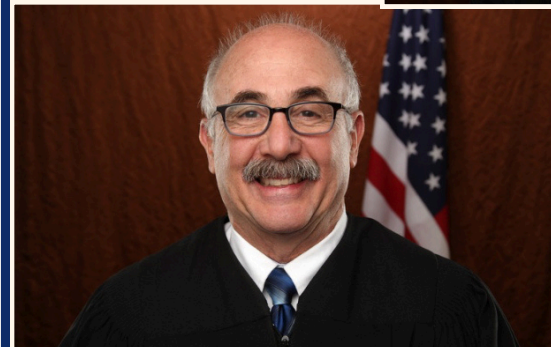


**Mayor  
Lynne Ruda**

Village Mayor:  
2021 - 2025  
Village Trustee:  
2017 - 2021

**Trustee  
Cyndi Maciejewski**

Village Trustee:  
2021 - 2025  
Village Deputy Mayor:  
2023 - 2025



**Judge  
Paul Bumbalo**

Village Justice:  
1998 - 2025  
Village Prosecutor  
1993-1998



THEY LEFT OUR VILLAGE BETTER THAN THEY FOUND IT!

4 YEARS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS UNDER THE TERM OF  
MAYOR RUDA AND TRUSTEE MACIEJEWSKI

## Roundabouts in the Village



West side of Aurora St.  
Current Road Conditions

There is currently no buffer between vehicular traffic and pedestrians with no delineation between the road and the sidewalk. This proposal requests funding to remove the pavement indicated by the red arrows and plant grass, which will provide a visual barrier between the road and the sidewalk.



Aurora St.  
and Artel Metz Drive -  
Current Road Conditions



Aurora  
and Richmond  
Current  
Conditions

This is a location where pedestrians cross without a crosswalk to access the Lancaster Senior Center, Lancaster Youth Bureau and Lancaster Town Band Shell. This is the location of the other crosswalk.

## Aurora St. Project

## Our First Mural in the Village



## Splash Pad at Hadsall Park with a donation in memory of Brian Babcock



## Heritage Trail Extension Feasibility Study

Currently analyzing funding opportunities  
for planning and implementation

## Cayuga Creek Park



## Firefighters' Park





THEY LEFT OUR VILLAGE BETTER THAN THEY FOUND IT!

MAYOR RUDA AND TRUSTEE MACIEJEWSKI BROUGHT IN OVER \$15 MILLION IN FUNDING TO THE VILLAGE OF LANCASTER!

The Village was awarded **\$3.4 Million** dollars in NYS TAP grant funding for transportation improvements on Central Ave.



The Village receives **\$4.5 million!**



Village of Lancaster  
**Grant Funding**



The Village of Lancaster has received **\$255,584** in grant funding for planting **880 trees** in a **4 year period**.



From the HERE

Village of Lancaster  
**Grant Funding**

The Village of Lancaster has received **\$100,000** in grant funding in a joint grant with the Town of Lancaster!

From the Department of Environmental Conservation  
Climate Smart Communities funding



The grant funding will be used for Climate Smart initiatives  
Thank you to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation!



NEW YORK  
Department of Environmental Conservation

Village of Lancaster  
**Grant Funding**



The Village of Lancaster has received **\$30,000** to update our Comprehensive Plan



From Erie County

AND HAVE SECURED FUNDING FOR PROJECTS THAT SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS...



Revitalize and Reconnect Lancaster with a New Pocket Park at the Municipal Building

TOTAL NYF FUNDS REQUESTED \$206,000  
TOTAL PROJECT COST \$206,000  
% OF TOTAL PROJECT COST 100%



Elevate the Opera House and Town Hall into a State of the Art Inconic Building

TOTAL NYF FUNDS REQUESTED \$1,156,000  
TOTAL PROJECT COST \$1,281,000  
% OF TOTAL PROJECT COST 90%



Renovate the Boys & Girls Club and Create a New Teen Center

TOTAL NYF FUNDS REQUESTED \$1,072,000  
TOTAL PROJECT COST \$1,122,000  
% OF TOTAL PROJECT COST 95.5%



Expand the Lancaster Village Center with a New Mixed-Use Building at 20 West Main Street

TOTAL NYF FUNDS REQUESTED \$881,000  
TOTAL PROJECT COST \$5,934,000  
% OF TOTAL PROJECT COST 15%





# Think Spring!!

Do the freezing temperatures, high winds and snow piles 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 so and you also want to make a difference in your community, consider being part of Lancaster Beautification.

