



# The News of MENANDS ACTIVITIES

Published by the Village of Menands



280 Broadway, Menands, NY 12204  
Web Address: [www.villageofmenands.com](http://www.villageofmenands.com)

Village Office Tel. 518-434-2922

Sheila M. Hyatt, Editor

April 9, 2021 Email address: [activities@villageofmenands.com](mailto:activities@villageofmenands.com)

Like us on Facebook @VillageOfMenands

## VILLAGE OFFICE IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Village of Menands Clerk's Office reopened to the public April 5, 2021, with the regular office hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. Social distancing guidelines will be in place to protect the safety of our staff and the public. Masks must be worn before entering the building. In order to adhere to the 6ft. social distancing guidelines, only two members of the public will be allowed in the office at the same time. Only office personnel will be allowed access past the front counter. The dropbox will remain in the vestibule, for those not wanting to enter the office, which is available during office hours. After hours, the public may drop items off in the mail slot next to the main entrance. We ask that any matters that can be handled over the phone, please call the Village office at 518-434-2922 for assistance, instead of appearing in person. All public meetings will continue virtually until further notice. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we navigate through these difficult times.

## VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

The next Village Board Meeting is scheduled for **April 19, 2021**. The meeting will be held virtual google meet starting at **6:00 p.m.** The Governor may extend it again. This will be posted on the Village Website. If you have any questions or would like to submit a question or statement ahead of time to be read into the record at the meeting, please email Clerk Don Handerhan no later than **April 19, 2021 noon** at [handerhand@villageofmenands.com](mailto:handerhand@villageofmenands.com)

## VILLAGE OF MENANDS ELECTION

The General Election for the Village of Menands will be held on **Tuesday, June 15, 2021** between the hours of 12 noon and 9:00 P.M. at which time the Village Justice and two Trustees are to be elected for a four-year term to commence pursuant to law upon their qualifications and no earlier than July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Absentee ballot applications are available at the Village Office and on the Website. Absentee Ballot applications are to be returned to Menands Village Office. You can postmark, email or fax a completed application or letter request for the Village Election Absentee ballot no later than 7 days (June 9, 2021) before the election.

**(Please be aware that despite the above deadlines, the Post Office has advised that they cannot guarantee timely delivery of ballots applied for LESS THAN 15 DAYS BEFORE AN ELECTION.)**

## MENANDS FIRE CO. #1. INC.

The next meeting of the Menands Fire Co.#1, Inc will be held on **May 4, 2021** in person at the firehouse. Meeting time is 8:00 p.m.

## PARK RESERVATIONS

To reserve the Park between May 1, 2021 and October 31, 2021 (weather permitting please contact the Village Office at (518) 434-2922 for instructions on reserving the park this year, as they may be different from other years due to the pandemic. To reserve the park, you must be a resident or business within the Village of Menands. The rental fee is \$50.00 plus \$100.00 deposit (the deposit is refundable if rules and regulations are adhered to). The \$150.00, application and a Certificate of Insurance from your Homeowners, Renters or business insurance policy (as outlined on reservation application) must be submitted to secure your reservation. Park reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. **Reservations are subject to cancellation or modification in compliance with NYS guidelines**, (with a full refund), to ensure public health and safety. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Village Office at (518)434-2922.

## MENANDS SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS & BUDGET WORKSHOP

The Board of Education meeting has been **rescheduled to Wednesday April 21 at 6:30 PM**. The meetings continue to be conducted virtually; information on how to participate can be found at [www.menands.org](http://www.menands.org). In addition to the regularly scheduled meetings, there are Budget Workshops scheduled for **Monday April 12th & Monday April 19th**. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to participate.

The Board is seeking input from the public regarding the possibility of shortening the board term length from 5 years to 3 years; if you would like to share your thoughts, please complete the brief survey at the following link: <https://forms.gle/jBfAs7RRofgDYv326> Information about running for the Board of education can also be found on our web page: <https://www.menands.org/info-on-running-for-school-board/>.

## MENANDS SCHOOL SEEKING FULL TIME CUSTODIAN – NIGHT SHIFT

Monday-Friday 2:00 pm -10:00 pm, Competitive salary and benefit Package, Deadline for applying 4/12/2021

- Working knowledge of building cleaning practices
- Ability to follow verbal and written instructions
- Ability to get along with others
- Thoroughness, Dependability, Good physical condition
- Fingerprint check required

Please send resume or letter of interest along with 3 references to: [Humanresources@menands.org](mailto:Humanresources@menands.org) or call 518-465-4561 ext. 101 An Application can be obtained on our website [www.menands.org](http://www.menands.org)

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration for September 2021 began in March. Children are eligible to register for kindergarten if they will turn five **before** December 1, 2021. Please visit our website to complete the “Kindergarten Registration Fall 2021” survey to start the registration process or call 518-465-4561 ext. 215 and speak with our registrar, Ms. Calderon. You can also visit our website, [www.menands.org](http://www.menands.org) for more information.

## MENANDS SCHOOL PTA

HELLO MENANDS! Our Menands School PTA is holding a virtual 5k in May! You do not have to attend the school or be a member to participate and the best part is that you can do it ANYTIME IN MAY! To register please visit <https://menandsschool.memberhub.store/store> by April 12th: 5K - \$20 (includes mask and water bottle) The 1 mile and fun run are FREE!! Please keep an eye out for more updates on our 5K as we get closer and if you have any questions feel free to reach out to the PTA [menandsschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:menandsschoolpta@gmail.com).

