

R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 11

January, 2016

Town Board Work Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 8, 2015

The Work Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 8th day of December 2015 at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

ABSENT WAS: Councilman Gerald Wood

Also present was one interested citizen.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

MINUTES, VOUCHERS, AND BILLS: Minutes to be accepted at the Regular Meeting on December 10, 2015: November 5, 2015 – Public Hearing – Preliminary Budget; November 10, 2015 – Work, November 12, 2015 – Regular, November 12, 2015 – Public Hearing – Stop Sign Gerard/Sayre Roads

Vouchers and bills will be addressed at the Regular Meeting.

TRANSFERS: Transfers will be addressed at the Regular Meeting on December 10, 2015.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS

1. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that she and Councilwoman Cooke attended a conference in Westerlo regarding broadband internet service and how funding has become available to under-served and non-served areas. The conference was also attended by Senator George Amedore and representatives from Mid-Hudson Cable, NY-Air & Mid-Hudson Data Corporation, and Hudson Valley Wireless. The Federal Government is increasing the minimum standards for internet speed, but the densely wooded areas, hills, and valleys of this area make it much more difficult to reach the under and non-served areas.

2. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that Albany County Sheriff's Department will be sponsoring a program on workplace safety at the Rensselaerville Library on December 22, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

The regular reports from the Supervisor, Attorney, Highway Department, Town Clerk, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer, Assessors, Water/Sewer Committee, and Recycling Coordinator

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Town Board Work Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 8, 2015

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will be given at the Regular Meeting on December 10, 2015.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that the proposed revised Zoning Law has been placed on the Albany County Planning Board's agenda for December 17, 2015. A final Public Hearing will need to be scheduled.

2. I.T.S. will be updating the server and associated programs. A portion of the process will take place and be paid for this year, and the remainder will be performed and paid for in early 2016.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The authorization for the Highway Superintendent to participate in on-line bidding will need to be renewed. Since the miscellaneous equipment line-item was reduced to \$10,000, discussion was had regarding how to proceed with the wording of the renewal.

2. The End-of-Year Meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 30th at 7:00 PM.

3. The 2016 Organizational Meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 1st at 10:00 AM.

4. A new road named 'Christmas Tree Lane' will need to be added to the 911 system.

5. Supervisor Lounsbury received a letter of resignation from Edward Pizzigati, Substitute Refuse/ Recycling Coordinator.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

BOARD COMMENTS

Supervisor Lounsbury stated that Councilman Bolte will be sorely missed. Councilman Bolte wanted to extend the offer to continue assisting with anything that he could in and around Town Hall. He would be pleased to continue the maintenance on the Veteran's Ring of Honor and the flower gardens, and would continue to assist with the electrical and plumbing in an effort to try to save the Town money. The Town has relied on Bob for countless issues and he was always only a phone call away.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker

Town Clerk



TELL US ABOUT YOUR INTERNET ACCESS

The New York State Broadband Program Office would like to know about broadband service or the lack of broadband service in your area. The information you provide regarding current and future demand for broadband services will enable us to determine the highest concentrations of demand throughout the state. The survey results will be processed and rendered as markers on the broadband availability maps to assess future funding opportunities and share with service providers and Regional Economic Development Councils (REDC's).

The link to the online survey is <http://nysbroadband.ny.gov/Your-Internet-Access>

Tell Us About Your Internet

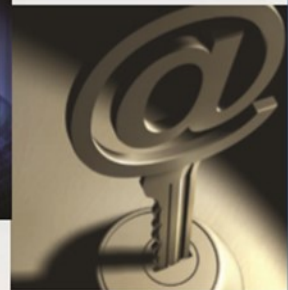
In an effort to expand broadband service to all corners of New York, the NYS Broadband Program Office would like to know about broadband service or the lack of broadband service in your area.

Please share your information with us by completing our brief questionnaire about your Internet service. Your input regarding current and future demand for broadband services will enable us to determine the highest concentrations of broadband demand throughout the state.

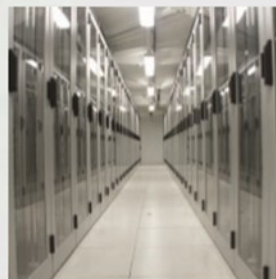
The results will be used to assess future funding opportunities and shared with broadband service providers and Regional Economic Development Councils.



Phone: 866-322-5787
 Email: nysbroadband@esd.ny.gov



Please visit our website at www.nysbroadband.ny.gov and click the **Consumer** tab to complete a brief survey about your Internet service or go directly to the survey at <http://www.nysbroadband.ny.gov/Your-Internet-Access>



Town Board Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 10, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 10th day of December 2015 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Thomas Fallati, Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

ABSENT WAS: Councilman Gerald Wood

Also present were Highway Superintendent Randy Bates and Deputy Superintendent Dave Potter, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Mark Overbaugh, Assessor Donna Kropp, Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Doug Story, Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck, Investigator Tracy Mance from the Albany County Sheriff's Department, and two interested citizens.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Ernest Kuehl wished to thank Councilman Bolte for everything he has done for the Town. He hopes Mr. Bolte's influence on the Town Board will continue.