Lancaster Beautification is a group of volunteers from Lancaster and surrounding towns and villages, who help to prep, plant, weed and maintain the beautiful Village gardens in the business district. The vibrant blooming planters and hanging baskets need ongoing maintenance throughout the season. You don't need to be a master gardener. Just having an appreciation of the beauty of flowers and disdain for weeds is all that is needed. You decide how much you can help and then participate on your own or with the group gatherings.

Here are the group gathering dates we have set for 2025. Come out and join us this year!



**Spring Clean Up & Weeding Friday, April 25...10am-2pm**  
**Spring Clean Up & Weeding Saturday, April 26...10am-2pm**

**Spring Planting Thursday, May 15...6pm-8pm**  
**Spring Planting Friday, May 16...10am-2pm & 6pm-8pm**  
**Spring Planting Saturday, May 17...10am-2pm**

**Spruce Up Friday, June 27...10am-2pm**  
**Spruce Up Saturday, June 28...10am-2pm**

**Spruce Up Friday, July 25...10am-2pm**  
**Spruce Up Saturday, July 26...10am-2pm**

**Spruce Up Thursday, August 28...6pm-8pm**  
**Spruce Up Friday, August 29...10am-2pm**

**Spruce Up Thursday, September 18...5pm-7:30pm**  
**Spruce Up Friday, September 19...10am-2pm**

**Spruce Up Thursday, October 9...5pm-7pm**  
**Spruce Up Friday, October 10...10am-2pm**

**Fall Clean Up Friday, October 21...10am-2pm**  
**Fall Clean Up Saturday, November 1...10am-2pm**



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



# Lancaster Garden Walk 2025


Plant a Garden, Visit a Garden

Are you a first-time gardener? Have you been enjoying your own garden space for years? Either way we have a great activity that happens in July over a three-day weekend that you can participate in.

A call out for those interested in putting their gardens into the 22nd annual Lancaster Garden Walk 2025. 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 2025 Entry Form is available at [Lancastervillageny.gov](http://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 Walk details and you can also stop into the giftshop to grab an entry form if you can't access it online. The deadline this year is May 31st.

Visit and like 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.

The Village of Lancaster and the  **Lancaster Bee** announce the

## 2025 Village-Wide Garage Sale!

**May 16, 17 & 18, 2025**  
**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.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone 9AM-5PM: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Return form no later than **Friday, May 2, 2025**, 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:**

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



## SPRING CLEANING FIRE SAFETY TIPS

While spring cleaning allows you to get your home in order, you should also focus on tasks that improve your home's safety. Fires can occur when you least expect them, but you can prevent them by following these safety guidelines for your spring-cleaning routine:

- Check your smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms and fire extinguishers to make sure they are in working order.
- Clean out your clothes dryer.
- Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe for your dryer is not restricted and that the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating.
- Carefully dispose of rags with paint and stain. The oils commonly used in oil-based paints and stains release heat as they dry. If the heat is not released in the air as the rags dry, the heat is trapped, builds up and can cause a fire. Never leave cleaning rags in a pile. When you're finished using the rags, take them outside to dry, keeping them well away from the home and other structures. Check with your local municipality for information on how to properly dispose of them. Inspect your grill carefully and make sure it's free of grease or fat buildup.
- Clean out any nests, spider webs, or other debris you may find.
- For propane grills, check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year.
- Properly use and store gasoline. Only store gasoline in a container that is sold for that purpose and never bring it indoors, even in small amounts. Make sure the container is tightly capped when not in use.
- Spread mulch at least a foot away from the house with a non-combustible barrier in between, such as stones or rocks.
- Remove leaves, pine needles, and other flammable material from the roof, gutters, and on or under the deck to help prevent embers from igniting your home.
- Remove dead vegetation, debris and other flammable materials, especially within the first five feet of the home.



If you are interested in becoming a Volunteer Firefighter (18+ years old) or a Junior Firefighter (14 – 18 years old) please visit our website at [www.lancasterfd.org](http://www.lancasterfd.org) and click the Join and Apply Today links and a member of our team will contact you with more information.



