

# R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 6, Issue 5

July, 2019

## Draft Minutes, Town Board Special Meeting, June 4, 2019

A Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019 at 7:00 in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor John Dolce and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Thomas Fallati, Supervisor John Dolce, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Brian Wood – Arrived at 7:04 pm, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

ABSENT WAS: Councilman Jason Rauf

Also present were Assessors Donna Kropp, Jeffry Pine and Kathryn Wank, Assessor's Clerk Debra Baxter, Maggie Alix from the New York State Office of Real Property Tax Services and ten interested citizens.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to discuss the options of the Town moving towards a Sole Assessor.

Attorney Fallati gave a brief synopsis of changing from an elected board of three assessors to a Sole Assessor.

The Assessors provided an educational packet from the State of New York, Department of Taxation and Finance, Office of Real Property Tax Services which outlines changing from the three-member board of Elected Assessors to a Sole Assessor. The educational packet is added as an addendum at the end of the minutes.

All three of the Town's current Assessors spoke in favor of changing from the elected board of three to an appointed Sole Assessor. Assessor Pine noted that with a single assessor the Town would have a professional who would be much more qualified and who would have a much greater network and availability of resources. He also noted that an elected Sole Assessor could potentially come into office without any knowledge whatsoever; whereas an appointed Assessor is required to enter into office fully certified. Assessor Kropp dittoed Assessor Pine's views and added that the training is intense and time-consuming and it takes close to 3 years to become certified. There is a learning curve and when a new individual is potentially coming into office every two years, it makes it even more difficult. The lack of experience poses yet another challenge. Assessor Wank is in agreement with Assessors Pine and Kropp. She added that each year the State requires more and more reports and feels the position of Assessor

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should be a professional one. Assessor Wank, as well as the others, is in favor of an appointed Assessor as opposed to an elected one. An appointed Assessor opens up the pool where the elected Assessor is limited to a resident of the Town. It has become commonplace for a Sole Assessor to work two or more towns, thus saving each individual town money as each individual town is not footing the costs for three assessors, but rather multiple towns are sharing in one assessor's expenses.

Richard Tollner, who currently serves as an appointed Sole Assessor in two towns and formerly served as an elected assessor in the Town of Rensselaerville, offered his experience in a few regards. He explained that the number of hours a sole assessor would be committed to is based on the given town's size. The benefits of a sole assessor are continuity, cost savings, networking. A seasoned, educated sole assessor would have the ability to answer questions that an elected sole assessor may not have any knowledge on.

Maggie Alix offered information based on her 15 years as an Assessor as well as her service on the Executive Board for the New York State Assessor's Association. She noted that the Board has a website for job postings for assessors and in her experience, vacancies have been filled within 30 days. Albany County provides some of the basic training for assessors and then the NYS Assessor's Association provides the additional training. Albany County has a huge network and also partners with Schenectady County. Ms. Alix offered her assistance to help set the Town up for success.

Several members of the audience had questions and concerns which were discussed. Several others offered suggestions which the Board will take into consideration.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Wood.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Sedlmeir and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Rauf*

### **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk



## Draft Minutes, Town Board Work Meeting, June 11, 2019

The Work Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019 at 7:00 in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor John Dolce and the roll was called with the following results:

**PRESENT WERE:** Supervisor John Dolce, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman Jason Rauf, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Brian Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were Superintendent Randy Bates, Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck and Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Ed Lawson.

### **KATHRYN SIKULE**

Kathryn Sikule wished to present to the Board the idea of using the Youth/Senior bus to transport citizens of the Town of Rensselaerville to and from the Grey Fox Blue Grass Festival in July. The thought was to have the bus stop at each of the three fire houses within the Town a couple of times a day. A

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**Draft Minutes, Town Board Work Meeting, June 11, 2019**

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donation which would go towards the Youth/Senior Bus Fund would be requested. Supervisor Dolce will contact Attorney Thomas Fallati regarding the legalities.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR**

Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector proposed putting a “Planning Board & Zoning Board of Appeals” and a “Land Annexation/Lot Line Adjustment” application and instructions on the Town’s web-site.

Officer Lawson would also like to see a few minor changes/updates to the fee schedule.

**MINUTES:** Minutes to be accepted at the Regular Meeting on Thursday:

May 7, 2019 – Work Meeting

May 9, 2019 – Regular Meeting

**BUDGET MODIFICATIONS/TRANSFERS:** Budget Modifications and Transfers, if any, will be addressed at the Regular Meeting.

**VOUCHERS AND BILLS:** Vouchers and bills will be addressed at the Regular Meeting on Thursday.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Supervisor Dolce as well as Councilman Wood have been informed of several potential hazards at the Rensselaerville Park. In the interest of safety, Superintendent Bates and the Highway Department will address the issues as soon as possible.

**REPORTS:** The regular reports from the Supervisor, Attorney, Highway Department, Town Clerk, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector, Assessors, Water/Sewer Committee, Recycling Center, and Library will be given at the Regular Meeting on Thursday.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Councilman Rauf will have an update on the progress of the Solar Committee on Thursday.
2. Supervisor Dolce announced that there were no updates from Weston & Sampson Engineering regarding the repair to the pipe under the dam.
3. Councilman Wood is handling the sexual harassment training and has informed the Board that it can be accomplished via interactive u-tube videos.
4. The State auditors are still working at Town Hall.
5. There are no updates on the NYS Park Police firing range.
6. There was a Special Meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Town moving towards a Sole Assessor. Attorney Fallati will have more information on this subject on Thursday.
7. Attorney Fallati will be asked to address the issue of the sidewalks on Thursday.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Authorization is needed to renew the Highway’s on-line bidding authority.
2. The resignation of Planning/Zoning Board Clerk Diane DeSanto will need to be accepted.
3. Authorization is needed to allow the Town Clerk to advertise for a new Planning/Zoning Board Clerk.

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### HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Bates informed the Board that he received a \$2,400 invoice from Gorman Bros. back in December for the rental of a paver. The project that should have taken two days, took seven days due to weather, breakdowns and other complications. The Town was billed for only one day (\$2,400/day) instead of the two days that the paver was actually in use. Recently, however, Superintendent Bates received an invoice for an *additional* \$4,800 – two additional days at \$2,400/day. He has negotiated with Gorman Bros. to pay \$2,400 and they have agreed.

Superintendent Bates would like to rent a small reclaimer from Carver Sand & Gravel at a rate of \$250/hour. To rent a large reclaimer would cost \$5,000/day plus transportation fees.

Superintendent Bates is also looking into purchasing a large reclaimer for \$32,000 and sharing the cost with neighboring Towns.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf, Sedlmeir and Wood; Nays (0)*

Following the meeting, the Board members, Superintendent Bates, Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck and Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Lawson did a walk-through of the highway department and recycling center to assess what improvements would be necessary to improve the safety and well-being of the Town's employees.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk



## Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, June 13, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor John Dolce and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Thomas Fallati, Supervisor John Dolce, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman Jason Rauf, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

ABSENT WAS: Councilman Brian Wood

Also present were Highway Superintendent Randy Bates, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Ed Lawson, Assessors Donna Kropp and Kathryn Wank, Water/Sewer (acting) Chairman Bill Bensen, Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck, Kim Graff from the Rensselaerville Library and eleven interested citizens.

### MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2019 – Work Meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dolce.

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**Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, June 13, 2019***(Continued from page 4)*

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2019 – Regular Meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

**BUDGET MODIFICATIONS/TRANSFERS**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the following budget amendment:

From 'Water' SW8310E 44999 to 'Water' SW8310E 22080 in the amount of \$ 832.00 to cover the cost of the turbidimeter. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rauf.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

**ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS:** General Fund - \$33,080.08; Highway Fund - \$19,127.81; Lighting District Fund - \$1,543.77; Sewer Fund - \$150.96; Water Fund - \$1,606.73; T&A Fund - \$956.51. Total Abstracts - \$56,465.86

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to pay all signed vouchers and bills; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Rauf.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Supervisor Dolce received a note from Kathy Hallenbeck thanking the Town Board for allowing the American Legion Auxiliary the opportunity to distribute poppies at the Recycling Center. Mrs. Hallenbeck also thanked the residents for their generous donations which support the Veterans.

**REPORTS****SUPERVISOR**

1. Supervisor Dolce reported that Cintas agreed to the \$1,600 invoice.
2. Clerk 1/Bookkeeper Linda McCormick has been working with ADP and they expect to have everything set up by July 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. Supervisor Dolce has been working on getting a better system and better rates for the phones at Town Hall. He has also been looking into better rates for the computer programs and security system.
4. Supervisor Dolce announced that MGS Lawn Care & Landscaping would be doing the mowing at the Public Safety Building.
5. The books for 2018 are finally closed.
6. There was a \$2,100 septic repair. Vadney's Underground Plumbing came out a second time at no charge to the Town.
7. At the Work Meeting the Board did a walk-through of the Highway Department and Recycling Center. Supervisor Dolce along with Superintendent Bates and Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck are going to come up with a plan on what they believe needs to be done and how to get it accomplished.
8. Attorney Fallati prepared a letter that will be included in everyone's paycheck regarding New York State's Public Health law on smoking.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to accept the Supervisor's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Rauf.

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## Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, June 13, 2019

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*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

### ATTORNEY

1. Attorney Fallati prepared a letter regarding the lack of emergency services on CCC Camp Road.

A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to authorize Attorney Fallati to submit the letter to the counsel for the Department of Environmental Conservation in regards to the conditions of the CCC Camp Road. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

2. Attorney Fallati also drafted a letter to the solar developers putting them on notice that the Town would require a PILOT program (payment in lieu of taxes), if applicable.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dolce to allow Attorney Fallati to send the letter to Clean Energy Collective. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rauf.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

A motion was made by Supervisor Dolce to accept the Attorney's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

1. Superintendent Bates reported that the Highway Department has been patching, ditching, placing blacktop millings, mowing and performing the usual springtime activities.

2. The weather has delayed the paving projects by about a month.

3. Superintendent Bates would like to rent a reclaimer for \$250/hour for a period of 2 days.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to allow Superintendent Bates to rent the reclaimer from Carver Stone & Gravel for \$250/hour. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

4. The Hyundai excavator will be placed on the Auctions International website. The bidding will end on July 10<sup>th</sup> which will allow Superintendent Bates to announce the results at the next Regular Board meeting.

