



# Town of Rensselaerville

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

Volume 22, Number 04

April 2011

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## February 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 8th day of February, 2011 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Dermody and the roll was called with the following results:

**PRESENT WERE:** Supervisor Marie Dermody, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilman Gary Chase, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Kudlack, Town Attorney Joseph Catalano, Town Clerk Kathleen A. Hallenbeck

Also present were Superintendent Gary Zeh and 20 interested citizens.

**PRESENTATION: WORKERS COMPENSATION**

Mr. Loren W. Pratt, Marketing Manager from New York State Municipal Workers' Compensation Alliance and Erin Spencer from Marshall & Sterling Insurance Company gave a presentation on the Workers' Compensation Insurance, explained how they arrive at the rates charged, and answered any questions that the Town Board had.

- Mr. Pratt explained and talked about the renewal process and experience modification, which means your history of claims. He mentioned that we have two major factors here: NYS costs going up that are not in their control and a couple of bad accidents that you have had.

- Comp. Alliance is a group self-insurance program. Their prices are determined by the cost of the program. Their rates are a little less than the State's. The State's overall increase is 18%; theirs is 14%.

- Several issues were covered during the question-and-answer period.

- Supervisor Dermody thanked Mr. Pratt and Ms. Spencer for coming.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

- Sandy Gordon, County Legislator, resident of Knox, presented the Town Board with a flag and proclamation..

- Supervisor Dermody thanked Mr. Gordon for all his efforts for getting this for us.

- Mrs. Schloen asked if all employees receive compensation for sick days.

- Supervisor Dermody mentioned that members of the Highway Department do. Anybody else who is hourly only gets paid for the time they are here. If you are salaried, you get paid a set amount regardless of how many hours you spend on the job.

- Gerald Wood asked about snow plowing of the fire houses and churches.

**MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the minutes as amended for the Regular Meeting held on January 13, 2011; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. (Under transfers, add the year "2010.") *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

A motion was made by Councilman Kudlack to accept the minutes of the Work Meeting held on January 11, 2011; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Chase. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

(Continued on page 12)

## Library Bookmark

### What's New?

#### Second Weekend Film Series at Conkling Hall:

Please note we have moved the Friday movie to 3pm on Saturday.

**Saturday, April 9 at 3:00P.M.** - *Tangled*. Runtime: 100 min. Rated PG.

**Saturday, April 9 at 7:00P.M.** - *Mao's Last Dancer*. Runtime: 117 min. Rated: PG.

Please note that May movies will be on the first Saturday of May.

**Saturday, May 7 at 3:00P.M.** - *Azur & Asmar: The Princes' Quest*. Runtime: 99min. Rated: PG

**Saturday, May 7 at 7P.M.** - *Encounter Point*. Runtime: 85 min. Rated: NR

Suggested donations: \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children. Snacks and drinks also available for purchase.

**Saturday Story Time - Date TBA at 10:30A.M.** (check our website for more information in the coming days) - This month we will showcase the new books awarded to the Library from The Libri Foundation Books for Children grant.

**April is National Poetry Month.** We hope you will participate in Rensselaerville's **Sixth Annual Favorite Poem Project on April 16<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm at Conkling Hall.** As part of a national movement begun by former poet laureate Robert Pinsky, this event brings communities together by inviting citizens to bring their favorite poems to read aloud in a relaxed poetry celebration. Previous events have drawn more than 50 readers, and poems ranged from the hilarious to the somber, from poems by children's poet Shel Silverstein to selections from Tennyson and Blake, and poems by contemporary poets Billy Collins and Mary Oliver (among others). So, find a poem you love or have loved to read aloud and celebrate poetry with your friends and neighbors. Are you a poet yourself? Bring an original poem to share! Refreshments will be served. Contact Linda Miller at 936-4402 or the Library for more information.

Join the **Town of Rensselaerville Community Book Discussion centered around the Middle East and Islamic culture and traditions.** The event will be offered as part of the Getting to Know You program (sponsored by various community organizations and churches) and the American Library Association's Diversity Month. A display of library resources during the month of April will offer more information about the history, culture, faith, and diversity of people in the Muslim world. **Residents interested in participating in the book discussion (which will take place in May) can pick up their book during the month of April.** The book discussion will focus on three books by contemporary Muslim authors and **pre-registration will be required** for planning purposes.

The Library is preparing for the **Annual Book Sale on May 21.** Please bring books that you would like to donate for the sale during library hours. Volunteers are needed to sort and move books for the sale. Please contact the Library if you are interested in volunteering.

Planning is well underway for the next **Festival of Writers - July 29-31, 2011.** The steering committee is looking for volunteers and underwriters for the event. If you are interested in volunteering or underwriting please contact: Liz Britton at 797-3557, Kim Graff at 797-3949, Lisa Jemison at 944-8697, Rosie Kuhar at 797-3360, or Linda Miller at 936-4402.

The Library is looking to enhance our music (CD format) and movie (DVD format) collection and donations are appreciated.

The Library has received a grant from the Upper Hudson Library System to purchase a digital projector for the library. The new projector will enhance library programming through the use of videos and power point presentations. Planning efforts are underway for future programming for all ages.



The next **Library Board meeting** is on **Monday, April 18th at 7:00P.M.**

**Open to the Public**

*The Library is located at 1459 C.R. 351, Rensselaerville.*

#### Library Hours:

*Tuesday & Wednesday:  
10:00 AM to Noon,  
4:00-9:00 PM*

*Thursday & Friday:  
4:00—9:00 PM*

*Saturday:  
9:00-1:00 PM*

[rensselaervillelibrary.org](http://rensselaervillelibrary.org)

**Staff:**  
Kim Graff,  
Director  
  
Katie Caprio,  
Library Technician  
  
Zachary Wellstood,  
Page

## *Conkling Hall—What's On In April*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9:** Second Saturday Children's Movie presents "Tangled" at 3:00 PM. Suggested contribution \$1 for children, \$2 for adults.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9:** Second Saturday Movie for Grownups presents "Mao's Last Dancer". 7:00 PM. \$2. admission.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16:** Sixth Annual Favorite Poem Project. 3-5 PM. A National Read-Aloud event celebrating Poetry Month. Come to read a poem or listen to your friends and neighbors. More information is available from Linda Miller 518 936 4402.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 21:** The revived Conkling Coffeehouse returns with Peter Michael as host. Musicians arrive 7-7:30 PM. Music follows. Coffee and treats available. Come hear the best of our local artists.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30:** "GETTING TO KNOW YOU" an intercultural dialogue with a movie and open discussion. 2:00 PM. A screening of "Inside Islam: What a Billion Muslims Really Think". Panel will include a local imam, a veteran of the Iraq War, and moderated by a prize winning reporter. A reception will follow. Free will donation. For reservations call 518 797 3459 and leave a message on the machine.

**PILATES:** Saturdays 9-10 AM. Strengthen your abdominals, gain long, lean muscles and work with good alignment. Appropriate for all levels.

**YOGA: Tuesdays** 9 - 10:15 AM. Move, breathe, relax. Good for what ails you. Open to all. Call Sarah Nelson Weiss 518 239 6825.

