

# R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, Issue 4

June, 2016

## In My Opinion

By Marie Dermody

Typically, an opinion piece does not appear on page 1 of the *R'ville Community Newsletter*. but what transpired at a recent Town Board special meeting deserves to be front and center for all to read.

The Town Board held a special meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2016, for the purpose of appointing a new member to the Planning Board. What took place at this meeting was too much of a travesty to have our subscribers wait until July for the official minutes of this meeting. Therefore, what follows is strictly my reporting of the May 26 meeting.

The minutes from the May 12, 2016, Town Board meeting indicate that Supervisor Lounsbury made a motion to appoint Maryanne Overbaugh to the vacant position on the Planning Board. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cooke. When it came time to vote on the motion, both Supervisor Lounsbury and Councilwoman Cooke voted in the affirmative, Councilman Bolte voted in the negative. The motion did not carry because it needed a majority of the entire Board in order to pass. Therefore, this special meeting was scheduled so that the full Town Board as well as the Attorney to the Town could be present.

At the special meeting, Supervisor Lounsbury explained that both the Association of Towns and the Attorney to the Town stated that there was no conflict of interest in Ms. Overbaugh joining the Planning Board. So once again Supervisor Lounsbury made the motion to appoint Maryanne Overbaugh to the Planning Board. NOT ONE Town Board member seconded the motion; therefore, the motion died.

Only then did Bob Bolte make a motion to appoint Laurie Bates to the Planning Board. That motion was seconded and passed with Bolte, Cooke, Sedlmeir, & Wood voting "aye" and Lounsbury voting "nay."

In an unusual move for special meetings, Supervisor Lounsbury asked for audience comments. I took this opportunity to declare my opinion that the Town Board's actions were disgraceful. Other than a residency issue with an assessors' clerk appointment, the Town Board has always approved the recommendation submitted by the department seeking to fill a vacancy.

Audience member David Lewis took this opportunity to call into question the integrity of Code En-

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## In My Opinion

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forcement Officer/Building Inspector Mark Overbaugh. Not only did he question whether there was a conflict of interest with CEO Overbaugh's government position and his side business, but he also questioned what he characterized as his "selective enforcement" of the Town's laws. He was permitted to continue his comments with no objection on the part of the Town Board, a Town Board that consistently insists that such personnel matters be discussed in executive session. At the very least, he should have been directed to meet with the supervisor privately to discuss his concerns or to file an inquiry with the Board of Ethics.

I then again posed some additional questions and was told that Laurie Bates was interviewed by the Planning Board and that she is the wife of Superintendent Bates.

So here's some important information our subscribers need to know:

- Mary Anne Overbaugh was the unanimous choice of the Planning Board.
- Since being told she was their unanimous choice, Ms. Overbaugh has attended every Planning Board meeting and took notes so that she could hit the ground running once her appointment became official.
- A current member of the Planning Board reported that Ms. Bates' interview with the Planning Board was extremely short and she had very little knowledge about the position and/or the responsibilities as a member of the Planning Board.

So what is/was the Town Board's objection to appointing Ms. Overbaugh to the Planning Board as they had unanimously requested?

- Does this Town Board know more about the intricacies of planning than does the Planning Board and therefore are better qualified to choose a member to fill the vacant position on the Planning Board?
- Is this Ms. Overbaugh's punishment for serving on the Board of Ethics and doing a job that displeased Bob Bolte?
- Is this her punishment for not being of the correct political party?
- Is this her punishment for being the spouse of a Town officer, also of the incorrect political party?
- Is this her punishment for her willingness to hold two appointed positions in Town government?
- Is this her punishment for being an intelligent woman and independent thinker who would fulfill her responsibilities to the best of her ability?

This town is being run by a well-oiled political machine that exquisitely orchestrates all their movements. When was the decision made to play out the motion and vote in this way? There is no way that any of this transpired without advance planning and assigned actions "behind closed doors," all in blatant violation of the Open Meetings Law. The public needs to wake up and take notice, and let this Town Board know that we're on to them.



## **Town Board Work Meeting, Draft Minutes, May 10, 2016**

The Work Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 10th day of May 2016 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Marion Cooke,

Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were Highway Superintendent Randy Bates and two interested citizens.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

**MINUTES:** Minutes to be accepted at the Regular Meeting on May 12, 2016: April 12, 2016 – Work Meeting; April 14, 2016 – Regular Meeting

### **TRANSFERS, VOUCHERS, AND BILLS**

A transfer will need to be done regarding the dry-hydrant in Medusa. Supervisor Lounsbury and Superintendent Bates met with Albany County and a couple of their engineers. The belief was that it would be too costly to repair the stream banks and there would be no guarantee the work would hold up. There would be no place to put a dry hydrant and the project was never done. All the information was submitted to FEMA; they have notified the Town that \$21,418 must be reimbursed. The dry-hydrant was the last of the FEMA projects.

Vouchers and bills will also be addressed on Thursday.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Supervisor Lounsbury received a letter from Senator George Amedore regarding the 'PAVE NY' Program, which is a program designed to accelerate resurfacing projects throughout the state. This will give the Highway Department \$41,416.95. This will be in addition to the \$181,446.40 in C.H.I.P.s funding. The Highway Department will then have a total of \$222,863.35 for the year.

### **HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

1. Superintendent Bates was approached by Adam from the Huyck Preserve and asked whether the Town could do something about the very steep entrance to Lake Myosotis. Superintendent Bates believes the only proper way to eliminate the problem of slippage is to pave the entrance which would cost approximately \$600 in materials alone. The Town Board will vote on whether or not to approve this project at the Regular meeting.
2. Superintendent Bates presented the Board with the 2016 Town Highway Agreement. This will need approval at Thursday's meeting. He noted that this year's prices for hot asphalt, being 20-22% lower, the Town will be able to have product placed at the job site for less than it had cost the Town to haul the material themselves in previous years. This is a time-saver as well. Superintendent Bates will also try to piggy-back onto the Albany County bid for in-place hot asphalt which is \$3/ton less; another \$8,000-\$10,000 in savings. Superintendent Bates would like to take this money to do as much of Miller Road as possible. Contractors will be extremely busy with prices being so much lower, so it will be important to jump into the work as early as possible. Superintendent Bates is looking to begin work the end of May – beginning of June.
3. Work will also be started on Burkhart Road. The pavement is so far gone, it will need to be ground up and re-surfaced with crusher run and calcium chloride. Superintendent Bates would like to pave it next year.

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

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**Town Board Work Meeting, Draft Minutes, May 12, 2016**

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will be given at the Regular Meeting on Thursday.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Last week, two Town Board members went into Executive Session with the Planning Board regarding the appointment of a new Planning Board member. The Town Board is comfortable going forward with an appointment at the Regular meeting on Thursday.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Supervisor Lounsbury opened the only bid for the mowing, baling, and removal of the hay from the fields between the Ambulance building and Town Hall from the Rauf Family Farm for \$60. Since there was no Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate included, Supervisor Lounsbury will contact the attorneys for the legalities of this issue.
2. Supervisor Lounsbury received a letter from Aline Galgay, Attorney for the Town of Westerlo, regarding the abandonment of Clickman Road, a portion of which lies in the Town of Rensselaerville. The Town of Westerlo would like to offer the Town an opportunity to review and offer comments on the requested abandonment.