## SPRING EVENTS 2025

### Village-Wide Garage Sale

Friday, May 16  
Saturday, May 17  
Sunday, May 18

### Fourth of July Event

Thursday, July 3  
Friday, July 4  
Saturday, July

### Garden Walk

Friday, July 18  
Saturday, July 19  
Sunday, July 20

## SAVE THE DATE

JOIN US FOR A  
COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING ACTIVITY

DATE: APRIL 26, 2025  
TIME: 9:00 AM



We are thrilled to invite you to a community tree planting event in the Village of Lancaster! This event is part of our ongoing efforts to enhance the tree canopy and environmental resilience in our community.

Let's make our village greener, one tree at a time! No experience is needed—just your enthusiasm and love for nature! This family-friendly event welcomes all ages, and we'll provide the tools and supplies needed to make planting day a success.

Register by emailing  
[sustainability@lancastervillageny.gov](mailto:sustainability@lancastervillageny.gov)

More details about the event will be provided upon registration.

## Lancaster Earns Clean Energy Recognition & \$50,000 Grant

The Village of Lancaster was awarded the NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities (CEC) 2-Star designation, along with a \$50,000 grant to advance its sustainability efforts. This funding will support an energy study and energy efficiency upgrades at the North End Fire Hall, improving building performance and reducing energy costs. Additionally, the grant will aid the Department of Public Works and the Fire Department in transitioning to electric landscaping equipment.





## A Message from Trustee Maciejewski and a reflection on 4 incredible years of service to the Village of Lancaster

I am so very proud of the advancements that have been made in the Human Resources Committee. The implementation of an Employee Assistance Program not only for Village Employees but also for Village Volunteer Firefighters. The program provides assistance to the members and their family for everything from Self Improvement to Emotional Support. The Village of Lancaster now works with Sheridan Benefits to provide care and knowledge to our employees in health care benefits and work as a mediator during sensitive situations. The Lancaster Beautification Committee was where I could roll up my sleeves and get into the dirt. Meeting and working side by side with gardeners and some who were garden imposters led to laughter and good times. Many hands make light work. I owe a debt of gratitude to Rich Groblewski and Julie Curtis for their dedication to beautify our Village and a special thanks to Peggy Riexinger. Special Events that included Fall Fest, Independence Day Celebrations, New Years Eve Ball Drop and even the return of the St. Patrick's Day parade (thanks to Bill Skubis). They all brought joy and recognition to our community. Safety Committee was responsible for great moments such as working with Past Chief John Burke and the Safety Committee to purchase and install hydrant markers on over 300 hydrants within the Village. Past Chief Stonebraker and Past Chief Stencel, both of you took the time to educate me on the Fire Dept. and to this day, being a part of your inspections and installation ceremonies has been a highlight and truly rewarding. Accomplishments of Firefighters Park and the displaying of the Past Chief banners were monumental in giving thanks for all that they do for each and every one of us. Being able to sit down and target the needs of the fire department and work towards supplying new radios, the ordering of Engine 2 and developing a program to Recruit, Retain and Reward our firefighters are just a few of the positives that came to fruition. Street signs have been installed in neighborhoods where children with autism reside, to assist in keeping them safe. The planting of a tree at Veterans Park on Arbor Day in honor of a past Commander from our local VFW are moments I treasure. Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the Village of Lancaster and hearing the stories of so many families and what a profound impact they have made on our community. From decorating the village buildings to assisting in scheduling the speakers of our speaker series, the positive comments were endless. I am grateful to have worked alongside Mayor Lynne Ruda to promote the growth and development of the Central Business District along with businesses throughout the Village. I have never known a Mayor or any Municipal leader to immerse themselves so deeply into their work as a government leader. Lynne has moved mountains and the Village of Lancaster is a better place because of her devotion. Early in my term, a colleague encouraged me "To find my voice". I am forever grateful for that advice and opportunity. To the new members of the Village Board, I encourage you to do the same.



### 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 24th  
Monday, April 14th  
Monday, April 28nd  
Monday, May 12th  
Monday, June 9th  
Monday, June 23rd  
Monday, July 14th  
Monday, July 18th

\*The May 28th meeting has been 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@lancastervillageny.gov
Deputy Mayor & Trustee Cynthia A. Maciejewski	cmaciejewski@lancastervillageny.gov
Trustee John Mikoley	jmikoley@lancastervillageny.gov
Trustee Tammie Malone Schaefer	tschaefer@lancastervillageny.gov
Trustee William Schroeder	wschroeder@lancastervillageny.gov
Fire Chief Eric Feldmann	efeldmann@lancasterfd.org
Events	events@lancastervillageny.gov
Village Justice Court	716-683-6780