

R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 4

June 2014

A Brief Civics Lesson

From the Editors: It has been brought to our attention that we've been remiss in properly educating our readership with regards to various laws and organizations we mention from time to time in this newsletter. In order to rectify this oversight, we present you with an explanation of some of these items.

Freedom of Information Law (FOIL): New York State's Freedom of Information Law, effective January 1, 1978, reaffirms your right to know how your government operates. It provides rights of access to records reflective of governmental decisions and policies that affect the lives of every New Yorker. FOIL provides a process for the review and copying of an agency's records. More information about the Freedom of Information Law can be found at: <http://www.dos.state.ny.us/coog/foil2.html>

Committee on Open Government (COOG): New York State's Committee on Open Government was created in 1974 and is responsible for overseeing and advising with regard to the Freedom of Information Law, the Open Meetings Law and the Personal Privacy Protection Law. Staff of the Committee gives advice by telephone, email, written advisory opinions, and training classes conducted throughout the state. Advice is offered to the government, the public and the news media.

The Committee and the laws it oversees have gained national and international recognition as models for other jurisdictions. Its work and experience have been shared at international conferences, and it is represented through membership in the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws and participation on the Media Law Committee of the New York State Bar Association. More information about the Committee on Open Government can be found at: <http://www.dos.ny.gov/coog/>

Open Meetings Law (OML): New York State's Open Meetings Law, often known as the "Sunshine Law", went into effect in 1977. Amendments that clarify and reaffirm your right to hear the deliberations of public bodies became effective in 1979. The purpose of the Open Meetings Law is to ensure that public business of public entities is conducted in an "open and public manner." This law is based on a presumption of access that provides the public with the right to know in advance about meetings of public bodies and then to observe the meetings and deliberations. In brief, the law gives the public the right to attend meetings of public bodies, listen to the debates and watch the decision making process in action. It requires public bodies to provide notice of the times and places of meetings, and keep minutes of all action taken.

As stated in the legislative declaration in the Open Meetings Law, "It is essential to the maintenance of a democratic society that the public business be performed in an open and public manner and that the citizens of this state be fully aware of and able to observe the performance of public officials and attend and listen to the deliberations and decisions that go into the making of public policy." More information about the Open Meetings Law can be found at: <http://www.dos.ny.gov/coog/openmeetlaw.html>

Inside this issue:

Paper Shredder Controversy Resolved?	2	Rensselaerville Cycling Festival	8
Highlights of April 10, 2014 TB Meeting	3	Getting to Know You: Tracy Mance	10
Highlights of April 10, 2014 TB Meeting	5	Senior Citizens Info	11
This Just In: Medusa Post Office Changes	6	On the Calendar	12
Town-Wide Picnic Flyer	7	Contact Information for Town Government	13

Paper Shredder Controversy Resolved?

From the Editors: In the April 2014 issue of the R'ville Community Newsletter, the following blurb appeared:

“Did you know...that \$250 in taxpayer money was paid to a Town Councilman for the purchase of a used paper shredder for Town Hall despite the fact that new, professional micro-cut paper shredders with extended warranties are available in the retail marketplace for the same money, if not less? And there is no evidence that any research was done with regard to the make, model, age, or current value of the unit purchased.”

This comment stirred a potful of denials and righteous indignation on the part of certain Town officials. During the April Town Board meeting, Councilman Bolte reported that a commercial shredder ordered by the Town previously had arrived broken and that he researched the value of the one he sold the town. He referred to the Town Board's previous purchases, of trucks and highway department machinery, for low prices. He said, “Instead of nailing somebody, people ought to do a little more research on it and be a little more honest about it.”

Mr. Bolte was correct in admonishing us for not having done our homework. So that's exactly what we, the editors of the newsletter, did. On April 29, 2014, the following FOIL request was submitted to Town Clerk Kraker:

“Please send me, via email, all the documentation/research that Councilman Bolte presented to the Town Board regarding the paper shredder that he sold to the Town for \$250. I'm specifically looking for the brand, model, age, value, and all the websites he researched to obtain this information, In addition, I want the Town Board minutes for the public meeting(s) in which this matter was presented to and discussed by the Town Board before the decision to purchase was made.”

On April 30, 2014, the following response was received:

“I have previously sent you the minutes of the meeting regarding the shredder in question. This is all the information I have.”