Bob has offered to continue to do volunteer work at Town Hall, such as the plumbing and electrical, the Veteran's Ring of Honor and the flower gardens.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the minutes of the November 5, 2015 – Public Hearing – Preliminary Budget; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Lounsbury

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2015 – Work Meeting; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2015 – Regular Meeting; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Sedlmeir

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2015 - Public Hearing – Stop Sign at the Intersection of Gerard and Sayre Roads; 2nd by Councilman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Sedlmeir

TRANSFERS: None

ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS: General Fund - \$29,428.41; Highway Fund - \$37,678.74; Lighting District - \$681.08; Sewer Fund - \$80.31; T & A Fund - \$716.40. Total - \$68,584.94

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to pay all signed vouchers and bills; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS

SUPERVISOR

1. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that she and Councilwoman Cooke attended a conference in Westerlo regarding broadband internet service and how funding has become available to under

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Town Board Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 10, 2015

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-served and non-served areas. The conference was also attended by Senator George Amedore and representatives from Mid-Hudson Cable, NY-Air & Mid-Hudson Data Corporation, and Hudson Valley Wireless. The Federal Government is increasing the minimum standards for internet speed, but the densely wooded areas, hills, and valleys of this area make it much more difficult to reach the under and non-served areas.

2. The Library will be hosting a workplace safety course sponsored by the Albany County Sheriff's Department on December 22, 2015 at 6:00 PM. Investigator Mance noted that the program was very informative.
3. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that the Town Picnic will be held on June 5th from 2 to 4:30.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury that, as a Community Event, the Town-Wide Picnic will be held on June 5, 2016 from 2 to 4:30 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

4. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that Kathy Wank had completed her certification and is now a Certified Assessor.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Supervisor's report; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

ATTORNEY: Attorney Fallati will address the Board later in the meeting.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

1. Highway Superintendent Bates reported that the Highway Department's snow and ice preparation has been completed; salt has been delivered; and the trucks have been serviced. Currently, the Highway Department has been busy cutting and trimming trees.
2. The new Western Star truck is due to be delivered any day.
3. Superintendent Bates announced that the stop signs have been installed at the intersection of Gerard and Sayre Roads and that seven 'Right to Farm' signs have also been erected.
4. Highway Superintendent Bates wished to thank Councilman Bolte on behalf of himself and the Highway Department for all he has done. He noted the vast amounts of money Bob has saved the Town. Bob has maintained the shop; spent time troubleshooting the trucks; done electrical work; done plumbing work; everything that breaks, Bob fixes. Bob has purchased tools with his own money; has donated his personal tools; and has supplied a great amount of scrap steel from Albany Fabrication for repairs. Bob spear-headed the purchase of two Oshkosh trucks from the Town of Catskill, largely through donations. He sold the Town a patch roller at a very fair price when the Town desperately needed one; and the roller has significantly improved the quality of the hand-patching. He has researched websites for used equipment. Superintendent Bates added that personally, Bob always offered support and encouragement when the 'road wasn't always so smooth'.

Bob, again, extended his offer to continue to help in any way possible.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Highway Superintendent's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

TOWN CLERK: Town Clerk Kraker reported for the month of November as follows: Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$2,800.75. Paid to the Supervisor - \$606.40 - the breakdown is as follows: Clerk Fees - \$108.40; Recycling - \$137.00; Dog Licenses - \$71.00; Building Permits - \$130.00; Zoning - \$160.00; Total - \$606.40

Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the 'Animal Population Control Program' aka 'dog surcharge': \$11.00; Electronic sweep from the Town Clerk's checking account for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation - Sporting Licenses: \$2,183.35

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Town Clerk's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR

1. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh reported for the month of November, 1 Accessory Building Permit and 1 Woodstove Permit.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector's report; 2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

ASSESSORS

1. Assessor Kropp announced that the Senior Star and Enhanced Star renewal notices have been mailed.
2. The Assessors are currently working on the Agricultural Exemption notices and they will be mailed shortly.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to accept the Assessor's report; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE

1. Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Story reported that, for the month of November, 345,500 gallons of water was filtered (an average of 11,517 gal/day); and 189,000 gallons of sewage was pumped (an average of 6,300 gal/day).
2. Officer Story noted that the concrete inside the tank is in seriously bad shape. As soon as Officer Story gets his confined-space training, he will be able to handle some of the issues before him.
3. Officer Story feels that the District needs to resign itself to the fact that meters should be installed. He feels that unless residents are held responsible for their usage, there are no consequences for misuse. Having proper meters would allow Officer Story the ability to monitor usage and if there were a leak, he could remedy the situation immediately