## MENANDS BASEBALL

Registration is now open for the 2021 Menands T-ball and Coed baseball league. Please visit [www.Menandsbaseball.org](http://www.Menandsbaseball.org) to enroll. T-ball is coed ages 3-6. Minor coed coach pitch baseball is ages 6-8. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Karyn Long Steurer at 518-496-2411 or email [Menandsbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:Menandsbaseball@gmail.com). We are always looking for volunteers!

## SENIOR CLUB NEWS

During the COVID-19 PANDEMIC, Senior Club Meetings and Senior Gatherings have been cancelled. Hopefully, now with the vaccine, we will be able to reopen. Diane has been in touch with Bethany Church’s contact, we are waiting to receive clearance from the Church. OUR FIRST TRIP FOR 2021 THERE ARE STILL A FEW SEATS!! FINGER LAKES, NEW YORK, MAY 16-18, 2021. INCLUDES: 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners, including 9 other places, gift, luggage handling, all taxes and meal gratuities, and motor coach transportation. Bus leaves Menands at 7:00am. Questions, please call Diane Leonard at (518)465-3771.

## MENANDS PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Menands Public Library is open for service! Please wear a mask and respect social distancing! Drop in at any time during our regularly scheduled hours:

**Mon.:** 12:00 noon – 8:00 p.m., **Tues.:** 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Wed.:** 12:00 noon – 8:00 p.m., **Thurs.:** 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Fri.:** 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m. **Sat.:** 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Sun.:** Closed. **Phone:** (518) 463-4035

### **NOTICE: EXPIRED LIBRARY CARDS**

Patrons are being contacted that their library card has or is going to expire. Don’t worry this is a routine procedure! Please come to the library to renew your card. Due to the pandemic, you can also renew your card **over the phone!** Call Laura at the library and she can help you!

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

#### Adult Services:

Menands Book Clubs Meeting (Tuesday April 13th, 7:00-8:00) The first meeting of the Menands Public Library book club will be held **virtually** on Tuesday April 13th, 7:00-8:00. This will be an informational meeting where we go over the rules for the club as well as choose our first book! If you are interested, please call

## MENANDS LIBRARY (continued)

the library and ask to speak to Laura or email her at [menandslibraryactivities@gmail.com](mailto:menandslibraryactivities@gmail.com)

#### Youth Services:

Creative Writing Contest for Kids (ages 5-15 yrs.): All genres and stories welcome! Please submit your writing samples to the staff at the Menands Public Library. First winner will get a \$10 gift card, second and third winners will receive a prize. **LAST DAY TO SUBMIT APRIL 16th, 2021!** Winners will be announced on April 22nd.

#### LITERARY QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

“Spring drew on...and a greenness grew over those brown beds, which, freshening daily, suggested the thought that Hope traversed them at night, and left each morning brighter traces of her steps.”

— Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

## LETTER OF THANKS

An open letter of thanks, from the other side of the tracks...It occurred to me last night, during my 2 a.m. trip to the bathroom, that I needed to thank the persons responsible for making Menands a quiet zone to the D&H railroad during the evening hours. Those of us living on the “other side of the tracks” can finally get a good night’s sleep without the excessive horn from the midnight train runs. You remember that horn, the one that bolted you upright from bed at ungodly hours of the night, then you would toss and turn unable to resume your sleep, just about to finally nod off when in the distance you could feel the tremble of another ensuing quake. Generations of Menands residents relocated with PTSD from life on the tracks. Those of us with a “front row seat” (and God bless Villa Road households), grumbled for generations about the rumble of those trains. Think back to the large Menands families that grew up in this neighborhood. An unknowing traveler may rationalize they filled those large Victorian houses with enough kids to fill the rafters. But the reality may have a direct correlation to those late night train horns...think about it, what else to do to lull a tired soul back to slumber? Those of you not living on the tracks may think this a trivial matter, however, with the “quiet zone” we can finally obtain a peaceful night’s sleep. Additionally, our property value has increased. You have no idea how many generations of “village people” have been traumatized by that late night horn. We believed it was a D&H engineer’s sole purpose to cause as much nightly disruption as possible and we are certain they laughed at their antics at our expense. Many days/evenings trying to lull an irritable baby to sleep walking her in the stroller down Villa Road, I can recall bolting, I’m talking a full-on run, down Villa to close the gap between a baby on the cusp of sleep and an ensuing locomotive. And summertime, that time of year we all opened windows to enjoy the sweet summer air...are you insane? That’s the reason many of these large Victorians have been retrofitted with air conditioners, to keep that horn out! I recall how we’d lose the entire t-ball team to watching those trains rather than fielding the ball or swinging the bat. But that’s what made Menands, Menands. Our “urban village”. It’s quaint, it’s caring, and finally it’s quiet. Thank you.

Sincerely, Cathy Probst

Items to be included in the next edition of the Menands Activities dated April 23, 2021 **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IN THE VILLAGE OFFICE AFTER 9 A.M. MONDAY, April 19, 2021.** Please indicate item is for the Menands Activities.