Superintendent Bates was aware of this and had already spoken to the Highway Superintendent in Westerlo. Superintendent Bates has researched the Town's records dating as far back as 1968 and has found no record of Clickman Road ever being a Town highway. There are earlier records, (with still no mention of Clickman Road), but the official list of highway descriptions from 1968 had been notarized. It is the consensus of Superintendent Bates and the Board that the Town of Rensselaerville does not have any interest in the abandonment. Supervisor Lounsbury will check with the Attorney to see if sending a letter to the Town of Westerlo would be sufficient.

**TOWN BOARD COMMENTS**

1. Councilman Bolte wished to thank everyone for all their support, cards, food, and good wishes. He stated he never knew he had so many friends; how remarkable people have been; and how it has all helped in his recovery. He was especially thankful to all of those who have stepped up to help with the flowers on the Veteran's Ring of Honor and flower gardens.
2. Councilwoman Cooke stated that she called the State to follow up on the property tax refunds and was told that they are still in the process of sending out checks.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk





# Save the Date

THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL

IN CONJUNCTION WITH AND SUPPORTED BY ORGANIZATIONS,  
BUSINESSES & RESIDENTS OF OUR TOWNSHIP,  
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

## A TOWN-WIDE PICNIC

(A CELEBRATION OF OUR LOCAL HAMLETS)

WHEN: SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016  
2 PM to 4:30 PM

WHERE: THE GROUNDS OF TOWN HALL

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

- \* There will be lots of good food to enjoy including hamburgers and hot dogs. Condiments, rolls, paper goods, plastic ware, iced tea, lemonade, and water will be provided.
- \* If your last name begins with A through M please bring a salad of any kind to share.
- \* If your last name begins with N through Z please bring a dessert of any kind to share.
- \* Activities include: horseshoes, beach volleyball, a clown, face painting, Twisty Balloon Gal and more.
- \* Take time to browse the information tables of the various organizations and businesses throughout the Township.
- \* Visit with our Fire Departments, the Ambulance, and Albany County Sheriff's Office and K9 Unit.
- \* Music by Lloyd Potter.

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

**We Hope To See You There!**

Graphic by [unreadable]

## **Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, May 12, 2016**

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 12th day of May 2016 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

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

**ABSENT WERE:** Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood

Also present were Albany County Legislator Christopher Smith, Highway Superintendent Randy Bates, Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck, ten interested citizens, and 32 various members of local fire departments and emergency services.

### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Marie Dermody wished to express her concern over the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 14, 2016, regarding the omission of verbatim question/answer exchange between Councilman Wood and Superintendent Bates in regards to the mowing of the hay fields between the Ambulance building and Town Hall. **[See Editor's Note on page 13.]**

### **MEMBERS OF THE RURAL FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION**

Scott Duncan, President of the Rural Fireman's Association, along with thirty-one other members of local fire departments and emergency services came to express their appreciation to the Town Board and Planning Board for their support of the communications tower.

Supervisor Lounsbury read a letter submitted by Sheila A. Cooke as follows:

Madam Supervisor:

It is with great and immediate concern that I write to you, the Town board and the entire town regarding the placement of a cell service tower on Edwards Hill Road, Preston Hollow for all townspeople to have cell service.

Both my husband and I have medical issues. This prompted us to have a life alert alarm service installed in our home this past week. For our own safety and peace of mind for our children and grandchildren. My husband has Parkinson's disorder and most of the time he is in a wheelchair or needs to use a walker to get around anywhere.

However, when the technician had installed the base system and basic call button necklace, he found the other lifesaving components would not work because we do not have cell service in Preston Hollow. Two of the components were the bathroom call button (where 80% of falls occur) and the mobile component which is used away from home or over 600' from the base.

This prevents us from safely taking a simple walk around the park; having a meal at West Winds; or taking a drive around our area or anywhere in the USA. As you know we need to go nearly to Rensselaerville, Durham, or Middleburgh before we can get service.

This is not just our problem or concern, but the concern of all the town people who do not have service. Cell service is not an entitlement for the few. In today's world it is the necessity for the health and safety of all.

We all benefit from today's innovations and few of us would want to give up our modern appliances or tools. They make life easier. We are able to accomplish more in less time, efficiently and effectively than even 50 years ago. Thankfully, some time ago, someone in Rensselaerville had the forethought and vision to erect a tower, knowing in the unseen future it would have multiple uses.

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## Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, May 12, 2016

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Each village deserves the same consideration. Without today's cell service, those who have it are in essence and conscience responsible for the health and safety of those who do not enjoy the cell service.

Sincerely and respectfully,  
Sheila A. Cooke

End Letter

Supervisor Lounsbury indicated that Mrs. Cooke was the second resident who had contacted her in this regard. She stated that the communications tower is very important, but more and more indicators point to the importance of cell service as well, especially for the purpose of procuring medical assistance.

Supervisor Lounsbury wished to sincerely thank the representatives of the local fire departments and emergency services for taking the time to come out to express their appreciation for the Town's support and the support of the Planning Board.

### **REBECCA PLATEL**

Rebecca Platel from the Carey Institute wished to give an update on the Farm Brewery project and the educational programs which surround it, and to thank the Town Board for their support. The Farm Brewery was awarded grant funding two times from the Hudson River Valley Greenway. The second time was with the support of local hilltown Boards. The project is arriving at a close; the brewery is operational; education programs have been held for the past 3 years and two new jobs have been created.

Councilwoman Cooke inquired whether anyone in the Town of Rensselaerville was growing hops. Ms. Platel stated that Micah Kuhar had recently put in 200-300 plants. Others in Berne are growing grains and the brewery is using all New York State grown grains and hops.

### **MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2016 – Work Meeting; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2016 – Regular Meeting as written; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

### **TRANSFERS**

A transfer is needed regarding the dry-hydrant in Medusa. Supervisor Lounsbury and Superintendent Bates met with Albany County and a couple of their engineers approximately 2-3 years ago. She was informed by Albany County at that time that repairs to the stream banks would be extremely costly and there would be no guarantee the work would hold up. There was no place to install a dry hydrant and the project was never done. Supervisor Lounsbury has submitted all the paperwork to FEMA and has been notified that the Town must pay back the \$21,418 which was originally intended for the project.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to approve the transfer of \$21,418.00 from the FEMA Irene Fund to the General Fund for the purpose of returning the funds to FEMA which were intended for the Medusa dry hydrant. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

**ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS:** General Fund - \$42,356.37; Highway Fund - \$15,891.72; Lighting District

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**Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, May 12, 2016**

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- \$664.15; Sewer Fund - \$155.45; Water Fund - \$316.43; T&A Fund - \$753.02. Total Abstracts - \$60,137.14

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

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Letter from Sheila Cooke was read earlier by Supervisor Lounsbury.