Councilman Bolte had offered the District meters that could be read remotely, twice in the past. He is willing to extend the offer one more time. Although Officer Story would prefer a more updated version which would allow him to monitor the water usage from a cell phone, he will present Councilman Bolte's offer to the Committee.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Water/Sewer Treatment Officer's report;

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2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

REFUSE/RECYCLING

1. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported the following for the month of November: Tires: 35; City of Albany Landfill: 52.75 tons; Sierra Fibers: Comingled 4.81 tons and O.C.C. 5.53 tons; Oil: 38 gallons
2. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported that he had received a quote from Iron Horse Welding and also from Smith Welding and Fabrication for the repair of the container. Iron Horse's quote was \$6,000 plus \$3,700 for painting the entire container. Smith's Welding and Fabrication quote was \$3,830 for both the repair and the painting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to authorize Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck to hire Smith Welding and Fabrication to perform the repair work on the container for \$3,830; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Recycling Coordinator's report; 2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

CURRENT EVENTS

Investigator Tracy Mance announced that she had been promoted to 1st Sergeant, but would still continue with her current responsibilities.

Assessor Richard Tollner announced that he had been invited to join the Board of Directors for the Albany-Schenectady County Assessor's Association.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Attorney Fallati announced that the next step in the proposed zoning law is to schedule a final public hearing.

Attorney Fallati read the Resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE
TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, the Town of Rensselaerville has determined that its zoning law should be amended to better reflect the Town's needs and vision for future growth; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has revised the zoning law to reflect these changes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the duly convened Town Board of the town of Rensselaerville that pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law and the General Municipal Law, a public hearing shall be conducted at the Town Hall on January 19, 2016 at 7:00 PM on the attached proposed Local Law, and notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be published on or before January 14, 2016 in a newspaper circulating in the Town.

By motion made by Marion Cooke, and seconded by Margaret Sedlmeir, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 10th day of December, 2015 as follows:

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Supervisor Lounsbury	Yes
Councilwoman Cooke	Yes
Councilman Bolte	Yes
Councilwoman Sedlmeir	Yes
Councilman Wood	Absent

END RESOLUTION

- I.T.S. will be updating the server and associated programs. A portion of the process will take place and be paid for this year, and the remainder will be performed and paid for in early 2016.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to authorize Supervisor Lounsbury to sign the contract with I.T.S. to upgrade the server and all associated programs; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to renew, for the first quarter of 2016, the authority of the Highway Superintendent to participate in on-line purchases through Auctions International within the \$10,000 line-item amount budgeted for 2016; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.
Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)
- A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to schedule the final meeting of 2015 for December 30th at 7:00 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.
Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)
- A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to schedule the 2016 Organizational Meeting for January 1, 2016 at 10:00 AM; 2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury.
Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)
- A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to accept the 911 name of 'Christmas Tree Lane' for the former driveway of Allyn Wright; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.
Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)
- A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to accept the resignation of Substitute Recycling Coordinator, Edward Pizzigati, effective December 31, 2015; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.
Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)
- A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to allow the Westerlo Volunteer Fire Department to use the Senior Bus for their annual banquet to be held on January 23, 2016. This year they will be traveling to the Colonie Golf Club and Councilman Bolte has volunteered to drive. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bolte.
Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Assessor Richard Tollner thanked Councilman Bolte for his years of service to the Town and stated that Bob has been a driving force for many things. Mr. Tollner especially wished to thank Bob for the work and volunteerism with regard to the Veteran's Ring of Honor. Also, of significance, were Bob's efforts to obtain the Senior Bus; he sets a good example of what the best of our Town can offer and makes others try harder to try to keep up. Richard stated: "This Town has a different shape and color to it because of what you (Bob) have done."

Councilman Bolte thanked Richard and offered everyone to stay (before entering into Executive Ses-

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Town Board Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 10, 2015

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sion) to share the cake that Councilwoman Sedlmeir made for this occasion.

Supervisor Lounsbury extended her thanks as well for everything that Bob has done, noting that he was never more than a phone call away.

The Board also thanked Richard Tollner for his years of service as one of the Town’s Assessors.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to enter into Executive Session at 8:05 PM for the purpose of discussing possible litigation; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to return from Executive Session at 8:32 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to retain the law firm of Tabner, Ryan, and Keniry to represent the Planning Board in the litigation that has come before the Town; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk



Rensselaerville Library Survey

The Board of Trustees of the Rensselaerville Library would like to thank everyone who has already completed the survey to assist with updating the Library’s long-range plan. To make sure we have captured as many responses as possible we are extending the response date to January 15th. Follow this link to complete the survey online <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RensselaervilleLibrary> Print versions are available at one of the drop box locations - Library, Town Hall, or Hilltown Café.