### **MAY PREVIEW:**

**SATURDAY, MAY 7:** "GETTING TO KNOW YOU" program continues with a children's movie, "Azur and Azmar: The Prince' Quest" at 3:00 PM. Contributions of \$1 for children and \$2 for adults.

**SATURDAY, MAY 7:** "GETTING TO KNOW YOU" program continues with a grown up movie at 7:00 PM. "Encounter Point", a grassroots movement for peace involving Palestinians and Israelis. Admission \$2.

You can reach Conkling Hall at 518 797 3459 or read our website at [www.ConklingHall.org](http://www.ConklingHall.org). We send frequent announcements/reminders via email. If you wish to be added please send your email address to [Info@ConklingHall.org](mailto:Info@ConklingHall.org).



Methodist Hill Road  
Rensselaerville, NY  
(518) 797- 3459

## *Library Bookmark*

(Continued from page 2)

Did you know that the Library offers a variety of technological conveniences? These include:

- **A Wi-Fi hot spot.** The Wi-Fi does work with both Windows and Mac based devices. Select *Library* when you are searching for a network.
- **4 public computers.** All computers have access to the internet, as well as to Upper Hudson research databases (including Ancestry.com)
- **A photocopier.** The photocopier is available to the public for 15 cents per copy. We have 8 ½ x 14 and 11 x 17 size paper. If you need the 11x17 paper, please ask the librarian on duty for assistance.
- **A fax machine.** The fax machine is available to the public for both sending and receiving faxes. It costs \$1 per page whether you are sending or receiving. The fax number is (518)797-5211

If you would like to contact the Library Director by email please feel free to do so - [director@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:director@rensselaervillelibrary.org)

*Senior Corner*

**Need Information?** Elder Source Line (447-7177) has information about 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 Services 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: Bryant's Center, Greenville Thursday: Cobleskill (Wal-Mart) 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. A one-day advance reservation would be appreciated and can be made by calling Marie at 797-3652 between 9:00AM-1:00PM for information and reservations.

**We need volunteer drivers!!!!** If you have a valid driver's license and could volunteer a couple hours of your time now and then, it would be greatly appreciated. Contact Kathy Hallenbeck, Town Clerk (797-3798, 239-4225) for more details.

*Volunteers Needed*

Volunteer drivers are desperately needed for transporting seniors. Interested parties with a valid driver's license can contact Kathy Hallenbeck, Town Clerk, for more details. She can be reached at 239-4225 or 797-3798.

Waste Oil Collection Day:

Saturday, March 26th  
Saturday, April 30th  
7AM—Noon

**THE PRESTON HOLLOW  
BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

The Preston Hollow Beautification Committee has begun plans for the 2<sup>nd</sup> summer of coordinating the hanging of lovely flower baskets throughout the Hamlet. The committee is presently accepting bids for the watering of the flower baskets. The following is what would be involved:

- The daily watering of the flower baskets from June 1, 2011 to October 15, 2011 (except on the days of heavy rain).
- Adding fertilizer to the watering about once a week.
- Removing the flower baskets from the poles at the end of the season and bringing them to Jimmy Walker's Greenhouse on Route 145 in Preston Hollow.

The person bidding would need to have a pick-up-truck and their own insurance. A 50 gallon drum with a motorized wand for watering and the water will be provided by Jimmy Walker's Greenhouse.

Please send bids to:

The Preston Hollow Beautification Committee  
c/o Margaret Sedlmeir  
2 Pearson Road  
Preston Hollow, New York 12469

The Preston Hollow Beautification Committee reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Bids will close on April 15, 2011.

***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 age or income. Anyone is welcome to purchase any or all of the package options.

Unfortunately, the Extra Helpings April menu was unavailable at the time of this publication. Please contact the HCRC (797-5256) for information regarding the Extra Helping program and the April menu.



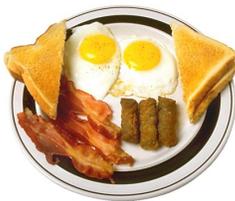
***Thank You***

The Henry family would like to thank, from the bottom of our hearts, everyone who has helped us to get through the loss of our house on February 13th.

We would especially like to thank the brave and efficient fire fighters. We were very impressed by their promptness, endurance, and ability to contain the fire. Special thanks to the EMT's and Paramedics. They were very friendly and professional.

The people of this community have been wonderful, and we cannot emphasize enough how grateful we are.

The Henry Family  
Preston Hollow, NY



**All You Can Eat BREAKFAST**

**APR. 16th**

**MEDUSA FIRE COMPANY**

**Free Will Offering**

**7 AM TO 11 AM**

### *Middleburgh Library Happenings*

4/5, 12, 19, 26 - 10:30 AM - **Drop-in Storytime** - This fun, interactive program is designed for active children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. We'll read books, sing songs, play games and watch a short film based on a weekly theme. No registration is required.

4/5 - 12:00 PM - **Kerry Mendez - Perennial Plant Collector's Corner** - Kerry Returns to the library to talk about unique plants that transform ho-hum gardens into eye-popping, extraordinary ones. **Registration is Required.**

4/5, 12, 19, 26 - 3:30 PM - **Reading with Indy** - This program is designed to allow kids the chance to read to a non-judgmental listener, one who will accept the story exactly as they read it. Indy handler is Karen VanDyke.

4/6, 13, 20, 27 - 1:00 PM - **Wednesday Matinee** - 4/6 "The Kids Are All Right" ( R ) - 4/13 "127 Hours" ( R ) -

4/7 & 21 - 6:30 to 8:00 PM - **Children's Health Insurance Program Assistance** - The goal of the program is to enroll uninsured children and teens up to age 19 in low-or no-cost health insurance through Medicaid or Child Health Plus. An outreach worker will be available at the library to answer your questions and give you free personal assistance. No appointments are necessary.

4/7, 14, 21, 28 - 7:00 PM - **Knitting Circle** - Do you like to knit or crochet or do you participate in other fiber arts? Bring your project and join your neighbors for some creativity and conversation. No registration is required.

4/12 - 7:00 PM - **In Concert with David Ferrand** -A Scottish-American singer-songwriter and folk musician based in Edinburgh, Scotland. Born to a Scottish father and an American mother he was brought up on both sides of the Atlantic.

4/14 - 7:00 PM - **Basic Digital Point & Shoot - Part 2** - Learn a little more about how your camera works and try out some of the settings we discussed at our first meeting. Bring an object of interest to photograph in class and please make sure your batteries are charged! Facilitator Shelly Peavy-Wood is the owner of [Creative Classics Photography](#). Space is limited and **Registration is required.**

4/16 - 9:00 - 2:00 - **Drop-In Craft** - Bunny Basket

4/16 - 11:00 AM - **Family Film** - "My Neighbor Totoro (G) - Deep inside a tree trunk, two children discover a fascinating new world inhabited by Totoros, amazing, charming creatures who become their friends.

4/19 - 7:00 PM - **Book Discussion - To be announced.**

4/20 "Get Low" (PG-13) - 4/27 "Country Strong (PG-13).

4/20 - 10:30 AM - **Library Babies** - Library babies are a language enrichment program for caregivers and babies from 3-15 months old. Parent/Caregiver participation is key to the success of this program. Older siblings are welcome and playtime will follow. No registration required.