5. The Highway Department repaired the broken pipe at the Rensselaerville Park.

**[Editor's Note: There was no motion to accept the Highway Superintendent's report.]**

### TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk Kraker reported for the month of May as follows: Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$2,133.08. Paid to the Supervisor - \$1,915.67 – the breakdown is as follows: Clerk Fees - \$18.09; Recycling - \$225.50; Dog Licenses - \$124.00; Building Permits - \$1,103.08; Title Searches—\$345.00; Zoning - \$100.00. Total - \$1,915.67

Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the 'Animal Population Control Program' aka 'dog surcharge': \$19.00

Electronic sweep from the Town Clerk's checking account for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation - Sporting licenses: \$198.41

No Water Rents were collected for the month.

Sewer Rents collected for the month totaled \$507.98; which includes \$3.36 in penalties.

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

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR**

1. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Lawson reported for the month of May as follows: one Deck permit for \$50.00; one Home Replacement permit for \$180.30; two Home Addition permits totaling \$171.68; one Building Repair permit for \$50.00; and four Accessory Building permits totaling \$651.10. He also collected \$345.00 in Title Searches and \$100.00 for RV Permits. His department also continues to close out old permits.

2. Officer Lawson would like to see a packet for "Planning Board & Zoning Board of Appeals" and a "Land Annexation/Lot Line Adjustment" placed on the Town's website. Having these applications and instructions available on the website would allow individuals to get a head-start and a better understanding of what is required for their proposed projects.

Discussion followed on the fee schedule and some changes Officer Lawson would like to see made.

A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to authorize the placement of the packets on the Town's website, but to not include any fees. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to accept the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector's report; 2nd by Supervisor Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

**ASSESSORS**

1. Assessor Kropp announced that the Assessor's Office has gotten through the Tentative Roll and Grievance Day and is now preparing for the Final Roll which is due July 1st.

2. Assessor Kropp discussed recent changes to the STAR exemption program noting that if a taxpayer currently receives the STAR benefit as a reduction on their school tax bill (the STAR *exemption*) they may receive a greater benefit if they switch to the STAR *credit* program. With the STAR *credit* program, the taxpayer receives a check instead, and the value of the STAR *credit* savings may increase by as much as 2% each year.

Another change is that the income limit for the Basic STAR exemption is now \$250,000. If a taxpayer's income is more than \$250,000 they MUST switch to the STAR *credit* program. If a taxpayer's income is \$250,000 or less, they will have the option to switch.

3. Beginning July 1st, the Assessor's Clerk's hours will be Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to Noon.

A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to accept the Assessor's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

**WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE**

1. Bill Bensen, acting Chairman of the Water & Sewer Committees, reported that most of the Committee's energy has been directed towards the repair of the Lake Myosotis dam. Mr. Bensen has received word that there is a federal program under the Department of Homeland Security for the rehabilitation of high-hazard dams. There is a total of \$10,000,000 available, but the application itself is 35 pages and after

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that, the State will determine who is eligible. However, he felt that it was important to get on the list of applicants.

2. Committee member, John Arrighi, who spent many years in Division of Budget for New York State has been studying the finances of the Water and Sewer Districts to get a better understanding of where the Districts stand financially.

3. Mr. Bensen has suggested that the Committee request Weston & Sampson Engineers re-issue the RFP for the repair of the pipe. The previous, and only bid, was only valid for 45 days, therefore the RFP would have to be re-bid regardless. He will reach out to Weston & Sampson to discuss options. The de-certification of the dam is over the condition of the spillway which is a much larger problem. The leak came later on.

4. Robert Tanner has promised to have a letter regarding the replacement of the hydrant at the firehouse within a week.

5. Mr. Bensen received a list of the various curb-stop valves that are in need of repair. He has reached out to New York Rural Water to set a date for them to come out to assess the situation.

6. Discussion ensued over alternative sources of water, finances, the spillway and downstream insurance coverage.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Water & Sewer Committee's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Rauf.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

### **REFUSE/RECYCLING**

1. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported the following for the month of May as follows: Steel: 15.14 tons; City of Albany Landfill: 66.98 tons; Sierra Fibers: 4.57 tons comingled and 5.23 tons old cardboard containers; Oil: 22 gallons; Tires: 66

Councilwoman Cooke wished to thank Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck for his efforts to keep the Recycling Center open when the compactor was out of service. It required a lot of extra work on his part.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dolce to accept the Recycling Coordinator's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Rauf.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

### **RENSSELAERVILLE LIBRARY**

Kim Graff, Director of the Rensselaerville Library reported the following:

1. The Library did a climate literacy program a few years ago in which a number of people who attended that program were residents of the hamlet. Ms. Graff suggested that perhaps those individuals may be interested in sharing their experience.

2. There are two programs that are being supported by the local PBS channel WMHT, the Library and the Carey Institute. The first is on June 27<sup>th</sup> called 'Chasing the Moon' and the second is on July 28<sup>th</sup> called 'American Creed'.

On July 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm there will be a presentation on cyber security.

On July 27<sup>th</sup> there will be an author reading – Darryl McGrath – at noon.

The Summer Reading program is in full-swing.

The Annual Block party will be held on the first weekend of August on Main Street.

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A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to accept the Library report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.  
*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

**CURRENT EVENTS:** None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Councilman Rauf reported that the Solar Committee is working out the bugs of their proposed solar law and have aligned it to more closely resemble NYSEDA's (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's) model.

The Committee is looking to hold a public information meeting in the very near future and then present a more final draft to the Town Board.

2. Councilman Wood is handling the sexual harassment training, which he reported at the Work Meeting could be accomplished on-line.

3. The State auditors are still working at Town Hall.

4. There are no updates on the NYS Park Police firing range.

5. Attorney Fallati read proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2019 as follows:

#### **PROPOSED LOCAL LAW No. 1 of 2019 TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE, NEW YORK**

A local law to establish a single Assessor for the Town.

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, New York, as follows:

**Section 1. Repeal and Amend:** Local Law No. 1 of 1971 of the Town Law of the Town of Rensselaerville, codified as Chapter Five of the Town Law of the Town of Rensselaerville, is hereby repealed and the following is adopted in its place.

**Section 2. Single Assessor:** Pursuant to New York Real Property Tax Law Section 328, there shall be a single appointed Assessor for the Town of Rensselaerville, appointed by the Town Board pursuant to the applicable provisions of the New York Real Property Tax Law.

**Section 3. Term:** The term of office for the initial appointed Assessor shall commence on January 1, 2020 and shall terminate on September 30, 2025. Thereafter, the term of office for the appointed Assessor shall be six years, commencing October 1 and terminating on September 30, as set for the in Section 328 of the New York Real Property Tax Law.

**Section 4. Current Assessors:** The terms of office of the Town's current three elected Assessors shall terminate on December 31, 2019.

**Section 5. Effective Date:** This local law shall take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State.

#### **RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE TOWN BOARD**

WHEREAS, the Town Board is considering a change from the current system of three elected Assessors to a single appointed Assessor, pursuant to Section 328 of the New York Real Property Tax Law;

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WHEREAS, the attached proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2019 would effectuate such a change;

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 July 9, 2019 at 6:30 pm on the attached proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2019, and notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be published on or before July 3, 2019 in a newspaper circulating in the Town.

By motion made by Supervisor John Dolce and seconded by Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019 as follows:

<u>Town Board Member</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent/Abstain</u>
John Dolce, Supervisor	X		
Marion Cooke, Councilwoman	X		
Jason Rauf, Councilman	X		
Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilwoman	X		
Brian Wood, Councilman			Absent

**END RESOLUTION**

6. Discussion ensued over the sidewalks in the Town.

A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to authorize Supervisor Dolce to send a letter to the residents affected by the proposed legislation regarding the sidewalks in the Town of Rensselaerville. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to allow Kathryn Sikule the use of the Senior/Youth bus, as a fundraiser, to transport people to and from the Grey Fox Blue Grass Festival July 18<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

2. Supervisor Dolce addressed the condition of the parks within the Town, particularly the Rensselaerville and Medusa parks. He noted that the parks are allotted money every year and he would like to know what the money is being spent on. Safety is of utmost concern. Highway Superintendent Bates stated that there are issues with the Rensselaerville Park that need to be addressed immediately. Although it is not the responsibility of the Highway Department, there are some things that they are willing to assist with using their machinery. He suggested that if the Board directed the Highway Department to remove any dangerous structures, they would do so.

A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to authorize the Highway Department to perform any immediate and necessary repairs or removal of any hazards within any of the parks within the Town. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

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**Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, June 13, 2019**

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The Medusa Park should be maintained by the Medusa Fire Company. Councilman Rauf spoke to John Gordon who will speak to members of the fire department and look into developing a committee so that the park can be better cared for.

Kim Graff offered to reach out to parents that come into the Library to see if anyone would be interested in forming and/or joining a park committee.

3. Attorney Fallati addressed the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE  
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE  
TOWN BOARD**

WHEREAS, from time-to-time, the Highway Superintendent has requested from the Town Board approval to bid on equipment available in an on-line auction; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has found the auction process to be financially beneficial, allowing the Highway Superintendent to acquire useful equipment at a fraction of the cost of the acquisition of comparable new equipment; and

WHEREAS, Section 142(1) of the Highway Law permits the Town Board to authorize the Highway Superintendent to purchase equipment, tools and other implements to be used for highway maintenance, construction or reconstruction, snow plows or other devices for the removal of snow from the highways from monies appropriated for that purpose without prior approval of the Town Board, and in an amount or amounts to be fixed, from time to time, by the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is in the public interest to grant the Highway Superintendent such authority;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, that (1) the Highway Superintendent is authorized to bid on, and to purchase, equipment, tools and other implements to be used for highway maintenance, construction or reconstruction, snow plows or other devices for the removal of snow from the highways from monies appropriated for that purpose without prior approval of the Town Board, through September 30, 2019, up to an amount of \$10,000; (2) this resolution may be reviewed and re-approved quarterly; (3) the Highway Superintendent shall provide the Town Supervisor prompt notice of any bids and purchases made pursuant to this resolution; and (4) nothing in this resolution is intended to limit the Town Board's authority, by subsequent resolution, to modify or rescind this authority generally or with respect to a particular prospective purchase.