So, there you have it; our homework is done. And, as a result, we have no choice but to surmise that whatever discussions took place regarding this matter were obviously conducted behind closed doors, a blatant violation of the Open Meetings Law, especially considering that it involved the expenditure of taxpayer money. Without physical evidence of research on the value of the paper shredder, how can we believe Mr. Bolte's assertion that it has a \$2,000 value?

We encourage the Town Board to cease doing business behind closed doors. It is their absolute responsibility to present all information at public meetings, pursue their deliberations in the public eye, and make educated decisions on all matters based on information presented. This is the very least that the taxpayer should expect and demand.



Highlights of April 10, 2014 Town Board Regular Meeting

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Lynn Knapp Blake, Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were Highway Superintendent Randy Bates and Clerk Kim Welsch; Assessor Richard Tollner; Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Doug Story and Committee Member Jack Long; and thirteen interested citizens.

- Heard audience comments from Earnest Kuehl and Marie Dermody.
- Heard a report from the Newsletter Committee presented by Diana Hinchcliff ; voted to not take any action on the newsletter at this time and have the Newsletter Committee look into it further;
- Voted to deny a request for the use of the Youth/Senior bus a trip to the Bronx Zoo
- Approved the minutes of the Public Hearing on Olmo Road (January 7, 2014); the Special Meeting on the Recycling Center (February 6, 2014); the Special Meeting on the Board of Ethics procedures (February 18, 2014); the Work Meeting (March 11, 2014); the Regular Meeting (March 13, 2014); the Special Meeting to appoint various temporary clerks (March 25, 2014)
- Approved the payment of all signed vouchers: General Fund - \$70,355.15; Highway Fund - \$20,972.28; Lighting District - \$758.15 (Preston Hollow - \$354.75; Rensselaerville - \$403.40); Sewer Fund - \$416.02; Water Fund - \$415.62; Trust Fund - \$3,807.76; Total Abstracts - \$96,724.98
- Approved a transfer from 'General Retirement' A 89010 to 'Unemployment' A 89050 in the amount of \$451.16 to cover unemployment claims
- Read a thank you note from the Westerlo Volunteer Fire Department
- Awarded the bid for mowing Town parks to J&R Mowing: Rensselaerville Park - \$1,249.00; Medusa Park - \$949.00; Bayard Elsbree Park - \$3,249.00; Total - \$5,447.00
- Awarded the bid for port-a-potty service for Town parks to Royal Flush Portables: Rensselaerville Park - \$514.50 (April 15 through October 15, 2014); Medusa Park - \$514.50 (April 15 through October 15, 2014); Bayard Elsbree Park - \$94.00 (Standard Toilet April 15 through July 15, 2014) and \$690.00 (Handicap Toilet May 15 through October 15, 2014); Total: \$2,013.00
- Approved the payment of \$200 each for Supervisor Lounsbury and Clerk 1 Hunt to attend the Association of Town's school on Annual Town Financing being held on May 8-9, 2014.
- Decided to postpone the advertising of the clerks' positions until the May meeting
- Reported that Councilwoman Cooke completed the payroll audits for January and February. Councilman Wood will do the audit for March.
- Attorney Blake, substituting for Attorney Fallati, stated that Attorney Fallati has been working on updating the Board of Ethics procedures.
- Accepted reports from the Highway Superintendent Bates, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Overbaugh, Assessor Tollner, Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Story
- Awarded bids from various vendors for highway materials, fuel oil, and heating unit service contracts
- Accepted the Town Clerk's report for March 2014: Total collected - \$805.50; Paid to the Supervisor - \$709.92 (Clerk Fees - \$106.42; Recycling - \$9.50; Dog Licenses - \$122.00; Dog Adoption Fee -

(Continued on page 4)

Highlights of April 10, 2014 Town Board Regular Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

\$62.00; Building Permits - \$60.00; Zoning - \$250.00; Senior/Youth Bus Donations - \$100.00); Total - \$709.92; Paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets (spay/neuter program) -\$20.00; Paid to NYS Department of Conservation (sporting licenses) - \$75.58; Water Rents for March - \$5,344.37 (includes \$15.51 in late fees); Sewer Rents for March - \$3,763.06 (includes \$12.94 in late fees);

As of April 8, 2014, a total of \$800,000.00 has been paid to Albany County Department of Finance; and \$7,691.89 has been paid to the Supervisor for late fees. The credits for the utilities and the State Lands have been received totaling \$64,741.22.

