

# VILLAGE OF KINDERHOOK



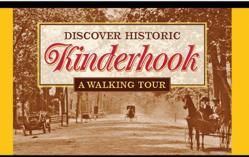
Kinderhook Farmers' Market













# DISCOVER THE OPPORTUNITIES



Mills Park Monarch Butterfly Habitat

CONCERTS IN THE VILLAGE



The School | Jack Shainman Gallery



# VILLAGE OF KINDERHOOK — DISCOVER THE OPPORTUNITIES

# **OUR SHARED VISION**

The Village of Kinderhook will be an attractive, vibrant, and inviting place to live, work and visit. The Village has unique historic character and exceptional aesthetic beauty that are critical to our future community, character, economy, and quality of life. Residents and visitors alike will value and enjoy our preserved history, our healthy environment, our secure and well-maintained neighborhoods and parks, and the friendly, small-town feel of our community. Our Village economy will be strong and diverse, with a Village center that serves as the focal point of a robust local economy and a hub of recreational and cultural activity. Municipal services and infrastructure will be effective, efficient, and well maintained. For all these reasons and more our Village will be a desirable and sought after place to live, to raise a family, to do business, and to visit.

[Source: Village of Kinderhook Comprehensive Plan Update 2016]

# AN ATTRACTIVE CLIMATE FOR INVESTORS

The Village of Kinderhook's remarkable mix of an intact 19<sup>th</sup>-century walkable business district, a safe environment for families, a well-educated community with a higher-than-average percentage of workers in the executive, management, and professional occupations, and a variety of existing and planned lifestyle amenities offers an attractive climate for investors.

# AT THE INTERSECTION OF MULTIPLE MARKETS

The Village of Kinderhook offers a low-key yet high-traffic location for start-ups and established businesses seeking to expand into the area. Located on busy Route 9 on the main artery from I-90, traveling north is an easy drive to the Capital Region. Traveling south provides access to Greenport, the Town of Hudson, Rhinebeck, and Greene and Dutchess counties. The Berkshires are just a short drive to the east.

# A REAL-ESTATE MARKET ON THE MOVE

The Village of Kinderhook is made up of 635 properties. The historic core of the village, which includes the business district, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and designated as a Preserve America Community. Property ownership is comprised of a healthy mix of fulltime residents and second-home buyers. From 2015 to 2017 overall sales increased by 123%.\*

<sup>\*</sup> Yearly property sales from 2015 to 2016 increased by 30%. From 2016 to 2017 yearly sales increased by 70%.

# INFRASTRUCTURE, STREETSCAPE, AND OTHER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS MAKE KINDERHOOK A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK

- Wastewater Disposal System. A recently completed municipal wastewater-disposal system, serving thirty-three properties in Kinderhook's business district, opened up new possibilities for a dynamic mix of commercial use. Funding for the wastewater system was provided by the New York State Community Development Block Grant program and a shared municipal-services incentives grant.
- Streetscape Improvements. A strong commitment by village government, in partnership with donations from the community and state and federal grants, has supported a forward-leaning program that includes street-tree planting, sidewalk extension/connectivity, new historic-style signage, replacement of historic street signs, park and playground improvements, seasonal landscaping, installation of a butterfly habitat and new street furniture, plans for an electric-charging station and historic-style lighting in the municipal parking lot, and proposed traffic-calming measures consistent with smart-growth development.
- Village Hall and Van Buren Hall. The commitment to keeping municipal-government, law-enforcement, and court functions at the center of the community has been assured through upgrades to historic Village Hall, including the recently completed roof replacement. The recent renaming of the second floor of Village Hall as Van Buren Hall underscores the importance of this historic space as a community asset. Planned upgrades to electrical service and other interior improvements will encourage increased use of Van Buren Hall for classes, lectures, concerts, performances, and private functions that will attract greater numbers of local and regional users.

# LIFESTYLE HIGH POINTS

- Scenic and Low-trafficked Rural Roads. The open landscape and quiet roads just outside the village attract bikers, walkers, and runners.
- Albany-Hudson Electric Trail. A section of the shared-use pedestrian and bicycling trail that will be part of the Empire State Trail will run through Kinderhook, with a trailhead located in the village. To be completed by 2020.
- Kinderhook Farmers' Market and Samascott's Garden Market and Orchards. The farmers' market is located in the village square from May to October. Local farms and artisan food producers are within walking distance of the village center.
- Kinderhook Creek. In 2017 the Village of Kinderhook spearheaded the designation of the 47-milelong Kinderhook Creek as a New York State Inland Waterway. Currently seeking grant support in collaboration with the Town of Kinderhook, Town of Stuyvesant, and Village of Valatie for a study and plan for construction of public-access points and amenities for kayaking, birding, and fishing.
- **Rothermel Park.** Playground, tennis and basketball courts, and Little League ballpark.
- Healthy Lifestyle Classes for Adults and Children in Van Buren Hall. Yoga, ballroom dancing, Zumba, Zumba Gold, and Story Time on the Loose organized by Kinderhook Memorial Library.