4/21 - 1:00 PM - **School's Out Family Film** - "The Chronicles of Narnia - Voyage of the Dawn Treader" (PG).

4/22 - 5:30 PM - **Dinner & A Movie** - "The King's Speech" ( R ) - We'll provide the pizza and beverage and you bring a dessert to share - cookies with *Royal* Icing perhaps....? **Registration is Required.** Space is limited. Please note - this movie is rated R and is not appropriate for children.

4/27 - 10:30 AM - **Drop-in Storytime** - Doreen McCoy is back with a once a month storytime for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. She'll read stories, sing songs and do a craft based on a theme for that month. No registration is required.

4/28 - 7:00 PM - **Create the Life You Desire** - In this workshop Ellie Walsh will explain to you the principles behind the Law of Attraction and how to utilize them in your daily life.... So you can - Get More of what you Do Want ... and Less of what you Don't Want. To receive a free copy of "4 Steps to Creating the Life You Desire" - visit - <http://LivingTheLawOfAttraction.com>

More programs may be planned. Stop in the library, or visit our web site at [www.middleburghlibrary.org](http://www.middleburghlibrary.org) for more information.

**Mark your calendar! Call for reservations!**

**GETTING TO KNOW YOU:  
An Intercultural Dialogue with Open Discussion,  
Art, Books, Food and Film in Rensselaerville, NY**

*Getting to Know You* is a new public program about world culture and faith. Arising from the sincere wish of a group of local citizens for an exchange of ideas and information, it is the first of what is expected to be a series of multi-faceted dialogues, open to all.

**Topic: Islam and the Muslim World**

**Saturday April 30, 2011**

- ⇒ **2:00 PM** Screening at Conkling Hall of the award winning documentary film *Inside Islam: What a Billion Muslims Really Think* followed by a panel of distinguished guests, including a local Imam and a veteran of the Iraq war, and moderated by a Pulitzer Prize winning reporter. A reception will follow. Free will donation, but reservations advisable: call 797-3459.
- ⇒ **12 – 6:00 PM** Art exhibit at the Way Out Gallery, featuring Kamil Chaderji's engraved photographs of Iraq during the 1920's and 30's and more. Opening reception is at **5:00 PM**. Exhibit can also be seen Saturday May 7 and Sunday May 8.
- ⇒ **6:30 PM and 8:30 PM** Community dinner (two seatings) at the Palmer House Café. Behroush Sharifi, culinary muse and spice supplier to the top chefs in the world is collaborating with Chef Bill Benson to create a "Saffron Smugglers" event. The 6-course menu is informed by the cuisines of India and the Middle East, all fashioned from local ingredients to create an All American feast. Molly O'Neill, author of One Big Table, will interview Sharifi between courses. The prix fixe meal is \$40. For reservations call 797-3449.

**Saturday May 7, 2011**

- ⇒ **3:00 PM and 7:00 PM** A Muslim film festival at Conkling Hall featuring the children's film *Azur and Asmar: The Prince's Quest* at 3:00PM and at 7PM *Encounter Point*, a film, appropriate for teens and adults, about a grassroots movement for peace involving Israelis and Palestinians. Suggested donation: \$1 for children and teens and \$2 for adults.

**Tuesday May 24, 2011**

- ⇒ An evening of coffee and dessert sponsored by the Rensselaerville Library around three books by contemporary Muslim writers: Maps for Lost Lovers by Nadeem Aslam, Reading Lolita in Tehran by Azar Nafisi, and Girls of Riyadh by Rajaa Alsanea at the home of Robert and Barbara Blum. Books and related materials available at the Library beginning April 1. For pre-registration call 518-797-3949.

Sponsors: Conkling Hall, the Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church and Trinity Episcopal Church in collaboration with the Rensselaerville Library.

**For more information:** <http://gettingtoknowyouevent.blogspot.com>; Diane Baillargeon at 797-3110 or Joanna Bull at 797-5255

### *A Report from the Supervisor*

According to the calendar, spring is here. After a long, somewhat arduous winter, we can only hope that the weather knows spring has arrived and we can begin to hope for longer days and warmer temperatures. It's a testament to our fortitude that we got through another winter, spirit intact and hopes high!

It was expected that our lighting upgrades for Town Hall would have been completed on March 10, 2011, as had been previously scheduled. This did not happen on that expected date. But the good news is that the materials necessary for this upgrade have been delivered to Town Hall. It's only a matter of time before the task is completed and we can expect brighter lighting throughout Town Hall, the highway garage, and the recycling building as well as lower energy bills from Central Hudson.

The accountant from Pattison, Koskey, Bucci & Howe of Catskill, the firm retained by the Town Board to complete the 2010 Annual Update Document for the Town, have begun working on the task. Clerk1/Bookkeeper Sarah Hunt has gathered the necessary documentation requested by the CPA thus far. The Town has been granted an extension for the filing of this report from the NYS Comptroller's Office. We anticipate a timely and accurate completion of the AUD by the May 1, 2011 deadline.

I wish to publicly thank the Town of Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance company for their check for \$11,220, a 25% contribution towards the Town's cost for the Advanced Life Support Program provided by the Albany County Sheriff's Department. This money represents a portion of the insurance recovery money that the RVA receives for charges for advanced life support services provided to the patient. It was a totally unexpected and unanticipated contribution, but one that is greatly appreciated.

Justice Victor La Plante has informed me that the Town of Rensselaerville has been awarded \$3,129 in grant money from the Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) for the purchase and installation of surveillance cameras and 4-channel DVR for the Court. Application was made in September 2010, and the Town was awarded 100% of its request. Once the money has been received, the Town Board will decide how to proceed. A thank--you goes to Justice La Plante for initiating this process.

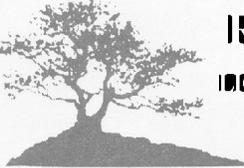
The Town Board is in unanimous agreement that the Town highway department is in need of a pressure washer. However, in exercising its responsibility over the expenditure of public funds as well as the Town's procurement law, it is incumbent upon the Highway Superintendent to submit his Request for Proposals (RFP) to the Town Board for its approval before the bidding process can proceed. I look forward to addressing this matter at the April Town Board meeting. Because this issue has generated some controversy, I intend to introduce amendments to the Procurement Law at the April Town Board meeting which will clarify the need for Town Board approval for all RFPs prior to publication.

As a reminder, please know that I keep regular office hours and am available all other times by phone or email. You're always welcome to stop by for a chat!

*Marie*

### THANK YOU

Thank you family and friends (the REAL CONCERNED CITIZENS) for your support, prayers, visits and goodies during Jon's hospitalization and recovery. Words of thanks hardly seem enough. Jon is not about to give up nor are we. We should all have his stamina. Miracles happen....he's living proof.



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### Church Services

#### **Preston Hollow Baptist Church**

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

#### **Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church**

Summer Session Worship - 11:00AM  
Coffee Hour following Service

#### **United Church of Christ**

Medusa, 239-6119  
Worship: Sunday - 10:00AM

#### **Trinity Episcopal Church**

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

#### **Potter Hollow Union Church**

4824 Potter Hollow Mountain Road  
Potter Hollow, 263-4478  
Worship: Sunday - 10:00AM  
Coffee Hour & Sunday School—11:30AM  
Call for Bible Study and Prayer Group



#### **Extended Tax Collection Hours**

Kathy Hallenbeck, Tax Collector, has extended the tax collection hours to include Saturday, Saturday, March 26 between the hours of 10AM until 1PM.

