



Mayoral Community Message

May 15, 2023

Dear Scarsdale Community,

Happy Spring! As I begin my term as mayor, I want to express my gratitude for your support and for your participation in making our community such a wonderful place to live.

The spirit of volunteerism that permeates Scarsdale is extraordinary. On our Village Boards and Councils alone, we have over 175 individuals giving their time to support the work of our local government. Our civic organizations are full of thoughtful and dedicated residents as well. Similarly, the schools have countless volunteers supporting their work through the PTAs and other school-related groups. Tomorrow is the vote on the school budget and the school board election. I encourage all residents who are eligible to vote at Scarsdale Middle School from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm.

At our Village Board meeting on May 9th, Police Chief Andrew Matturro updated the community on the car theft rings that are affecting our area. In addition to proactive efforts by our Police Department to address this issue, Chief Matturro shared important tips on how we can all work to deter these criminals from targeting our homes. Please read our recent [press release](#) which includes these tips. I encourage you to remain vigilant and to call our police department should you see anything suspicious. Please call the police non-emergency line at 914-722-1200 or, in the event of an emergency, dial 911.

I also urge residents to ensure they are registered to receive emergency communications from the Village. Even if you believe that you are already in the system, please log-in to confirm that your information is correct. The School District and Village's emergency communication systems are not the same and registration lists are not shared. Residents must sign up for both. More information on signing up for Blackboard Connect through the Village as well as other ways to stay informed can be found [here](#).

Project Updates

Here are highlights from some of the important projects also discussed at our recent board meetings.

Municipal Pool Complex

Given the estimated cost and scale of this project, the Board determined that additional due diligence was needed. In-depth interviews are underway with municipal staff at pool complexes in several comparable communities throughout the country to analyze best practices, design plans, and sustainable models, as well as other financial and operational considerations. The findings from this phase will complement the consultant work recently completed and will help to inform our next steps for the project. We expect to have our next update for the community this summer.

Paving Progress

Maintaining our roadways and pathways is a priority and the board has recently made additional budget allocations to these efforts. This spring we paved East Parkway, Christie Place, and sections of Chase Road in our Village Center. We've also paved and are continuing to pave several residential streets this month, with more anticipated for the fall. Many thanks to our hard-working public works employees for making this possible.

Water Main Flushing

The Water Department is wrapping up its annual [water main flushing](#) this week in the following areas: East Heathcote, Secor Farms, the remainder of West Quaker Ridge, Scarsdale Meadows, Quaker Ridge, and Colonial Acres neighborhoods. Slight discoloration may occur during the flushing period but will settle out in a short time. Though the water is safe for consumption, it may stain clothes if washed in it. Residents should anticipate discolored water during the day and early evening.

May Celebrations

The month of May is full of celebrations. Cinco de Mayo took place earlier this month, and May is Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Older Americans Month, Jewish American Heritage Month, and Mental Health Awareness Month. More information on these celebrations can be found on our website [here](#). Additionally, this week, May 14th to May 20th, 2023, is Food Allergy Awareness week in Scarsdale. I would also like to wish all the mothers and mother figures in our lives a happy Mother's Day! Thank you to the Village's Advisory Council on Human Relations for their assistance in ensuring we acknowledge these celebrations. This council will continue to help us organize important celebrations and holidays to announce at our first Village Board meeting each month.

Specific to mental health awareness, I hope that we can all do our part to reduce the stigma that still surrounds mental health. If you or anyone you know are worried about their mental well-being, there are resources available and people who are willing to help. Locally, Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling is an extraordinary resource and available for support. They no longer have a waiting list for

their services and can be contacted at 914-723-3281. The National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is available 24/7 and can be reached at 988.

I want to also draw attention to the SAY Coalition’s free Narcan training sessions May 22 (7-8pm) and June 8 (12-1pm) at the Scarsdale Public Library. According to the CDC and NIH, “Nearly 50,000 people died from an opioid-involved overdose in 2019. One study found that bystanders were present in more than one in three overdoses involving opioids. With the right tools, bystanders can act to prevent overdose deaths. Anyone can carry [Narcan], give it to someone experiencing an overdose, and potentially save a life.” Registration for these trainings can be found [here](#). Thank you to SAY for providing this important training.



This evening, I am attending Westchester County Board of Legislators’ Board Meeting where we will celebrate Asian-American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Two individuals will be honored by the Board of Legislators for their achievements and contributions. One such individual is Scarsdale’s own Village Trustee, Sameer Ahuja, who was chosen for his outstanding achievements as a technology entrepreneur and dedication to the Scarsdale community. Our County Legislator, Ben Boykin, has declared tomorrow, May 16, 2023, as “Sameer Ahuja Day” in Westchester County. Please join me in congratulating Sameer!

And, congratulations are in order to our High School Seniors who will be graduating next month as well as our Fifth and Eighth Graders who are also reaching important milestones.

Upcoming Events

Summer will be with us in the blink of an eye, but Scarsdale still has so much to offer in the remaining weeks of Spring. I hope you will join me and your neighbors at these upcoming events.

Pool Opening Day | Sat. May 27 | 9AM | Scarsdale Municipal Pool Complex

The Scarsdale Pool will open for the season on Saturday May 27 at 9AM. Stay cool all summer long and enjoy one of our four beautiful pools, surrounded by natural beauty. Or, if you’re not a swimmer, relax with a book and enjoy refreshments from our concession stand. Permits are available [online](#) or in person at the [Recreation Office](#). Call 914-722-1160 for more information.

Memorial Day Parade | Mon. May 29 | 10AM | Boniface Circle



American Legion Post 52 invites you all to attend the annual Memorial Day Parade. The parade will begin and end on Chase Road between Boniface Circle and Chase Park. It will be followed by a ceremony at the Memorial Garden on Mamaroneck Road (next to the pool complex). I hope everyone will come out for this important occasion to remember our fallen heroes and the ultimate sacrifice they’ve made for the good of our country.

Scarsdale Music Festival | Sat. June 03 | Noon-7PM | Village Center

The [Scarsdale Music Festival](#) is back with incredible live performers on two stages, over a dozen food

vendors in addition to our great downtown restaurants, and a variety of beer, wine, and spirits. Kids will love the upgraded family fun zone on Harwood Court. You won't want to miss this event! We are grateful to the Scarsdale Business Alliance for their hard work to make this event available for our community.

Farmers Market | Every Sunday, June 04 – November 19 | 9AM-1PM | Village Center

Take advantage of local farm-fresh produce, cheese, and other delicious goods for sale - right here in our Village Center! Your charcuterie boards and fruit salads will look and taste better than ever. A Sunday Farmers Market is something residents have been requesting for many years. Please show your support by attending and making a purchase.

I hope to see you around the Village or at one of the many scheduled events soon!

Please always feel free to reach out by e-mail (mayor@scarsdale.com) with your thoughts on any topic.

Sincerely,



Justin Arest
Mayor