NEWSLETTER DATE OCTOBER, 2007

Town of Rensselaerville

Hamlets of Cooksburg, Medusa, Potter Hollow, Preston Hollow and Rensselaerville

Newsletter

Senior/Youth Bus Fund

by Supervisor Nickelsberg



The time has come to thank the many people who have contributed to help us reach our goal of \$57,000.00. The goal has not fully been met but we are over 50% there. At this time we would like to recognize (in no particular order) the generous people and businesses.

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PHONE NUMBERS 19

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7

Kathleen & Mike Caprio Mr. & Mrs. Fran Coward Joe & Inga Dapice

Craig & Elaine Bouvier

Ronald & Marie Bryan

Kim & Bernie Aloisi

The Baseball Academy

Anonymous Susan Arbit

Gary Barkman Margaret Berstein

Laura Bololsky

Carol Bryant

Bob & Karen Bolte

Irene Bodi

Bruce & Sheila DeGeyter Marie & Ed Dermody

Paul Dinura Mr. & Mrs. Dolce Lucia Dolce Lynn Donaldson Myra Dorman

John Duncan & Son Auto

Mert Fogel Mark Fritz

James Glorioso Field of Glory Farm

Haney Hose Reels
Dave & Arlene Ingalls

Tom Jennings & Rebecca Perl

Bob & Joan Johnston Eugene Kellam Evelyn Kellie Robert Kellie

Cindy & Michael Kornmeyer

Vera Kraker Victoria Kraker

Ernest Kuch & Delores De Mayeve

Robert & Edith Lansing Victor & Gail La Plante

Martin Begley
Mangold Realty
Josephine McKricki
Tom & Kathleen Mikulka
Jack & Nancy Milner
Miss Anna Mullen
Ellen Nickelsberg
Pearson Excavation

Phil & Daphne Pearson Reinhart's Shell Inn Pat & Bill Righter

Edward & Elizabeth Rogers Rotary Cub of Greenville

Andrew Rooney
Dave Rudolff (50/50)
S W Wood Construction
Schoharie Valley Carrot Barn
Margaret & Peter Sedlmeir
Robert & Karen Seeger

Gene Smith

Ruth & Tom Snyder by Gene Kellam

Eric & Kay Sutton

Erika & Frank Szemlewski

TEC Builders Burt Tobin

The Town's Senior Citizen's Club

Upstate Truck & Trailer Van Auken Express Tony & Barbara Vetrano

Mary Weidman Virgil Weidman Alan Wilson Donna Winans Steve & Barbara Wood Allyn & Alaine Wright

Fred & Joyce Zietler

In Memory of Elsa & Wilheim Meyere, Maria & Maurice Georgi, and Dorothea & John Worcester

Anonymous Donor— In recognition of Marion & Ken Cooke and Bob Bolte's hard work.

The bus has been used by The Boy Scouts, The Little League, seniors and people with disabilities. For scheduling, please contact Ann Vogel.

The Rensselaerville Library

Bookmark

The Board of Directors and Staff of the Rensselaerville Library bids farewell to our Director, Ann Wolf. We thank her for her service and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors. Candy Wilson will serve as the Interim Director of the Library.

On September 8, 2007, the Library held an election for its Board of Directors. We would like to welcome the following people to the Library Board: David Weiss (President), Rose Kuhar (Vice President), Elizabeth Britton (Secretary), Richard Tollner (Treasurer), Myra Dorman, Lisa Dudley, Deb Gordon, Linda Miller, Lee Pearson, and Betty Reed.

First Friday movies continue with a special Double Feature! Join us at Conkling Hall on Friday, October 5 at 5:30 P.M., for Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer. Marvel's first family of superheroes, The Fantastic Four, meets their greatest challenge yet in "Fantastic Four and The Silver Surfer" as the enigmatic, intergalactic herald, The Silver Surfer, comes to Earth to prepare it for destruction. As the Silver Surfer races around the globe wreaking havoc, Reed, Sue, Johnny, and Ben must unravel the mystery of The Silver Surfer and confront the surprising re-

turn of their mortal enemy, Dr. Doom, before all hope is lost. Rated PG for sequences of action violence, some mild language, and innuendo. Then, at 8:00 P.M., Next. A man can see the future and change events before they happen. Eventually, he is forced to choose between saving the world and saving himself. Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violent action and some language.

Attention all *Dungeons and Dragons* fans! The Library invites you to join others **every Friday from 6:00-9:00 P.M.** for a special **gaming night**, run by volunteer Alex Hutchins. New players are welcome; no experience is needed. Dice will be provided, and players are welcome to bring their own maps. For more information, contact the Library at 797-3949.

The Library will **close at 7:00 PM** on Wednesday, October 31, for our special **Halloween** Party!! Join us at the Library after 7:00 for an evening of story-telling, scary tales, games, and refreshments. Costumes are encouraged! Call the Library at 797-3949 for more information.

Just a reminder: As we continue in the process of automating our collection, the Library would like to remind pa-



trons that we are still issuing the new bar-coded cards. With these cards, patrons can access the services of all libraries in the Upper Hudson System, and can also order items online. If you haven't yet gotten your new card, stop by the Library and get one today! We would also like to remind patrons of our fine policy. Late DVDs and movies will incur a charge of \$1.00 per day. All other items (books, periodicals, audio books, etc.) will incur a charge of \$0.10 per day.

The Library Board meeting will take place on Monday, October 15, at 7:00 PM.

Staff: Candy Wilson, Interim Director; Katie Caprio, Aide

Library Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday: 10:00 AM to Noon, 4:00-9:00 PM Saturday: 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM Thursday & Friday: 4:00—9:00 PM www.uhls.org/rvll_library



Conkling Hall—What's On In October

Friday, October 5: First Friday Movie presented by the Rensselaerville Library. 7:30 PM.

Saturday, October 6: RHDA (Rensselaerville Historic District Association) presents the RENSSELAER-VILLE REVIEW. Our Annual opportunity for music and a variety of talent: spoken word, instruments, and vocal. An afternoon of interpretation, improvization and irreverence. Refreshments will be available. Starts 4:00 PM. This is RHDA's only fundraiser for their year-round efforts. \$10.00, adult; \$5.00, children 8-16; children 7 and under, free.

Note: The Chili Cookoff has been postponed until 2008. Lots of time to come up with a winning recipe.

Sunday, October 14: Nick Speck brings his musical talent and a local high school band to the Hall. 2:00 PM. Fee at door.