**REPORTS****SUPERVISOR**

1. Supervisor Lounsbury received a letter from Senator George Amedore regarding the 'PAVE NY' Program, which is a program designed to accelerate resurfacing projects throughout the state. The Town will receive \$181,446.40 from the CHIPs Program and, in addition, will receive \$41,416.95 in funding under the PAVE-NY program.
2. The State auditor will be auditing 2015 through 2016.
3. Supervisor Lounsbury sent a thank-you to KB Enterprises for the generous donation of mulch for the Veteran's Ring of Honor and the flower beds.

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

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

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

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

1. Superintendent Bates expressed his pleasure to see the support of the local fire departments and emergency personnel and expressed his feelings on the urgency of the communications tower. He noted that the Highway's radio system works in conjunction with the Albany County Sheriff's dispatch and so they experience the same difficulties. The Highway men are out on the roads alone and operate under the most severe conditions. There are 7 operators and 7 plow trucks; in the dark of night, in the middle of a snow storm, with mechanical breakdowns, and with no way to communicate.
2. The Highway has been working on drainage and patching and will be moving on to paving and truing and leveling. Superintendent Bates performs the leveling on the roads this year which he anticipates using CHIPs funding on next year. The Highway Department will be working on Cheese Hill, Smith, Willsey, Tanglewood, Knowles, and Arnold Roads as time and money allow.
3. Pending approval of the 2016 Town Highway Agreement, Superintendent Bates will schedule the paving contractors to perform the work for late May and June. He expects them to be very busy due to the lower cost of materials and the additional funding; he expects that by August there will be no one available to do any additional work.
4. The PAVE-NY funding is part of the CHIPs program and is regulated in the same manner.
5. To meet the requirements of the 10-year useful span of work used with CHIPs funding, Superintendent Bates has been able to compile a list of years with the records he has been able to find, where work had been done, but not exactly what was done. Some roads which he feels need work, actually had work done on them in 2008/2009; therefore nothing can be done on those roads yet. Superintendent Bates called the DOT CHIPs representative to explain the situation and

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## Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, May 12, 2016

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was granted the permission to go back 9 years on CHIPs sealed roads and 8 years depending on the situation. With that in mind, Superintendent Bates intends on performing preparation work on Smith Road in anticipation on paving it next year. Smith Road is in severe disrepair and if nothing is done this year, rather than re-surfacing it, it will be in need of reconstruction where the cost is double.

6. Superintendent Bates reviewed the 2016 Town Highway Agreement which reads as follows:

Town of Rensselaerville  
2016 Town Highway Agreement

This agreement made by the Town Highway Superintendent and the undersigned members of the Town Board to be effective as of 5/12/16 through 5/11/17.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 284 of the Highway Law, we agree that monies levied and collected in the Town of Rensselaerville and received from the State of New York as State Aid shall be expended for the repair and improvement of town highways as follows:

General Repairs: The sum of \$170,000.00 shall be set aside to be expended on primary work and general repairs of Town Highways including culverts and bridges having a span of less than five (5) feet.

Permanent Improvements: The sum of \$229,342.69 shall be set aside to be expended on permanent improvements of Town Highways as follows:

1. Hale Road: 1" compacted hot asphalt placed by Cobleskill Stone Products, 18 feet in width beginning at McCulloch Cross Road for a distance of 3.0 miles and ending at County Route 353 for a cost of \$105,220.50
2. Peasley Road: 2" compacted hot asphalt placed by Cobleskill Stone Products, 18 feet in width beginning at County Route 6 for a distance of .44 miles and ending at the Berne town line for a cost of \$30,896.25.
3. Fish Road: 2" compacted moto-pave with single chip seal placed by Peckham Materials Corp., 18 feet in width beginning 1 mile from the Greene County line and ending at the Greene County line for a cost of \$58,924.64.
4. Niles Road: single chip seal placed by Peckham Materials Corp., 18 feet in width beginning at County Route 352 for a distance of 1.93 miles and ending at the Greene County line for a cost of \$20,907.45.
5. Barger Road: single chip seal placed by Peckham Materials Corp., 18 feet in width for a distance of 1.1 miles and ending at County Route 352 for a cost of \$13,393.85.

Alternate Road: Miller Road: 2" compacted hot asphalt placed by Cobleskill Stone Products, 18 feet in width beginning at County Route 6 for a distance of .25 miles for a cost of \$17,610.86.

(Superintendent Bates noted that our bid price was \$57.75/ton in-place; Albany County's in-place bid is \$51.85. Albany County offers a different product but still satisfactory to the Town's needs. Going with Albany County's bid would save approximately \$10,000 which is money that could be used on the alternate, Miller Road.)

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to approve the 2016 Town Highway Agreement; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

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## Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, May 12, 2016

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

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

### **TOWN CLERK**

Town Clerk Kraker reported for the month of April as follows: Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$1,802.50.

Paid to the Supervisor - \$1,107.04 - the breakdown is as follows: Clerk Fees - \$93.54; Recycling - \$189.50; Dog Licenses - \$127.00; Building Permits - \$467.00; Zoning - \$230.00. Total - \$1,107.04

Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the 'Animal Population Control Program' aka 'dog surcharge': \$22.00. Electronic sweep from the Town Clerk's checking account for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation - Sporting licenses: \$673.46. Water Rents collected for the month totaled \$1,062.42 which includes \$10.52 in penalties.

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

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR**

1. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh reported one deck permit; one new commercial construction (weather station) permit; one accessory building permit; one new home construction permit; and one residential repair permit for the month of April.
2. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh will be attending the Catskill Creek Watershed conference next Thursday, May 19th.
3. Improvements for records management continue to be a priority.

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

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

### **ASSESSORS**

1. Assessor Kropp reported that the Tentative Roll is complete and has been posted on the Town's website.
2. The Assessor's Office welcomes questions and is preparing for Grievance Day.
3. The Assessor's Office has not sent letters to those who applied for the STAR Program and will now have to enter into the check program because they do not yet have the letter with the correct wording from the State. Assessor Kropp will keep the Board apprised of the progress.

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

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

**WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE:** No Report

### **REFUSE/RECYCLING**

1. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported the following for the month of April: E-Waste: 1.85 tons; Rensselaer Iron & Steel: 7.64 tons; Tires: 46; City of Albany Landfill: 57.51 tons; Sierra Fibers: 5.41 tons comingled and 5.13 tons old cardboard container; Oil: gallons 15

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## Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, May 12, 2016

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2. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck received a request from a resident on Willsey Road to address the issue and importance of breaking down their cardboard. Councilwoman Cooke will place something in the Town of Rensselaerville Newsletter also.

