

9.11.2020

Dear Pine Plains,

I cannot begin this letter without a moment of silence for all the lives lost and for those who lost. I did not lose my sister or my nephew, because they were able to get out of World Trade 1. I did lose my friend Lt. Peter Farrenkopf, whose fire truck was one of the first sent in. I worry about other friends who were there as First Responders, and for whom the effects have manifested in their health. A few of them live in Pine Plains, more in the Hudson Valley. I will never forget this day and I trust those who lived through it even from afar will never forget.

#### Moment of silence.

There is much to do in Pine Plains this weekend. Here is your bullet list with updates:

- **TOWN CLEAN-UP DAY: 8AM-3PM** If you are a senior, your items must be OUT of your house for virus protection for volunteers. Call Matt Zick if you need volunteers and a pickup to come: 845-705-5533. He is coordinating. Items taken, and prices for some, are on our website at [www.pineplains-ny.gov](http://www.pineplains-ny.gov)
- **FILL OUT YOUR CENSUS:** You do NOT need an ID number, even though the site asks for it. Just click on “Don’t have a number” !! [www.myCensus2020.com](http://www.myCensus2020.com)
- **PARTICIPATE IN THE POLICE REFORM LISTENING SESSION: 3-5PM** You must sign up to speak, or you can just listen, at [DutchessNY.gov/PoliceReform](http://DutchessNY.gov/PoliceReform). They are looking for good ideas to help all departments work together in Dutchess County with good policies that promote de-escalation and understanding addiction and mental illness, among other things. Crime in Pine Plains is most often tied to drug and alcohol abuse, and our town police force is diverse and trained to de-escalate, to prevent, and to help. All but one of them live here, grew up here, and/or raise their kids here. Their work is their investment in our community.
- **FILL OUT YOUR BROADBAND SURVEY:** Open [www.speedtest.net](http://www.speedtest.net) in a separate window BEFORE you do the survey, and you will be able to test your internet speed a few times, thereby figuring out an average. Remember, the survey format does not accept decimals. (I found that my speed went down drastically when it rains—from 215/37 to 68/35, download/upload. You might be paying for a faster speed and not getting it.) Ethernet will test differently than WIFI—that’s OK, don’t worry, we are factoring that in.
- **GO SEE THE FLAG DISPLAY AT STANFORD TOWN HALL, COMMEMORATING 9/11:** Route 82 on the front lawn there.
- **GO TO THE OPENING OF THE ALL-NEW DUTCH’S SPIRITS:** and meet the new owners, tour the grounds, hear what is in store, and pick up on some fascinating history. 12-7 Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Ryan Road, just north of town. You can sit in the Adirondack chairs and sip a drink and eat wood-fired pizza too.

The Town Board currently has on its plate many projects: Broadband for all, the Sewer Feasibility Study, 8 & 12 N Main, Police Reform, Covid-19 oversight, Budget 2021, an upcoming Zoning Review, and the ever-constant repairs on buildings and roads.

And speaking of bears, there have been a few sightings over around Beach and Lake Roads.

Come on out, Pine Plains! And watch for bears!

Darrah Cloud