

Town of Rensselaerville

# Newsletter

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

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Volume 17, Number 8

August 2006

**Letter from Supervisor Jost Nickelsberg  
Town Roads**

Some on the Town Board have been concerned about a number of road issues that have not been adequately discussed for several months, as Road Superintendent Chase has been absent from the last several board meetings. Also, Citizens have expressed their disappointment with the inability to engage the Superintendent in discussions regarding their roads. I called a Special Board Meeting on July 25 to exchange information and discuss how to move forward.

The Town Board has not been able to determine why Niles, Cheese Hill, and Travis roads, now under construction, are not in compliance with our 1998 minimum standards law. So, we had our Town Engineer look at these roads and prepare a report which I have attached to this Newsletter. Although the roads are not finished, the Engineers found a number of problems with the initial construction stages, some of which are listed below:

- Drainage was inadequate.
- Culverts were not located where necessary.
- The road base material was not correct.
- There was substantial pushing up to the surface of Clay.
- Roads have been widened to include soft shoulders not supported by compacted base material.

—Utilization of "geofabric" underlayment was determined to be incomplete. Supt. Chase will be adding additional geofabric as needed, (30% or more) of the 1.5 mile length of Niles road.

Paving roads that are not properly prepared is a waste of the taxpayers money because the blacktop will break up prematurely in the freeze/thaw cycle we have in Rensselaerville (examples of this are Kenyon, Tanglewood and Johnnycake Hill roads, among others). We can not afford to throw money away paving roads that are not properly constructed. Roads should be built in compliance with town road specifications (please see attached 1998 Town of Rensselaerville Minimum Road Specs.) and have a chance to last 10+ years as opposed to 1-2 years.

The Town Board has a clear responsibility to monitor the expenditures of Town money and take every precaution to insure your tax dollars are well spent. As chief fiscal officer of the town I intend to pay careful attention to how that \$1+ million budget is spent on our town roads. The alternative is higher taxes.



Cooksburg



Medusa



Potter Hollow



Preston Hollow



Rensselaerville

# THE RENSSELAERVILLE LIBRARY *Bookmark*

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY  
10 - noon, 4 - 9:00 pm

THURSDAY & FRIDAY  
4 - 9:00 PM

SATURDAY  
9 - 1:00 PM

*We are closed Sunday,  
Monday and Holidays.*

↪  
MAIN STREET  
518.797.3949

Important . . . temporary change in library hours for July and August 2006 only – the Wednesday morning library hours are 9:30-11:30 a.m. Please adjust your schedules accordingly. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

The annual meeting of the Rensselaerville Library will be Mon., Aug. 7 at 7 p.m. at the library.

Congratulations to all the children who have been diligently reading all summer as part of the Library Summer Reading Program "Books: A Treasure." Don't forget, the Summer Reading Program ends on Sat., Aug. 19. To celebrate your accomplishments, we will be having a bagel party, compliments of Bruegger's Bagels, from 10 a.m.-noon. So come in, collect your final prices (including a free book!) and have a bagel.

Adults participating in the Adult Summer Reading Program are invited to the bagel party too. Also, don't forget to hand in your reading forms to be eligible for the prize drawing.

Mark your calendars for a very special treat for the whole family. On Sat., Aug. 26 at 3 p.m. at the Berne Town Park the Rensselaerville, Berne and Westerlo libraries will welcome the internationally known storytelling sensation The Storycrafters. The husband and wife team of Barry Marshall and Jeri Burns bring their award winning storytelling to the Hilltowns. Come and listen to and participate in this special program "A Glimp of Gold, A Knock at the Door and Other Hidden Treasures." Called "top notch family entertainment" by Parents Magazine, The Storycrafters have performed at numerous festivals around the world. This is not to be missed. Please call the library at 797-3949 for directions and more information.

Also continuing this summer is the Rensselaerville Library Kids Cookin' by the Book Club. Join Cynthia Nicholson for A Morning at the Market on Sat., Aug. 19 at 10 a.m. The day begins at the Rensselaerville Farmers' Market learning about local produce, talking to the farmers and purchasing their products. Then go back to the library to make fresh salsa with your purchases. On Tues., Aug. 22 at 7 p.m. our friend Jessica Allen from Honest Weight Food Co-op will help parents and children learn about Packing a Yummy and Healthy Lunchbox, just in time for back to school. This program will be at the library. Both programs are free, but sign up is required.