Councilman Robert Bolte

Written by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury

Thank you always being here to repair or advise us on to repair both the plumbing and electrical problems that have come over the years. This has saved the Town of Rensselaerville hundreds of dollars.

Thank you for checking the emergency lights in town hall, ordering the necessary batteries, etc. to get these lights working the way they should.

Thank you for the hours of labor that you gave the town in constructing the Veteran's Ring of Honor.

Thank you also for making that each spring the Veteran's Ring of Honor flower beds are planted and maintained for the season. Thank you for always being here to decorate the Ring of Honor with the flags for each holiday honoring all those who have served.

Thank you for cleaning up the flower bed in front of town hall and maintaining the flowerbed each year.

Thank you for the Christmas decorations you have provided for town hall for several years. They were wonderful.

Thank you for the sign board in front of town hall.

Thank you for coming to the rescue when the bus or car was in need of repairs or maintenance that could not be done by our dedicated highway crew. You always made the time to take the bus or the car where it had to go and had the needed work done.

Bob, several times someone needed to be at the hospital for medical appointments and had very early morning appointments. You never thought twice about leaving home very early in the morning to have them in the hospital for their appointment and waiting for them to bring them back. These deeds were not only appreciated by the patient but by all of us who know how thoughtful you were of the patient's needs.

Thank you for the countless hours you spent cleaning and painting the cushioned chairs we now have in the meeting room.

Thank you for the repairs you made to some of the playground equipment at the Preston Hollow Park.

Bob, you have been a true asset for the Town of Rensselaerville and it is very much appreciated.

Bob Bolte Honored for His Years of Service to the Town of Rensselaerville

Written by Richard Tollner

The Town of Rensselaerville Board met for its final meeting this year, where during the meeting Councilman Bob Bolte was recognized for his numerous donations of labor, materials, and projects that have benefited the Town of Rensselaerville. Bob was the labor behind many projects such as the town court remodel, the garden in front of assessors' office and most notably the Veterans Ring of Honor built by Bob and Ken Cooke. Most of the materials for the Ring of Honor were donated and the maintenance is supported by the extra monies left in the account from the construction.. Additionally Bob was honored for his service to local veterans and elderly for his donations of hospital equipment and electric beds and wheelchairs from his private supply. Bob was thanked by the Town of Rensselaerville Town board. The attendees then gave Bob an engraved clock recognizing his service.

Councilman Robert Bolte***Submitted by Highway Superintendent Randy Bates***

Thank you, Bob, for your many efforts for the benefit of the Town's highway department:

- for spearheading effort to purchase 2 Oshkosh plow trucks from the Town of Catskill with largely donated proceeds
- for obtaining donated angle iron and sheet metal for equipment repairs
- for giving some of your personally owned tools to the Highway Department
- for searching auction websites to find suitable equipment that was purchased at a huge savings
- for maintaining and updating the garage electrical system
- for selling a patch roller to the Town at a very discounted price
- for assisting with troubleshooting electronic components on highway equipment
- for always being supportive and encouraging of highway improvement efforts



ZingerBug.com

POST OFFICE INFORMATION**<http://www.usps.com>****MEDUSA POST OFFICE:** Phone 518-239-4826

(19 COUNTY ROUTE 351 MEDUSA, NY 12120)

Retail Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am - 12:00pm; Sat 7:30am - 11:15am**Last Collection Hours:** Mon-Fri 4:15pm; Sat 11:15am**Lobby Hours:** Mon-Fri 8:00am - 5:00pm; Sat 8:00am - 11:30am**PRESTON HOLLOW POST OFFICE:** Phone 518-239-6111

(2930 ROUTE 145 PRESTON HOLLOW, NY 12469)

Retail Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am - 10:30am; 3:00pm - 5:00pm Sat 9:00am - 12:00pm**Last Collection Hours:** Mon-Fri 5:00pm; Sat 12:00pm**Lobby Hours:** Mon-Sat 12:01am - 11:59pm**Last Collection Hours:** Mon-Fri 4:15pm Sat 11:15am**RENSSELAERVILLE POST OFFICE:** Phone 518-797-3231

(26 COUNTY ROUTE 353 RENSSELAERVILLE, NY 12147)

Retail Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am - 12:00pm Sat 8:00am - 11:00am**Last Collection Hours:** Mon-Fri 4:15pm; Sat 11:30am**Lobby Hours:** Mon-Fri 8:00am - 5:00pm; Sat 8:00am - 11:30am**Last Collection Hours:** Mon-Fri 4:15pm Sat 11:15am

Internet Safety Recommendations

With more and more people conducting business over the Internet, the following information from Craigslist might prove beneficial to many.