Friday, October 19: Coffeehouse Returns. Kate Blain brings us her wonderful folk singing. Coffee and snacks

available. 7:30 PM. Fee at door.

Saturday, October 27: Historical Society presents a Halloween Dance, from 7:30 to 10:30 PM. See article below.

Saturday, November 3: A return performance of Captain Squeeze and the Zydeco Moshers and the Jesse Lege' and Bayou Brew for a wonderful evening of music and dance. Beer, wine, beverages and food will be available. Admission: \$15.00

Friday, November 9: A SILPADA JEWELRY PARTY. A perfect opportunity to find the right gift for the holidays. Sarah Gifford brings us a beautiful selection of jewelry, belts, etc. Preview copies of the catalog will be at the Hilltown Café. 6:30 - 8:30. Complimentary wine and cheese.

You can contact Conkling Hall at (518) 797 3459 or read our website on www.ConklingHall.org.

Pilates: Saturdays 9:00 - 10:00 AM. Pilates mat class with Sarah Nelson Weiss. Strengthen your abdominals, gain long, lean muscles and work with



Methodist Hill Road Rensselaerville, NY 12147 (518) 797- 3459 www.ConklingHall.org.

good alignment. Appropriate for all levels. Please call 239 6825 for more information and to confirm schedule.

Children's Playgroup: Thursdays 12:00 - 3:00 PM for children 0 to 5 years old. A fine opportunity to meet other children in our area. Call Sarah Nelson Weiss for information: 239 6825.

Halloween Dance at Conkling Hall

By: Janet Haseley

A fall Community Dance will be held at Conkling Hall on Saturday, October 27, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Everyone is invited. Halloween costumes are optional.

The dance will be sponsored by the Town of Rensselaerville Historical Society as one of their series of traditional arts workshops which this year have included chair caning.

The caller will be Paul Rosenberg who is well-known for his ability to integrate beginning dancers and experienced dancers in a way that they all can have fun. Dances will include squares, contras, waltzes, polkas, mixers and more. The band will be FireFlies, composed

of Sue and Jim Mead, Jim Broden and Patricia Kernan. This band has played for Historical Society-sponsored dances at Conkling Hall for the last several years.

Partners are not necessary as the tradition is to change partners after each dance. No experience is necessary either as each dance will be taught before the music is added. All ages are welcome and can enjoy these dances together.

Admission will be \$7.50 for adults, \$6.50 for Historical Society members, \$5 for teens and \$2 for children ages 12 and under.

For further information call 518-797-3194.

September Town Board Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 13th day of September, 2007, at 7 o'clock in the evening. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Nickelsberg and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Jost Nickelsberg, Councilman Gary Chase, Councilwoman Myra Dorman,

Councilman J. Robert Lansing, Councilwoman Sherri Pine, Attorney William F. Ryan, Jr.

There were also 24 interested citizens present.

VOUCHERS

Supervisor Nickelsberg said, "There is a lot to talk about on this topic. The procurement policy we have put together states that for every bill \$200.00 or more, a requisition form must be signed. This is extra work for everyone; and for months we have had a lot of difficulty getting everybody to accept this rule. We have had word that Superintendent Chase has started to circumvent the procurement policy this time in amounts under \$200.00, breaking up bills so they are under \$200.00, therefore not needing requisition forms. I give you five examples of the ten found. They speak for themselves. The worst offense is breaking a state law about selling Town property. As you can see from the saw that was sold to get the bill under \$200.00. It is a State law that you cannot sell Town property without Board approval." Supervisor Nickelsberg went on to say, "A motion to rescind all bills except Central Hudson will not be needed, because we are going to pay these bills under protest. I will talk to all the vendors who have not sent back their letter saying they understand our requisition policy."

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from Daniel Mareno and Mr. Palonieo, concerning Kings Road, to be discussed at a later date.

REPORTS

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

There was no report submitted from Superintendent Chase.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Nickelsberg reported on the bank account balances as of August 31st.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Ryan reported that the owner of the land for the Potter Hollow Park has signed the contract selling the land to the Town. The deed and the transfer will be done in the next two weeks.

Attorney Ryan reported that the bids for the Seeger Drainage Issue will be opened on September 21st.

OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

There was no report given from the Communication Committee.

LAND USE COMMITTEE/LAND USE SURVEY

Tom Mikulka reported, "2600 surveys have been sent out, and the response was very good. A time has to be set to count the ballots; therefore, we will stop receiving ballots on the 25th of September, 2007."

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Supervisor Nickelsberg read the report from the Newsletter Committee and said it was an excellent report. The Town Board would like the report printed in the newsletter, on the web page, and a copy of it sent to those who are advertising.

SENIOR YOUTH BUS

Bob Bolte reported that we have collected over \$30,000.00 in donations for the senior/youth bus fund, \$5,000.00 of it is in matching funds. They are still accepting donations.

Bob Bolte mentioned that Bob and Joan Johnston volunteered weeding and planting flowers out front and did a beautiful job.

Extra Helpings Food Buying Club — Available to Everyone

Extra Helpings is a program of the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York and is offered to the community through The Hilltowns Community Resource Center (HCRC) in Westerlo. The program is open to all individuals regardless of age or income. Extra Helpings has changed the prices and the menus being offered. Anyone is welcome to purchase any or all of the package options. The menu for each month's Extra Helpings' offering will be published one month in advance. October's Extra Helpings menus are as follows:

October's Regular menu: \$20.00

- 1.5 lbs. bacon-wrapped pork medallions
- 2 lbs. chicken tenders
- 1 lb. Pkg. sirloin sandwich Steak
- 2 lbs. pre-seasoned meatloaf mix
- 3 lbs. bag apples
- 20 oz. peeled butternut squash

Special #1: \$12.00

• 5 lb. block sliced American cheese

Special # 2: \$ 14.25 P A S T A PACK

- 18 oz. stuffed shells
- 12 oz. sun dried tomato stuffed rigatoni
- 13 oz. large round ravioli
- 12 oz. spinach stuffed rigatoni
- 16 oz. tri-color tortellini
- 18 oz. manicotti
- 13 oz. pierogi w/potato, swiss and jack cheese
- 2 quarts Casa Visco spaghetti sauce

Special #3: \$30.00 MEAT BOX

- 2 lbs. pork roast (netted)
- 3 lbs. stew beef (3 -/ lb. pkgs.)
- 3 lbs. ground beef (3 /1 lb. pkgs.)
- 2 lbs. maple breakfast sausage links
- 3 lbs. chicken tenders (2/1 lb. pkgs.)