And although we don't want to think about the end of summer before it even begins, the Annual Library Lawn Party will be at the Ballinger Garden on Sat., Sept. 2 from 5-7 p.m. Afterwards, don't forget to go across the street to Conkling Hall for the Huyck Preserve 75th

## **Refuse/Recycling Hours**

The Rensselaerville Refuse/ Recycling Department Hours are Saturday and Wednesday from 7 a.m.-3:45 p.m.

Please display your permit.

If you do not have one, one can be obtained at the Town Clerk's office. Please cover your refuse, so that it is not left on someone else's property. No sheet rock or shingles will be accepted.

## **Sporting Licenses**

The 2006-2007 Sporting Licenses go on sale Aug. 14. Applications for deer management permits must be submitted by Oct. 1.

## **Ghost Riders Perform**

The Ghost Riders Band will perform at Bayard Elsbree Park on Friday nights from 7-9 p.m. ending Aug. 25.

A chicken barbeque will be featured at the Aug. 25 performance.

## **...Library**

Anniversary Dance. Two great organizations, one great evening!

The next friends of the library meeting will be Mon., Aug. 21 at 7:30 p.m. Join us or call the library and ask to be put on the email list.

Library staff: Rebecca Lubin, director; Barbara Bolster Barrett, associate librarian; Candy Wilson and Kate Barker, aides.

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**(518) 797-3425**



## Hilltown Market & Natural Food Co-op News

The need and support for a natural foods market in the Hilltowns has brought a great response from the community with positive results.

The Hilltown Market & Natural Food Co-op Inc. is well on its way toward opening and will be located in the north room of the Rensselaerville Post Office and Hilltown Café building, 26 CR 353, Rensselaerville. Member-owned and operated, the co-op will be open to the general public

### **RHDA Annual Meeting to Discuss Sidewalks**

The Rensselaerville Historic District Association (RHDA) will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, August 5, from 11 am to 1 pm at Conkling Hall.

The topic of discussion will be the rehabilitation of the sidewalks in the hamlet of Rensselaerville. Our guest speaker will be Craig Hammerman, the District Manager for Park Slope in Brooklyn. Mr. Hammerman has spent 16 years as District Manager of Park Slope and its five neighboring communities and has extensive experience with bluestone sidewalks.

The continual degradation of the sidewalks has been a particular bailiwick for many in the village, and here is a perfect opportunity to start working towards a solution.

This is a discussion you will not want to miss.

for shopping. The store will provide healthy food, convenient shopping at competitive prices for its members and the community, provide jobs, and support agriculture and farming.

Memberships and in-kind services have put the dollars that these sources have provided to very economical use, with the first phase of fundraising more than meeting our hopes.

Once the Phase II fundraising is met, the co-op will

### **Conkling Hall – What's On August**

**August 5,** Sonny and Perley return to Conkling Hall for an evening of jazz and Brazilian music. Melodic, rhythmic and sensual, the team of keyboardist Sonny Daye and vocalist Perley Rousseau is one of the most exciting and popular musical attractions in the Capital District. Tickets are \$10.

**August 12-13,** Good Cause

#### **Church Services About Town**

† Preston Hollow Baptist Church  
Route 145, Preston Hollow 239-6544  
Worship: Sunday 11 a.m.

† Potter Hollow Union Church  
Potter Hollow 734-5106  
Worship: Sunday 9 a.m.  
Wednesday Prayer & visitation 8:30 a.m.

† Presbyterian Church  
Main Street, Rensselaerville  
Worship: Sunday, 11:30 a.m.

† Trinity Episcopal Church  
Trinity Lane, Rensselaerville 797-5395  
Holy Eucharist & Church School  
Sunday 11 a.m.

† United Church of Christ  
Medusa 239-6119  
Worship: Sunday 9:15 a.m.

be on solid ground to positively assure our first year of operation. If you are interested in joining this community effort, you may find membership/ donation information at the town hall or town library.