- Announced that there is no report from Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck due to illness
- Current Events: There will be a Blood Drive on April 19, 2014 at the Ambulance Building. Things are moving along with regard to the Town-Wide Picnic.
- Voted to schedule meetings to continue the review of the Zoning Regulations on April 29, 2014 and May 14, 2014 at 7:00 PM.
- Voted to schedule the next meeting to continue the review of the Board of Ethics procedures on May 22, 2014 at 7:00 PM.
- Authorized the Supervisor to sign the quote from I.T.S. for \$3013 to replace two PCs, eliminates one PC, upgrade two PCs and to dispose and wipe old equipment
- Announced that Supervisor Lounsbury and Councilman Bolte will attend the Sheriff's Public Safety Meeting on May 27, 2014 at 5:00 PM in Clarksville
- Heard audience comments from Gail La Plante, Jack Long, Bob Koenig
- Voted to enter Executive Session at 8:50 PM to discuss possible litigation; returned from Executive Session at 9:16pm

Please note: Full Town Board minutes can be found on the Town's website at www.rensselaerville.com.

Did you know...

...that the Town Board is making progress is standardizing the method of pay for clerks employed by the Town of Rensselaerville? At this time, all but two clerks are paid at an hourly rate, while only two are still on salary. Since all clerks have access to a time clock, we encourage the Town Board to continue along this path so that all clerks are treated similarly when it comes to being paid. We feel that this provides fair and equitable treatment for all.



Highlights of May 8, 2014 Town Board Regular Meeting

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Lynn Knapp Blake, Deputy Supervisor Marion Cooke, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

ABSENT WAS: Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury

Also present were Highway Superintendent Randy Bates, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Mark Overbaugh, Assessor Richard Tollner, Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck; and six interested citizens.

- Approved the minutes of the Work Meeting held on April 8, 2014 and the Regular Meeting held on April 10, 2014
- Approved the payment of all signed vouchers: General Fund -\$42,004.22; Highway Fund - \$12,070.52; Lighting District - \$732.62 (Preston Hollow- \$342.64; Rensselaerville- \$389.98); Sewer Fund - \$137.92; Water Fund - \$166.98; Trust Fund - \$3,670.53; Total Abstracts - \$58,782.79
- Correspondence: Thank you from the Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance re: donation in memory of Rachel Chase
- Accepted the Supervisor's report as presented by Deputy Supervisor Cooke: Supervisor Lounsbury and Clerk 1 Hunt to attend the Association of Town's School on Annual Financing being held May 8th and 9th, 2014; Zoning review will be held on May 14, 2014; Board of Ethics procedures will be held on May 22, 2014; Adam Caprio is now in charge of the Emergency Action Plan; Department of Environmental Conservation will perform their annual inspection of the dam on May 22, 2014
- Approved the relocation of the two-way radio in front office further away from the telephones and closer to her office
- Accepted attorney's report as presented by Attorney Blake: all the necessary paperwork for the transfer of the Potter Hollow property is in order and that the transfer will be complete upon the filing of said paperwork; Attorney Fallati has prepared a draft of the changes to the Town's Code of Ethics procedures
- Accepted highway superintendent's report: culvert replacement on Hale Road; the highway department will begin patching and performing drainage work; presented a ten-year plan regarding the maintenance of town roads
- Authorized Superintendent Bates to attend the Cornell Local Road Program on June 2, 3, and 4, 2014
- Accepted the 2014 Highway Contract as presented by Superintendent Bates
- Accepted the Town Clerk's report: Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$1,115.96; Paid to the Supervisor - \$893.55 (Clerk Fees - \$80.59; Recycling - \$122.00 ; Dog Licenses - \$150.00; Building Permits - \$440.96; Zoning (RV Permits) - \$50.00; Senior/Youth Bus Donations - \$50.00); Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the 'Animal Population Control Program for dog surcharge' - \$24.00; NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for sporting licenses - \$198.41; Water Rents - \$2,480.11 which includes \$29.77 in late fees; Sewer Rents -\$2,686.48 which includes \$52.20 in late fees. The unpaid 2014 Property Taxes have been turned over to the Albany County Department of Finance in the amount of \$392,372.84. The Warrant was satisfied as of February 5, 2014 and a total of \$864,268.28 has been paid to Albany County.
- Accepted reports from Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Overbaugh, Assessor Tollner
- Approved the publication of a legal notice in *The Altamont Enterprise* announcing the receipt of the Water Quality Report, the mailing of the report to district users and location of copies for those who wish to have them