(Substitutions of equal value may be necessary due to availability)

Please Note: Orders with payment are due at the HCRC office by October 5th for pick-up on October 23rd. HCRC distributes Extra-Helpings at the Rensselaerville Firehouse from 11:30AM to 12:30PM, at St. Bernadette's Church in Berne from 12:00 to 1:00PM, and St. Lucy's Church in Altamont from 2:30 to 3:30PM on delivery days. The pick-up site must be noted with each order. Anyone wishing more information regarding Extra Helpings or other Hilltowns Community Resource Center services, please call 797-5256. HCRC's mailing address PO Box 147, Westerlo, NY 12193. Please include your phone number on all correspondence.





REFUSE/RECYCLING CENTER

The Rensselaerville Refuse/Recycling Center is open on Saturdays and Wednesdays from 7:00AM -3:45PM. Please display your permit. If you do not have one, you can obtain one at the Town Clerk's Office.

Please cover your refuse so that it is not left on someone else's property. No sheetrock or shingles will be accepted.

Senior Corner

Need Information?

ElderSource Line (465-1903) has information at Senior Services to help in a variety of ways. Call between 8:30AM-12:30PM Monday through Friday.

Call for free assistance with housing options, insurance counseling, benefits and entitlements, community resources, adult daycare, and caregiver options. This program is funded by United Way of Northeastern New York and Senior Ser-

vices of Albany Foundation.

Senior Citizens Club:

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at the Medusa Firehouse at noon. \$1.00 is collected. ALL senior citizens are invited to join the club. Please bring a covered dish to share and/or dessert. Members need to bring their own plates and utensils. Coffee is provided,

Senior Van:

Tuesday: Bryants Center, Greenville Thursday: Cobleskill (WalMart)

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: Van is available to travel to doctor appointments.

Call Ann Vogel at 797-3376 regarding scheduling and/or arranging for van pick up.

Helderberg Senior Services:

Lunches are served Monday through Friday at noon for \$3.75. The Grange would appreciate 1 day advance notice. Call Marie at 797-3652 between 9:00AM-1:00PM for information and reservations.









Donation: \$5:00 per Animal



Albany County Department of Health Rabies Clinic Schedule - 2007

The following Rabies Vaccination Clinic for dogs, cats, and ferrets has been arranged by the Albany County Department of Health in cooperation with the Capital District Veterinary Medical Society. All dogs, cats, and ferrets must be on leashes or in carriers. A record of prior vaccination will be required for three year immunization. If no record is presented, a one year vaccination certification will be issued. All clinics are open to any Albany County resident. Any inquiry can be directed to Division of Environmental Health Services, 447-4620 or 447-4625.

Saturday Clinics: 1:00-2:30PM for cats and ferrets 2:30-4:00PM for dogs

November 3, 1:00-4:00 PM Public Works Garage, Cohoes Rd., Green Island

Volunteer News and Events

Medusa VFD

Company Meeting: Monday, October 1, at 8:00PM

Drill & Work night: Monday, October 8 and 15 at 7:00PM

Upcoming Events: Our Monthly Breakfast begins again. Starting October 20th and every 3rd Saturday of the Month.

Rensselaerville VFD

Company Meeting: Wednesday, October 31, at 8:00PM

Ladies Battalion: Wednesday, October 3, at 7:30PM

Tri-Village VFD

Company Meeting: Wednesday, October 3, at 8:00PM

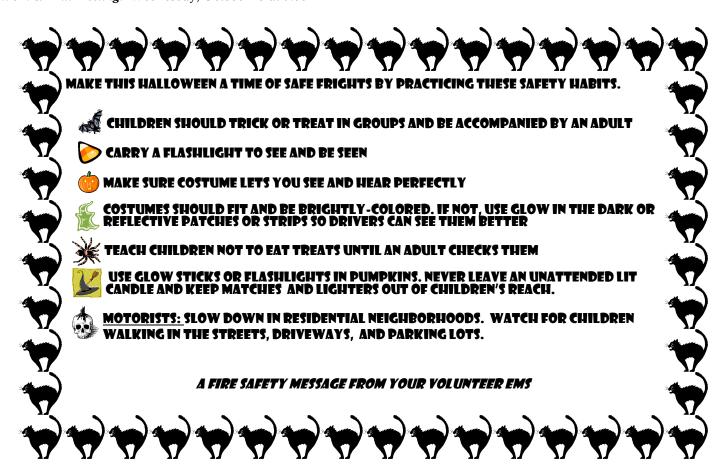
Upcoming Events: Annual Fund Drive

Open House, Tuesday, October 9 between 6:00PM- 8:00PM, (see ad on page 15)

Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance Squad

Company Meeting: Wednesday, October 17 at 7:00PM

Work & Drill Meeting: Wednesday, October 23 at 7:00PM



PAGE 8 NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members: Marie Dermody, Jim Glorioso, Steve Wood

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is evident that paid advertisements in the Town's monthly newsletter dropped significantly when the rates were raised to double the previous amount. In order to maximize income and therefore help to make the newsletter even more self-supporting (as well as promote local business), it is our recommendation that the advertising rates return to the previous level.

	<u>NOW</u>	SUGGESTED	
2" x 3.5" (business card)	\$30.00	\$15.00	
4" x 3" (quarter page)	\$46.00	\$23.00	
5" x 8" (half page)	\$80.00	\$40.00	
8.5" x 11" (full page)	\$150.00	\$75.00	
Separate full page insert	\$300.00	\$150.00	
(w/copies provided by advertiser)			

(w/copies provided by advertiser)

- When ads are placed intermittently throughout the newsletter, it is difficult for the common observer to know exactly which advertisements are paid and which are not. Therefore, it is our recommendation that all paid advertising be in its own separate and distinct section of the newsletter.
- 3. It is our recommendation that the following entities be allotted one full page per newsletter free of charge to advertise their contact information, meetings & drills, fund-raising events, etc. Any submissions beyond one full page will be published on a space-available basis.
- Emergency services (fire companies, Rensselaerville Ambulance Service)
- Churches (including Conkling Hall for church-related issues;
- Conkling Hall activities/events that require a participation fee paid to an outside provider is to be considered a paid ad & should appear in the paid advertisement section of the newsletter)
- Rensselaerville Library
- 4. It is our recommendation that articles/reports of general community interest or ones that offer free services should be free. Examples are:

HEAP

Refuse/Recycling

Extra Helpings

Hilltowns Community Resource Center

Senior Corner

Committee reports

- 5. Quality of life issues and those that respond to the human condition are important to any community. Therefore, it is our recommendation that insertions such as "thank you" and "acknowledgements" from individuals and families be done free of charge.
- 6. Since the Town of Rensselaerville is very unique in many ways, it is necessary to allow some special considerations for certain organizations.