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

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

### **CURRENT EVENTS**

1. Supervisor Lounsbury reminded everyone of the Town-Wide Picnic June 5th from 2-4:30.
2. There will be an open-house at the Rensselaerville Fire House on June 12th from 2-4 PM in honor of Kate Baitsholts' 95th birthday.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. The law firm Tabner, Ryan, and Keniry was asked to look into whether the appointment of the Code Enforcement Officer's spouse to the Planning Board presents a conflict of interest. Attorney Fallati did not see how a conflict would arise, but noted that if for some reason that member was placed in a conflict, the member could recuse themselves. The purpose of the conflict of interest law is to provide fiscal checks and balances in order to maintain public confidence in government. In this case, the checks and balances would not be eroded by the appointment of Mrs. Overbaugh to the Planning Board. The law office determined in an opinion that there was no conflict of interest and therefore no conflict with the appointment.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to appoint Maryanne Overbaugh to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Scott Kunkler on the Planning Board; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion was not carried: Ayes (2) Lounsbury and Cooke; Nays (1) Bolte.*

Attorney Fallati advised the Board by stating that without three affirmative votes from the Town Board, the Board does not have a majority to approve the motion.

Supervisor Lounsbury suggested a Special Meeting be set for the purpose of selecting a member for the Planning Board.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to hold the Special Meeting concerning the appointment of the Planning Board member on May 26, 2016 at 7:00 PM and to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise it; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. The Rauf Family Farm proposed a bid of \$60.00 to be paid to the Town to cut, bale, and remove the hay from the two fields between the Ambulance building and Town Hall. Although a Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate was not included in Mr. Rauf's original bidding package, Attorney Fallati advised that case law states that the Town Board can still accept a Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate as long as it is received before the Board awards the bid. Mr. Rauf provided the notarized Certificate this afternoon.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to accept the bid proposed by the Rauf Family Farm for \$60.00 and to accept the Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

2. Superintendent Bates was approached by Adam from the Huyck Preserve and was asked wheth-

(Continued on page 12)

**Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, May 12, 2016**

(Continued from page 11)

er the Highway Department would consider paving the entrance to Lake Myosotis. Superintendent Bates stated that the correct way to eliminate the issue of slippage would be to pave the entrance which would cost approximately \$600 not including labor and machinery. When Pond Hill was resurfaced about 4 years ago, the Highway Department added stone and crusher run and compacted it; similar to the material that was already there. Due to the incline of the driveway, wheels spin and the material erodes and it is difficult to get in and out of. Superintendent Bates would consider paving it, however, it is not a Town highway and therefore deferred the decision to the Town Board.

Discussion ensued between the Board members over the proposed project. The consensus of the Board is that the driveway is private property and funds cannot be spent on private property. Since no action will be taken, a motion is not required.

3. Regarding the abandonment of Clickman Road, Supervisor Lounsbury would like to send a letter to the Town of Westerlo stating that the Town of Rensselaerville has no interest in the abandonment.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to authorize Supervisor Lounsbury to write a letter to the Town of Westerlo supporting their action with regard to the abandonment of Clickman Road; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk





**Editor's Note:**

This Town Board has once again proven its policy of keeping the public in the dark with regard to Town business. At the May Town Board meeting, the Board was advised that the discussion between Councilman Wood and Superintendent Bates about mowing the hay fields between Town Hall and the ambulance building was missing from the minutes of the April 14, 2016, Town Board minutes. Supervisor Lounsbury said that the minutes do not need to be a word-for-word record of the meeting, and Town Clerk Kraker said she reported only the highlights of the meeting. It was explained that this exchange was necessary in order for taxpayers to know why Councilman Wood voted "nay" on the related motion and that it was not an unimportant part of the meeting. However, when it came time to approve the minutes, Councilman Bolte moved to approve the minutes without the changes, Councilwoman Cooke seconded the motion, and all three Board members present (Bolte, Cooke, Lounsbury) passed the motion as originally presented. As usual, no discussion or explanation of their reasoning was offered. A former Town official with many years of experience agrees that this information was an integral part of the meeting and should have been included.

- In an advisory opinion dated February 23, 1993, (OML-AO-o02192), Robert Freeman, Executive Director for the Committee on Open Government, states "In my view, above all, minutes are intended to be the official, permanent record of actions taken by public bodies. Their accuracy and completeness are necessary to enable the public to know of public bodies' activities."
- Additionally, an advisory opinion dated March 24, 2015, (OML-AO-o05451) Camille S. Jobin-Davis, Assistant Director for the Committee on Open Government, states "From our perspective, every law, including the Open Meetings Law, must be implemented in a manner that gives reasonable effect to its intent. Based on that presumption, we believe that minutes must be sufficiently descriptive to enable the public and others ... upon their preparation and review, perhaps years later, to ascertain the nature of action taken by an entity subject to the Open Meetings Law... Most importantly, minutes must be accurate."
- And finally, a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Conducting Meetings and Hearings" put forth by NYS Department of State - Division of Local Government Services states "Although a public body may choose to prepare expansive minutes, at a minimum, minutes of open meetings must include reference to all motions, proposals, resolutions and any other matters upon which votes are taken."

Why is it so difficult for our Town Board to realize that they work for us, that we pay their salaries, and that we are entitled to know everything about Town business that is not confidential? Their consistent secrecy only adds to the distrust that many residents feel about our Town officials. When is this going to change?

**Please Help Our Recycling Efforts**

With a little additional effort on our part, we can further reduce the waste stream for the Town of Rensselaerville and increase our revenue. How?

Simply rinse out and remove the labels from all your metal/aluminum cans & place them in the metal bin outside the recycling building. **DO NOT** include bags of any kind!

The Town receives a monthly payment for the metal/aluminum materials in this bin. And, as we all know, every little bit helps!

# Rensselaerville Ramble Trail Run and Walk

Saturday June 18, 2016 9:00am Start



Co-hosted by the E.N. Huyck Preserve and Rensselaerville Library  
 Proceeds will be shared between these organizations



**Location**

Eldridge Research Center, E.N. Huyck Preserve  
 284 Pond Hill Road  
 Rensselaerville, NY 12147

**Course Description** Join us for a 2, 5, or 8 mile run/walk on the beautiful trails of the E.N. Huyck Preserve in the historic village of Rensselaerville, NY. The 2 mile 'Turtle Trot' is run on trails with easy footing. The 5 mile 'Salamander Scamper' and 8 mile 'Rabbit Run' have some sections with roots, rocks and other obstacles. See course maps at <https://www.raceentry.com/race-maps/rensselaerville-ramble-trail-run-and-walk>

Find us on Facebook 'Rensselaerville Ramble'

**Register by Mail or on Race Day**  
 Fill out & mail form with check  
 \$20.00 if postmarked by May 31  
 \$25.00 if postmarked after May 31 or on race day