(Continued on page 6)

Highlights of May 8, 2014 Town Board Regular Meeting

(Continued from page 5)

- Accepted Refuse/Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck's report: Green Fiber - 9.9 tons; Rensselaer Iron & Steel - 3.9 tons ; Tires - 19; City of Albany Landfill - 54.18 tons; Sierra Fibers - 4.39 tons ; Oil - 46 gallons
- Current Events: Jack Long invited all to attend the Contra/Family Dance at Conkling Hall on May 17, 2014; Councilwoman Sedmeir reported on the progress for the Town-Wide Picnic on June 1, 2014
- Authorized an advertisement in *The Altamont Enterprise* seeking a clerk for the Assessors
- Approved the appointment of Patricia Drasser to perform the cleaning duties at Town Hall
- Authorized the advertising of a Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Clerk after the job description has been formulated
- Accepted the resignation of Deborah Geurtze as Court Clerk due to medical reasons
- Accepted the resignation of Councilwoman Cooke as Safety Coordinator; approved the appointment of Gerald Wood as Safety Coordinator
- Accepted Cameron Baitsholts as the newest Junior Member of the Medusa Fire Company
- Heard audience comments from Marie Dermody and Georgette Koenig

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM

Please note: Full Town Board minutes can be found on the Town's website at www.rensselaerville.com.



THIS JUST IN—CHANGES AT THE MEDUSA POST OFFICE

We have recently been notified that an informational meeting was recently held regarding the Medusa Post Office. Of the 287 surveys that were mailed, 88 were returned. As a result of these surveys, a realignment of hours will be implemented at the end of June.

The post office window will be open M-F from 8am to 12 noon and Saturday from 7:30am to 11:15am. There will be envelopes available for patrons to order stamps after hours with the orders being filled the next business day. The outside mailbox will have the same hours as it does now. However, the post office delivery truck will pick up the mail in the box instead of the postmaster.

A summary of these changes will be posted at the Medusa Post Office.

**THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL
IN CONJUNCTION WITH AND SUPPORTED BY ORGANIZATIONS,
BUSINESSES & RESIDENTS OF OUR TOWNSHIP,
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO
A TOWN-WIDE PICNIC
(A CELEBRATION OF OUR LOCAL HAMLETS)**

WHEN: SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2014
2 PM to 4 PM

WHERE: THE GROUNDS OF TOWN HALL

WHY: TO BRING OUR 5 HAMLETS TOGETHER TO SHARE A MEAL AND BUILD COMMUNITY SPIRIT!

- There will be lots of good food to enjoy including chicken, and hot dogs. Condiments, rolls, paper goods, plastic ware, iced tea, lemonade, and water will be provided.
- If your last name begins with A through M please bring a salad of any kind to share.
- If your last name begins with N through Z please bring a dessert of any kind to share.
- Take time to browse the information tables of the various organizations and businesses throughout the Township.
- Visit with our Fire Departments, the Ambulance, and Albany County Sheriff's Office and K9 Unit (demonstration at 3:30pm).
- Music by Captain Squeeze and the Zydeco Moshers.

***There will be a ceremony to honor our service members
at 3:00 PM around the "Ring of Honor".***

We Hope To See You There!





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Volunteers to Compete for Cash Donations at the Rensselaerville Cycling Festival

\$750 Raised to be Donated to Charitable Organizations of the Winning Volunteer Teams' Choice at the Event on September 28, 2014

Hundreds of cyclists are heading to the Carey Institute for Global Good in Rensselaerville, New York, on the weekend of September 28, 2014, for the first annual Rensselaerville Cycling Festival, and the organizers are seeking volunteer assistance. The Festival includes non-competitive bicycle rides for all ages and abilities, and a festivities open to the general public at the Carey Institute. The Festival organizers recognize the importance of dedicated, enthusiastic and creative volunteers to the success of this event.

