

THE RIVERTOWNS Enterprise

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

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Historic theater to receive HVAC system

By Jackie Lupo



TIM LAMORTE/RIVERTOWNS ENTERPRISE FILE PHOTO

George Croom and Rene O'Neal perform during the Clocktower Players' one-night-only production of "Ain't Misbehavin'" at the Irvington Theater on Sept. 15, 2018.

IRVINGTON — The Village of Irvington plans to air condition the century-old Irvington Theater, with an expected opening in early to middle 2022. Funding from New York State will cover \$625,000 of the \$1 million price tag.

A new HVAC (heating/ventilating/air conditioning) system was part of the plan for a larger overhaul of the IT, with a glass atrium-style lobby on Main Street to replace the unimposing entrance on North Ferris Street. Covid-19 stalled the launch of a major fundraising effort for the overall project, but the pandemic underscored the need for a climate control system to ventilate and filter the air in the auditorium. In fact, it was clear the theater would not reopen without it.

Mayor Brian Smith said on July 30 that he reached out to state Assemblyman Tom Abinanti a few weeks earlier about possible funding. Abinanti promised \$125,000, and recommended contacting New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. Smith took Abinanti's advice. Stewart-Cousins then delivered a promise for \$500,000.

"Now we can start the process of getting the plans drawn up without looking for other sources of funding," Smith said. "We've talked about this since the '80s, but it was too big a ticket item, and there was always something more pressing."

The remaining costs — about \$375,000 — will come from the Village's general fund.

"Everybody in the theater industry has been upgrading their air systems," said Smith, who runs a hedge fund and was co-producer of the Broadway musical "Once on This Island," winner of the 2018 Tony Award for Best Musical Revival.

Smith said the renovations would be done "with appreciation and respect for the historic nature of the building they're going into." The large components of the system will be installed in an inconspicuous location on the roof at the rear of the building, with existing mechanical equipment.

Theater manager Greg Allen said that

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Board rejects waiving, reducing tax penalties

By Nicholas Perrone

GREENBURGH — The Greenburgh Town Board rejected a resolution proposed by Town Supervisor Paul Feiner on July 27 seeking to refund penalties and interest to 1,454 residents who didn't receive tax bills due to a software glitch.

The resolution, which was presented but not seconded for a vote by the board, would have reduced interest and penalties to 2 percent and would have refunded any penalties paid above 2 percent after April 30 but before Aug. 1. Late payment penalties are 2 percent in May, but increase to 5 percent in June and July and 7 percent in

It's very unfair that maybe somebody didn't get a bill, but that's not a good enough reason not to pay your taxes.

Greenburgh Tax Receiver Anne Povella

August and September.

According to the Town's systems manager, Dipak Pandya, an indexing error in the Property Assessment System (PAS), which is maintained by Software Consulting Associates (SCA), erroneously added

bank codes to 1,454 random properties within the Town's database. When a bank code is assigned to a property, the tax bill is digitally forwarded to the bank so it can

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