**Free T-Shirts for first 150 registrants**

**Packet Pick-Up**  
 Early Pick-up – Fri 6/17/16, 4-9pm  
 Rensselaerville Library 1459 CR 351  
 Race Day Pick-Up –Eldridge Research Station – Sat 6/18/16, 7:30-8:45a

**Register Online at RaceEntry.com**  
<https://www.raceentry.com/race-reviews/rensselaerville-ramble-trail-run-and-walk>

Stay In Rensselaerville After the Run...  
 The Huyck Preserve Forest Festival  
 Sat 6/18, 11-3p

**Awards (for each distance)**  
 Top Male and Female Finisher  
 Top 3 Males and Females in each of 7 age groups



Questions? Contact Linda at [cloud9acres@gmail.com](mailto:cloud9acres@gmail.com) (518)-598-9389

**Rensselaerville Ramble Trail Run and Walk Registration Form (Submit One Form Per Person)**

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Choose Event: \_\_\_\_\_ 2 mile Turtle Trot  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 before 5/31/16 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 mile Salamander Scamper  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 after 5/31/16 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 mile Rabbit Run  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size (Circle One Adult Size)  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ SM MED LG XL XXL  
 Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please note: t-shirt size only guaranteed for registrations received by 5/31/16. We'll do our best to fulfill desired sizes for registrations received after that date, but we may need to substitute another size, depending on availability.

Additional donation to Rensselaerville Library \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or the E.N. Huyck Preserve \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*I am physically fit to participate in this event. I am participating in this event with the knowledge of the potential hazards involved and hereby agree to accept all risks of injury. I agree that my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians and other legal representatives will not make a claim against or sue for injury or damage resulting from the negligence or other acts, howsoever caused, by an agent or volunteer of the organization as a result of my participation in this event. I hereby release The Rensselaerville Library and the Huyck Preserve and its officers, and all event volunteers and officials from all actions, claims or demands and I, my assignees, heirs, guardians, and legal representatives now have or may hereafter have for injury resulting from my participation in this event.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ (if under 18 parent/guardian must sign)

Please make checks payable to: Rensselaerville Library (Rensselaerville Ramble in memo line)  
 Send signed form and payment to: Rensselaerville Library, PO Box 188, 1459 County Route 351, Rensselaerville, NY 12147



The Rensselaerville Library and Huyck Preserve  
presents the first annual:



# Rensselaerville Ramble

Fun for all  
ages!

Age group  
awards!

Saturday  
June 18,  
2016



9:00am  
start time

Vendors!  
**FOREST FESTIVAL**  
11am-3pm!  
Live Animals!

## Trail Run and Walk

Starting at Eldridge Research Station

284 Pond Hill Road  
Rensselaerville, NY 12147

8 Mile Rabbit Run  
5 Mile Salamander Scamper  
2 Mile Turtle Trot  
600 Meter Wood Duck Dash\*  
\*free for kids under 10



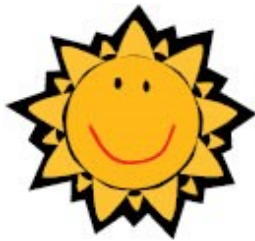
Scan to Register!

Register Online Today!

[www.raceentry.com/race-reviews/rensselaerville-ramble-trail-run-and-walk](http://www.raceentry.com/race-reviews/rensselaerville-ramble-trail-run-and-walk)

Learn More: [www.facebook.com/RensselaervilleRamble](http://www.facebook.com/RensselaervilleRamble)





# WELCOME SUMMER

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

AUGUST  
 BEACH  
 BIKES  
 CAMPING  
 CARNIVAL  
 COOKOUTS  
 FIREFLIES  
 FIREWORKS  
 FISHING  
 FLIPFLOPS

FUN  
 HULA HOOPS  
 ICE CREAM  
 JULY  
 JUMPROPE  
 JUNE  
 MOVIES  
 PARADES  
 PARTIES  
 PICNICS  
 POOL

POPSICLES  
 ROLLERCOASTER  
 SANDALS  
 SPLASH  
 SPRINKLER  
 SNOWCONES  
 SUNGLASSES  
 SUNSCREEN  
 SWIMMING  
 THEME PARK  
 VACATION



# Mark Gruber Gallery

17 New Paltz Plaza New Paltz N.Y. 12561 (845) 255-1241  
 markgrubergallery.com



"Master At Work, Keith Gunderson"



"Mobank"

Staats Fasoldt

## "Painting the Town, New Paltz and Beyond"

May 28 2 thru July 9, 2016

Our 40th year celebration continues with this *Plein Air* Event. Look for 20 or more *plein air* artists around New Paltz and its environs, within 5 miles of town, on Saturday, May 28, rain or shine. Watching these artists at work is a great way to glimpse the creative process. Finding the artists on the picturesque streets of New Paltz or in the lush fields nearby reminds us of what makes the Hudson Valley a haven for the remarkable talent we are so fortunate to have in our midst. After the Paint Out, the artists will bring their new works to the gallery to hang. Come join these artists at the opening reception when the creative efforts of the day will be hung alongside previously completed works of the New Paltz area by each artist.



"Artist in the Field"

Marlene Wiedenbaum



"Huguenot Street"

Lana Privitera

# Car Heat Dangers

Elapsed Time (minutes)	Outside Air Temperature (°F)					
	70	75	80	85	90	95
0	70	75	80	85	90	95
10	89	94	99	104	109	114
20	99	104	109	114	119	124
30	104	109	114	119	124	129
40	108	113	118	123	128	133
50	111	116	121	126	131	136
60	113	118	123	128	133	138
More than 1 hour	115	120	125	130	135	140

San Matt, CDCR Department of Sacramento, San Francisco State University



Know the facts,  
please.

## ***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

## Senior Citizens Info

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

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

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

Additional Important Phone Numbers:

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



## Making a Most Difficult Decision

Those of us who are pet parents truly know that our beloved pets are as much a family member as any human family member. And making the difficult decision to end their pain and suffering is haunting and painful for us humans in charge of their well being. With that being said, I came across the booklet entitled *Is It Time to Say Goodbye: A Guide for Considering a Difficult Decision for Your Pet* by Timothy J. O'Brien, M.S. At 80 pages in length, it is far too long to reprint in this newsletter. However, the following link will bring you to its location on the Internet where you can read it online, save it to your hard drive, and/or print out a hard copy to save for future use. We hope you find it useful.

<https://www.tmh.org/services/animal-therapy/is-it-time-to-say-goodbye>



**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**RENSELAERVILLE POST OFFICE:** Phone 518-797-3231

(26 COUNTY ROUTE 353 RENSELAERVILLE, 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

# SPRING ART SHOW

at the  
Greenville Public Library

## Greenville Public Library Gallery

11177 NY Rte. 32 near intersection of Rte. 81, Greenville, NY

This show will be at the Library through the end of June and can be seen during regular hours. The exhibit includes the works of ten local artists who are members of the Tuesday Night Sketchers Club.