- Rensselaerville Historical Society it is our recommenda tion that the RHS be guaranteed one free informational article per month and that additional informational articles be published on a space available basis. Events and income-generating activities should be considered paid ads and appear in the appropriate section.
- Conkling Hall it is our recommendation that an event/ activity that is directly associated with the church should appear on the church page of the newsletter free of charge. Anything else is a paid ad and should appear in the paid advertisement section of the newsletter.
- The Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve it is our recommendation that, since this organization is a non-profit, it should be assessed the same advertising rates as mentioned in item #11 below.
- 7. It is our recommendation that any other enterprise/ organization/ entity that charges a fee for participation should pay for its submission in the newsletter.
- 8. In order to foster our children's interest in their town, we acknowledge the importance of anything that encourages our youth to read and react to the newsletter. The monthly puzzle page addresses this concern. But to encourage a more active participation, it is our recommendation that we encourage our vouth to submit their own creations for publication (i.e. puzzles, stories, poems, artwork, etc.) and that these items be dedicated to their very own page. It is also our recommendation that submissions be chosen on a random basis.
- 9. It is our recommendation that any item submitted for publication (other than those mentioned in item #4 above) be identified by author or artist.
- 10. The Rensselaerville Institute is a quasi-commercial enterprise. As such, it is our recommendation that this organization should be responsible for paying the same advertising rates as town residents and businesses as noted in item #1 above.
- 11. In order to increase revenue from advertisements, we should welcome submissions from out-of-town individuals and organizations. It is our recommendation that nonprofit organizations may advertise at a reduced rate as long as official proof of nonprofit status is on file in the Town Clerk's office. All other out-of-towners wishing to advertise in the Town newsletter may do so at the same fees as Town of Rensselaerville residents and businesses.

SUGGESTED REDUCED RATES FOR NONPROFITS

2" X 3.5" (business card)	\$12.00
4" x 3" (quarter page)	\$18.00
5' x 8" (half page)	\$32.00
8.5' x 11'	\$60.00
Separate full page insert	\$120.00

(w/copies provided by advertiser)



CHURCH SERVICES

Preston Hollow Baptist Church

Route 145, Preston Hollow, 239-6544 Worship: Sunday - 11:00AM

Potter Hollow Union Church

Potter Hollow, 734-5106 Worship: Sunday - 9:00AM Visitation & Prayer Wednesday -

Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Lane, Rensselaerville, 797-5395 Holy Eucharist & Church School Sunday - 11:00AM

United Church of Christ

Medusa, 239-6119

Worship: Sunday - 9:15AM



Italian Buffet at Medusa Church

An Italian Buffet Dinner will be held on October 27th at the United Church of Christ in Medusa.

Food will be served from 4:30-6:30pm

There will be salad, baked ziti, lasagna, meatballs, bread and more, including homemade desserts.

A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the painting of the Church steeple.

All are invited



Rummage Sale

The Women's Group of Trinity Episcopal Church is holding the annual Fall Rummage Sale on Saturday October 6th from 9AM until 2 PM. Donations will be accepted at the church the week prior to the sale.



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NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE REPORT

(Continued from page 8)

- recommendation that all submissions be edited for grammar, punctuation, spelling, and mechanics, and that those indi- included in the subsequent newsletter. viduals submitting items for the newsletter be aware of this action. No content will be edited.
- that certain items in each monthly newsletter are time-sensitive. mentioned in the items above. Therefore, it is our recommendation that all submissions be

received by the Town office no later than the 2nd Friday of the 12. It is important that our newsletter be as professional in apmonth in order to be included in the up-coming newsletter. pearance and quality as is humanly possible, Therefore, it is our Any submissions received after that date will not be considered for publication in the up-coming newsletter but will be

14. Once this resolution is adopted in whatever form, it is our recommendation that it be widely publicized via the Town 13. It is important that the newsletter be delivered to Town resinewsletter and that copies (with highlighted sections pertidents in as timely a fashion as possible, especially considering nent to the organization) be mailed to the various entities

September Town Board Minutes

(Continued from page 4)

BUILDING UPDATE

Bob Bolte mentioned that he and Ken Cooke have been looking for a place for the records room and somewhere to house the bus. He mentioned that they could put up a firewall between the office and garage, run a records room along that wall, and have a place for the bus and van inside. He will have more information at the work meeting in October.

Bob Bolte said that he will be unable to help with the metal siding and suggested hiring someone he knew to help Mr. Cooke.

Supervisor Nickelsberg mentioned that the person Bob Bolte spoke of or anyone else interested in the job, should contact him.

NEW BUSINESS

EDWARDS HILL ROAD - MR. FEINER - PETITION

Mr. Feiner would like to see Edward Hill Road paved from the beginning to the end. He mentioned that 42 people signed the petition he submitted in August 2005 to have the road opened all year round and to also have the road paved. He mentioned that this road is his access to the post office. Councilwoman Pine mentioned that if this road was paved, it would be very dangerous when it is icy because it is so steep.

Mrs. Mahoney asked if there is a statute of limitations on petitions.

Attorney Ryan said there is no limitation on petitions.

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Supervisor Nickelsberg designated September 2007 Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, to enhance the understanding of childhood cancers and to encourage participation in voluntary activities to support children and families suffering from this devastating illness.

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

Allyn Wright said, "This will be a committee to look into the agricultural districts. A lot depends on whether we end up with 5-acre or 20-acre zones. A grant is being applied for to do this study. The Town Board will appoint members to this committee at the next meeting. The Planning Board will have a list of the people who are interested; but if anyone else is interested, they should contact the Town Board. Supervisor suggested talking about it at the special meeting before the next Town Board meeting.