To this end, the Festival organizers are planning an exciting Volunteer Competition in which groups will compete on behalf of charitable organizations for cash prizes. Volunteers are encouraged to support many types of local organizations, such as fire departments, libraries, historical societies and youth activity groups.

As part of their participation in the Competition, volunteers will support cyclists at festive aid stations, assist with registration, help ensure road safety, and lend copious amounts of creativity and enthusiasm to the day. Volunteers will receive a free Festival t-shirt and will have access to the Honest Weight Food Co-op morning Fuel-Up Station filled with tasty and nutritious snacks.

Thanks to Fenimore Asset Management and Toole Design Group, available cash prizes for the Volunteer Competition have now reached \$750. The Rensselaerville Cycling Festival organizers seek additional financial support for this innovative competition that leverages the excitement of volunteers at a world-class athletic event to support community interests. 100% of any additional support received for this competition will be transferred directly to the winning volunteer teams' charitable organizations.

Volunteers can participate by registering as either individuals or teams at the Rensselaerville Cycling Festival Volunteer webpage <http://www.rensselaervillecycling.com/whats-a-volunteer/> or by contacting the organizers by phone at 518-662-0211 or by e-mail at info@RensselaervilleCycling.com.



About the Rensselaerville Cycling Festival

The Rensselaerville Cycling Festival is an annual event held in Rensselaerville, New York, that was recently featured in Men's Journal as one of 'The Best 11 Gran Fondos in America.' The event is organized by Wrenegade Sports, LLC, and the inaugural edition will be on September 28, 2014.

The mission of the Rensselaerville Cycling Festival is twofold. Firstly, the organizers aim to showcase the area's beauty, vendors and organizations to the cycling community. The supported rides are lead by members of the Jamis – Hagens Berman Professional Cycling Team and pass working farms, historic villages, and pastoral landscapes. The Festival will feature a gourmet barbecue with locally-sourced ingredients, a market with local farms and vendors, access to the surrounding Huyck Preserve, and local live music. The organizers also aim to promote the enjoyment and wellness benefits of cycling to the greater Capital Region community. The event offers ride options for cyclists of all ages and abilities and uses the tagline "Let's Go Ride a Bike!"

About the Carey Institute for Global Good

The Carey Institute for Global Good in Rensselaerville, New York, is dedicated to making the world better by providing a place in nature where people connect, create and address today's most pressing issues.

The Carey Institute's three essential aims are to: strengthen community by partnering with local organizations so they can thrive economically, intellectually, and artistically; foster good governance by providing a place to discuss, incubate and spur sound policy, good government and strong leadership for New York State; and to advance global understanding by cultivating international trust and understanding with partnerships and programs that can effect positive change, and by providing a neutral place to explore issues and exchange ideas.

About Fenimore Asset Management

Fenimore Asset Management of Cobleskill, New York, offers separately managed accounts through the Fenimore Private Client Group and is the investment advisor to FAM Funds – mutual funds. Their mission is to help investors preserve their wealth and grow it over the long term.

To accomplish this, Fenimore's team of seasoned professionals conducts in-depth, independent research and analyzes the companies behind the investments to gain unique insights. Fenimore uses this firsthand knowledge and a time-tested process to help mitigate risk and achieve their investors' financial goals.

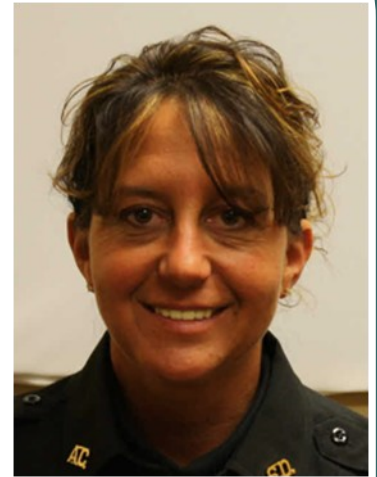
About Toole Design Group

Toole Design Group of Silver Spring, Maryland, is the nation's leading planning, engineering, and landscape architecture firm specializing in multi-modal transportation. With offices throughout the United States, Toole Design Group has a reputation for developing cost-effective, practical solutions that move people efficiently, while improving the health and quality of life of the community.