On display are paintings and drawings done by talented area artists in oils, watercolors, pastels, pencil and charcoal. Some of the works on display show local scenes that may be familiar to our visitors. The works are for sale and make great gifts or wonderful additions to home and office decor. Ten percent of the sale proceeds will go to the Greenville Library.

*"Artis the gift that keeps on giving!"*



# MIDDLEBURGH

AREA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

## 1<sup>ST</sup> FRIDAY STREET FEST

### 1<sup>st</sup> Fridays - 2016

June 3      July 1      August 5  
 September 2      October 7

### Festival Activities

Live open-air music	Longer shop hours
Farmer's market	Antique car show
Free kids' activities	Beverage tasting
Dinner specials	Historical tours
Tap room activities	Live animals

### More Activities - 2016

Slougher 5K - June 3  
 Middleburgh Craft Fair - July 23  
 Fall Festival & Parade - October 8  
 Miracle on Main Street - December 9



With this Memorial Day weekend marking the unofficial beginning of summer and the start of the summer travel season, perhaps it is time to remind everyone of New York's seatbelt law. Highlights of New York State's occupant restraint law:

- In the front seat, the driver and each passenger must wear a seat belt, one person per belt. The driver and front-seat passengers aged 16 or older can be fined up to \$50 each for failure to buckle up.
- Every occupant, regardless of age or seating position, of a motor vehicle being operated by the holder of a Class-DJ Learner Permit, a Limited Class-DJ, or Class-DJ Driver License must be restrained by a safety restraint.
- Each passenger under age 16 must wear a seat belt or use an appropriate child safety restraint system. The restraint system must comply with the child height and weight recommendations determined by the manufacturer. Depending on the size of the child, the restraint system may be a safety seat or a booster seat used in combination with a lap and shoulder belt.
- The driver must make sure that each passenger under age 16 obeys the law. The driver can be fined \$25 to \$100 and receive three driver license penalty points for each violation.
- Seat belt use is not required in taxis or livery vehicles, emergency vehicles, 1964 or older vehicles, or by passengers in buses other than school buses (seat belt use may be required by the school district). Rural letter Carriers are also exempt while they are delivering mail.

# RVFD Battalion



Meetings held 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month @ 7PM at firehouse

Join our community of fun loving, dedicated volunteers.

Call 281 6880 for more information

“Volunteers are not paid—not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless” ....*unknown*...

## RVFD News

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Sunday, June 19th – 8:00 - 11:00 am** – Father’s Day Breakfast. Join us for Glenn’s famous pancakes, eggs, sausage and toast.
- **Please support our Calendar Drive!** We encourage you to support our sponsors and help us **THANK THEM** for their continued support! Calendars will be delivered in June.

**Message from the Battalion:** Please remember that the Battalion does not meet in July and August and we encourage you to join us in September and help us support the Fire Department and the community!

**IMPORTANT:** Our social number is: **966-0338**. Please update your records. *In case of an emergency, call 9-1-1.*

Rensselaerville Library  
**Youth Programs**  
**Saturday, JUNE 18**  
**Teddy Bear Picnic!**

10am

(during the Rensselaerville Ramble)

Huck Preserve, 284 Pond Hill Rd  
Please be aware of Runners on Pond Hill Rd  
& limited parking

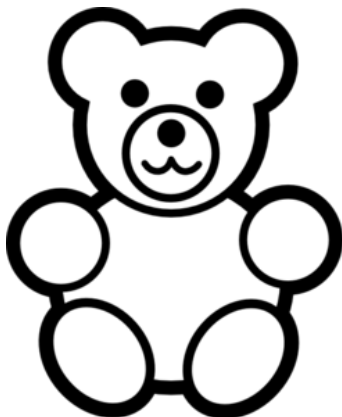
Stories, Music, and Fun!

Bring your teddy bear & a blanket

Snack and juice provided

**Wood Duck Dash at 11am**

Free for Children 10 & under



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

## GRIST MILL NOW OPEN FOR SUMMER SEASON

By Janet Haseley

The summer season at the Rensselaerville Grist Mill opened on Saturday, May 28. Future Saturdays until Labor Day weekend the Mill will be open from noon until 2 p.m. Volunteers are needed who can help host the Mill on Saturdays. Training is available. Call Janet Haseley at (cell phone) 252-714-6626 or email her at [janethaseley@gmail.com](mailto:janethaseley@gmail.com) if you can help even one Saturday.

During the summer the Mill will also be open on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Research Group meets there on Wednesdays so if people want to have help with family genealogy or town research, there will be several volunteers at the Mill on Wednesdays to help.



## HISTORICAL SOCIETY SPONSORS FREE DANCE JULY 2

By Janet Haseley, [janethaseley@gmail.com](mailto:janethaseley@gmail.com)

On Saturday, July 2, the Rensselaerville Historical Society will sponsor a free contra and square dance at historic Conkling Hall in the hamlet of Rensselaerville.

The dance will be from 6 to 9:30 p.m. and out-of-towners are invited to come early, bring a picnic dinner, and explore the Huyck Preserve's 13 miles of hiking trails and the dramatic 100-foot Rensselaerville Falls.

The dance will have live music by The Russet Trio, a well-known folk music band which plays for contra dances once a month in Chatham. The caller will be Bob Isaacs of New Jersey who is among the region's most popular callers. He is known for calling a lot of square dances, the traditional form of dancing which Conkling Hall hosted for decades before most citizens of the Town of Rensselaerville were born.

No experience is needed because each dance is taught before the live music is added. And a brief lesson is taught half an hour before the dancing starts so beginners can learn what the calls mean. Newcomers are advised to participate when the dancing begins instead of "waiting and watching" because typically the first few dances are simpler.

No partner is needed because the tradition is to "find another partner" after each dance. So everybody has a chance to meet and dance with everybody else.

Free will donations to the Rensselaerville Historical Society will be appreciated to help pay the caller and the band.

Conkling Hall is located at 8 Methodist Hill Road next to the Presbyterian Church.



R'VILLE STAGE CREATIONS  
*presents*  
*through special arrangement with*  
**THEATRE MAXIMUS**

# GODSPELL

**June 3rd, 4th, 5th**

**June 10th, 11th, and 12th**

**June 17th, 18th, and 19th**

*Friday and Saturday nights 8PM*

*Sunday Afternoon's at 3PM*

*Doors open 1 hour before show*

Conkling Hall  
8 Methodist Hill  
Rd  
Rensselaerville,  
NY



Order Tickets  
518-669-4250  
RvilleStageCreations@  
gmail.com

## Library News



### Library Staff

**Director** - Kimberly Graff  
director@rensselaervillelibrary.org

**Assistant** - Katie Caprio  
library@rensselaervillelibrary.org

### Pages

Ruby Acker  
Chloe Snyder  
Emileigh Tanner  
Leah Waldron

### Library Board of Trustees

**President**  
Dale Dornier  
Connie Kudlack

**Vice President**  
Mary Carney

**Secretary**  
Paul Kelly

**Treasurer**  
Scott Kunkler

**Trustees**  
Janet Acker  
Sharon Costello  
JR Delia  
John Gordon  
Deb Kropp  
Linda Styer

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

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

## Upcoming Library Events

Thursday, June 9th join the Writing Group at 7pm to share your work and receive feedback or just spend a few hours working on your own project. The group meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month downstairs in the Library.