By motion made by Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir and seconded by Supervisor John Dolce, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019 as follows:

<u>Town Board Member</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent/Abstain</u>
John Dolce, Supervisor	X		
Marion Cooke, Councilwoman	X		
Jason Rauf, Councilman	X		
Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilwoman	X		
Brian Wood, Councilman			Absent

*(Continued on page 12)*

**Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, June 13, 2019**

(Continued from page 11)

**END RESOLUTION**

4. A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the resignation of Planning/Zoning Board Clerk, Diane DeSanto; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Rauf.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

Attorney Fallati will research the idea of having one of the Planning and/or Zoning Board members serve as the clerk and to pay them the clerk’s salary. Until then, the Board will hold off with advertising the position.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to enter into Executive Session at 8:57 pm for the purpose of discussing litigation; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Rauf.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to return from Executive Session at 9:13 pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Dolce, Cooke, Rauf and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker

Town Clerk



***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



**Attention Community Members  
Help Us Save Lives!!**

**FREE Opioid Overdose Prevention Training**

Jointly sponsored by  
The ALBANY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
The ALBANY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
and  
PROJECT SAFE POINT

<del>1/8/19</del>	<del>2/5/19</del>	<del>3/5/19</del>	<del>4/2/19</del>	<del>5/7/19</del>	<del>6/4/19</del>
7/2/19	8/6/19	9/3/19	10/1/19	11/12/19	12/3/19

**11:00 am  
175 Green Street – Lower Level  
(Next to Albany DMV)**

- Training is open to anyone and does not require RSVP
- Learn the signs and symptoms of Opioid Overdose
- Learn how to use Naloxone (Narcan) to respond to an overdose
- Each individual will receive an Intranasal Naloxone kit as part of the training.

For More Information Contact Joseph Filippone at 518-449-3581 Ext 130 or [josephf@ccalbany.org](mailto:josephf@ccalbany.org)



Daniel P. McCoy  
Albany County Executive



## RVFD News

- **IMPORTANT:** Our social number is: **966-0338**. Please update your records. In case of an emergency, call 9-1-1.
- **Is there a fire in you? Please come to a drill or meeting to find out more.**
  - ⇒ Drills are the first two Mondays at 7:00,
  - ⇒ Battalion meeting first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm (no meeting in August), and
  - ⇒ Fire Meeting last Wednesday of every month at 7:30 pm.



### **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 7:30am - 5:00pm; Sat 7:30am - 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

**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





**Contact Information for Elected Officials & Department Heads**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Town Supervisor Hours: Mondays 9am-12 noon Other times by appointment	John Dolce	jdolce@rensselaerville.com townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Town Councilwoman	Marion Cooke	mcooke@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Brian Wood	bwood@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Margaret Sedlmeir	msedlmeir@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman/ Deputy Supervisor	Jason Rauf	jrauf@rensselaerville.com
Town Justice Court: Mondays, 7pm	Gregory Bischoff Muriel Frasher	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Supervisor's Clerk	Linda McCormick	clerk1@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk Hours: M-W: 9am-3:30pm Th: 1:30pm-6:30pm or by appointment F: 9am-12pm	Victoria Kraker	townclerk@rensselaerville.com vkraker@rensselaerville.com
Highway Superintendent	Randy Bates	rbates@rensselaerville.com Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Highway Superintendent Clerk	Kim Welsch	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Assessors Clerk Hours: M-Th: 9am-12pm Assessor Hours: Th: 6:30pm-8:30pm	Donna Kropp Jeffry Pine Kathryn Wank	assessors@rensselaerville.com Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer Office Hours: Th: 8am-10am	Edwin Lawson	codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Planning Board Meetings: 1st & 3rd Th @ 7:30pm	Richard Amedure	spfleging@rensselaerville.com
Zoning Board of Appeals Meetings: 1st Th @ 6:30pm	Anthony Guadagno	spfleging@rensselaerville.com
Board of Ethics	Mary Anne Overbaugh	ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com
Dog Control Officer	Cheryl Tefft-Baitsholts	Phone: 728-8082
Refuse/Recycling Coordinator Refuse Station Hours: W, Sa: 7am-3:45pm	Jon Whitbeck	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Town Hall		Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339
<b>Albany Co. Hwy Dept.</b> 239-6715; 239-6710  Town Meetings: Work: Tues. preceding monthly mtg Regular: 2nd Thurs @7pm	<b>Sen. George Amedure</b> 46th District LOB, Room 802 Albany, NY 12247 455-2350; Fax: 426-6751 Amedure@nysenate.gov	<b>Assemblyman</b> 102nd District - Chris Tague LOB 937 Albany, NY 12248 518-455-5363 <a href="mailto:taguec@nyassembly.gov">taguec@nyassembly.gov</a>
		<b>County Legislator Chris Smith</b> 39th District Alb Co Office Building 112 State Street Albany, NY 12207 447-7168; (H) 447-7117



June 2019 **UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

~~APR 1 - MAY 31: "En Ploin Air" Art Show by Amy DiGi~~  
~~Open Monday through Friday 9AM - 5PM @ Guggenheim Gallery~~

~~JUN 22-23: Hilltowns Alive Main Street History Tour~~  
~~2PM @ Helderberg Brewery Taproom, 26 County Route 353~~

**JUL 6: Hilltowns Alive Anti-Rent Pub Crawl**  
2PM @ Helderberg Brewery Taproom, 26 County Route 353

**JUL 28: "American Creed" Film Screening & Discussion**  
4PM @ Guggenheim Performance Hall, Carey Institute for Global Good

**AUG 3: Rensselaerville Block Party** hosted by  
RVFD & The Rensselaerville Library  
6PM @ Main Street in the village of Rensselaerville

**AUG 17-18: Rensselaerville Ride**  
SAVE THE DATE @ Helderberg Brewery Taproom, 26 County Route 353

Visit [careyinstitute.org/event-calendar](http://careyinstitute.org/event-calendar) for more.



**Helderberg Brewery Taproom Hours**

Now Serving Coffee: MON-FRI 8am-11am

Evening Taproom Hours:

Weds | 5pm-9pm

Friday | 6pm-10pm

Sat | 2pm-8pm

Sun | 1pm-5pm (April-Dec only)

Location: 26 CR 353, Rensselaerville, NY 12147

RSVP/Info URL: <http://careyinstitute.org/programs/sustainable-communities/rgbrewery-taproom/>

**The Carey Institute for Global Good** is a not-for-profit organization founded in 2012 by Wm. P. Carey and is dedicated to making the world better by contributing to a strong, educated and just society. Through its programs, the Institute strives to bring together innovative and dynamic people from around the world to seek creative solutions to the most pressing challenges of the day. Learn more at [careyinstitute.org](http://careyinstitute.org).

For more information about what is happening at the Carey Institute for Global good, read the recent E-Newsletter by visiting the website at [www.careyinstitute.org](http://www.careyinstitute.org).



## SUSAN M STORY PSA-MP



[susanmstory.com](http://susanmstory.com)

## CONTEMPORARY IMPRESSIONS

*of the landscape in pastel*

**Guggenheim Pavilion**, Carey Center for Global Good

100 Pond Hill Road, Rensselaerville, NY 12147

**JULY 1 - JULY 31, 2019**

**RECEPTION: JULY 7, 3-5PM**

---

## TWO SIDES TO EVERY STORY

**Tempo Fine Arts**

6006 Main Street, Tannersville, NY 12485

**JULY 12 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2019**

**RECEPTION: JULY 13, 1PM**

**On the Calendar**

July 4

**HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY  
TOWN OFFICES CLOSED**

July 7	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
July 7	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
July 7	11:00 am	Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church Services	Rensselaerville
July 9	12 noon	Rensselaerville Senior Citizen Luncheon/Meeting	Medusa Firehouse
July 9	6:30 pm	Public Hearing: Local Law 1 of 2019 - Sole Assessor	Town Hall
July 9	7:00 pm	Town Board Work Meeting	Town Hall
July 11	7:00 pm	Town Board Regular Meeting	Town Hall
July 14	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
July 14	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
July 14	11:00 am	Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church Services	Rensselaerville
July 21	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
July 21	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
July 21	11:00 am	Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church Services	Rensselaerville
July 28	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
July 28	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
July 28	11:00 am	Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church Services	Rensselaerville

**Looking Ahead:**

For trips contact Janet Nelson @ 518-797-3963 or Ruth Snyder @ 518-239-4376



**Library News**



P.O. Box 188  
 1459 County Route 351  
 Rensselaerville, NY 12147-0188  
 Phone: 518.797.3949  
 Fax: 518.797.5211  
[www.rensselaervillelibrary.org](http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org)

**Library Staff**

**Director** - Kimberly Graff  
[director@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:director@rensselaervillelibrary.org)  
**Assistant** - Katie Caprio  
[library@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:library@rensselaervillelibrary.org)  
**Youth Services Coordinator**  
 Lee Ackerman-Sawyer  
[youth@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:youth@rensselaervillelibrary.org)

**Pages**

Ruby Acker  
 Keara Kelley  
 Emileigh Tanner  
 Leah Waldron

**Library Board of Trustees**

**President**  
 Janet Acker  
**Vice President**  
 Linda Styer  
**Secretary**  
 Paul Kelly  
**Treasurer**  
 Scott Kunkler  
**Trustees**  
 Carol Ash  
 JR Delia  
 Penny Grimes  
 John Gordon  
 Hans Soderquist

*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.

**Rensselaerville Library**  
 Schedule of Events through October 2018  
 All events are at the library unless otherwise noted.  
 Events subject to change. Please check our online calendar.

**New Hours**  
**Tuesday**  
 10-1pm & 3-8pm  
**Wednesday**  
 10-1pm & 3-6pm  
**Thursday**  
 10-1pm & 3-8pm  
**Friday**  
 3-7pm  
**Saturday**  
 10-2pm  
**Closed Sunday & Monday**

**Rensselaerville Library is Fine Free!**  
 Come start a new chapter with us!  
 The Rensselaerville Library is adopting a fine free policy for late items. Fees for lost and damaged items will continue to apply. This applies to Library cards used at Rensselaerville Library. If you use your Library card at other libraries in the System, you will be responsible for that Library's lending rules. Fine Free ensures that libraries are for everyone resulting in a strong community.

Don't forget we have museum passes and fishing poles to loan!

Thank You to all who Rambled!  
 Rensselaerville Ramble Trail Run and Walk  
[Results](http://rensselaervilleramble.weebly.com)

**JULY**

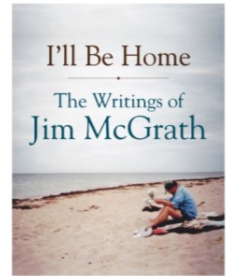
- 4 – Closed for the Holiday.
- 9 – 6pm – **Cyber Safety: Protect Your Data, Protect Your Privacy – John Borst from NYS Information Security Office will present how to safely navigate the world wide web and protect your privacy and data**
- 9, 23 – 6pm – **Poetry Group:** Bring your poem! Receive feedback from fellow poets or just share your words.
- 11 – 6pm – **Writing Group:** Writers of all interests, backgrounds, and abilities are welcome.
- 16 – 7pm – **Meeting of the Library Board of Trustees** – public welcome, meeting is on the lower level.