Toole Design Group believes that walking and bicycling are fundamental forms of transportation that should be available to everyone. Toole Design Group helps communities plan, build and retrofit their transportation systems so that walking and bicycling are safe, efficient, healthy and enjoyable forms of travel. Toole Design Group creates spaces that meet the needs of all users, regardless of whether they ride a bike, walk, use a wheelchair, drive a car, or board a transit vehicle.

Getting to Know You: Deputy Tracy Mance

The Albany County Sheriff's Office is ever-changing and taking a pro-active approach towards Community Policing. Deputy Tracy Mance, a fourteen year veteran with the Albany County Sheriff's Office, was recently appointed as the department's Community Liaison Officer (CLO). As the CLO, she will be responsible to dedicate a significant amount of time interacting with the public on a more personal level. "One of the ways we hope to accomplish this is by attending meetings in the Hilltowns to strengthen the bond between the Sheriff's Office and the community. We believe that by having a more consistent contact officer that this will allow for a more comfortable and informal relationship which will increase communication and allow the Sheriff's Office to continue to improve the quality of life for the residents that we serve," Sheriff Craig Apple said.



As a graduate of the College of St. Rose with a Bachelor's Degree in Biology with a minor in Secondary Education, Deputy Mance will be furthering her mission as the CLO by being available for civic groups to speak on a wide range of topics. In the past, she has assisted Girl Scout Troops in earning their "detective badges" and has met with Boy Scouts Packs to explain fingerprints and how they assist in solving crimes. She has lectured to seniors about safety and scam awareness and has helped promote children to make healthy choices. As a face for the public, she has also attended several events bringing a Sheriff's patrol car and other agency resources to display all that the Sheriff's Office has to offer in times of great need.

Deputy Mance can be reached for any **non-emergency** questions or concerns at 518-655-7831 or at Tracy.Mance@albanycounty.com. She is also the contact officer if there are any events that coordinators would like to request the Sheriff's Office to attend. There are an endless number of topics that she is qualified for and willing to discuss at group meetings. Please feel free to contact her at any time.

Town of Rensselaerville Annual Picnic

The Town of Rensselaerville will hold a second annual town-wide picnic on Sunday, June 1 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm on the grounds of the town hall to celebrate the unity of its five hamlets: Cooksburg, Medusa, Preston Hollow, Potter Hollow and Rensselaerville.

The Town Council created this event as a way to bring residents together to share a meal and build community spirit. Hot dogs and grilled chicken donated by the fire departments and homemade salads and desserts will be on the menu along with music by Captain Squeeze and the Zydeco Moshers and information tables hosted by town businesses, organizations and churches. The Albany County Sheriff's Office mobile RV will be onsite with Operation Safe Child to provide parents with child identification and a demonstration of the K-9 program at 3:30pm. The volunteer fire companies and the ambulance corps will have vehicles and representatives on hand. The American Legion will hold a ceremony at the "Ring of Honor" at 3:00pm to honor Town of Rensselaerville residents who are veterans and active members of the armed services.

All current and former Town of Rensselaerville residents are invited. Those whose last name begins with A through M are asked to bring a salad to share; those whose last name begins with N through Z are asked to bring a dessert to share.

Businesses and organizations that want to host an information table should contact Margaret Sedlmeir at 518-239-6282.

Senior Citizens Info

The Town offers car service Mon-Fri by appointment only. Contact Ann Vogel at 797-3376 for doctor appointments. The Senior bus also goes shopping on Thursday either to Cobleskill or Catskill. Call Ann Vogel 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 and due/collected 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.

At the June 10, 2014 meeting, dues for the year (\$8.00) will be collected and there will be the election of officers.

Three trips are planned for the future:

- Forestburgh Playhouse in Monticello on July 9th - Casino, buffet lunch, and the play "Mame" with Loretta Swit from MASH
- Steam train and riverboat ride in Essex, CT on August 27th, with lunch included
- Lancaster Co. Amish Trip on Oct 1 , & 2 - the play "Moses" at the Sight and Sound Theater, a visit to Amish shops, and an Amish dinner

Mark your Calendar! August 12, 2014 - picnic at the Westerlo Town Park

Please note that we are in desperate need of drivers for the bus and the car. Please call Ann Vogel at 797-3376 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



Did you know...