### Volunteer News and Events

#### **Medusa Volunteer Fire Department**

*Company Meeting:* Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 PM  
*Drill & Work Meeting:* Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM

#### **Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department**

*Check your smoke and carbon monoxide detector to see if they are working properly!*

Calls as of February 8, 2011: 6

HELP WANTED: MEMBERS NEEDED - Please join us at a meeting or drill...there is a job for everyone!

#### April:

- 4<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Company Drill
- 6<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Ladies Battalion Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Company Drill
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - 2:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt
- 27<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 pm Company Meeting

#### May:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7:00 pm Company Drill
- 4<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Ladies Battalion Meeting
- 9<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Company Drill
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Annual Garage Sale Day (9-3)
- 25<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 pm Company Meeting

#### Special Events -

- 4/9 & 10 - Recruit NY - Check fire house sign for details. Recruit membership drive.
- 4/23 - 2:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt - Think Spring!
- 5/21 - Annual Garage Sale Day (see Registration form for more details).

#### **Tri-Village Volunteer Fire Department**

*Company Meeting:* Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00PM

#### **Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance Department**

*Company Meeting:* Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM



## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH CELEBRATES BICENTENNIAL

By The Rev. Jay North, Rector of Trinity Church, Rensselaerville

Trinity Episcopal Church celebrates its Bicentennial this year. It is the earliest Episcopal church founded outside the city of Albany in Albany County. Incorporation papers show that the congregation was founded on February 20, 1811. Two pictures grace the west wall of the church. One is an original oil of the first Rector, The Reverend Samuel Fuller (1811-1842). The other is a photographic likeness of The Reverend Robert Washbon, the second rector (1842-1868 and 1873-1892). The legacy of these two men who served the church during virtually all of its first century remains today.

Rev. Fuller held the first Episcopal service in October of 1810 in the building now known as "The Mill House" which is now the office of the Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve. The church was officially founded in February of 1811 at a meeting held in the building which is now the residence of Jay and Sue McChesney at the foot of Pond Hill Road. Rev. Fuller served Trinity Episcopal Church for 30 years until his death on April 9, 1842.

Another highlight of Trinity's 200-year history was the celebration of its Sesquicentennial in 1961. This may have been the golden age of the congregation. The Rev. Richard Clark, another longtime rector of the parish (1950-1982), presided over the event. Members of the congregation reviewed and celebrated the history of the village and of the church. The names of the founding fathers including Rufus Watson, Apollos Moore (a Revolutionary War veteran), Ichabod Peck, Jonathan Jenkins and Asa Colvard were remembered. Even Granny Cobb's friendship with Rev. Samuel Fuller and the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer which she lent him at the Presbyterian Church were recalled at a gala Conkling Hall celebration.

Now as Trinity Church enters its third century, the congregation is studying and thinking about appropriate and substantial ways to honor its history and to lay a strong foundation for the future. The Vestry has established a Building Preservation Committee which is looking into how to best celebrate the bicentennial anniversary of the dedication of the church building in 2015. While planning and thinking is still taking place, it can be safely predicted that the church has big plans for the future and its Founding Bicentennial Celebration is only a beginning of renewal and growth.

Following is a listing of Bicentennial Events planned for 2011. The church invites and welcomes the entire community to celebrate this wonderful anniversary. All events are open to everyone. Save the dates!

### BICENTENNIAL EVENTS:

April 10, 2011 -- 11:00 am Festive Eucharist with Bishop William H. Love

2:20 pm Celebration Luncheon

Luncheon Speaker -- Michael Devonshire, preservation architect

June 4, 2011 -- Founders Day Bicentennial Celebration - 4 pm

Church Tours 10 am - 3 pm

Cemetery Tours (Graveyard Gambling, Scavenger Hunt) 10 am - 2 pm

Concert followed by Gala Reception -- Conkling Hall - 8 pm

"The Lost Radio Rounders"

June 5, 2011 -- Celebration of 1811 Communion Service - 11 am

June 19, 2011 -- Joint Celebration with Presbyterian Church

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***Applications for Food Stamps and Medicaid can be made at the Hilltown Community Resource Center. Please call the center at 797-5256 for detailed information.***

# MEDUSA FEST

**Held in the Hamlet of Medusa, NY 12120  
Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> 2011**

Flea Market setup time is 8:00AM - must be ready for the Public by 9:00AM  
End Time is 4:00 pm (if you are packing up early you will not be invited to return)

**BOOTH SPACE:**

INDOOR: The space inside are about 7 x 10 \$20.00 one table and chairs are provided.  
If you attended last year it is only 15.00 per table.

OUTDOOR: Approximately 15' X 20' space also \$20.00 you must supply your own tables.

Reservations are needed by May 1<sup>st</sup> 2011,

**Please Note:**

Venders are responsible for having NYS Sales Certificates and for collecting the appropriate sales tax.

Please return the application below with appropriate payment to:

Medusa Volunteer Fire Company  
28 County Route 351  
Medusa, NY 12120  
Attn: Medusa Fest Committee

Please make all checks payable to the Medusa Volunteer Fire Company.

-----  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Merchandise \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Indoor \_\_\_\_\_ Outdoor \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for Joining us last year, because you were here last year you have first choice for the same spot this year. Please let me know by April 28<sup>th</sup> 2011

This year we will be offering Chicken Barbeque it will start at 11:00 am, we will also be serving hamburgers and hot dogs though out the day. There will be a DJ.

**The Medusa Volunteer Fire Company is not responsible for any injuries, theft, fire, Etc.**

## February 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

(Continued from page 1)

**TRANSFERS:** Supervisor Dermody reported that \$10,000.00 for election contractual was omitted in the budget line. \$10,000.00 needs to be taken out of the 2010 budget

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to make the following transfers;

FROM	TO:	AMOUNT:
Sewer -Workers Comp. SS9040.8 (to repay general fund for payment of workers comp.)	General - Workers Comp.	\$ 50.00
Street Lighting -PH - SL5182.41 (repay loaned amounts from 2010)	Due from other funds	567.97
Street Lighting - Ren - SL5182.43 (repay loaned amounts from 2010)	Due from other funds	1,014.02
Fund Balance - A909.01 (missing total in election line)	Elections - A1450.4	10,000.00

2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays(0)*

**ABSTRACT 2010 - 02 VOUCHERS,BILLS:** The General Fund - \$65,461.11; Highway Fund - \$205,690.20; Lighting District - PH - \$323.20; Ren - \$713.09; Sewer District - \$28,012.72; Water District - \$953.46; Ambulance District - \$20,511.00 (annual contract - \$10,000.00, Workers. Comp. \$10,511.00) Fire Districts - \$121,573.00 - (Medusa Fire Co. - \$50,000, Preston Hollow Fire Company - \$47,000.00; Workers Comp. for Medusa Fire Co. \$8,191.00, Preston Hollow - \$8,191.7, Rensselaerville - \$8,191.00); Agency & Trust - \$725.36. Grand Total for all vouchers - \$443,963.70.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to pay all signed vouchers; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### CORRESPONDENCE

