



**LINDA D. PUGLISI**  
Town Supervisor

# TOWN OF CORTLANDT

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## Press Release

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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For Immediate Release  
May 9, 2017

**The Historic Tollhouse is open May through October:  
Fridays and holiday Mondays from 10am-1pm  
and Saturdays and Sundays from 10am-4pm.**

The historic Tollhouse serves as the trailhead for the Camp Smith Trail, a 2.5-mile hike that leads to the top of Anthony's Nose. The Trail is moderately difficult and culminates at the top of "Anthony's Nose" overlooking the Bear Mountain Bridge. A beautiful view.

The grand opening of the historic Tollhouse was held on Sunday, September 22, 2002 and there was a reception following at the Monteverde Restaurant. Architecturally the Tollhouse is an excellent example for its time period and it was unique because of its use as a toll collection facility and home. The Bear Mountain Bridge, which opened to traffic on November 27, 1924, was the first bridge to span the Hudson River between Albany and New York City. The Harriman Family built it after the passing of a New York State legislative act in 1922 creating the Bear Mountain Hudson River Bridge Company. The private company also constructed Bear Mountain Road as a vehicular connection to the Bridge. The Road and Bridge were privately owned and tolls for such were collected at the Bear Mountain Road Tollhouse and at the Bridge itself. The one-story Tudor-style Tollhouse has a gabled slate roof, exposed timbers, and smooth stucco finish. The west bay of the Tollhouse housed the office and collection area for tolls. In 1940, the Bridge and Road were sold to the State of New York. Under ownership of the State, collection of tolls for the Road ceased and the Bear Mountain Road Tollhouse was essentially left vacant.

The Town of Cortlandt restored the Tollhouse on Route 6/202 (Bear Mountain Bridge Road) with NYS and Town of Cortlandt funds. The restored Tollhouse is used as a Tourist Information and Welcome Center. Display areas for local history, the history of the Tollhouse, and local organizations are located in the building. The Bear Mountain Bridge, Route 6/202 (Bear Mountain Bridge Road) and the Tollhouse are listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982 as part of the Hudson Highlands Multiple Resource listing. The Tollhouse is located at the beginning point of the designated Scenic Road, (Scenic Byways Program of the New York State Department of Transportation), portion of the Bear Mountain Road. The Tollhouse is located about 2.5 miles south of the Bear Mountain Bridge and backs up to the Camp Smith Military Reservation. The Building is a simple Tudor Style Tollhouse with a steep gabled slate roof, exposed half timbering and smooth stucco finish. The Tollhouse and Bear Mountain Road were constructed between 1923 and 1924 to connect the newly constructed Bear Mountain Bridge with Route 9.

Please drop in to see this historic tollhouse and pick up information about our region. It opens May 5, 2017 for the season and is open each weekend (Fri. – Sun.) through October.

“It was an honor to be part of this restoration for the historic Tollhouse. Governor George Pataki (Governor at the time) joined us for the dedication in 2002. Special thanks to our director, Laura Lee Keating, and to all of the dedicated volunteers who are present to speak to the many visitors who go to the Tollhouse each year”.

- Supervisor Linda Puglisi