... that Tabner, Ryan & Keniry LLP (Attorneys to the Town) billed the Town of Rensselaerville \$11,291.00 for their work on amending the zoning law in 2013? This is in addition to their annual stipend of \$32,000. We have found nothing in Town Board minutes authorizing this expenditure or informing the public that this project was underway. And at \$175 per hour, how much of this time (64.52 hours) is clerk/typist time that could perhaps be handled by our own planning/zoning clerk at a much lesser cost to taxpayers?

On The Calendar

June 1, 2014	2:00-4:00pm	Rensselaerville Town-wide Picnic	Town Hall Grounds
June 10, 2014	12:00pm	The Rensselaerville Senior's Club	Medusa Fire House
June 10, 2014	7:00pm	Town Board Work Meeting	Town Hall
June 12, 2014	7:00pm	Town Board Regular Meeting	Town Hall
June 15, 2014	8:00-11:00am	Father's Day Breakfast Come and enjoy Glen's pancakes!	Rensselaerville Firehouse
June 17, 2014	7:30pm	Democratic Social Club Meeting All are welcome to attend!	Medusa Firehouse
July 1, 2014	7:00pm	Town Board Special Meeting: Zoning Review	Town Hall
July 9, 2014		Senior Citizens trip to Forestburgh Playhouse in Monticello:	
July 15, 2014	7:00pm	Town Board Special Meeting: Zoning Review	Town Hall
Aug. 27, 2014		Senior Citizens trip: Steam train and riverboat ride in Essex, CT lunch included	
Sept. 28, 2014		Rensselaerville Cycling Festival-	
Oct. 1-2, 2014		Senior Citizens trip: Lancaster Co. Amish	

SAVE THE DATE! The Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department will celebrate its 75th anniversary on September 6, 2014, at the Carey Conference Center. More details to follow.

Move, Breath, Relax

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

Sarah Nelson Weiss, CYT
savitrisarah@gmail.com, 518-239-6825

Classes at Conkling Hall in Rensselaerville Open to all, \$10

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	Robert Bolte	rbolte@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Margaret Sedlmeir	msedlmeir@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Gerald Wood	gwood@rensselaerville.com
Supervisor's Clerk	Sarah Hunt	shunt@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk	Victoria Kraker	townclerk@rensselaerville.com
Highway Superintendent	Randy Bates	rbates@rensselaerville.com
Assessors	Donna Kropp Richard Tollner Kathryn Wank	assessors@rensselaerville.com
Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer	Mark Overbaugh	codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com
Planning Board	Richard Amedure	mcarney@rensselaerville.com
Zoning Board of Appeals	John Mormile	mcarney@rensselaerville.com
Board of Ethics		ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com

ASSESSOR'S CLERK WANTED

The Town of Rensselaerville has an immediate opening for a qualified clerk to the Assessor's Office working 20 hours per week. The position requires performing specialized clerical work in processing and reviewing assessment records (records relating to value transmittals, sales confirmations, property splits, combinations and revisions; address and site changes, new building permits and exemptions); assisting in exemptions and assessment roll preparation; applying and explaining assessment regulations, procedures and practices to the public (titles of property, standard assessments, parcel maps and appraisals); maintaining the assessment database; preparing correspondence. This position requires a high school education with two years of clerical/record keeping experience preferred. It also requires one to work closely with the Board of Assessors and maintain confidentiality. Experience with Microsoft Word and Excel preferred; excellent communication skills, public service skills and math skills a must. Please send cover letter and resume to the Town of Rensselaerville, Town Clerk, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY 12120.

From the Editors: Please note that at the May 8, 2014, Town Board meeting, the Town Board decided that the hourly pay for the assessor's clerk would be \$10.50 per hour. Also, they did not indicate a deadline by which letters of interest needed to be submitted, so we strongly suggest that you get your cover letter and resume in as soon as possible if you are interested in applying for this position.

The Back Page

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SAVE THE DATE – The Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department will celebrate our 75th Anniversary on September 6th at the Carey Conference Center. More details to follow.

The link below will take you to the Albany County Sheriff's Office Newsletter for May 2014:
<http://www.scribd.com/doc/226818821/Albany-County-Sheriff-May-2014-Newsletter>



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.



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