Avoiding Scams

- **Deal locally, face-to-face** —follow this one rule and avoid 99% of scam attempts.
- **Do not extend payment to anyone you have not met in person.**
- **Beware offers involving shipping** - deal with locals you can meet in person.
- **Never wire funds (e.g. Western Union)** - anyone who asks you to is a scammer.
- **Don't accept cashier/certified checks or money orders** - banks cash fakes, then hold you responsible.
- **Transactions are between users only**, no third party provides a "guarantee".
- **Never give out financial info** (bank account, social security, Paypal account, etc).
- **Do not rent or purchase sight-unseen**—that amazing "deal" may not exist.
- **Refuse background/credit checks** until you have met landlord/employer in person.

Recognizing scams

Most scams attempts involve one or more of the following:

- Email or text from someone that is not local to your area.
- Vague initial inquiry, e.g. asking about "the item." Poor grammar/spelling.
- Western Union, Money Gram, cashier check, money order, paypal, shipping, escrow service, or a "guarantee."
- Inability or refusal to meet face-to-face to complete the transaction.

Examples of Scams

1. **Someone claims your transaction is guaranteed, that a buyer/seller is officially certified, OR that a third party of any kind will handle or provide protection for a payment:**
 - These claims are fraudulent, as transactions are between users only.
 - The scammer will often send an official looking (but fake) email that appears to come from craigslist or another third party, offering a guarantee, certifying a seller, or pretending to handle payments.
2. **Distant person offers a genuine-looking (but fake) cashier's check:**
 - You receive an email or text (examples below) offering to buy your item, pay for your services in advance, or rent your apartment, sight unseen and without meeting you in person.
 - A cashier's check is offered for your sale item as a deposit for an apartment or for your services.
 - Value of cashier's check often far exceeds your item—scammer offers to "trust" you, and asks you to wire the balance via money transfer service.
 - Banks will cash fake checks AND THEN HOLD YOU RESPONSIBLE WHEN THE CHECK FAILS TO CLEAR, sometimes including criminal prosecution.
 - Scams often pretend to involve a 3rd party (shipping agent, business associate, etc.).
3. **Someone requests wire service payment via Western Union or MoneyGram:**
 - Deal often seems too good to be true, price is too low, or rent is below market, etc.
 - Scam "bait" items include apartments, laptops, TVs, cell phones, tickets, other high value items.
 - Scammer may (falsely) claim a confirmation code from you is needed before he can withdraw your money.
 - Common countries currently include: Nigeria, Romania, UK, Netherlands—but could be any-

Internet Safety Recommendations

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where.

- Rental may be local, but owner is "travelling" or "relocating" and needs you to wire money abroad.
 - Scammer may pretend to be unable to speak by phone (scammers prefer to operate by text/email).
4. **Distant person offers to send you a cashier's check or money order and then have you wire money:**
 - This is ALWAYS a scam in our experience—the cashier's check is FAKE.
 - Sometimes accompanies an offer of merchandise, sometimes not.
 - Scammer often asks for your name, address, etc. for printing on the fake check.
 - Deal often seems too good to be true.
 5. **Distant seller suggests use of an online escrow service:**
 - Most online escrow sites are FRAUDULENT and operated by scammers. * For more info, do a Google search on "fake escrow" or "escrow fraud."
 6. **Distant seller asks for a partial payment upfront, after which they will ship goods:**
 - He says he trusts you with the partial payment.
 - He may say he has already shipped the goods.
 - Deal often sounds too good to be true.
 7. **Foreign company offers you a job receiving payments from customers, then wiring funds:**
 - Foreign company may claim it is unable to receive payments from its customers directly.
 - You are typically offered a percentage of payments received.
 - This kind of "position" may be posted as a job, or offered to you via email.

Remember: It's far better to be safe than sorry.



Move Breathe Relax

YOGA: Tue. & Thu. 9-10:15 am
 PILATES: Wed. 5:45-6:15 pm & Sat. 9-10 am

Classes Open to All at Conkling Hall in Rensselaerville

Sarah Nelson Weiss, CYT
 savitrisarah@gmail.com, 518.817.8720

Fees: Wed Pilates—\$7.00
 All Others—\$12.00
 10 Classes—\$100.00

Library News



Library Staff

Director - Kimberly Graff
director@rensselaervillelibrary.org

Assistant - Katie Caprio
library@rensselaervillelibrary.org

Pages

Emileigh Tanner
Leah Waldron

Library Board of Trustees

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Dale Dörner
Connie Kudlack

Vice President

Mary Carney

Secretary

Paul Kelly

Treasurer

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Sharon Costello
JR Delia
John Gordon
Deb Kropp
Linda Styer

The Rensselaerville Library works to preserve a comfortable historical gathering place that is open, free and inviting to all of the residents of the 5 hamlets and environs. We strive to awaken and promote a life-long love of reading and learning by fostering personal connections and providing access to a stimulating variety of texts, technology and programming.