RIDING TRAILS

Supervisor Nickelsberg said, "We would like to connect the lands of the Huyck Preserve, Partridge Run, and the Cass State Lands in a parallel trail, one for horses and one for bikes. There is a lot of beauty in this town. If we could market this beauty, it would also bring more revenue to the area. We have lots of trails in Partridge, Cass, the Preserve, along Ten Mile Creek and connecting them would be a nice trail." Dorothea Cotter is exploring the idea.

SIGNS - BOB BOLTE

Bob Bolte asked why in 1998 he was given a citation by the Town for putting up a sign exceeding 8 square feet and he was given 5 hours to take it down or a fine of \$350.00 a week. It is going on three weeks since a complaint was filed with the Town about Sandy Gordon's signs which are way over the 8 square feet. Bob Bolte asked for an explanation from the Town Board and the Building Inspector as to why he was given five hours and why over the last several years some people ignore the square foot political sign law.

Attorney Ryan mentioned that he was e-mailed about this and wrote to the Building Inspector and said that if the sign is over 8 square feet, it needs to be taken down in accordance the zoning law.

Mark Overbaugh, Zoning Officer, said that a letter has been sent to the person with the oversized sign in which he was told to take them down immediately.

Attorney Ryan will file a complaint if needed.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

David Lewis raised the subject of the last survey. "In April we had a meeting with 250 people saying they didn't want the 20 or 25 acres, they wanted 5. Then we heard you have to make it legal and have another survey."

(Continued on page 11)

September Town Board Minutes

(Continued from page 10)

Walter Cook said he understood that 25th is the deadline for the survey with a three-day grace period for any letter that is post-marked on the deadline. He asked if a tracer could be done on those who have not done their survey. The Town Board agreed to allow the three extra days after the 25th.

Mr Seeger asked about the bids for Tanglewood Road — What happed and when will the bids be awarded? Attorney Ryan said, "The bids will be opened and we will see who the most responsible lowest bidder is. We will also talk to the Highway Superintendent about this."

Perry Moak said, "Many people have requested handicapped parking spaces in front of the Library. There is a handicapped ramp but no one can get to it. We will paint the lines and put up the signs if the town pays for the signs."

Councilwoman Dorman said, "There is no parking spaces on Main Street. A handicapped reserve space on Main Street around the clock is a hardship on the residential people doing business there. I suggest a limitation of some sort for example, handicapped parking during Library open hours and post the hours.

Perry Moak added, "There is also a fire hydrant right there and with no parking in front of the hydrant. We would like to include the handicapped ramp with the fire hydrant. Attorney Ryan will call the County.

Steve Wood spoke of his concern about Highway Superintendent Chase's absence from the Town Meetings.

Attorney Ryan said, "Mr. Wood, you will have to talk to Superintendent Chase about getting here. It is not a requirement in the law that he be here. His obligation and your obligation as Town Board is to sign the contract every year.

Steve Wood, "Has he no obligation to give a report on the roads? We can't hold him responsible?"

Attorney Ryan said, "Each year the Highway Superintendent and the Town Board enter into a contract that delineates the type of work on each particular road that the Highway Superintendent is expected to complete during the season. The Town Board and Highway Superintendent entered into that contract last spring, which addresses work that should be done. There is a copy of the contract on file with the Town Clerk's Office that will spell out what roads are being worked on."

Steve Wood asked, "What about accountability?"

Attorney Ryan said, "That is really not a legal question. What the Highway Law provides is that the Superintendent of Highways under Section 140 of the Highway Law has control and authority over all the town roads. The section spells out what he has to do. Each year in another section of law (Section 144) it says that the Town Board and Highway Superintendent have to enter into an agreement that obligates the Highway Superintendent and his crew to do certain work. The Town Board did that and the agreement was signed. Since that time of the signing of that agreement, the Highway Superintendent has been doing that work under the contract.

Steve Wood went on to ask if the Town Board could make a resolution that required Superintendent Chase give a report.

Marie Dermody said, "This is a paranoid observation, but isn't it curious that every other committee listed on the agenda tonight had their reports delivered by a committee member except for the Newsletter Committee. I find that curious that we weren't extended the same courtesy."

Supervisor Nickelsberg answered, "There is no reason. You could have raised your hand."

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dorman to go into Executive Session at 9 PM to discuss land use, 2nd by Councilman Chase. Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 PM, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted; Kathleen A. Hallenbeck, Town Clerk

Approved for Newsletter Publication; Jost Nickelsberg, Town Supervisor

NOTE: Full Town Board minutes can be found on the Town website (www.Rensselaerville.com) or at the Town Hall.

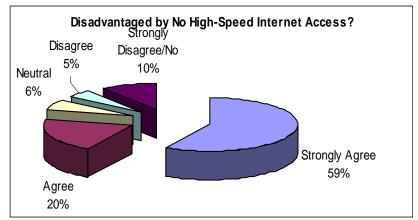
The Town Clerk's Office will be closed October 8th in observance of Columbus Day.

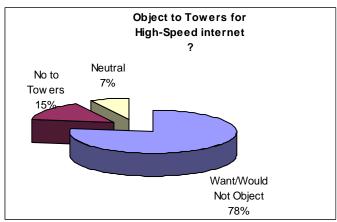
TCC Survey Results

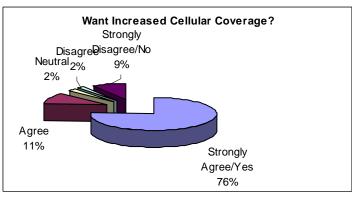
Thank you to all the residents who completed the "Telecommunications Survey" that was included in the July 2007 newsletter. Approximately 1200 surveys were distributed and 113 surveys were completed and returned. As you can see from the pie charts the results heavily favor improving emergency, cellular and internet communications. Your input will be used to direct the actions of the Telecommunications Committee.

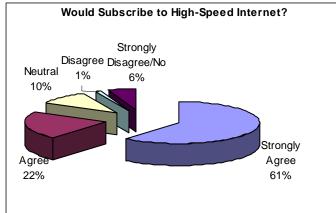
Many comments were included in the completed surveys. Here are just a few. Regarding high-speed internet respondents noted, "Home businesses are disadvantaged." "On-line courses are difficult with dialup." And

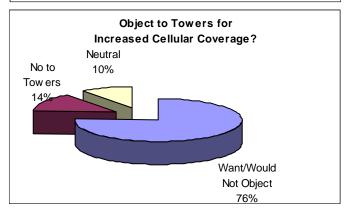
"A high-speed connection is available to all at the Rensselaerville Library." Regarding cell phone service seven respondents would like a cell tower placed on their property. Three respondents noted it was very important for their safety, as they are disabled. Comments regarding towers included, "Depends on where they are located. Improved communication for public safety is important as well as preservation of scenic vistas. We can have both with effective planning." For more comments and survey results please go to the Town website at rensselaerville.com. Click on the Telecommunications Committee link. Results can also be viewed at the Town Hall.