## Library News - Rensselaerville Library

(Continued from page 19)

### 27 – Noon – Author Talk with Darryl McGrath

**I'LL BE HOME: The Writings of Jim McGrath** Jim McGrath was chief editorial writer for the Albany Times Union. His editorials and commentaries charted many of the most critical issues in New York and the country: the death penalty, civil liberties, historic presidential campaigns, the economy, terrorism and more. The book is both a tribute to a memorable newspaperman and an insider's perspective on politics and life through the lens of an editorial writer, a position that Jim described as "a great seat at a really weird show."



### June 15 Through August 31 Summer Reading Program

This Summer's theme is a Universe of Stories. Visit <http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/summer-reading.html> for more information.



### 28 – 4pm – *American Creed* - a FREE Screening of *American*

**Creed A documentary examining the values and beliefs that hold Americans together, followed by a Community Conversation, facilitated by Paul Grondahl, Director of the NYS Writers Institute.** The idea for this film grew out of conversations between two Stanford University professors, political scientist and former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Pulitzer Prize-winning historian David M. Kennedy. Kennedy was drawn to history in large part to determine whether the United State has a "national character", and if so, what defines it and how it changes over time. The film is an outgrowth of these enduring questions. The screening will be followed by community conversations and refreshments. A FREE event.

30 – 6:30pm --**Research the Path to Discovery with Dr. Joseph Heyman** How did we get here – flying around the world, landing on Mars, man on the moon, driving cars at 65 MPH, watching TV, living healthy, searching the web? It all came from research, perhaps the most exciting life-work one can have! In this discussion, we explore the past; how research is the path to discovering new and exciting futures. Dr. Heyman will share stories from his 37 years at NASA. There are some OTU's (Out of This Universe) from his career that you may find amazing. He will share stories about solar wind, hiring an astronaut, the Space Shuttle, the Viking Lander on Mars, aircraft, wind tunnels and heart-lung machines.

## AUGUST

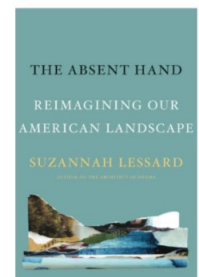
3 – 6pm – **Block Party.** Pig Roast, Live Music, Bounce House, Ice Cream, Popcorn and more.

8 – 6pm – **Writing Group:** Writers of all interests, backgrounds, and abilities are welcome.

13, 27 – 6pm – **Poetry Group:** Bring your poem! Receive feedback from fellow poets or just share your words.

20 – 7pm – **Meeting of the Library Board of Trustees** – public welcome, meeting is on the lower level.

10 – 12pm – **Author Talk with Suzannah Lessard** *THE ABSENT HAND REIMAGINING OUR AMERICAN LANDSCAPE* is an exploration of the meaning of place in our new era: the digital era, the era of climate change, the era of global finance combined with intense nationalism. This is a literary book yet also deeply reported, is personal and yet focused on what we share. The intention is to reimagine our environment as a pathway to political reinvention. Rensselaerville, where much of this book was written, has a starring role.



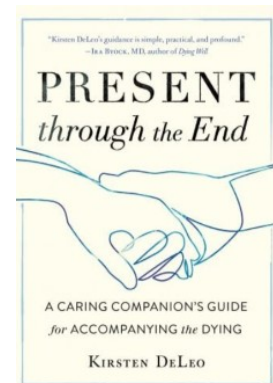
(Continued on page 21)



**Library News - Rensselaerville Library**

(Continued from page 20)

27 – 6:30pm – **Author Talk with Kirsten DeLeo** *Present Through The End: A Caring Companion’s Guide to Caring for the Dying* Join author and former resident of R’ville Kirsten DeLeo for a special evening to celebrate her new book! Inspired by decades of experience caring for dying people and teaching, Kirsten will share stories and practical tools to help us be present even when we feel utterly helpless and respond to the dying person’s needs and concerns.



31 – 4pm – **Lawn Party** Save the Date.

28 – 4pm – **American Creed** - a FREE Screening of **American Creed** A documentary examining the values and beliefs that hold Americans together, followed by a **Community Conversation**, facilitated by **Paul Grondahl, Director of the NYS Writers Institute**. The idea for this film grew out of conversations between two Stanford University professors, political scientist and former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Pulitzer Prize- winning historian David M. Kennedy. Kennedy was drawn to history in large part to determine whether the United State has a “national character”, and if so, what defines it and how it changes over time. The film is an outgrowth of these enduring questions. The screening will be followed by community conversations and refreshments. A FREE event.

1459 County Route 351 | Rensselaerville, NY 12147 | 518-797-3949 | www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org



**BLOOD DRIVES**

**Tuesday, July 9, 2019**

**Sanctuary**

11693 Route 32  
Greenville, NY 12083

01:00 PM - 06:00 PM

**More Details**

Power Red Blood

**Tuesday, July 16, 2019**

**First Reformed Church**

1663 Helderberg Trail  
Berne, NY 12023

01:00 PM - 06:00 PM

**More Details**

Power Red Blood

**Saturday, July 20, 2019**

**Rensselaerville Public Safety Building**

380 Fox Creek Rd  
Medusa, NY 12120

07:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**More Details**

Power Red Blood



The need is constant.  
The gratification is instant.  
Give blood.™

# Rensselaerville Library

## Cyber Safety:

### Protect Your Data, Protect Your Privacy

With John Borst

**Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 6:00pm**

The World Wide Web can be a wild, wild world! But you can navigate the web safely and learn how to protect your privacy and data with resources made available from New York State and it's partners.

John Borst works for the New York State ITS Chief Information Security Office (CISO) and plays a role in managing and directing activities to increase cyber security awareness across the State of New York. This includes planning and participating in awareness presentations and events, developing avenues for outreach and developing partnerships with State and national work groups, and supporting the annual NYS Cyber Security Conference.



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# Rensselaerville Library

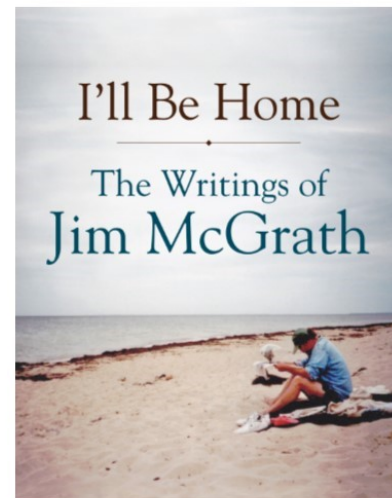
## ***I'LL BE HOME:***

### ***The Writings of Jim McGrath***

With Editor **Darryl McGrath**

**Saturday, July 27, 2019 at Noon**

Jim McGrath was chief editorial writer for the Albany Times Union. His editorials and commentaries charted many of the most critical issues in New York and the country: the death penalty, civil liberties, historic presidential campaigns, the economy, terrorism and more. The book is both a tribute to a memorable newspaperman and an insider's perspective on politics and life through the lens of an editorial writer, a position that Jim described as "a great seat at a really weird show."



EDITED BY  
Darryl McGrath and Howard Healy

Books will be available for purchase and signing.

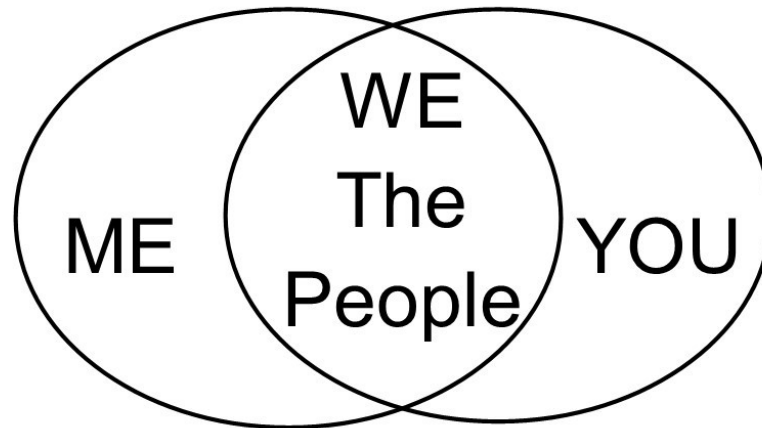


Darryl McGrath graduated from the Columbia Journalism School in New York City and was an award-winning reporter for a number of newspapers in the Northeast and Midwest, including the Albany Times Union, the Boston Globe, the Buffalo News, the Chicago Tribune and Metroland. Her first book, the critically acclaimed *Flight Paths: A Field Journal of Hope, Heartbreak, and Miracles with New York's Bird People*, was published by SUNY Press in 2016. She met her late husband, Jim McGrath, at the Times Union in 1996, and they married in 2001. She is at work on her third book, which is on a natural history topic.



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[www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org](http://www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org)

# Rensselaerville Library



Invites you to a FREE Screening of

## ***American Creed***

A documentary examining the values and beliefs that hold Americans together, followed by a Community Conversation facilitated by Paul Grondahl, Director of the NYS Writers Institute

**Sunday, July 28, 2019 from 4:00-6:00 pm**

**Carey Institute Guggenheim Pavilion**

The idea for this film grew out of conversations between two Stanford University professors, political scientist and former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Pulitzer Prize-winning historian David M. Kennedy. Kennedy was drawn to history in large part to determine whether the United State has a “national character”, and if so, what defines it and how it changes over time. The film is an outgrowth of these enduring questions.

The screening will be followed by community conversations and refreshments. A FREE event.



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www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org

**CAREY INSTITUTE  
FOR GLOBAL GOOD**

63 Huyck Rd  
Rensselaerville, NY 12147  
www.careyinstitute.org



# Rensselaerville Library

## Research The Path to Discovery

with **Dr. Joseph Heyman**

**Tuesday, July 30, 2019 at 6:30pm**

How did we get here – flying around the world, landing on Mars, man on the moon, driving cars at 65 MPH, watching TV, living healthy, searching the web? It all came from research, perhaps the most exciting life-work one can have!

In this discussion, we explore the past; how research is the path to discovering new and exciting futures. Dr. Heyman will share stories from his 37 years at NASA. There are some OTU's (Out of This Universe) from his career that you may find amazing. He will share stories about solar wind, hiring an astronaut, the Space Shuttle, the Viking Lander on Mars, aircraft, wind tunnels and heart-lung machines.



Dr. Heyman was a research scientist at NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia, retiring as the Center's Chief Technologist. He received a PhD in Physics from Washington University with a focus in Ultrasonics. He built the nation's largest laboratory at LaRC for the Science of Nondestructive Evaluation to enhance the safety and reliability of NASA Agency missions. He has 34 patents and numerous awards, his most cherished is the Silver Snoopy Award presented by astronauts for work on the Shuttle.