The Rensselaerville Library is a 501c3 non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Upcoming Library Events

Poetry group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7pm, January 12 and 26. Come share your work, receive feedback and spend time working on your own project. The Poetry group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month downstairs in the Library. For questions please contact Tom Corrado at tjc123@midtel.net

Thursday, January 14th join the writing group at 7pm to share your work and receive feedback or just spend a few hours working on your own project. The group meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month downstairs in the Library.

The Library Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 19 at 7pm. Please note that due to the holiday this is a change to the regular Monday schedule. All Board meetings are held at the Library and are open to the public.

The Library Coloring Book Club for adults will meet on Thursday, January 21, at 7:00 pm (every third Thursday). Coloring is a great way to relax and give our creativity a boost. Coloring books designed especially for adults have more intricate designs and patterns. Coloring pages, colored pencils, markers and crayons will be available or bring your own.

The Library will be closed on Friday, January 1st for the New Year. We will open with regular hours on Saturday, January 2nd.

Paint and Sip fundraiser, Sunday, January 17 at 2:00pm. Reserve your space, limited seating. \$30 reserves your 11x 14 canvas. Painting instruction provided by Meghan Evans of Roaming Paintress. Snacks and beverages will be provided (goodwill donation). This is a fundraiser to benefit the Library.

Did you miss out on the IndieGoGo Haiku Project campaign? Our supply of bandannas (\$10) and dish towels (\$25) have arrived at the Library. You are supporting the Library 100% with every purchase.

The holiday season is over but you can continue to support the Library throughout the year with all of your shopping on Amazon. Support the Library through Amazon's Smile Program. Visit <http://smile.amazon.com> and select the charity you would like to support. The Amazon Smile Foundation donates 0.5% of the eligible purchase price. Thank you to all who have already selected the Library.

The Board of Trustees of the Rensselaerville Library would like to thank everyone who has already completed the survey to assist with updating the Library's long-range plan. To make sure we have captured as many responses as possible we are extending the response date to January 15th. Follow this link to complete the survey online <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RensselaervilleLibrary> Print versions are available at one of the drop box locations - Library, Town Hall or Hilltown Café.

(Continued on page 15)

Library News

(Continued from page 14)

Coming in 2016 Library card holders will be able to use Gale Virtual Reference Library and BookFix an online service for children.

The Library has a Museum Pass to the Clark. The pass is good for one adult admission to the Clark. Check it out with your Library card.

Hilltown Home-School Families - The new home-school group meets every Tuesday from 11-12:30 in the Library's downstairs arts & crafts room. At each meeting, parents are asked to come prepared to lead a fun "activity station" for the children. Just show up on Tuesday with your home-school children.

Did you know the Library has a mini gift shop? We have Rensselaerville historical books, tote bags, post cards, note cards, honey, RVFD beer mugs etc.

Did you know that the Library has an email newsletter? The email provides information on Library services, resources, events and programs. We also include a brief calendar of community events. Not on the Library email list? Sign up here <http://rensselaervillelibrary.us1.list-manage1.com/subscribe?u=ff334a8359a3abb5b1f3342f2&id=14a36c9661>

Did you know that the Rensselaerville Historical Society's Research Team works in the Library during the winter months? You can find them downstairs in the meeting room on Wednesdays from 10:30 – 2pm

*Library Hours: Closed Sunday and Monday
 Tuesday & Wednesday: 10am – Noon & 4– 9pm
 Thursday & Friday: 4– 9pm
 Saturday: 9– 1pm*



Greenville Library

Jan 5, 12, 19, 26	Toddler Time w/Devon Balta (For infants, toddlers, preschoolers)	11-11:45am
Jan 6, 13, 20, 27 Meet in small community room	Greenville Quilters All welcome. No experience necessary, will teach.	1:00-3:00pm
Jan 8, 15, 22, 29	Toddler Time Two w/Devon Balta (For infants, toddlers, preschoolers)	10-10:45am

Contact Information: Greenville Public Library
 11177 Route 32
 PO Box 8 Greenville, NY 12083
 Phone: 518-966-8205 Email: greenvillelibrary@outlook.com

Hours: Monday & Wednesday: 9:00am - 5:00pm Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00am - 6:00pm
 Friday: 12:00pm - 5:00pm Saturday: 9:00am - 1:00pm
 Sunday: Closed