A Note from True Conservatives

Thank God for the solid conservative ideals and fiscal practices of our Town Supervisor and the good common sense approach of our conservative, minded council people like Myra Dorman and Allyn Wright. Please support these candidates on the Republican line, as the conservative line has been hijacked by a select few unethical democrats. We've got 2 council positions open in this election. We have 4 candidates for these positions.

Myra Dorman has been instrumental in keeping checks and balances in place saving us tax dollars. She has served our community well for many years, with honesty, integrity, and conservative principals. Myra is readily available to all tax payers concerns.

VS

Gary Chase in contrast has been an obstructionist in the operation of Town government. Case in point, the senior youth bus, the waste oil furnace, the procurement policy, just to name a few that he is opposed to. Councilperson Chase is absent from most work meetings and many Town Board meetings. Absenteeism along with absentee ballots seems to be the norm in the Chase family.

Allyn Wright is a dedicated town resident with many years of service in many positions. He is an asset with his knowledge and experience of all Town government. His a true conservative and will work to save the taxpayers money.

Steve Wood is a true conservative. He has been behind the movement for fiscally responsible government. After serving his country, fighting for fairness and freedom, he continues his fight for fair, open, and equitable tax assessment rolls. If elected, <u>all</u> rolls will be open to all of the town's people, as well, he will take a good look at all assessments and exemptions. Steve is committed to equality for ALL.

VS

Jeff Pine has openly stated at Town Board meetings that maintaining full assessed value didn't matter, yet we've paid (DEARLY) good money to have this done. We're down to 55% of true assessed value. That means the assessors didn't do their job. Also, when the State requires full value assessments, we will have to pay to have a reevaluation done AGAIN.

As True Conservatives, we indorse Myra Dorman and Allyn Wright for Town Council, Steve Wood for Assessor, and the Honorable Victor LaPlante for Town Justice.

(Paid Advertisement)



TURNPIKES - Early Roads in Rensselaerville

By Janet Haseley, Research Chair, Town of Rensselaerville Historical Society

In the early days transportation was along narrow paths chopped out of the wilderness, but in order to better accommodate carriages and carts, roads had to be built. Associations were chartered to raise funds to build the roads and the investors eventually were repaid through the collection of tolls charged to the people using the roads. Gates were placed blocking the roads and these were opened by a gatekeeper when the tolls were paid. The roads were called "turnpikes" because the barriers (pikes) were turned aside to allow travelers to pass. The houses where the gatekeepers stayed were called "tollgates". One of these is the present post office in Preston Hollow and another is a small house at the first curve on the left-hand side of the road as you climb up Albany Hill Road from the hamlet of Rensselaerville.

One of the local turnpikes was the Rensselaerville and Durham Turnpike which went from the Town of Durham in Greene County northward to connect with the Delaware Turnpike northeast of the hamlet of Rensselaerville. The Delaware Turnpike was the main road to Albany before New York State Rt. 85 was built.

The Rensselaerville and Durham Turnpike left Greene County at what is now Niles Road in Medusa and traveled along present-day Gerard Road, then Barger Road (alongside the Town Building) and connected with Willsey Road by means of an old road that is now abandoned. From Willsey Road it traveled along present-day Town Line Road (Rt. 361) to connect with Delaware Turnpike high up present-day Albany Hill Road. Several green signs with white lettering are along the route, saying "Rensselaerville-Durham Turnpike 1808".

The New York State legislature passed "an act relative to turnpike companies" on March 13, 1807 and the following year, on March 4, 1808, an act was passed which incorporated the Rensselaerville and Durham Turnpike Company. This said in part: That Apollos Moore, Ezra Lester, Electus Backus, Jacob Roggan and George Flower, and all such other persons as shall associate for the purpose of making a good and sufficient road from the dwelling-house now occupied by Solomon Henderson, in the town of Durham, in the county of Greene, northwardly on the most direct and practicable route to the dwelling-house of Ezra Lester, in the town of Rensselaerville, in the county of Albany, and from thence northwardly on the most eligible route to the

Albany and Delaware turnpike road, at or near the dwelling-house of John Shulties, in Rensselaerville....

Ezra Lester and Electus Backus lived in the nowextinct cluster of houses and businesses which was known as Peckham Hollow. One of the historical markers which The Town of Rensselaerville



Historical Society has erected is at Peckham Hollow on Wilsey Road, describing the buildings and businesses that once were there.

The capital stock of the turnpike company was to be fifteen thousand dollars and each share was to be twenty dollars.

The tolls for traveling on the Rensselaerville-Durham Turnpike were for every score of hogs or sheep eight cents, for every score of cattle, horses or mules twenty cents; for every chair, sulkey or chaise with one horse twelve and a half cents; for every horse rode five cents; for every led or driven horse four cents; for every chariot, coach, coachee or phaeton twenty five cents; for every cart drawn by one horse six cents; for every stage-waggon or other four wheeled carriage drawn by two horses, mules or oxen twelve and a half cents, and three cents for every additional horse, mule or ox; for every sleigh or sled six cents, if drawn by two horses, mules or oxen, and in like proportion if drawn by any greater or less number of horses, mules or oxen.

The act went on to say that it was lawful for the toll gatherer to stop and detain any person riding, leading or driving any horse, cattle, mules, hogs or sheep, or any carriage, until they have paid their respective tolls.

Information excerpted from *The Rural Folio* Vol. 1, No, 3, published Summer 1976 by The Rensselaerville Historical Society.

WHAT? ALREADY??

Yes, it's that time of year again when the Hilltowns Community Resource Center (HCRC) begins to coordinate its annual winter holiday program which is designed to assist families struggling with economic hardships that leave limited resources for providing clothing and gifts for their children during the December holidays. Families are referred to HCRC for holiday assistance by schools, religious organizations, community groups, and other service agencies.

The Christmas Program is a cooperative effort of individuals, families, organizations, and businesses interested in helping those in need. Would you consider being a 2007 sponsor? You may call the office to discuss options available in sponsorship (i.e. number of children). Sponsors are given a list from a family stating their immediate needs and desires to use a guide when shopping. Cash donations for sponsorship are also welcomed. Family names are kept confidential and a code number is assigned to each.