On retiring from NASA, Dr. Heyman started a small company that was acquired by Luna Innovations, making him their Chief Scientist. His spare time is filled with family and photography, which he teaches at The College of William and Mary Osher Program.



Rensselaerville Library  
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[www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org](http://www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org)

# SAVE THE DATE



3rd Annual

## BLOCK PARTY PIG ROAST & LIVE MUSIC Activities for Kids Main Street Rensselaerville 6 – 11 PM

### Saturday, August 3, 2019

Event co-hosted by Rensselaerville Library and Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department

More Information 518-797-3949 [www.RensselaervilleLibrary.com/blockparty.html](http://www.RensselaervilleLibrary.com/blockparty.html)



Photos by JR Delia



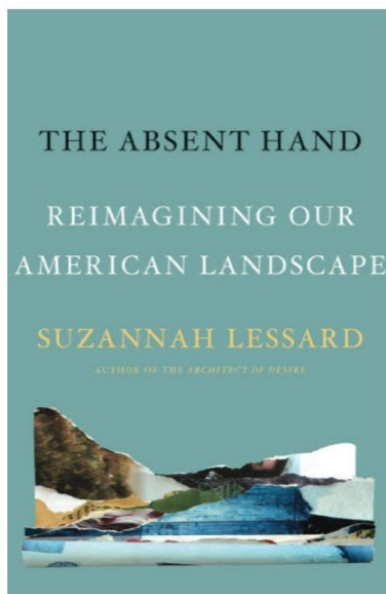
# Rensselaerville Library

## ***THE ABSENT HAND***

### ***REIMAGINING OUR AMERICAN LANDSCAPE***

With Author **Suzannah Lessard**

**Saturday, August 10, 2019 at Noon**



*The Absent Hand: Reimagining Our American Landscape* is an exploration of the meaning of place in our new era: the digital era, the era of climate change, the era of global finance combined with intense nationalism. This is a literary book yet also deeply reported, is personal and yet focused on what we share. The intention is to reimagine our environment as a pathway to political reinvention. Rensselaerville, where much of this book was written, has a starring role.

Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Suzannah Lessard is also the author of “The Architect of Desire: Beauty and Danger in the Stanford White Family” a memoir. A founding writer for The Washington Monthly, she was also on the writing staff of the New Yorker for many years and is a recipient of the Whiting and Lukas Awards. She teaches at The New School.



Rensselaerville Library  
1459 County Route 351  
Rensselaerville, NY 12147  
518-797-3949  
Director@RensselaervilleLibrary.org  
[www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org](http://www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org)

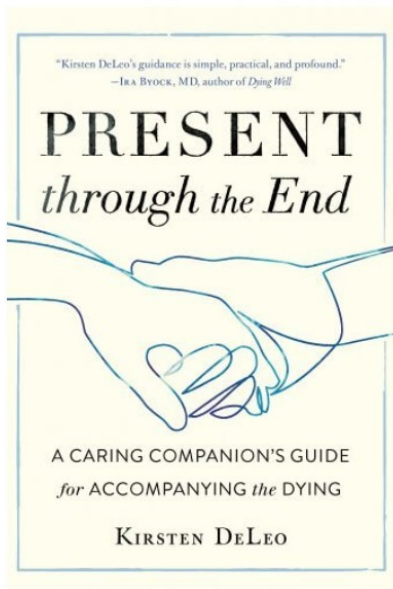
# Rensselaerville Library

## *Present Through The End:*

A Caring Companion's Guide to Caring for the Dying

With Author **Kirsten DeLeo**

**Tuesday, August 27, 2019 at 6:30**



Join author and former resident of R'ville Kirsten DeLeo for a special evening to celebrate her new book! Inspired by decades of experience caring for dying people and teaching, Kirsten will share stories and practical tools to help us be present even when we feel utterly helpless and respond to the dying person's needs and concerns.

Books will be available for purchase and signing.



Kirsten DeLeo has been teaching in the field of contemplative care for more than twenty-five years. She is lead faculty of *Authentic Presence*, a professional certificate in contemplative end-of-life care. She is a member of the Buddhist Ministry Work group, an initiative of Harvard School of Divinity. Kirsten lives with her husband Jeff in West Cork, Ireland.



Rensselaerville Library

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# Rensselaerville Library

Preserving a historical gathering place  
Promoting a life-long love of learning  
Fostering personal connections



Summer Reading 2019  
A Universe of Stories  
June 15th through August 31

Go online register for the summer. This program is for the entire family.

**Summer Reading**  
AT NEW YORK LIBRARIES

**A UNIVERSE OF STORIES**

— myON by Renaissance® —

**UN UNIVERSO DE HISTORIAS**

**LOG IN NOW**  
Username: read  
Password: books

As part of *Summer Reading at New York Libraries*, the State Education Department and myON®, by Renaissance®, are partnering to bring thousands of authentic, enhanced digital books to children from birth through 12th grade and their families all around the state. Unlimited, 24/7 access to the myON digital library will be available

through a single shared account login from May 1 through September 30. Children and families can read online using any web-enabled device and offline using free mobile apps.





## HILLTOWNS ALIVE PRESENTS | ANTI-RENT PUB CRAWL

JULY 6, 2019

**26 COUNTY RD. 353, RENSSELAERVILLE, NY 12147**

Join Helderberg Brewery and local artists for an Anti-Rent themed pub crawl! Local actors will reenact four key scenes of the tenant uprising against the Dutch Patroonship, spanning nearly three decades in upland areas east and west of the Hudson River. The crawl will be led by a narrator, accompanied with live music by Big Thunder and the Anti-Rent Ramblers, and take the audience from Helderberg Brewery Taproom to two outdoor stage locations, returning to the Taproom. Audience members will be invited to participate in each scene.

\*The crawl will require approximately 1 mile of walking, including some section of trails. Please wear appropriate footwear. Participants do not need to be 21+ to attend the event, however you must be of legal drinking age to consume alcohol during the event.

This event will start promptly at 2pm. The Taproom will open at 12pm for early arrivals. Register by [clicking here >](#)

Questions can be directed to Rebecca Platel by email at [rplatel@careyinstitute.org](mailto:rplatel@careyinstitute.org) or by phone at 518.797.5100

Hilltowns Alive is a new agritourism event series brought to you by the Helderberg Brewery and [Carey Institute for Global Good](#) in partnership with Discover Albany. Travel locally and experience the small businesses, natural beauty and creative culture of rural [Albany County](#).

### LOOKING AHEAD:

- July 28: "American Creed" Film Screening
- Aug 3: Hilltowns Alive Partnership with Rensselaerville Library & RVFD to present Rensselaerville Block Party
- Aug 17-18: Hilltowns Alive Presents the Rensselaerville Ride
- Oct 6: Hilltowns Alive Presents Helderfest



**July 13th, 2019**

**Trap Field Dedication Ceremony in Honor of**

**Albert "Al" Bates**

**Events**

9am-2pm Open Trap Shoot

2:30pm Trap Field Dedication

3pm Pig Roast (take out available)

\$12.50 Adults, Kids 10-under Free with a paid Adult  
Dinner/Pre-sale tickets available

Breakfast sandwiches, coffee, water, soda, hotdogs, hamburgers will also be  
available for sale. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the day!

For More info contact Scott Wank – 518-860-7631 or Denny McDermott – 518-488-0821)

**Rensselaerville Rod & Gun Club**

**196 County Route 353, Rensselaerville, NY 12147**

**Library News - Greenville Library****A Universe of Stories!****Greenville Public Library 2019 Summer Reading Program**  
**(966-8205)**

*This summer the Greenville Library will be offering a variety of programs for children. Activities will range from workshops and programs for elementary, middle schoolers and teens. Visit the library this summer and let your child discover the adventure and fun of choosing books from the library's collections and at the same time have fun participating in all of the activities we have planned for them. Reading Folders for the Summer Reading Program will be available in the Children's Room at the Library. The reading program runs from July 8 – August 31. We'll also have the Guessing Jar, candy to pick for books added to your Reading Folder and prizes for points collected. We'll also have a reading program for Teens & Tweens.*

**Bicycling****July 5****August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30****Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27****Ken Hardin****5:30-7:00**

This Spring/Summer there will be a weekly bike program at the Greenville Library, weather permitting. The Spring Group will meet every Friday starting May 17, and runs through July 5. The Summer Group will meet every Friday starting August 2, and run through September 27. It starts at 5:30 pm and ends around 7:00 pm. The instructor's goal is to Promote Bicycling within our community. Any age is welcome. If you're looking to get yourself or your child using a bike or are just looking for a few tips this is the program for you! Weekly agendas & activities will be based on participation. For more information and to sign-up for the first meeting please Contact Ken at (518) 364-9162.

**Summer Toddler Time****July 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30, Aug. 2****Infants ~ Toddlers ~ Pre-Schoolers****Devon Balta****9:00 – 9:45**

Calling all infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers, Devon Balta will be hosting a summer Toddler Time! This is a fun time for parents and their child/ren to engage with each other through stories, songs, games and the amazing parachute! Come to one class or all eight! Parents of children with pre-school experience are welcomed to drop off their child/ren for this class. **Just Drop In!**

**Kids Get Active!****July 10, 24, 31, Aug. 7, 14, 21**

Ages: Open to kids who have completed kindergarten  
kids who have completed second grade

**9:00 – 12:00**

Get Active teaches kids to exercise and maintain a healthy lifestyle during the summer through fun outdoor activities. During our 3 hours we will rotate between different outdoor games, reading time and snack time. Where: Drop off and pick up will be at the Greenville Library. For any questions please contact us! Sydney Smith: smiths@greenvillecsd.org or (518) 728-8268 Khalifah Tracey: traceyk@greenvillecsd.org or (203) 260-6686 **OPEN TO THE FIRST 20 THAT SUBMIT THEIR PERMISSION SLIP**

**High Tech Citizen Science  
(Entering) Second – Fifth Graders****July 15-18****Cornell Cooperative Extension 4H****10:30 – 11:30**

Youth will get a chance to get outside and learn about nature through observation and data collection. Who knew electronic gadgets can actually teach us about science? This program will show youth how to use iPads, GPS units and even trail cams to gather information that they can share with professional scientists. **Registration required.**

*(Continued on page 33)*



## Library News - Greenville Library

(Continued from page 32)

### Woven Bookmarks Grades 3 – 5

July 15

Judy Spring  
1:00 – 3:00

Participants will learn how to weave using various techniques. Pick from a variety of yarns to create a one of a kind bookmark. Use the bookmark yourself or give it as a gift to someone special. **Registration required.**

### Greek Mythology Ages 10 & up

July 16

Lisa Ahrberg & Family  
1:00 – 2:30

Calling all heroes! The Titans are back, and the Greek Gods and Goddesses need your help to beat them! They'll train you in all sorts of things until you're ready to defeat the Titans! **Registration required.**

### Quirky Faces Ages 7 & up

July 17

Theresa Corrigan  
1:00 – 2:00

Join mixed media artist Theresa Corrigan in this colorful and fun workshop. If you have ever been intimidated by drawing faces, don't be! You will create all kinds of faces; quirky faces, funny faces and collage faces. Theresa will break everything down into steps that are easy to follow. This is not a traditional art class striving for realism, but a fun class that's about making art that draws the viewer's eye in. **Registration required.**

### Movie Matinee: Boss Baby All ages

July 17

Library Staff  
4:30

Beat the summer heat and enjoy a cool movie matinee. A 7-year-old boy feuds with his new brother, a suit-wearing infant known as the Boss Baby. However, the two are soon forced to work together on a mission of espionage involving the rivalry between babies and puppies. We'll provide the popcorn ... you don't even have to buy tickets! What could be better? Bring a warm blanket or sleeping bag and curl up to watch the film. Stuffed animals welcome, but not required.

