

Mayra Kirkendall-Rodriguez, Fox Meadow Road

This evening, I come wearing more hats than a milliner. First, with my hat as Co-Chair of the Scarsdale Committee for Fair Assessments, I would like to encourage you to make public the consultant's report evaluating the condition of the Assessor's as soon as possible. Anyone who followed the Ryan reval debacle that exploded in June of 2016 is aware that according to emails foiled from the Assessor's office, there are significant abuses and irregularities in that office, which continue to adversely impact hundreds of over assessed families in Scarsdale. Additionally, I personally know three families who moved out due to the Ryan reval and two others are trying to move out as well. Members of the Committee for Fair Assessments are very concerned that this year there has been practically nothing uttered by the mayor, trustees or Village personnel about when there will be another reval to rectify the tremendous damage inflicted to hundreds of residents. Bridges will **never** be mended as long as smaller homeowners are forced to subsidize large homeowners due to the disastrous Ryan reval that was self-inflicted by previous boards.

Secondly, as officers of the Old Scarsdale Neighborhood Association, my husband Brice and I would like to thank Scarsdale Police Chief Andrew Maturro and his hardworking colleagues for being attentive to our concerns about significant driving problems on Fox Meadow Road, Crane Road, and East Parkway. On those roads, we repeatedly have seen drivers speeding, running stop signs while people are in the middle of crosswalks, and driving past stopped school buses while the bus drivers are collecting or dropping off children. After writing to Scarsdale police about these problems, there have been increased patrols on Fox Meadow Road in the mornings as children are collected by bus drivers. Last week, we witnessed a police officer stopping a driver on Fox Meadow Road who had sped by a stopped school bus. Thanks, Mr. Mayor for mentioning the problem of entitled drivers who speed past stopped school buses.

Despite the best efforts of our police, however, they cannot be omnipresent. This is a main reason that my husband Brice and I have been working with Madelaine Eppenstein, chair of the Scarsdale Forum's Municipal Services Committee, in designing and distributing a pedestrian, cyclist, and traffic survey which can be found at (www.ScarsdaleTrafficSurvey.com).

Under Madelaine's dedicated leadership, the Municipal Services Committee wrote a report two years ago about various traffic challenges in our village. The traffic survey is an important addition to that report, because Scarsdale Village officials and personnel need our community's views about walking, driving, cycling, or parking challenges throughout Scarsdale. Once the survey closes on November 30th, the Municipal Services Committee will analyze survey results in order to write a report to advocate for improvements in areas cited by respondents.

We encourage all residents to participate in filling out this brief survey, www.ScarsdaleTrafficSurvey.com. So far, over 540 residents have responded, and we thank them for helping us work on making Scarsdale a safer place for anyone who walks, drives, or cycles here.

Thirdly, as Co-Chair of the Education Committee, I invite those present and residents at home to the annual State of the Schools at 7:30 pm at the Scarsdale Library. This is a very good opportunity to hear a presentation by Scarsdale Schools superintendent Dr. Thomas Hagerman and Board of Education President Bill Natbony. After the presentation, there is a Question and Answer session where all audience members are invited to participate.

Lastly, as Co-chair of the Fox Meadow Multicultural Committee, I would like to thank Trustees Deborah Pekarek and Matthew Callaghan for attending the annual Fox Meadow Multicultural Breakfast. Fox Meadow parents were pleased to meet you. Personally, I thank you for leaving the dais to come to meet an important and enriching segment of Scarsdale, representative of the 25% of Scarsdale residents who are foreign born and or ethnic minorities. I invite you Mr. Mayor, Trustees, and Messrs. Pappalardo and Cole to attend the Multicultural Fair on February 2, 2018. Like in the previous two years, I will chair the table for Mexico, a country which these days seems to be so far from God, and yet not far enough from the Trump administration.

I thank all of you for your time and efforts. And I wish you a good Thanksgiving.