You may think this is very early, but sponsors are asked to bring the gifts for their family to The Christmas Program Open House on Sunday, December 2, 2007, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., at the Helderberg Senior Center on Route 443 in Berne. Shopping and delivering gifts early helps us to ensure that all families needs are met as best as possible. Children's gifts should *not* be wrapped (but

do include wrapping paper, please) so that parents know what was purchased. Sponsors may choose to purchase gifts for the adults but are not obligated to do so (these gifts may be wrapped). All items should be placed into large plastic bags labeled with the family code number that will be given to you. This will help us keep each family's gifts separate and in order.

The Hilltowns Community Resource Center has also always been the conduit for distribution of the Times Union Holiday Fund. Beginning this year, the Times Union fund will no longer be targeted to seniors and will be redirected to youth programs. HCRC will now be taking cash contributions specifically earmarked for redistribution to seniors. We will use similar guidelines to those that were used in the past by the Times Union. Those guidelines are: age 55 or over, living independently with income limited to Social Security Disability, Social Security, and a small supplemental or no other income.

If you are interested in being a 2007 Christmas Program sponsor, or have questions regarding the Senior Holiday program, please call HCRC at 797-5256 as soon as possible but certainly by November 5th, 2007. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Institute Of Assessing Offices Awards Assessor

September 25, 2007

Peter H. Hotaling, Jr., IAO, Assessor In the Towns of Westerlo, Rensselaerville and Cairo has been admitted to membership in the Institute of Assessing Officers and has been awarded the designation of "Professional Assessor". This announcement was made by Cathy L. Conklin, IAO, Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees of the I.A.O., from Clarkstown, New York.

In order to attain this distinction, one must qualify by experience, successful completion of a comprehensive written examination and must subscribe to the Code of Ethics of the Institute.

The Institute of Assessing Officers is a society of professional assessors chartered by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York and is sponsored by the New York State Assessors' Association. At the present time there are 255 members.

Members of the Institute have the exclusive right to use the letters IAO after their name.

Thomas Frey, IAO Executive Secretary



Sign Info. From the Zoning Dept

With an election approaching and the political signs being an issue in the Town we would like to make the land-owners aware of the Town Laws.

Landowners are responsible for the signs being placed on their property. Please be mindful of the legal size of the sign and the time of the sign placement.

According to our Local Law#1-2002 Article VII Signs, Sec.4-3 Sign Regulation A#13- Political posters, banners, promotional devises and similar signs, cannot exceed eight square feet. The placement shall not exceed thirty (30) days, and a period of at least ten (10) months shall elapse between the last day of one period of showing and the first day of the next period of the showing.

Landowners will be held personally responsible for the signs on their property.

Town of Rensselaerville Zoning Dept.

THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE DEMOCRATIC SOCIAL CLUB "Let's Take Back Control of Our Town"

Rensselaerville's Town Government is spiraling out of control. This November it's time to "Take Back Control" by voting Democratic. Our Town Board meetings which historically were a free exchange of views between the public & the Board, have degenerated into decisions made by the Board with a short open session at the end of the meeting where the citizens of the town can express their opinions. It is a very short 3 minute limit if the opinion does not agree with the Town Supervisor. Many requests have been made to let the public speak before the vote is taken, but it falls on deaf ears.

To Take Back Control Vote the Following Candidates

<u>Gary Chase</u> - Re-elect Gary as <u>Councilman</u>. Gary has been instrumental in shining a spotlight on the misdeeds of the current Town Supervisor, such as sudden and illegal changes of the Public Meeting nights; paying some vouchers without proper signatures and then refusing to pay other vendors who did business with our Town; as well as the Supervisor's voo-doo economic proposals.

<u>Marie Dermody</u> - Elect Marie as **Councilwoman** to replace the existing Republican Councilwoman who has consistently voted in lockstep with the current Supervisor to trample the rights of the citizens of our Town.

<u>Victor LaPlante</u> - Re-elect Vic as **Town Justice**. Vic brings many years in law enforcement to this job. His goal is to serve and protect the community. It was through his efforts that the Land Use Committee has changed a zoning violation from a criminal charge to a civil action. Can you even believe that certain of our elected Town Board officials wanted a violation of the zoning law to be a **criminal offense** – you could possibly go to jail for a zoning violation!!!

<u>Jeff Pine</u> - Re-elect Jeff as **Town Assessor**. Besides bringing many years of experience as Town Assessor, Jeff goes above and beyond to explain the sometimes complicated tax assessment process to the townspeople thus enabling many to successfully present their case to the Tax Grievance Board to reduce their taxes. He has also taken the effort to actively seek veterans to make sure they are aware of the exemptions they are eligible for. Jeff truly cares about the tax payers of our town and wants equal and fair treatment for all of Rensselaerville citizens.

(Paid Advertisement)





Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department

MUSIC & DANCE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2007

8:00 p.m.

Conkling Hall

Free-Will Donation

DJ Services Donated by Richard Tollner

Come and have some fun!



TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC



NEW SERVICES & UPGRADES

260 ARNOLD RD. PRESTON HOLLOW, NY 12469 (518) 239-8106

PAUL MOLLOY

It's A *Quagmire*! Bring Them Home Now

John & Nancy La Rocca; Mark La Rocca & Nina Nsilo Swai; Tim Lippert;

Tom & Kathy Mikulka; Sonny & Sue Shufelt; Michael & Gail Benedict;

Jeff & Sherri Pine; Justin Mikulka & Elise VanAllen; Kerry McFarland;

Robert and Beth Whiteman; Gordon & Elise Enk; Richard & Nadia Creamer;

Sue & Jay McChesney; George & Carolin Dempsey; Richard & Mary Ann Ronconi;

Greg Hostash; Roswell Eldridge; Roger and Bonny Gifford; James Walker;

Robert Scardamalia; Bill & Barbara DeMille; Tom & Marion Frowein;

Cynthia Willis; Dick Sabol; Dave & Mary Bryan; Ben Bryan; Emily Bryan;

Bill & Kathie Quackenbush; Virginia Carter; Joann Eckstut; Tim & Linda Miller;

Wayne & Charlene Teter; Kevin & Katherine Ceroala; Rich & Linda Snyder; Robert Mitchell and Cecile Gleason; Jenny Shufelt; Greg & Diane Bischoff; Helen Tworkov; Gordon & Tracy Benson;

Dian Ryan; M. Steven Dickerson; Kathy Daniels; Phil Sheehan and Nancy Ortner.