See you at the movies! Children 3 and under must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. **Just Drop In!**

### Fancy Nancy Tea Party Ages 3 & Up

July 18

Lisa Ahrberg & Family  
1:00 – 2:30

Ooh la la! Do you like being fancy? Then come to the library in your most elegant outfit for an exquisite tea party with magnificent snacks and sophisticated activities. (Those are fancy words for fancy!) **Registration required.**

### Peter Pan Ages 4 & Up

July 19

Lisa Ahrberg & Family  
10:00-11:30

**Class held on main floor of library**

Second star to the right and straight on 'til morning....Join us on a trip to Neverland for adventures with the lost boys, Tinkerbell and maybe even Captain Hook! **Registration required.**

### Christmas Angel: Christmas in July Ages 7 – Adults

July 22

Alice Tunison  
6:00 – 8:00

This beautiful Christmas angel is made with fabric, yarn, ribbons and tulle. And a halo! The angel is lovely as an ornament or tree topper and becomes a great memory when reused in Christmases to come. **Registration required.**

(Continued on page 34)

## Library News - Greenville Library

(Continued from page 33)

### DIY Cookie Art Workshop Ages 5 & up

July 24

Theresa Corrigan  
1:00 – 2:00

Theresa is looking forward to showing you how to DIY your very own extra large kindness kid sugar cookie. Each comes with a message of love and kindness just in time for Parent's Day on July 28. With Theresa's icing techniques and whimsical style your cookies will be beautiful edible works of cookie art. **Registration required.**

### Fun With Tie Dying Ages 10 - Adults

July 26

Beccie Therrien  
6:00 – 8:00

*Come have some crazy color fun in our tie dye class! Bring your favorite item to tie-dye. You'll learn to do the spiral or vertical scale. We will have a variety of colors to choose from. Tie-Dye your own t-shirt, canvas shoes, tote, socks, shorts or whatever small (white) item you want to dye! **Registration required.***

### Kids and Coding (Entering) Second – Fifth Graders

July 29 – Aug. 1

Cornell Cooperative Extension 4H  
10:30 – 11:30

Just like real-world engineers, youth will work in teams to plan, build, test and modify their own robotic creations. They will Lego, Mouse Robots and Tumble to experience three different coding methods that mirror programming language used by engineers and scientists. Youth will leave with a better knowledge of robotics, computer programming and team-work. **Registration required.**

### Beads, Beads, Beads, Galore! Ages 5 & up

July 29 Instructors:

Kristen Prayto &  
Barbara Flach  
2:00 – 3:30

Don't worry bead happy! Join us for an afternoon of creative fun using various types of *beads*. There is no such thing as "enough beads"! Make something with extra sparkle for yourself or for a special friend. We'll provide the beads you supply the imagination. **Registration required.**

### Fractured Fairy Tale Fun Ages 5 – 8

July 30

Carolyn Travers  
1:00 – 2:30

Fairy tales with a twist! Make some fairy tale puppets to make up your own tale. Enjoy games, stories, crafts & snacks. Fun for all! **Registration required.**

### Canvas Banner Painting Ages 8 & up

July 31

Carolyn Travers  
1:00 – 2:30

Paint or stencil a banner to hang in your room. There is no better way to decorate your own space. Just think how amazing it's going to look! Also, enjoy games, stories & snacks. Fun for all! **Registration required.**

### Mustache Madness Ages 5 - 8

Aug 5

Carolyn Travers  
1:00 – 2:30

Stories with mustaches! Make a mustache for your face and mustache crafts. Selfies welcome! Enjoy games, stories, crafts & snacks. Fun for all! **Registration required.**

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## Library News - Greenville Library

(Continued from page 35)

### Barbie Party Ages 3 & up

Aug 19

Kristen Prayto  
Barbara Flach  
2:00 – 3:30

It's time for you and your Barbie doll to put on your favorite party dresses. Come and enjoy games, snacks and other fun activities. Play with other girls. Fun for all! **Registration required.**

### Self Portrait With Acrylic on Canvas Ages 7 – Adults

Aug 19

Alice Tunison  
6:00 – 8:00

"Look into my eyes and hear what I'm not saying, for my eyes speak louder than my voice ever will." Study your reflection in the mirror and create what you see, your unique self portrait. The art materials provided will encourage individual expression for each self portrait. **Registration required.**

### Seahorses and Octopuses Ages 5 - 8

Aug 20

Carolyn Travers  
10:00 – 11:30

Seahorses are tiny fishes that are named for the shape of their head, which looks like the head of a tiny horse. Octopuses are sea animals famous for their rounded bodies, bulging eyes, and eight long arms. Enjoy tales, facts, crafts and snacks of these sea creatures. Fun for all! **Registration required.**

### Watermelon Wackiness Ages 8 & up

Aug 21

Carolyn Travers  
1:00 – 2:30

Did you know that watermelons are almost entirely water, which makes them a refreshing treat on a hot day! Make watermelon crafts, enjoy games, listen to stories and of course have some watermelon treats. Fun for all! **Registration required.**

### Jeopardy Ages 10 & up

Aug 23

Lisa Ahrberg & Family

Class held on main floor of library

A game where you'll respond to answers with the question – just like the hit game show! What is this library program? **Registration required.**

### Mini Manicures Ages 4 & Up

Aug 27

Pick a time slot!  
Begins 1:00

After a busy summer of fun it's time to have your nails painted. Bring a friend and have your nails done. Pick from a variety of colors to make your nails pretty. Choose a nail polish to take with you to treat yourself to a manicure at home. Make an afternoon of it and stop for an ice cream afterwards. Have fun! **Registration required.**



11177 Route 32  
PO Box 8  
Greenville, NY 12083  
(518) 966-8205

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

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## Library News - Greenville Library

July 2, 9, 16, 23,

7:00-8:30

Sponsored by the Greenville Public Library

The class will be held at the SRV Retreat Center.



Instructor for this class, Bruce Hilliger, has been studying and practicing many styles of Yoga since 1968. He teaches a form called Ananta Yoga, a combination of meditation and yoga postures. This yoga is filled with slow and sustained poses that help both stretch and loosen tightness in the body and facilitates easy breathing and meditation. This class is meant for people of all types of body descriptions, the young and old, and varying degrees of physical health. Some restrictions are there though. Contact Bruce if you have any questions please. Call the Greenville Library at 518-966-8205 or stop in to Register.

**WANTED:** Persons who love fabric arts and quilting...we'd LOVE to meet you! Learn new quilting techniques and meet others with similar interests. Sew and chat! You'll find the support and encouragement invaluable...with no fee! Open to all.

The Greenville Quilters meet every Wednesday from 1-3 pm in the Community Room at the Greenville Public Library, 1177 Route 32, Greenville, NY.

Contact Cindy at 518-966-5217 for more information.



### Greenville Local History Group

Don Teator, Town Historian, invites the public to attend the Greenville Local History Group meetings held in the libraries large community room the second Monday of the month, April thru November, at 7:30.

The Greenville Local History Group newsletter can be found at <http://www.dteator.com/glhg/glhg.htm>

The Town of Greenville Historian's holdings are listed in a nearly 50 page long Word document (as of May 2012). Click [Historian's files](#) to download. For further information, contact Historian Don Teator ([dteator@gmail.com](mailto:dteator@gmail.com)).

The Boarding Houses / Resorts of the Greenville, Greene County, NY Area is another document that Don has made available to the public. The purpose is to document the boarding house era establishments, give locations, supply additional information and indicate their fate. <http://www.dteator.com/zResort/resortweb.htm>

### Library News - Middleburgh Library

**7/1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - 1:30-5:00 - Mahjong Mania** - Every Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 a spirited group of people get together in the Community Room to play Mahjong. Don't know how to play? No problem! They will teach you how. No registration required.

**7/2, 9, 16, 23, 30, - 5:15 PM - Insight Meditation** - What do you want most deeply? Seeing your life calmly and clearly helps answer this. Insight Meditation is a simple way to steady your mind, stop wandering in day-dreams, and end the suffering of troubling thoughts. Our group is a place to sit quietly in safety, supported by others; to allow understanding and compassion to arise; to encourage loving-kindness and patience. We welcome those with no experience to advanced meditators', teens to seniors. give it a try. No registration is required. There is no fee. All are welcome.

**7/4 - July 4th, the library will be closed to observe the Holiday.**

**7/8 - 6:00 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting - The public is welcome.**

**7/11 - 1:00 PM - Book Discussion - "Empty Seats" by Wanda Fischer** - Here's a synopsis of the book: "It's a tale of three young men who had been stars in their respective home towns. When they're drafted by the Montreal Expos and come together in Jamestown, New York, in 1972 to play minor-league ball, they find it's like starting over again: No one knows who they are or what they're capable of doing on the baseball diamond." The Daily Gazette Book to be presented by the Author, Wanda Fischer.

**7/21 -4:00 PM - Concert - Zach Stevenson** - Named one of the top ten talents to watch in the Vancouver Sun, Zachary Stevenson is an accomplished singer, songwriter, actor and multi-instrumentalist. With a BFA in theatre, Zach has been featured both as an actor and musician in major theatres and concert venues across North America from Victoria to Halifax, from the Queen Charlotte Islands to New York City. Zach has played leading roles in Urinetown, Assassins, Hair, Hank Williams: The Show He Never Gave, The Ballad of Phil Ochs and led seven productions of the Buddy Holly Story from Ontario to Vancouver. Tickets are available at the door. A \$10.00 donation is suggested. Please use back entrance.