- TEPCO - They expect to re-start the pipeline on or around January 31, 2011.
- Nadine Bechle - Fleming Road repairs
- NYS Comptroller - They gave us an extension to May 1st to file the AUD.
- Girl Scout Troop 1616 - sale Girl Scout cookies on Saturday, April 2, 2011, 10am to 2pm, on the lawn behind Town Hall.  
A motion was made by Councilman Kudlack to allow Girl Scout Troop 1616 sell cookies on April 2, 2011, (rain date - April 9<sup>th</sup>) on the lawn in back of the Town Hall; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Chase. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### REPORTS

#### **SUPERVISOR DERMODY**

- **FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Supervisor Dermody distributed to the Town Board members the following documents: Account Summary (2/8/11), the Operating Statement for the end of 2010, Operating Statement for the end of January 2011, and the Abstract of Vouchers. The Town Board discussed the statements received.  
A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Supervisor's financial reports; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*
- **CLOSE 2010 BOOKS:** Supervisor Dermody reported that we should have all the 2010 bills in and paid. Any bills that come in for 2010 will have to be taken out of the 2011 funds.  
A motion was made by Councilman Kudlack to close the Books for 2010; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Chase. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*
- **CARVER BILL:** Supervisor Dermody mentioned that we have a resolution to the Carver bill and she has faxed the information to County Comptroller Connors.  
- Councilman Chase explained what happened to a payment and credit and returned checks for Carver Construction and Carver Sand & Gravel for a payment of an invoice on 12/31/07. Carver has credited the Town's account for \$7286.60. This can be used toward future purchases.
- **PAYROLL AUDIT:** Councilman Kudlack will audit the December payrolls and Councilman Chase will audit the January payrolls.

(Continued on page 13)

## February 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

(Continued from page 12)

- **GREEN FIBER:** Kelli Driessen of Green Fiber would like to re-negotiate our contract with them. They would like to increase the amount per ton that they pay us from \$20.00 to \$25.00.  
A motion was made by Councilman Bolte authorizing Supervisor Dermody to sign the contract with Green Fiber for \$25.00/ton; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*
- **i.t.s.:** Supervisor Dermody mentioned that she needs Town Board ratification of the IT contract with i.t.s. Supervisor Dermody mentioned that in their contract there is an auto-renew on January 1<sup>st</sup>. If the Town wanted to cancel their contract, they needed to do it in writing 45 days before the end of 2010. Supervisor Dermody mentioned that they have given us excellent service; they are able to fix a computer from their location which doesn't cost us anything for a trip charge. Even though they didn't go up in price, they are also going to cover support for MUNIS software and hardware.  
A motion was made by Councilman authorizing Supervisor Dermody to ratify the contract with i.t.s for computer support, it will take us through December 31, 2011; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*
- **MUNIS:** Supervisor Dermody reported that MUNIS is moving along. The Bank is working with us to get their vendor to supply us with a form that is compatible with MUNIS, hopefully free of charge.
- **SECURITY CAMERA:** Supervisor Dermody mentioned that Hammond Security informed her that Camera #4 is down. The estimated cost to fix it is \$200.00 and a new one is \$400.00.  
A motion was made by Councilman Kudlack to have Camera #4 fixed or replaced, to do what is needed to get it up and running; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Chase. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*
- **NYS PARKS - POTTER HOLLOW SCHOOL HISTORIC:** Supervisor Dermody mentioned that we received a letter from the NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation informing us that the property of Potter Hollow District # 19 School on County Route 363 in the Town will be considered by the State Review Board at its next meeting for nomination to the National and State Registers of Historic Places.
- **ALBANY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE:** Supervisor Dermody received a letter from the Sheriff's Office seeking a letter of support for a County Ambulance Program. She asked Mr. Gerald Wood if the Ambulance Squad had any issue with having County facilities available to us.  
Mr. Wood, no, if we don't have a crew available they will respond. We will always have coverage.  
A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to send a letter of support to the Albany County Sheriff's stating that the Town Board is in favor of a County Wide Ambulance Service; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Chase. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*  
A motion was made by Councilman Chase to accept the Supervisor's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### TOWN ATTORNEY: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW

Attorney Catalano asked if the Town Board had any comments or questions concerning the FOIL documentation that had been distributed to the Town Board last month.

Discussion ensued regarding this draft law.

Attorney Catalano mentioned that a public hearing needs to be scheduled on this law.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to schedule a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 3, 2011, 7PM at the Town Hall on Public Access to Records (FOIL); 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Superintendent Zeh reported that they have been plowing snow. It would be helpful to the highway department if a pole was put by the mailbox so it will not get knocked over.

- **SAND AND SALT:** Superintendent Zeh mentioned that the sand and salt budget line has been hit hard this year. He is watching the sand and salt line and also overtime very closely. The Carver credit will come in handy this year.
- **OBSTRUCTIONS:** Superintendent Zeh reported that there is a highway law concerning items along the right-of-way that are obstructing their plowing. There are places where there are cars, equipment, etc. on the roads and they have to plow around them. There is also a law stating that you can't plow snow across a road. If you are caught you could be arrested for doing this.

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## February 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

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Superintendent Zeh reported that they spent \$4600.00 on parts and repairs in January.

A motion was made by Councilman Kudlack to accept the Superintendent's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### TOWN CLERK:

Town Clerk Hallenbeck reported the following collected and paid out for the month of January 2011: Town Clerk Department - Total Collected - \$592.36. Paid to the Supervisor - \$509.56 (fees); Paid to NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets - \$28.00 (Dogs - State Surcharge); Paid to NYS Departmental Conservation - \$54.80 (sporting license); Paid to NYS Department of Health - \$0.00 (marriage license). Water Rents Collected - \$20,428.23. Sewer Rents Collected - \$12,118.50. Tax Collection - \$1,184,153.55.

A motion was made by Councilman Kudlack to accept the Town Clerk's Report for the month of January 2011; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Chase. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Chase, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR:** Supervisor Dermody read CEO Over Baugh's report. There was one septic repair for the month of January.