# NEW BUSINESSES FIND OPPORTUNITY IN KINDERHOOK

Between 2014 and 2017 Kinderhook has welcomed twelve new businesses: Broad Street Bagel Company, Claverack Cooperative Insurance Co., Dyad Wine Bar, Eat. Sip. Smile, Fitzsimmons & Mills P.C., Great Lengths Unisex Hair Salon, Hands of Bleu, Maple Hill Creamery, N.P. Trent Antiques, Simons Catering, The Flammerie, and The School I Jack Shainman Gallery.

# A COMMUNITY READY FOR MORE

The village's 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update surveyed residents for the types of businesses they would support. Residents' answers were consistent with a community seeking to have a greater and more diverse selection of retail and associated businesses at the center of community life. At the top of the list were more and varied dining and food establishments, lodging, entertainment options, unique gift shops, and specialty stores with locally made products meeting residents' needs and serving as attractions for destination tourists.

# A REGIONAL HUB FOR CULTURE, HISTORY, HERITAGE TOURISM, AND THE ARTS

Located at the village's center and nearby are institutions, cultural attractions, and historic sites that illuminate the history of Kinderhook and the Hudson Valley, educate and engage its residents, and attract heritage and arts visitors from around the region and beyond.

- Kinderhook Memorial Library. The library serves a user population of approximately 64,000 visitors per year from Kinderhook, Niverville, Castleton, Ghent, Valatie, and Schodack Landing. The library and Friends of the Library host lectures, films, book groups, world-music series, and teen and toddler programs. Construction of a new reading room was completed in 2017. The library currently is undertaking a \$2.4 million expansion of its facility to 6,400 square feet that is due to be completed in 2018.
- Columbia County Historical Society. CCHS is an organization committed to the innovative interpretation of local history and preservation of significant historic assets. CCHS also serves as a center for historic and genealogical research. CCHS hosts exhibitions, lectures, tours, and educational events at its three properties the James Vanderpoel House, CCHS Museum and Library, and the Luykas Van Alen House.
- **Kinderhook's Historic District.** Listed on the National Register of Historic Places and designated a Preserve America Community.
- Village of Kinderhook Historic Walking Tour and Native Son: Martin Van Buren in Kinderhook. Two village-produced educational and interpretive walking-tour brochures distributed to regional historic sites.
- Persons of Color Cemetery. Designated a New York State Historic Site and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

- Martin Van Buren National Historic Site and Dutch Heritage Farming Trail. Attracting 20,000 plus regional and international visitors per year.
- Sister-City Relationship with Buren, the Netherlands. To be finalized in early 2018. Buren is the ancestral home of the Van Buren family the forebears of Kinderhook's native son, President Martin Van Buren, eighth president of the United States.
- The School I Jack Shainman Gallery. This 30,000-square-foot contemporary art space housed in the former Martin Van Buren School attracts arts aficionados and cultural tourists from New York City, the Northeast, and Europe, with an average annual visitation of 8,000 visitors.
- Concerts in the Village. Since 2015 this local group has presented classical choral and instrumental performances at various venues in Kinderhook, including the Dutch Reformed Church, The School I Jack Shainman Gallery, and Van Buren Hall. Enthusiastic audiences come from Columbia and Dutchess counties, the Capital Region, the Berkshires, and Connecticut.

## SPECIAL EVENTS ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND ATTRACT REGIONAL VISITORS

The Village of Kinderhook and the Kinderhook Business and Professional Association along with local organizations, such as Kinderhook Memorial Library, Friends of the Library, the Garden Club of Kinderhook, Columbia County Historical Society, and Concerts in the Village, plan and host unique special events for adults and children throughout the year.

These events have included Candlelight Night, OK Fall Festival, KinderhookWalks, Kinderhook Farmers' Market (May to October), July 4<sup>th</sup> People's Parade, Olde Kinderhook Craft Fair, Summer in the Square, Annual Muster and Parade, Columbia County Food Truck Village, now in its fourth year and attracting on average 3,000 regional visitors per event, Halloween and Easter parties, Friends of the Library book sales, Garden Stroll, Historic House Tour, Ghent Band series, and classical and choral concerts.

Cover photograph of The School courtesy of Jack Shainman Gallery.

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Farm Family Insurance 2 Broad Street 518.758.3276 www.farmfamily.com

Great Lengths Unisex Hair Salon 2 Chatham Street 518.610.0776

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