**7/23 - 6:20-7:30 PM - Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group - This program is open to anyone caring for a Alzheimer's patient.**

**7/27 - 9:00-2:00 - Book Sale** - Stop in and check out our HUGE book sale. Something for everyone. You won't be disappointed. Books, Audio Books, DVD's.

### **SUMMER READING PROGRAMS - "A UNIVERSE OF STORIES"**

#### **FAMILY**

**7/3 - 1:00 PM - Family Film - WALL-E (G)** - A lonely waste management robot with only a cockroach for a friend finds true love in another robot sent on a mission to Earth to see if it is safe for human life. Includes animated short, deleted scenes, commentary, and more. *No registration required. Free popcorn!*

**7/10 - 2:00 PM - Super Family Crafts** - Join us while we pull out all of our craft supplies! Make a collage, make a portrait or maybe just make a mess!

**7/10 - 7:00 PM - Life Size Solar System Exhibit** - Enjoy this full immersion walk through of our solar system for all ages! Spiral into the solar system on a glow in the dark path past scalar size planets with their moons, read about their discovery and the elements that they are made of at each planet. Dodge asteroids as you spiral out and learn about constellations and comets too! This program will inspire young and old alike to learn more about what science is doing to explore our solar system. *This program is for children of all ages. Registration is required.*

**7/12 - 5:30 PM - Dinner & A Movie - Family Edition - How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World (PG).** Our popular Dinner & a Movie Event especially for families. The library will provide pizza and

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## Library News - Middleburgh Library

(Continued from page 38)

drinks and you bring a dessert or a snack to share. *This program is part of our A Universe of Stories Summer Reading Program and is for families of all ages.*

**7/16 - 1:00 PM - Family Film - "The Iron Giant" (PG)** - Hogarth Hughes just rescued an enormous robot that fell from the stars to Earth. Now young Hogarth has one very big friend and an even bigger problem: how do you keep a 50-foot-tall, steel-eating giant a secret? Free popcorn! *This program is for all ages. No registration required.*

**7/18 - 1:00 PM - Wildlife Rehabilitator Kelly Martin** - Join wildlife rehabilitator Kelly Martin as she speaks to us about what she does rescuing and helping wild animals. She will bring some of the animals that are currently being helped! *This program is for all ages. Registration is required.*

### KIDS

**7/2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - 10:45 AM - Drop-in Storytime** - This fun and interactive program is meant for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers, although older siblings are always welcome! We read books, sing songs, play games, dance and watch a short movie based on a weekly theme. No registration is required!

**7/17 - 11:00 AM - Preschool Cooking & Storytime Popcorn** - In this fun program we will learn all about popcorn! How was popcorn discovered? How is it cooked? Make a popcorn necklace! We will read a book, play some popcorn games and make and eat some popcorn! This program is for kids ages 2-6. **Registration is required!**

**7/17 - 1:00 PM - A Universe of Lego's** - With as many bricks as there are stars in the galaxy, you will be able to create rocket ships, space stations and whole alien worlds out of Lego®! *This program is for kids going into grades 2-5. Registration is required.*

**7/19 - 1:00 PM - Super Duper Salad Bar** - Join us for our famous Super Duper Salad Bar, that the kids create! Get ready to shred, cut, slice and tear your way into fruits and vegetables. Maybe you'll be whipping up the salad dressing or slicing up the cucumbers? We'll definitely all be eating it in the end! *This program is for kids going into 2nd - 5th grade. Registration is Required.*

**7/24 - 1:00-3:00 PM - Take Flight** - How do birds fly? Why can't we? Can a bubble fly in outer space? What's the best shape for a wing? In this fun, hands-on program, kids will use feathers, paper, balloons, and bubbles to learn about concepts of flight. Students will design their own gliders and mini-helicopters to explore the properties of things that fly. **Registration is required.** *This program is for kids going into grades 1-4.*

**7/25 - 11:00 AM - Robots & Stars - Preschool Films** - Four short award winning stories: **Robot Zot, This is the House that Jack Built, Trashy Town and Stars! Stars! Stars!** that will sure delight your preschooler. Stay for one or all four! Snacks will be provided. *This program is for kids going into pre-school - K. Registration is required.*

**7/25 - 1:00 PM - Woven Blooms** - Join us in the fun and create a bright and cheerful flower using a precut flower shapes, markers, yarn and beads. These one of a kind creations will look great hung up in your room or house, or be a sweet gift to someone needing some cheer. *This program is appropriate for kids going into K-3.*

**7/31 - 1:00 PM - Space Travel with Mad Science of the Capital District** - Join mad scientists from Mad Science of the Capital District as they teach us about space travel. We will learn about the propulsion systems employed for space travel and participate in multiple hands-on experiments designed to introduce you to the concepts of thrust, propulsion, action/reaction, aerodynamics, rocket construction, the stages of rocket flight, and more. Then you'll get to launch a rocket outside - yay! **Registration is required.** *For kids going into grades 2-5.*

(Continued on page 40)

## Library News - Middleburgh Library

323 Main Street  
 PO Box 670  
 Middleburgh, NY 12122  
 (518) 827-5142  
[www.middleburghlibrary.info](http://www.middleburghlibrary.info)

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



## School Tax Relief Program (STAR) Changes

The School Tax Relief (STAR) program provides eligible homeowners in New York State with relief on their property taxes.

If you're a STAR recipient, you receive the benefit in one of two ways:

- the STAR **credit** program (open to any eligible homeowner whose income is \$500,000 or less)—you receive a check in the mail from the Tax Department to apply to your school taxes
- the STAR **exemption** program (now closed to new applicants)—you receive a direct reduction on your school tax bill in the form of a property tax exemption

Enhanced STAR, which provides increased savings, is available to qualifying senior citizens ages 65 and older in both the credit and exemption programs; see [STAR eligibility](#).

### What's new

Due to recent changes in the law, beginning this year, the income limit for the Basic STAR exemption is now \$250,000.

We are sending letters to homeowners who are impacted by this change and registering them for the STAR credit.

### What to do next

**If your income is greater than \$250,000 and less than or equal to \$500,000**

Most homeowners will not need to take additional action. The letter they receive (Form RP-425-RDS) confirms that, as long as they are eligible, we will issue their STAR credit check before their 2019-2020 school taxes are due.

However, some homeowners must provide additional information before we can issue a check for the



## School Tax Relief Program (STAR) Changes

*(Continued from page 30)*

STAR credit. These individuals will receive a letter (Form RP-425-RDM) explaining how to update their registration. After we confirm their eligibility, we will issue their STAR credit check.

Click here to [UPDATE REGISTRATION](#)

### If your income is \$250,000 or less

If you currently receive the STAR exemption, you can choose to register for the STAR credit to receive a check instead; you may receive a greater benefit, and your savings will never be less than the STAR exemption benefit.

Due to recent changes in the law, beginning in 2019, the value of the STAR credit savings may increase by as much as 2% each year, but the value of the STAR exemption savings cannot increase.

See [Register for STAR](#) to make the switch.

Source: <https://www.tax.ny.gov/star/>



**Kids' Activity Page**

**Word Find  
Puzzle**

Circle all the words hidden in the matrix below. Words go right, left, up, down, and on the diagonal.

When you have circled all the words listed below, the remaining letters spell out revolutionary words.

Adams	England	Lexington	Stars and Stripes
America	Fireworks	Liberty bell	States
Bald eagle	Flag	Minutemen	Summer
Betsy Ross	Franklin	Muskets	Taxation
Boston teaparty	Freedom	Old Glory	Thirteen
Citizen	George Washington	Patriot	Thomas Jefferson
Colonies	Hancock	Paul Revere	Thomas Paine
Common Sense	Independence	Red coats	Tory
Declaration	July Fourth	Representation	United States
Don't tread on me	King George	Revolutionary war	USA

D A D A M S R A W Y R A N O I T U L O V E R  
 N B U I N D E P E N D E N C E A - N I T E E  
 A O S E D - P S T N O T G N I X E L A M A D  
 L S E S S O R Y S T E B O T E A S O M F C C  
 G T T - - S E I N O L O C R A T M U E I I O  
 N O A B R I S O L D G L O R Y I S C T A R A  
 E N T A S E E S N E S N O M M O C I E V E T  
 G T S L M I N U T E M E N E N N Z R T F M S  
 R E D D P A T R I O T H I R T E E N E L A K  
 O A E E N I A P S A M O H T N V E N S A E C  
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 S E T A T S N I L K N A R F I R E W O R K S  
 E M N O D A E R T T N O D F R E E D O M A G

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>9AM-3PM

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CONKLING HALL, RENSSELAERVILLE





# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

JULY 30, 2019  
4:00pm to 7:00pm

St. John's Hall  
Rt. 81, Greenville NY

### 50/50 Raffle



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 OFFICE OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES  
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## Changing from Three Member Boards of Elected Assessors

The changing assessor profile in New York shows a steady decline in the percentage of municipalities retaining three member boards of elected assessors. In 1983, half of the municipalities retained elected boards. Today, the trend favors appointed assessors, with 6% of municipalities retaining elected boards and 94% opting for appointed assessors.

### ADVANTAGES OF SOLE ASSESSOR

1. One Person
  - Authority vested in one person instead of diffused by quorum decision of three-member elected board.
  - Focus on exactly who to see about assessments.
2. Consistent Approach to Assessing
  - One instead of three interpretations of:
    - Real Property Tax Law
    - Opinions of Legal Counsel
    - Rules for Real Property Tax Administration
    - Assessment procedures
    - Exemption criteria
    - Recent court decisions
  - Sole appointed assessor has a direct responsibility to the town board
3. Longer Term of Office (six years rather than four years)
  - Time to become acquainted with and keep up with the Real Property Tax Law (constantly changing)
  - Time to become acquainted with all real estate in town
  - Time to become proficient at appraising all forms of real estate including the more difficult types
    - Time to complete the required basic course of training
    - Time to take continuing education courses
4. Qualification and Continuing Education Requirements
  - Appointed assessors must meet minimum qualifications standards of education and experience, as prescribed in 20 NYCRR 8188, section 8188-2.2. Elected assessors, whether sole elected or members of a board of assessors, must meet age and residency requirements. Members of elected boards of assessors must complete only a basic course of training. The continuing education program is not required.
    - After earning basic certification, appointed assessors and sole elected assessors must

(Continued on page 46)

*(Continued from page 450)*

complete an average of 12 credits of approved continuing education training each year.

- All assessors must become recertified upon re-appointment or re-election to office by completing approved ethics training within a year of their re-appointment or re-election to office.

- Appointed assessors have chosen his/her field as a career and are thereby a professional.