Library News

Middleburgh Library

Jan 5, 12, 19, 26	Drop-In Story Time	10:45 am
Jan 5, 12, 19, 26	Mahjong Mania	1:00 pm
Jan 5, 12, 19, 26	Insight Meditation	5:15 pm
Jan 6, 13, 20, 27	Chair Yoga (CR)	9:00 am
Jan 6	Not So Quiet Concert Series: Reggie Harris & Pat Wictor (CR)	7:00 pm
Jan 7, 14, 21, 28	Beginning Tai Chi	10:00-11:00
Jan 7, 14, 21, 28	Advanced Tai Chi	11:00-12:00
Jan 7, 14, 21, 28	Knitting Circle	7:00 pm
Jan 11	Board of Trustees Meeting	6:30 pm
Jan 13, 27	Kundalini Yoga	5:00 pm
Jan 16	3rd Annual Wellness Fair	9 am - 2 pm
Jan 19	Book Discussion: Island Beneath the Sea	7:00 pm
Jan 20	Shake, Shimmy & Dance!	11:00 am
Jan 22	Dinner & a Movie: Everest	5:30 pm
Jan 30	New Year, New You! Esty Entrepreneurship Training	10:30 am

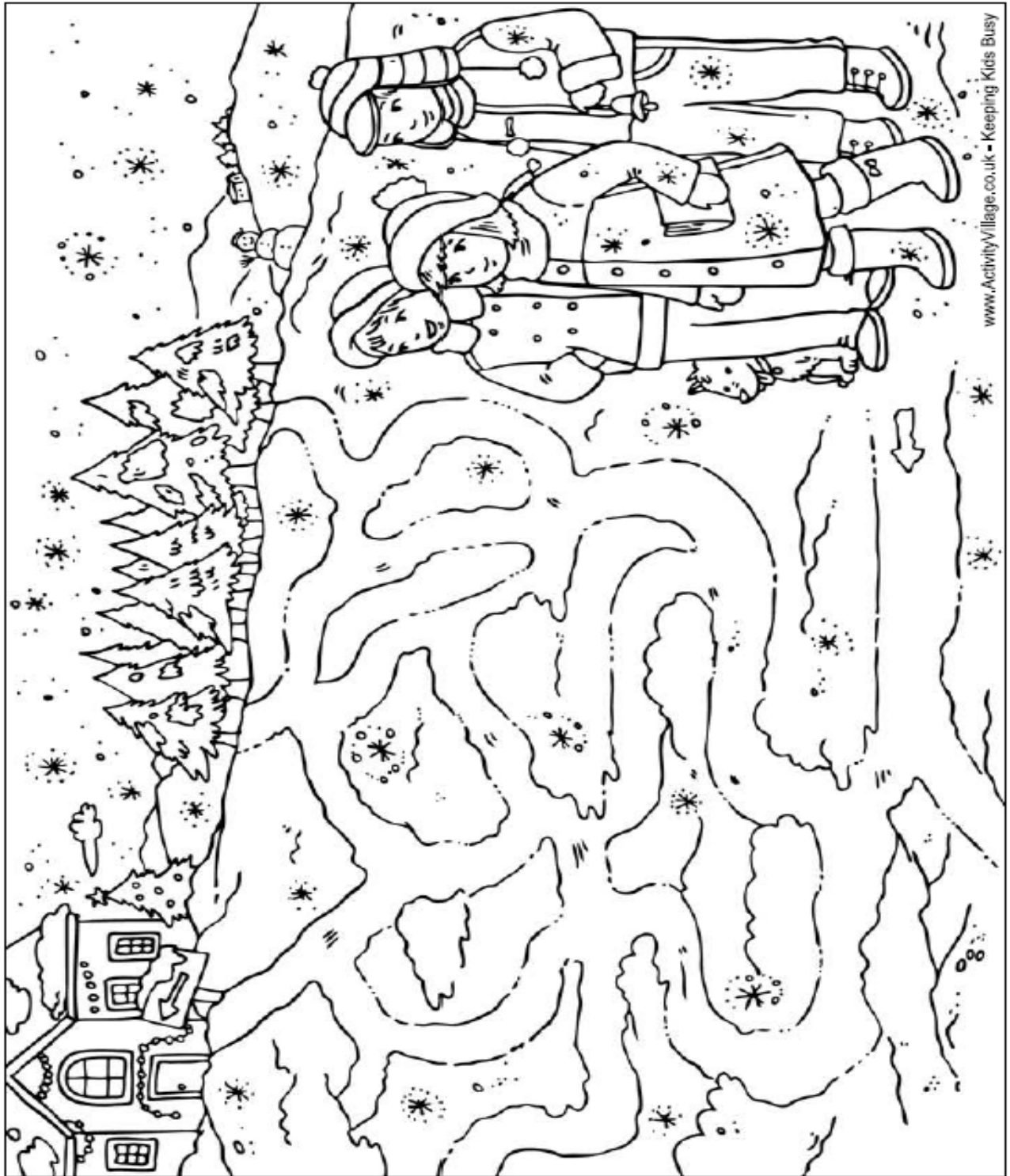
For information about any of the events listed above, please click on the link below. It will take you to the Middleburgh Library events calendar where you will find descriptions of these events.