**ASSESSING DEPARTMENT:** There were no Assessors present; no report was given.

### WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE:

- **DEPUTY WATER/SEWER TREATMENT OFFICER APPOINTMENT:** Douglas Story is working toward getting certified; he has agreed to take this position.
  - A motion was made by Councilman Chase to appoint Douglas Story, Deputy Water/Sewer Treatment Officer at a rate of \$10.00 per hour, term to expire 12/31/2011; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*
  - Attorney Catalano mentioned that we need a certified operator as soon as possible.
- **WORKERS COMPENSATION:** Attorney Catalano mentioned that the Committee has asked the Town to investigate to make sure that unpaid volunteers are covered by the Town's Workers Compensation Insurance or other insurance should they be injured while helping the town.
- **REPAIR OF IMPOUNDING DAM:** Attorney Catalano mentioned that the Water/Sewer Committee is ready to move ahead with getting bid documents prepared and going out to bid for repairs to the impounding dam.
  - Chairman Long mentioned that they have the bid documents.
  - Attorney Catalano mentioned that there is not enough money in the budget of the Water District to pay for the work. The Town has two options. One is to lend the Water District money which would have to be paid back within the calendar year or to authorize the issuance of Bonds and the issuance of a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN). All that would have to be charged back to the District residents. It would not be incurred by town taxpayers.
  - Attorney Catalano mentioned that we do not have any authorization to issue another BAN. We have to do a resolution to authorize the issuance of bonds which is subject to a permissive referendum. That cannot take effect until 30 days after the resolution is made. Once that 30 day period expires and you don't have enough petitions in opposition to it, then you can go to a bank and get a BAN for a year and pay it back gradually over time from year to year.
  - Attorney Catalano mentioned that due to professional liability insurance issues as well as the expertise needed to issue Bonds, he recommends that the Town hire a Bond Counsel that is certified to issue bonds. The cost can also be funded under the BAN. The Town may have to front some money for that and for perhaps engineering work for the bid documents; it could be paid back out of the BAN. Attorney Catalano mentioned that if the Board authorizes it, he can retain Bond Counsel and have the documentation ready for the March meeting so you could make the required procedures. You would have to have a public hearing on that; the process would take about 45 days. The other option you could do is bid the project but not award the bid until you have the money; then you would know the actual amount that you are looking for. If you don't do that, you can have the resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds up to an amount that would cover everything and only issue the BAN for the exact amount on that.

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## February 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

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- Councilman Chase asked if the Committee has been looking for grants.
- Chairman Long mentioned that they have been trying to get grants. The only agency he knows of where they might have some luck is an agency that administers a revolving fund. They are out of Massachusetts; they have a maximum of \$100,000.00.
- Attorney Catalano mentioned that the Community Development Block Grants has just announced their round of grants.
- Attorney Catalano will need a brief description of the project as well as the maximum amount that you want to authorize the issuance for the funding.
- Councilman Chase asked if we should look into the grant process first.
- This issue was discussed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody authorizing Attorney Catalano to do what is necessary to be prepared for the March 3<sup>rd</sup> Work Meeting regarding the issuance of bonds; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

- Councilman Bolte asked about a certified operator.
- The Town Board summoned the Water/Sewer Committee to the March 3<sup>rd</sup> Work meeting to discuss the issue of a certified operator.

**JUSTICE MILLER:** The Town Board needs the paperwork to audit his books.

### **PARKS/PLAYGROUNDS - MOWING AND PORT-A POTS:**

The Town Board discussed putting out for bids to mow the parks/playgrounds and for port-a-pots for the Bayard Elsbree Park, Rensselaerville Playground and Medusa Playground. The parks must submit their specifications for mowing & trimming to the Town Clerk within 2 weeks, which will then be available upon request.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase authorizing the Town Clerk to advertise for bids for mowing and port-a-pot rental for the Bayard Elsbree Park, Rensselaerville Playground and Medusa Playground; bids to be opened at the March 8th meeting at 7:30 PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

**RECYCLING DEPARTMENT:** Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported the following tonnage received and transported for the month of January 2011: Green Fiber - 9.06 tons, Rensselaerville Iron & Steel - 3.72 tons, Tires - 8, City of Albany Landfill - 55.65 tons, Sierra Fibers - 5.39 tons and Oil - 25 gallons.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to accept Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### **CURRENT EVENTS:**

- Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Company - Pancake Breakfast - Sunday, February 13, 2011, 8 to 11am. Free Will offering.
- Medusa Winter Carnival - Saturday, February 12, 2011 - 11am to 3pm.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS MEETING - FEBRUARY 22- 23, 2011 - RESOLUTIONS**

The Town Board had reviewed all the resolutions to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Councilman Chase will be voting on these resolutions at the Annual Meeting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody authorizing Councilman Chase to vote *AYE* on all resolutions (1 through 11) at the Association of Towns Meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Cooke. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

**AUDITOR:** Supervisor Dermody reported that we have received quotes from the following firms to do the 2010 Annual Financial Report (AUD): Cusack & Company, CPAs LLC, Latham, NY, Pattison, Koskey, Howe & Bucci, CPAs, P.C., Catskill, NY and Sickler, Torchia, Allen and Torchia, Hudson, NY.

Supervisor Dermody mentioned that she has looked them all over: they are all reputable CPAs; they all have experience in municipal accounting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to retain the services of Pattison, Koskey, Howe & Bucci, CPAs, P.C., Catskill, NY, as the CPAs to complete the 2010 AUD; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion*

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## February 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

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*Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### NEW BUSINESS

#### **FIRE CONTRACT – RENSSELAERVILLE, TRI-VILLAGE, AND MEDUSA VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES:**

The contracts between the Fire Companies and the Town haven't been updated in some time. He has updated them; the dates are January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011 and the new amounts are inserted for each fire company. Basically they all say the same. Each contract formalizes the relationship that was already in place. He suggested that the Supervisor be authorized to execute the contracts, that they be sent to the Fire Companies for their review and if okay the Fire Companies will sign one and send it back to the Town.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase authorizing Supervisor Dermody to sign and execute the contracts for the Rensselaerville, Tri-Village and Medusa Volunteer Fire Companies; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

#### **RESIGNATION – RAYMOND WELSH – PLANNING BOARD & ZONING REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Supervisor Dermody reported that she has received a letter of resignation from Raymond Welsh from the Planning Board and Zoning Review Committee due to health problems. We need to accept with regret this letter of resignation.

- Attorney Catalano mentioned that Mr. Welsh has been extremely knowledgeable and very determined and despite his health issues really made unbelievable effort to attend as many meetings as he did. It was quite remarkable.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody that we accept Ray Welsh's resignation with regret from the Planning Board and Zoning Review Committee effective January 25<sup>th</sup>; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Cooke. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

- A notice of vacancy for the Planning Board will be put in the next newsletter. April 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for those interested in the position to get their letter of interest to the Town Board.

### **FLAG:**

Councilman Kudlack spoke concerning the flag. What was done was the appropriate thing to do at the time; there was nothing else that could be done from having the flag being destroyed by the wind and being hung up in the trees. He would like to make a motion to ratify what Supervisor Dermody did to have the flag fly freely without damage and to have the respect that it is due by trimming those trees at that time. Hopefully when the weather gets better we can go out there and do something better with the flag so it stands and it flies and it makes the Town of Rensselaerville proud of what we stand for.

A motion was made by Councilman Kudlack that we ratify the action that Supervisor Dermody took by having the trees trimmed so the flag wouldn't be destroyed in the trees with the wind; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Chase.

- Councilwoman Cooke mentioned that the only problem she has with that is there was no Town Board approval on that before it was done.
- Councilman Kudlack mentioned that sometime you have to make a split minute decision and do what you have to do. To take the flag down, it is not flying. To trim a few branches to let the flag fly is one thing.
- Mr. Bowdish, the flag was like that for over a month before it was attacked. When it was brought to the attention of the Board, it was suggested at that time that there was a group of people that were willing to extend the flag pole above the trees before a new flag was put up. This wasn't something that was a spur of the moment out of the courtesy to the flag; otherwise it would have been done a month before that.
- Attorney Catalano, there is a motion before the Board; discussion should be between the Board.

*Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Chase, Kudlack; Nays (1) Cooke*

### **TREES:**

Councilman Bolte spoke concerning the trees. The trees are going to continue to grow and he would like to either extend the pole higher or he will furnish another pole taller to put out in the garden out in the front.

- Supervisor Dermody mentioned that the pole was put in place by the VFW and dedicated in 2002; the pole needs to stay there.

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## ***February 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary***

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- Councilman Chase felt that in the spring they should come up with a committee to figure out what we want to do about it; either plant shrubs out there or something to make it look nice.
- Attorney Catalano suggested contacting the VFW for their help.
- Supervisor Dermody will contact the VFW and the American Legion and see what they can come up with and also get the community involved.

### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

- Dale Dorner mentioned that what you are doing talking about trimming the tree. She thinks that the incendiary comments about it being a felony and the negativity don't do the Town Board any justice to hear that, and she thinks that the Board has done a good job in working out the situation.
- Richard Tollner asked if the Town's FOIL policy differs from NYS.
  - Attorney Catalano mentioned that he followed the State model.
  - Mr. Tollner asked what the purpose is of making FOIL changes.
  - Supervisor Dermody mentioned that our FOIL policy is dated 1974; it needed to be updated.
- Richard Tollner asked about the Water District, the loan, how many homes are in the District, how much funding is needed and how much are they paying now? This is a large expense for those people.
  - Chairman Long mentioned that they pay on a fixture count; it varies per house. It is about \$500.00 per year.
- Richard Toller asked about the status of the FEMA claims.
  - Supervisor Dermody mentioned that we are done except for the Water District.
- Richard Toller asked about the cost of the auditor?
  - Supervisor Dermody, between \$3500.00 and \$4500.00 for the AUD.
- Mrs. Schloen mentioned that the VFW out of their minute funds bought the pole and they themselves erected the pole. The VFW members are all about 80 years old, and they are all WW2 Veterans.
  - Mrs. Dempsey mentioned that she heard about the flag controversy. She remembers that when Mr. Bolte was running for election, he said that after the November election there should be no Republicans or Democrats but just one group to guide the affairs of the united community. Mr. Bowdish has also made similar statements. Why not sit down and find a reasonable solution that does not include trees that by their nature can grow to be 60 or 70 feet high or by moving the flag pole and crowding it up against the building. There was a complaint that the new flag was being shredded by the trees. The Supervisor decided to have the trees topped and now it has been made into a big political "hoo ha" about how the supervisor acted without authorization, etc. and should be personally responsible for paying for the trees that were donated by Mr. Mikulka. Why not remove the trees, plant some small growing shrubs underneath the flag pole?

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Councilman Kudlack to adjourn the meeting at 9:25PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. Motion Carried.

### **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Kathleen A. Hallenbeck  
Town Clerk

(NOTE: Full Town Board minutes can be found on the Town's web site at [www.rensselaerville.com](http://www.rensselaerville.com) or may be picked up at Town Hall during normal business hours.)





RaisingOurKids.com

***HAPPY SPRING***

# The Rensselaerville Institute

the think tank with muddy boots

March 4, 2011

Dear Friends of The Rensselaerville Institute,

The Rensselaerville Institute's Meeting Center has been the location for meetings, conferences, retreats, weddings and a host of other events for over 40 years. Throughout these years, we have dedicated ourselves to providing meaningful programs, beautiful estate grounds, exceptional customer service and award-winning cuisine.

Over the past decade we have found ourselves in challenging economic times – like many others in the non-profit and hospitality arenas. We have worked to operate as efficiently as possible, but it has now become an economic necessity to focus our efforts on those months which are in greatest demand for campus use.

To that end, we will be closing the campus for outside use during the winter months. This will commence on November 1, 2011 and we will reopen May 1, 2012. Our program staff and a reduced Meeting Center staff will remain on campus year-round in the Guggenheim Pavilion building.

As you may know, we had anticipated a sale of the campus to Bill Carey based on a contract presented by him in mid-January which would have enabled the campus to be used as it is now but with an increased emphasis on local programs. Unfortunately that offer was withdrawn just prior to the Board of Trustees meeting in late January.

Given this turn of events, as well as the long-term outlook for the Meeting Center, we will now be exploring alternate uses for the property. This includes looking for other parties interested in partnering with us to support programs on campus as well as those who have an interest in purchasing or leasing our campus. Our efforts will be focused on an outcome that preserves the intention of using it for improving people's lives, the physical integrity of the property, as well as the jobs for the staff dedicated to it.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each of you who has been an interested supporter. I look forward to any constructive thinking that you would like to contribute as we move forward. I may be reached via email at [gwilliams@schooltumaround.org](mailto:gwilliams@schooltumaround.org) or by phone at 518-797-3783.

Best,



Gillian Williams  
President





# Annual Rensselaerville Garage Sale Day

## Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

Rain, Snow or Sunshine

Now is the time to sign-up if you would like to hold a sale at your property/location sponsored by the Rensselaerville Fire Department Ladies Battalion. We will advertise in local newspapers, some capital district newspapers, radio and cable television. Your sale will be listed on the map, which will be available the morning of the sale at the firehouse.

Sales should be open from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. The cost is still \$15.00 per family.

**Please send your registration form and \$15 registration fee to:**

**RVFD Ladies Battalion**  
1364 CR 351  
**Rensselaerville, New York 12147**  
*Checks payable to RVFD Ladies Battalion*

If you have any questions, please call Rose Kuhar at 797-3360. Registration forms must be received by May 14, 2011.

Refreshments and maps will be available at the firehouse between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm.

=====

### **Garage Sale Registration Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Site of Sale: Road name, Rte number, 911 number, miles from village, color of house and other descriptive information.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Description of items for sale: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

***Detailed descriptions will attract potential customers to your sale. Clean, clearly priced items that are spread out for display are more likely to sell.***

TOWN OF BETHLEHEM  
**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY**

May 7, 2011                      8:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

- Keep wastes in their original labeled containers. Tighten lids and pack securely in a cardboard box. Never mix chemicals.
- Wrap leaking containers in newspaper and place in plastic bag or container.
- DO NOT smoke near chemicals or leave product in a hot, unventilated vehicle for an extended period of time.
- For your SAFETY, please stay in your car. Workers will unload the material.
- Recycle motor oil with service stations that change oil for customers.
- Recycle antifreeze with local radiator shops.

<b><u>ACCEPTABLE WASTES</u></b>	<b><u>UNACCEPTABLE WASTES</u></b>
» Pesticides/Herbicides/Insecticides	» Empty paint cans (throw in trash)
» Paints (oil base, latex)	» Empty aerosols (throw in trash)
» Wood preservatives and stains	» Dried paint (throw in trash)
» Thinners and solvents	» Explosives/ammunition
» Drain cleaners	» Fireworks
» Swimming pool chemicals	» Radioactive materials
» Automotive fluids/batteries	» Controlled substances
» Cleaning products	» Known dioxins
» Gasoline/kerosene	» Compressed gases
» Acids and bases	» Commercial wastes
» Hobby chemicals/paints	» Industrial wastes
» Asbestos (wet and double-bagged)	» Medical wastes
» Fluorescent light bulbs	
» Mercury thermometers	
» Computers and computer parts	

- \* We do accept the following items, but homeowners can always dispose or recycle these items by the suggested methods.
1. Motor oil: Gas stations that change oil for their customers must accept up to 5 gallons per person per day at their facility for recycling. If their tanks are full, they may not be able to accept. NOTE: Never put motor oil or gasoline in a Clorox bottle.
  2. Antifreeze: Can be brought to a radiator shop for recycling
  3. Vehicle batteries: Trade it in for a new battery. Garages sometimes will accept old batteries. There are scrap metal dealers in the Port of Albany that will accept vehicle batteries. Check the yellow pages.
  4. Household cleaners: Such as window, dish, laundry, bathroom, etc. can be reused if the owner wishes to share with those in need.