Poetry Group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7pm, June 14 and 28. Come share your work, receive feedback and spend time working on your own project. The Poetry group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month downstairs in the Library.

**Rensselaerville Ramble Trail Run & Walk** The first Annual Rensselaerville Ramble Trail Run and Walk will be held on Saturday, June 18 at 9am on the beautiful trails of the E.N. Huyck Preserve in the historic village of Rensselaerville. The Ramble will begin at the Eldridge Research Center at 284 Pond Hill Road and runners will quickly enter the scenic trails of the Preserve. This is an event for all ages with two, five and eight mile timed distances and awards. The distances include: the two mile 'Turtle Trot', a run on trails with easy footing; and the five mile 'Salamander Scamper' and the eight mile 'Rabbit Run' both have some sections with roots, rocks and other obstacles. Registration for these distances is \$20 until May 31 and increases to \$25 starting June 1. It includes a free t-shirt for the first 150 registered participants. The little ones have not been left out, a special 600 meter 'Wood Duck Dash' is free for children ages ten and younger. To get the details as they are released, follow the Rensselaerville Ramble on Facebook or <https://www.raceentry.com/race-maps/rensselaerville-ramble-trail-run-and-walk>. All proceeds will be shared between the Library and the Preserve. Come for the Run and stay for the Huyck Preserve's Forest Festival from 11-3pm with vendors and a variety of programs.

The Ramble kicks off the 2016 Summer Reading Program theme "On Your Mark, Get Set...Read!" You can register and set your summer reading goal. Make sure to check out all the programs we will have available to keep kid's minds and bodies active all summer.

### June Youth Programs

**StoryTime** – Teddy Bear Picnic – June 18 at 10 am during the Ramble. Bring your teddy bear and blanket for stories, music and fun. Snack and juice provided.

**Monthly Craft Project** – kids work on your own to create a 3D model barn, a variety of templates available and each week in June discover a new animal to add to your farm.

**Teen Hang Out** – Starting Wednesday, June 22, 6-7pm teens come check out the menu of activities or create your own.

The Library Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 21 at 7pm. Board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month except when noted. All Board meetings are held at the Library in the downstairs meeting room and are open to the public.

(Continued on page 27)

## Library News

(Continued from page 26)

The Library Coloring Book Club will take a break until the fall. In the meantime if you want to stop in anytime and color on your own materials will be setup in the living room and the meeting room. Coloring is a great way to relax and give our creativity a boost. Coloring books designed especially for adults have more intricate designs and patterns. Coloring pages, colored pencils, markers and crayons will be available or bring your own.

Movie Night at the Library on Thursday, June 23rd at 6:30pm. Visit the Library's web site for more details. [www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/movie-night.html](http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/movie-night.html)

The weekend of June 25 and 26 is Free Fishing weekend, you don't need a permit to fish NY waters. Remember the Library has fishing poles you can check out with your Library Card.

The Library will have a table at the Town Picnic on Sunday, June 5 from 2-4:30. We will be signing people up for the Ramble and we will be handing out the 2016 Read it Forward (read it and share it) book for teens titled *The Raft* by S.A. Bodeen.

Thank you to everyone who came out for the annual Library Cocktail Party fundraiser. We greatly appreciate your support. Thank you to the Barefoot Ladies (Emileigh, Laurie and Sarah) for a fabulous performance.

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

Did you know that the Rensselaerville Historical Society's Research Team works in the Library during the winter months? You can find them downstairs in the meeting room on Wednesdays from 10:30 – 2pm. Come have a cup of coffee and learn about Rensselaerville history. They return to the Grist Mill on Memorial Day weekend.

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

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



## Library News

### Greenville Library

<b>June 7, 14</b>	<b>Toddler Time w/Devon Balta</b> (For infants, toddlers, preschoolers)	<b>10-10:45 am &amp; 11-11:45 am</b>
<b>June 9, 23</b>	<b>Camera Club</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>
<b>Tuesdays &amp; Thursdays</b>	<b>Chess Club</b> (Small community room)	<b>11:00 am-1:00 pm</b>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>Greenville Quilters</b> Meet in small community room. All welcome. No experience necessary, will teach	<b>1:00-3:00 pm</b>
<b>Fridays</b>	<b>Knitters</b> (Call to confirm that they will be meeting.)	<b>1:00 - 3:00 pm</b>
<b>June 3, 10, 17</b>	<b>Toddler Time Two w/Devon Balta</b> (For infants, toddlers, preschoolers)	<b>10-10:45 am &amp; 11-11:45 am</b>
<b>June 13</b>	<b>Local History with Don Teator</b>	<b>7:30 pm</b>
<b>June 15</b>	<b>Community Partners of Greenville</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>
<b>June 18</b>	<b>Book Sale</b> Sponsored by the Friends of the Library	<b>10:00 am-3:00 pm</b>

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

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





## Library News

### Middleburgh Library

June 1, 15, 29	Kundalini Yoga	5:00 pm
June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Knitting Circle	7:00 pm
June 2	The Not So Quiet Concert Series:	7:00 pm Joe Jenks
June 3, 17	Homeschool Group	10:00 am
June 4	Monthly Recipe Swap	11:00 am
June 4	Mark Twain: An American Life	1:00 pm
June 4, 11, 18, 25	Knitting Needle Ninjas	12:30 pm
June 6	Make It! Beaded Jewelry	6:00 pm
June 6	Mary Kay	6:00 pm
June 7, 14, 21, 28	Mahjong Mania	1:00 pm
June 7, 14, 21, 28	Insight Meditation	5:15 pm
June 13	Board of Trustees Meeting	6:30 pm
June 16	Breastfeeding Class	5:30 pm
June 18	Cooking by the Vegan Book	1:00 pm
June 20	Adult Coloring Club	2:00 pm
June 21	Book Discussion: The Girl on the Train	4:00 pm

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

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

Contact information: 323 Main Street, PO Box 670, Middleburgh, NY 12122

(518) 827-5142

[www.middleburghlibrary.info](http://www.middleburghlibrary.info)

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



## When and how to retire an American flag respectfully; an easy step by step guide anyone can follow.

The United States Flag Code outlines proper [flag etiquette](#) for everything from properly [folding a flag](#) to flying a flag correctly. It even describes in great detail how to retire an American flag respectfully.

The U.S. Flag code states that, "the flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning." Thus, when a flag is torn and tattered beyond repair, it's time for it to be retired.