Groups and Organizations: The Chatham Peace Initiative; Veterans for Peace (Hudson Valley); NY Veterans Speak Out; Olean Area Coalition for Peace and Justice; Bethlehem Neighbors for Peace; Troy Peace Action; Upper Hudson Peace Action; Women Against War; Veterans for Peace (Chapter 10, The Tom Paine Chapter); Schenectady Neighbors for Peace; Vietnam Veterans Against the War; PaxChristiMi.org; Michigan Peace Works; Vietnam Veterans for America

Say it out loud if you think it. +++++ Thank You To New York Civil Liberties Union

(Paid Advertisement)



DON'T MISS A MEAL FOOD STAMPS CAN HELP!



YOU'D BE SURPRISED WHO QUALIFIES! GIVE IT A TRY!

FOR A FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL PRE-SCREENING AND FOR APPLICATION ASSISTANCE CALL THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY



(518) 462-6765 EXT. 327 OR 1-800-462-2922 EXT. 327.

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Prepared by a project of the Nutrition Consortium of New York State, Inc. Funding provided by the NYS Department of Health, the Office of Temporary and Disability and the USDA/FNS

Vote Republican For Honest Government

WE PROMISE TO:

LOWER TAXES while meeting the Town's increasing needs.

SUPPORT AND IMPROVE our volunteer emergency services, which have always been ABOVE POLITICS. Rensselaerville has a long heritage of the finest volunteer service, and we will maintain this tradition.

ENCOURAGE more volunteers at all levels. This will keep the budget lean and bring people together in a good-neighborly way.

CONTINUE 100% transparency in the Town's business. There are no secrets and there will be no secrets!

AS EVIDENCE of the Republican Party's intention to work with everyone. Please note that we offered Victor LaPlante a place on the Republic line because we know he is a fair-minded judge, a good man, and one who puts the law and the Town's best interest first.

THIS IS THE MOST CRITICAL ELECTION IN THE TOWN'S HISTORY.

BE SURE TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6, 2007

YOU, THE VOTER, ARE IN CONTROL.

WE, THE GOVERNMENT, ARE HERE TO SERVE ALL THE PEOPLE OF OUR TOWN

FOR HONESTY AND INTEGRITY IN GOVERNMENT, VOTE FOR....

MYRA DORMAN

VICTOR LAPLANTE

ALLYN WRIGHT

STEVE WOOD

(Paid Advertisement)







PAGE 20 **NEWSLETTER**





Millions of New York homeowners are eligible for the 2007 Middle Class STAR Rebate. This year's rebate checks are based on the local property tax burden and the owners' income levels.

Eligible homeowners must wait to receive their applications from the Tax Department to apply.

To apply, homeowners need to:

- · verify the information provided,
- enter the names and social security numbers for all owners and their spouses, and
- · submit the application online or by mail.

It's that easy.

The deadline to apply for your Middle Class STAR Rebate is November 30, 2007.

Enhanced (senior) STAR recipients need not apply; their rebates will be issued automatically.

Need more information?

Visit our Web site at:

www.nystax.gov

Or call 1-877-678-2769 ¿Necesita ayuda? Llámenos,



TOY DRIVE

November 3 - 17,2007

To benefit the Hilltowns Community Resource Center

Hosted by the Town of Rensselaerville Fire Departments



Suggested items to donate:

New, unwrapped toys for infants – teens

Gift cards to stores (music, department, toy) Gift wrap, ribbon, tape Cash/checks payable to HCRC

Drop off locations:

Hilltown Café Rt. 353, Rensselaerville * Medusa Post Office Building, Medusa * Preston Hollow Baptist Church, Rt. 145 Preston Hollow * Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Rd. Medusa

HCRC serves the towns of Berne, Knox, Westerlo and Rensselaerville. They currently assist approximately 300 families in need. Please contact Kathy Wank @ 797-9292 with questions

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

<u>Town Highway Department</u> 518-239-4225, 518-797-3798

Sen. Neil Breslin, 42nd Dist. LOB, Albany, NY 12247 518-455-2800

Assem. John McEneny, 102nd Dist. LOB, Albany, NY 12248 518-455-4100

County Legislature, 39th Dist.
Alexander (Sandy) Gordon
144 Beebe Road, Berne, NY 12023
518-872-2602

Albany County Highway Dept. 518-239-6715

Rensselaerville Fire Company, 911 Social Number - 797-3218

<u>Tri-Village Fire Company, 911</u> Social Number - 239-6780 www.Trivillagefire.com

Medusa Fire Company, 911
Back-up Emergency Number 943-9010
Social Number - 239-6166

Rensselaerville Vol. Ambulance, 911 Information Number - 518-797-5233

> Albany County Sheriff, 911 518-765-2351

State Police, Rensselaerville and the Hilltowns, 911 518-477-9333

<u>Dog Control Officer</u> Cheryl Tefft-Baitsholts 518-797-5201

IMPORTANT BUSINESS HOURS

Town Board Meetings
Second Thursday 7:00 pm
Working meeting Tuesday before regular
meeting 7:00 pm as needed

Town Justice Court
Monday 7:00 pm

Planning Board
First and third Thursdays 7:30 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals Second Tuesday 7:00 pm

<u>Building Inspector/Zoning Officer</u> Thursday 8:00-10:00am, 7-9 pm

Town Clerk's Hours
Monday-Wednesday 9:00am-3:30pm
Thursday 1:30pm-7:00pm
Friday: 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Supervisor's Hours Wednesday 10am - 12 pm Home office: 7 days 7:30am - 10:30pm

Assessors' Hours
Thursday 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Assessors' Clerk Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday morning

Town Refuse Station Hours
Wednesday and Saturdays
7:00am-3:45pm

Water/Sewer District Meeting
First Thursday 7:00 pm

IMPORTANT E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Supervisor: townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk: townclerk@rensselaerville.com
Planning Board: planningboard@rensselaerville.com
Assessors: townassessors@rensselaerville.com
Building Inspector: codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com

Town of Rensselaerville

 87 Barger Road
 Phone: 518*797*3798

 Medusa, NY 12120
 Phone: 518*239*4225

 Website: www.Rensselaerville.com
 T.D.D.: 800*662*1220

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