For elected assessors, the position is often used as a stepping-stone to another office - meaning voters must be kept friendly.

- Elected assessors who must run every four years are not as insulated from political pressures as appointed assessors.

- Potential for increased remuneration for a sole assessor and therefore motivation to both take the job and to stay in office longer

- Salary should be commensurate with time and effort spent

- More time could be spent on improving assessments

#### 5. Professional Appointed Assessor

Appointed assessors have chosen his/her field as a career and are thereby a professional. For elected assessors, the position is often used as a stepping-stone to another office - meaning voters must be kept friendly.

Elected assessors who must run every four years are not as insulated from political pressures as appointed assessors.

#### 6. Increased Remuneration

Potential for increased remuneration for a sole assessor and therefore motivation to both take the job and to stay in office longer

Salary should be commensurate with time and effort spent

More time could be spent on improving assessments

#### 7. Control of Office and Field Time Simplified.

#### 8. Overall Savings to Town

√ More efficient for:

- mileage
- training
- administration

√ More towns have opted for "sole" advantage:

- the majority of NYS municipalities have a single assessor
- every year, the number of towns opting for "sole" increases

√ Opting for sole assessor would reduce assessor turnover. Since 1989, the statewide turnover rate for elected assessors is 40% greater than for appointed assessors.

#### 9. Better Assessing Practices and More Equity

- Fair share of tax burden

- Impact on State aid formulas and thus distribution of aid

Impact on State aid formulas and the distribution of aid

**Comparison of Elected and Appointed Assessor Positions**

	<b>Single Appointed</b>	<b>Sole Elected</b>	<b>Elected to 3 Member Board</b>
<b>Length of term</b>	6 years	6 years	4 years
<b>Current term dates</b>	October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2025	Jan. 1, 2018 – December 31, 2023	1/01/20-12/31/23 (2 members) 1/01/17 - 12/31/20 (1 member)
<b>Qualifications</b>	Must meet experience and education standards pursuant to 8188-2.2 of 20 NYCRR 8188.	Must meet residency and age requirements.	Must meet residency and age requirements.
<b>Basic Required Training</b>	Must earn State Certified Assessor designation. Recertification required upon re-appointment to office.	Must earn State Certified Assessor designation. Recertification required upon re-election to office.	Must earn State Certified Assessor designation. Recertification required upon re-election to office.
<b>Required Continuing Education Training</b>	Continuing Education requirement of 12 credits per year.	Continuing Education requirement of 12 credits per year.	Continuing Education training is optional.
<b>Method of Acquiring Office</b>	Appointed by Municipal Board. Professional, career-oriented position.	Must run for elective office in locality. Subject to voter approval.	Must run for elective office in locality. Subject to voter approval.

# 4<sup>th</sup> FRIDAY STREET FEST

MIDDLEBURGH AREA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Like us on Facebook: Middleburgh NY 4th Fridays

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- ~~May 24~~ World of Wizardry  
Rotary 5K Run/Walk
- ~~June 28~~ 50s and 60s Night
- July 26 What's up, Doc? Come as Your Favorite Doctor (Fundraiser for the Dr. Best House)
- August 23 Carnival!



## ACTIVITIES

- Live Music
  - Longer Shop Hours
  - Free Kids' Activities
  - Dinner Specials
  - Open-air Market
  - Historical Tours
- Embrace the themes! Costumes encouraged!*

Enjoy a festive night out in the Village of Middleburgh!  
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

## MUSIC

### ~~May 24~~

- ~~The Red Wagon~~
- ~~Becca & Brian duo~~
- ~~Mike Herman~~

### ~~June 28~~

- ~~Moonrocka~~
- ~~Bowery Creek~~
- ~~Matt Durfee~~

### July 26

- Paul & Chuck
- Will Foley
- James Hearne

### August 23

- Red Haired Strangers
- Alyssa Yeager
- The Insolent Willies

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*Karen Haseley, Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist retired from the City of Greenbelt, MD, has worked with individuals of all ages and abilities. She became an Ageless Grace® Educator in 2013 and a trainer in 2015. She is also a graduate of the Neuroscience Academy with Dr. Sarah McKay.*

**Ageless Grace® Brain Health Class**

*Have fun exercising your body and brain to maintain  
functional fitness!*

**Location: Conkling Hall**

**8 Methodist Hill Road, Rensselaerville, NY 12147**

**Wednesdays, June 19-September 25\*, 10:00am-10:45am,  
\$10/class**

***\*No class 6/26 or 8/7***

Contact Karen Haseley, 443-745-1596, [agkarenh@gmail.com](mailto:agkarenh@gmail.com)

## 2019 SUMMER SERVICES AT RENSSELAERVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church announces its schedule of summer services every Sunday from June 30 through September 1. Services are held at 11:00 a.m. in the church located on Main Street (County Route 351) in Rensselaerville. Everyone is welcome.

Each year, clergy from different faith traditions are invited to deliver sermons on a common theme. The 2019 theme is "Finding Joy".

July 7 "The Joy of Healing in Community"

Rev. Dr. Amaury Tañón-Santos, Synod Networker, Synod of the Northeast, East Syracuse, NY

July 14 "Make a Joyful Noise"

Rabbi Deborah Gordon, Congregation Berith Sholom, Troy, NY

July 21 "Good Pleasure"

Elder Barbara G. Wheeler, former President, Auburn Theological Seminary, New York, NY

July 28 "What Does Jesus Know About Joy?"

Rev. Dr. Rick Spalding, Retired Chaplain, Williams College, Williamstown, MA

August 4 "Discovering Joy in a Root-Shocked World"

Rev. Peter Cook, Executive Director, New York State Council of Churches, Albany, NY

August 11 "Approaching the World"

Rev. Kate Forer, Senior Pastor, Presbyterian-New England Congregational Church, Saratoga Springs, NY

August 18 "You Give Them Something to Eat"

Rev. Dr. Roxanne Jones Booth, Co-Pastor, Riverview Baptist Church, Coeymans, NY

August 25 "Joy Is Different Than Happiness"

Rev. Dr. Donna Schaper, Senior Pastor, Judson Memorial Church, New York, NY

September 1 "Joy, a Firm and Quiet Strength"

Sister Joan Scanlon, O.P., Coordinator of Dominican Ministries, Albertus Magnus College, New Haven, CT

The tradition of summer-only services at the Presbyterian Church in Rensselaerville goes back more than 100 years. For a short period in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the village was a lively industrial town as the first site of the Huyck Woolen Mills. When founder and Presbyterian Church member F. C. Huyck Sr. moved his mill to Albany, he did not sever ties with the village or the church. But as jobs left with the mill so did many of the village residents, leaving the church without enough members to maintain a year-round pastor. However, the Huyck family returned each year to vacation and provided for a pastor during their stay. It was F. C. Huyck Sr.'s granddaughter, Katharine Huyck Elmore, who in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century expanded the vision of the summer services to other faith traditions and invited ministers, rabbis, priests and nuns to fill the pulpit.

The Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church is a nationally recognized example of Greek Revival architecture dating from the 1840s and is listed on both the National and State Registers of Historic Places.

More information about each week's guest preacher and the church may be found on its website:

[www.rvillepres.org](http://www.rvillepres.org). Comments and questions may be sent to [rvillepreschurch@gmail.com](mailto:rvillepreschurch@gmail.com).





# MOSQUITO BITE NATURAL REMEDIES



RUB AREA  
WITH INSIDE OF  
BANANA PEEL



CREATE PASTE  
OF BAKING SODA  
AND H<sub>2</sub>O AND  
APPLY TO AREA



APPLY APPLE CIDER  
VINEGAR TO AREA



LAVENDER ESSENTIAL  
OIL AND TEA TREE OIL  
RELIEVES STING



APPLY LEMON  
SLICE TO  
AFFECTED AREA



A SLICE OF ONION  
WILL IMMEDIATELY  
REMOVE PAIN FROM  
INSECT BITES

### Plants that help repel mosquitoes:

- Agastache cana (a.k.a. Mosquito Plant)
- Catmint Rosemary
- Basil
- Lavender
- Scented geraniums
- Beebalm
- Mint
- Rue
- Marigolds (an annual that needs to be planted every year)
- Cedronella (a tender perennial that may need to be planted each year)

## 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 and are 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. For further information, call Tom Snyder, President, at 518-239-4376.

We have bus trips in the summer and fall. Anyone wishing to know about upcoming trips are asked to call Janet Nelson at 518-797-3963 for further information.

***Our yearly fundraiser, a raffle, is now underway. Tickets may be purchased from any member of our club as well as at Pop's Place in Preston Hollow.***

Please note that we are always looking for 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 518-447-7179
- HEAP: 518-447-2551

## Rensselaerville Historical Society

The Rensselaerville Historical Society is hosting its fourth art show highlighting the artist that live in the Town of Rensselaerville or have in the past. This year we have about 20 artists including 6 young emerging artists. Potter Hollow, Preston Hollow, Medusa and Rensselaerville will be represented this year. An opening reception will be **Friday July 19 from 7-9**. The art show will be open Saturday 20 and 27 and Sunday July 21, and 28 from 1-3 and Wednesday 24 from 11-3. All are invited to stop in and see your neighbors this all Rensselaerville Show.

**Grist Mill Tours** will start for the season on June 30 from 1-3 PM. The tours will be held Sundays in July and August 1-3 PM. All are welcome

### Rensselaerville Historical Society

P.O. Box 8

Rensselaerville, New York 12147

rensseleervillehistoricalsoc@gmail.com





## The Back Page

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- Sarah Gordon
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- Nancy Class, emeritus
- Marie Dermody
- Georgette Koenig



**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](mailto:rvillenewsletter@gmail.com). We look forward to getting your feedback.*



**To unsubscribe:** Send an email to [rvillenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto: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.



**Reminder:** Audio tapes of Town Board meetings are now available. Those of you wishing to receive such material simply have to shoot an email to [rvillenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rvillenewsletter@gmail.com) and let us know that you would like to be put on our recipient list. It is our expectation/hope that these files will be sent to you immediately following the meeting or the very next day.

Audio files tend to be quite large. Therefore, if the audio file is greater than 25 MB (and most of them will be), Gmail automatically adds a Google Drive link in the email instead of including it as an attachment. You, the recipient, can download it so you'll have access to it even if it is removed from Google Drive. A download link will be included in your emails.

**Also,** for those who want the newsletter but have difficulty with delivery because of its data size, we've launched a new option. Join the R'ville Community Newsletter on Facebook and have it delivered to you online! From there, you can read it, save it, print it - whatever you wish to do! This group also welcomes your comments about the newsletter. Check it out!

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