In Chicago this past June, there was a televised retirement ceremony for more than 7,000 flags. The ceremony featured members of each branch of the military. Recently Twin Falls Christian Academy principal, Brent Walker, held a ceremony to show students on how to properly retire old American flags. However, these are just two separate events of hundreds across the nation where members are respectfully retiring American flags.

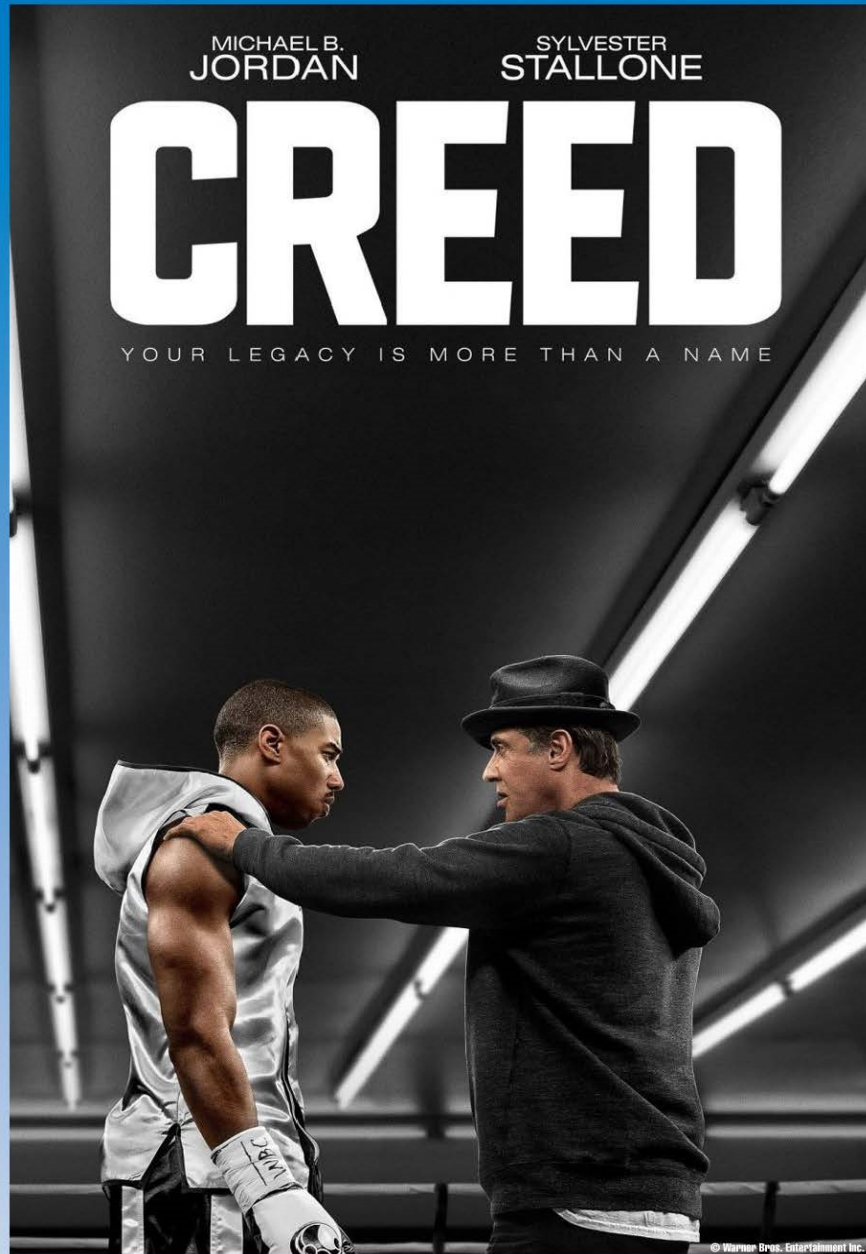
When an American flag becomes worn, faded, torn or soiled, it should be retired and replaced with a new flag. There are several ways to respectfully dispose of the American flag without showing disgrace. The most common method is burning the torn or tattered flag in a special ceremony. Here are the steps you should follow.



The Veterans Department of Affairs suggests starting by folding the flag in a customary triangle manner. Then prepare a large enough fire space to sufficiently burn the flag completely. Next place the flag in the fire and while it burns, individuals at the ceremony should salute or recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Finally, end the ceremony with a moment of silence and bury the ashes once the flag is completely consumed.

Many groups that hold annual or semi-annual flag retirement ceremonies often have their own unique traditions they also follow. But these are the minimum steps everyone should at least follow when they retire an American Flag.

<http://blog.collinsflags.com/flag-etiquette/how-to-properly-retire-an-american-flag>



DATE: June 23, 2016

TIME: 6:30pm

LOCATION:  
Rensselaerville Library

## On The Calendar

June 5	11:00am	<b>Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services</b> All are Welcome!	
June 5	2-4:30pm	<b>Town Wide Picnic</b> (See flyer page 5 for information.)	
June 7	7:00pm	<b>Town Board Work Meeting</b>	Town Hall
June 9	7:00pm	<b>Town Board Regular Monthly Meeting</b>	Town Hall
June 12	11:00am	<b>Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services</b> All are Welcome!	
June 12	2-4pm	<b>Open House for Kate Baitsholts' 95th Birthday</b>	Rensselaerville Firehouse
June 14	12 noon	<b>Rensselaerville Seniors Club meeting &amp; lunch</b> (Please note change in location!)	Tri-Village Firehouse
June 19	11:00am	<b>Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services</b> All are Welcome!	
June 21		<b>Rensselaerville Ramble</b> (See flyer on pages 14-15 for information.)	
June 19	8am-11am	<b>Father's Day Breakfast</b> Sponsored by the RVFD Battalion Come join us for Glenn's famous pancakes, eggs, & sausage!	Rensselaerville Firehouse
June 26	11:00am	<b>Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services</b> All are Welcome!	

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





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

Position	Name	Email Address
Town Supervisor	Valerie Lounsbury	vlounsbury@rensselaerville.com townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Marion Cooke	mcooke@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Robert Bolte	rbolte@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Margaret Sedlmeir	msedlmeir@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Gerald Wood	gwood@rensselaerville.com
Town Justices	Ronald Bates Dwight T. Cooke	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339
Supervisor's Clerk	Linda McCormick	clerk1@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk	Victoria Kraker	townclerk@rensselaerville.com
Highway Superintendent	Randy Bates	rbates@rensselaerville.com
Assessors	Donna Kropp Jeffry Pine Kathryn Wank	assessors@rensselaerville.com
Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer	Mark Overbaugh	codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com
Planning Board	Richard Amedure	spfleging@rensselaerville.com
Zoning Board of Appeals	John Mormile	spfleging@rensselaerville.com
Board of Ethics	Diana Hinchcliff Georgette Koenig	ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com
Dog Control Officer	Cheryl Baitsholts	Phone: 797-5201
Refuse/Recycling Coordinator	Jon Whitbeck	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339
Town Hall		Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339



## The Back Page

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**From the Editors:**

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



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