**Each registrant must get a coupon and instructions for participating in the Town of Bethlehem's HHW Program. This material may be obtained from the Town Clerk's office at 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY 12120 during normal business hours.**

- \* Directions from the west::
- \* From Route 85, turn at Slingerlands Price Chopper onto Cherry Avenue (Route 140)
  - \* Proceed to Delaware Avenue (Route 443), then straight onto Elm Avenue
  - \* Proceed 2 miles to Bethlehem Elm Avenue Town Park (Route 32 South); turn left onto Elm Avenue at the traffic light.

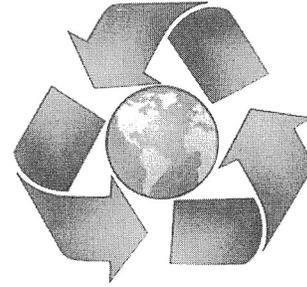
# Capital Region Recycling Partnership

Cities of Albany, Rensselaer and Watervliet  
Towns of Berne, Bethlehem, East Greenbush, Guilderland,  
Knox, New Scotland, Rensselaerville and Westerlo,  
Villages of Altamont, Green Island and Voorheesville

Celebrates...

# GO GREEN DAY!

A Reduce, Reuse & Recycle event for all at the  
Cornell University Cooperative Extension Albany County



Capital Region Recycling Partnership

[www.capitalregionrecycling.com](http://www.capitalregionrecycling.com)

## Join us for Family-Friendly GO GREEN DAY!

Kids' Zone, information, ideas,  
and hands-on activities about  
recycling, reusing, reducing and  
more!

**DATE:**  
Saturday, April 30, 2011

**TIME:**  
11:00 am – to 3:00 pm  
Rain or Shine

**LOCATION:**  
Albany County Cornell  
Cooperative Extension  
24 Martin Road, Voorheesville

For more information contact  
Pat Geurtze at 518-475-0385

### EXHIBITS/SERVICES:

- Document Shredding Truck
- Book Collection Bin
- CFL/Fluorescent Light Bulb Collection
- Master Gardeners/Rain Gardens
- EMPOWER (Save Energy/Save Dollars)
- Rain Barrels (available to pre-order at [www.nerainbarrel.com/Albany.html](http://www.nerainbarrel.com/Albany.html))
- Food Concessions/Vendors

### DEMONSTRATIONS:

- Backyard Composting
- Food Preservation/Canning
- Worm Composting
- 5-gal Bucket Planters

### GIVE - AWAYS:

- Tree Seedlings
- Rain Barrel & other Door-Prizes

### HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS:

- Energy Bicycle
- Enviroscape
- Green Shopping Challenge
- Rock Painting

And Much More!!



Cornell University  
Cooperative Extension  
Albany County



Albany County  
Soil and Water  
Conservation District

*NEW Important Contact Information*

Town Board Meetings  
Second Tuesday 7:00 pm

Working Meeting  
Thursday preceding regular meeting  
7:00 pm

Town Justice Court  
Mondays 7:00 pm

Planning Board  
First and third Thursdays 7:30 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals  
First Tuesday 7:00 pm

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

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

Supervisor's Hours  
Monday, 9am—12 noon  
Wednesday, 9am—12 noon  
Friday following monthly TB meeting  
9am—12 noon  
Other times by appointment

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

Assessors' Clerk Hours  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday morning

Dog Control Officer  
Cheryl Baitsholts  
518-797-5201

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

Water/Sewer District Meeting  
Fourth Thursday 7:00 pm

Town Supervisor  
Marie Dermody  
518-239-4552 (H)

Town Clerk & Collector  
Kathleen A. Hallenbeck

Town Justices  
Victor La Plante  
Timothy Miller

Councilpersons  
Robert Bolte, Gary Chase,  
Marion Cooke, John Kudlack

Building Inspector  
& Code Enforcement Officer  
Mark Overbaugh  
Rachel Chase, Clerk II

Assessors  
Jeff Pine, Donna Kropp,  
Michael Weber  
Rachel Chase, Clerk II

Highway Superintendent  
Gary Zeh

Planning Board  
Muriel Frasher, Chairperson  
Kathy Wank, Secretary

Zoning Board of Appeals  
Roger Gifford, Chairman  
Kathy Wank, Secretary

Deputy Town Clerk  
Dee Andrus

Bookkeeper  
Sarah Hunt

Town Hall  
518-797-3798; 518-239-4225  
Fax: 518-239-6339

Town Highway Department  
518-239-4225, 518-797-3798

Sen. Neil Breslin, 46th Dist.  
Capital Bldg., Room 502  
Albany, NY 12247  
518-455-2800

Assemblyman John McEneny, 104th Dist.  
LOB, Room 648  
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, 518-239-6710

Rensselaerville Fire Company, 911  
Social Number - 797-3218

Tri-Village Fire Company, 911  
Social number - 239-6780

Medusa Fire Company, 911  
Back up emergency number,  
765-5979  
Social number - 239-6166

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

Albany County Sheriff, 911  
518-765-2351

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

Hilltown Community Resource Center  
518-797-5256

**E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

Town Supervisor: [mdermody@rensselaerville.com](mailto:mdermody@rensselaerville.com)  
Town Clerk: [townclerk@rensselaerville.com](mailto:townclerk@rensselaerville.com)  
Newsletter: [newsletter@rensselaerville.com](mailto:newsletter@rensselaerville.com)  
Board of Ethics: [ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com](mailto:ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com)  
Code Enforcement Officer: [codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com](mailto:codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com)  
Assessors: [assessors@rensselaerville.com](mailto:assessors@rensselaerville.com)  
Planning Board: [planning@rensselaerville.com](mailto:planning@rensselaerville.com)  
Councilman Gary Chase: [gchase@rensselaerville.com](mailto:gchase@rensselaerville.com)  
Councilwoman Marion Cooke: [mcooke@rensselaerville.com](mailto:mcooke@rensselaerville.com)  
Councilman Robert Bolte: [rbolte@rensselaerville.com](mailto:rbolte@rensselaerville.com)  
Councilman John "Jack" Kudlack: [jkudlack@rensselaerville.com](mailto:jkudlack@rensselaerville.com)  
Highway Superintendent Gary Zeh: [gzeh@rensselaerville.com](mailto:gzeh@rensselaerville.com)

Town of Rensselaerville  
87 Barger Road  
Medusa, New York 12120

Phone: 518-797-3798  
Phone: 518-239-4225  
Fax: 518-239-6339  
[www.rensselaerville.com](http://www.rensselaerville.com)

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