

# THE RIVERTOWNS Enterprise

The Hometown Newspaper of Hastings-on-Hudson, Dobbs Ferry, Ardsley and Irvington

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JIM MACLEAN/RIVERTOWNS ENTERPRISE

### They're back

For the first time since March, students returned to school this week, including Springhurst Elementary in Dobbs Ferry (pictured above). Classes resumed in Dobbs Ferry on Sept. 8 and in Ardsley on Sept. 10. Hastings and Irvington, which started with remote learning, plan to transition to in-person lessons on Sept. 21.

## Due to fewer polling sites, other options beckon voters

By Jackie Lupo

REGION — Following the chaos during the primary on June 23, with long lines at a reduced number of voting locations and widespread confusion about where to cast ballots, there are efforts underway to avoid a similar scenario on Nov. 3.

"It is an extremely challenging situation," Hastings Mayor Niki Armacost told the Enterprise on Sept. 3, after learning that there would be just one polling place in Hastings, at the James Harmon Community Center on Main Street. It was unclear whether residents who normally vote at the Andrus on Hudson nursing home on South Broadway, or at one of the neighborhood firehouses in Hastings, would be able to vote at the community center.

As of the morning of Sept. 9, the Westchester County Board of Elections had not posted a list of voting locations in the county.

"It really should not be this difficult to assure people their voting rights are safe here in Westchester County," Armacost said. "Given all the confusion, I strongly urge all residents to vote early in person if they can, as early voting locations have been clearly defined."

Irvington is in an even worse situation.

"As of today, there aren't any polling places in Irvington for the November election," Mayor Brian Smith told the Enterprise on Sept. 3. "The village board of trustees is working with the County Board of Elections, through our County Legislator MaryJane Shimsky and the County Executive [George Latimer] to try and get at least one polling place for November. We tried the same thing for the June primaries, but were un-

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## Town prepares for another reassessment

By Jackie Lupo

REGION — When Greenburgh and its six incorporated villages had their first townwide reassessment in 50 years, back in 2016, the process touched off challenges from residents who contended that their properties had been inaccurately revalued, resulting in unfair tax increases.

Now it's time for another such reassessment, to be conducted with the assistance of Tyler Technologies, as in 2016. But it's unlikely that this time residents will experience the same level of assessment shock as in 2016, as assessments have been updated at full market value since then.

According to Town Assessor Edey McCarthy, who provided an overview of the coming reassessment at the Sept. 1 Hastings Board of Trustees meeting, the Town passed a law in 2016 requiring a townwide reassessment every four to five years. "The Town decided that [50-year] cycle was a little too long," she joked. But it was no joke to homeowners whose properties had been under the radar for decades, and who were billed thousands of dollars more in real estate taxes as a result of the reassessment.

Now the Town is preparing for the 2021 reassessment, which will examine the values of properties between July 1,

2020, and June 30, 2021. The results will be reflected in owners' 2022 tax bills.

By the end of this month, property owners should have received a data mailer with detailed information about their property. McCarthy noted that it's important to read the information on the mailer carefully and to correct any factual errors.

McCarthy did not anticipate big shifts in 2021, but clarified that this year will be different from 2016 in that the Tyler Technologies' representatives will not enter people's houses, due to the pandemic. They will only photograph the exteriors

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