<http://engagedpatrons.org/EventsCalendar.cfm?SiteID=8616&thisMonth=1&thisYear=2016>

Contact information: 323 Main Street, PO Box 670, Middleburgh, NY 12122
(518) 827-5142
www.middleburghlibrary.info

*Hours: Monday 1:30 - 8:30
Tuesday 10:00 - 5:00 & 6:30 - 8:30
Wednesday 10:00 - 4:00
Thursday 10:00 - 4:00 & 6:30 - 8:30
Friday & Sunday - closed
Saturday 9:00 - 2:00*





www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy

Winter Maze: Can you help the children find the path to their school building?

On The Calendar

Jan 1	10:00 am	Town Board Organizational Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 3	11:00am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services All are Welcome!	
Jan 10	11:00am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services All are Welcome!	
Jan 12	6:45 pm	Public Hearing: Rescind Property Tax Cap Law	Town Hall
Jan 12	7:00pm	Town Board Work Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 14	7:00pm	Town Board Regular Monthly Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 16	7am-11am	Medusa Fire Department Breakfast Free will offering	Medusa Firehouse
Jan 17	11:00am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services All are Welcome!	
Jan 19	7:00 pm	Public Hearing: Proposed Zoning Law	Town Hall
Jan 24	11:00am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services All are Welcome!	
Jan 31	11:00am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services All are Welcome!	

Please note that copies of the Town Newsletter are in box in front of Medusa Fire House.

Please get events to Bill Moore by phone – 239-4843; e-mail – whmoore44@yahoo.com or mail to – 11 CR 351, Medusa, NY 12120



Senior Citizens Info

The Town offers car service Mon-Fri by appointment only. Contact Town Hall at 239-4225 or 797-3798 for doctor appointments. The Senior bus also goes shopping on Thursday either to Cobleskill or Catskill. Call Ruth & Tom Snyder (239-4376) the day before about riding the bus if you are interested.

The Town of Rensselaerville Senior Citizens meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at Medusa Fire House at noon. Anyone 55 years of age and older can join. Dues are \$8.00 a year due in June. We collect \$1.00 a month at the meeting for coffee, milk, etc. Please bring a covered dish to share. We eat promptly at noon and the meeting commences afterward. We have a picnic in August; in November, we have a Thanksgiving dinner at a local restaurant; and in December we have a Christmas dinner also. We have bus trips in the summer and fall. For further information, call Tom Snyder, President, at 239-4376.

Please note that we are in desperate need of drivers for the bus and the car. Please call Town Hall at 239-4225 if you're interested in volunteering as a driver for our senior citizens..

Additional Important Phone Numbers:

- Department of Aging 447-7179
- HEAP: 447-2551

Contact Information for Elected Officials & Department Heads

Position	Name	Email Address
Town Supervisor	Valerie Lounsbury	vlounsbury@rensselaerville.com townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Marion Cooke	mcooke@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Kevin McGrath	kmcgrath@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Margaret Sedlmeir	msedlmeir@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Gerald Wood	gwood@rensselaerville.com
Town Justices	Gregory Bischoff Ronald Bates	
Supervisor's Clerk	Linda McCormick	clerk1@rensselaerville.com lmccormick@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk	Victoria Kraker	townclerk@rensselaerville.com
Highway Superintendent	Randy Bates	rbates@rensselaerville.com
Assessors	Donna Kropp Jeffry Pine Kathryn Wank	assessors@rensselaerville.com
Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer	Mark Overbaugh	codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com
Planning Board	Richard Amedure	
Zoning Board of Appeals	John Mormile	
Board of Ethics		ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com
Dog Control Officer	Cheryl Baitsholts	Phone: 797-5201
Town Hall		Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339



Our New Year's Wish for You...

*May this year 2016, bring all the desired success,
new happiness, new goals, new achievements,
and new inspirations .*

*Wishing you a New Year fully loaded with
happiness, health, prosperity, and love.*

The Editors

Nancy, Georgette, & Marie

*Happy New Year
2016*



The Back Page

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From the Editors:

As always, we ask that you make a copy or two of this newsletter to share with friends and neighbors who may not have Internet access. Our readership continues to grow, but we invite others to sign on by sending their email address to rvillenewsletter@gmail.com. We look forward to getting your feedback.



To unsubscribe: Send an email to rvillenewsletter@gmail.com with the word "Unsubscribe" on the subject line. We'd be sorry to see you go, but we will honor your wishes immediately.



A community newsletter **BY** the community **FOR** the community