With appreciation for your input and support, the newly elected board of directors: Cheryl Baitsholts, Gail Benedict, Rachel Ginther, Gail Haines, Roy Lamberton, Guna Nielsen, Jeanette Rice and Dianne Rizzo.

Club Performance of "Once Upon a Mattress." Performances are Saturday, August 12, at 7 PM and Sunday, August 13, at 2 PM. Tickets are \$10.

**Library Friday Night Movies** resume the first Friday in October,

**Coffee House** resumes the third Friday in October.

## HCRC Back to School Project

The old adage "always be prepared" is certainly true when it comes time to return to school to begin the task of learning new and exciting things.

Arriving in school that first day well-prepared for learning sets the tone for success throughout the school year.

The Hilltowns Community Resource Center (HCRC), an outreach site of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany, wants to ensure that children from families in need that receive HCRC services are set for success each school year.

To do so, HCRC is seeking individuals and organizations willing to "adopt a student" and assist in sending him or her back to school prepared for learning. HCRC is asking sponsors to commit to providing each student with a new backpack containing school supplies needed and a new pair of sneakers.

Sponsors will be provided with a list of supplies each student is required to have, shoe size and color preferences.

Please call HCRC at 797-5256 if you or your organization is interesting in sponsoring a student. In addition, during the

month of August, HCRC will conduct a back to school supply drive throughout the towns of Berne, Knox, Westerlo and Rensselaerville.

Community members can help with HCRC's efforts by purchasing a variety of school supplies and dropping the items in bins at the following locations: post offices in East Berne, Berne, Knox, Westerlo, Medusa, Preston Hollow and Rensselaerville; and transfer stations and libraries in Rensselaerville and Westerlo.

Back to school items that can be donated include boys and girls sneakers (all sizes,) pens, pencils, colored pencils, crayons, markers, highlighters, pencil holders, pocket folders,

primary school writing tablets, three-ring binders, binder paper, binder dividers, spiral notebooks, composition notebooks, rulers, protractors, calculators, erasers, 3X5 index cards, tissues, post-it notes, small and large zip lock bags.

HCRC is also looking to obtain graphing calculators for use by students in advanced math classes.

These calculators will be loaned to students for the duration of the math course.

Monetary contributions are always welcome. Checks can be made payable to HCRC and can be sent to HCRC, PO Box 147, Westerlo, NY 12193. Please call 797-5256 with any questions.

## New Extra Helpings Food Club

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 is changing the prices and menus being offered. They will now be offering mostly meats and cheeses in a variety of package options. Anyone is welcome to purchase any or all of the package options. The menu for each month's Extra Helpings' offerings will still be published one month in advance.

August's Extra Helpings regular menu, for \$20, includes 2 pounds boneless port chops, 3 pounds boneless chicken breast, 1 pound 90% lean ground beef, 1 pound natural Polish kielbasa, 1 pint fresh blueberries, 5 pounds red potatoes. Special #1, for \$12.75 is 5 pounds of center cut boneless pork chops; Special #2, for \$10, is 5 pounds sliced white American cheese; Special #3, for \$30 is the meat box, which includes 3 pounds 90% lean ground beef, 2.5 pounds boneless skinless chicken breast, 2 pounds sweet Italian sausage, 3 pounds Salisbury steak and 2.5 pounds fully cooked gourmet meatballs. Substitutions of equal value may be necessary due to availability.

Please note: Orders with payment are due at the HCRC office by Aug. 5 for pickup on Aug. 22. HCRC distributes Extra Helpings at the Rensselaerville firehouse from noon-1 p.m. and St. Bernadette's Church, Berne, from 12:30-2 p.m., and St. Lucy's Church, Altamont, from 3:30-5 p.m. on delivery days. The pickup site must be noted with each order. Anyone wishing more information regarding Extra Helpings or other HCRC services, please call 797-5256. HCRC's mailing address is PO Box 147, Westerlo, NY 12193. Please include your phone number on all correspondence.



United States Postal Service  
in the Town of Rensselaerville

Medusa Post Office  
239-4826  
Preston Hollow Post Office  
239-6111  
Rensselaerville Post Office  
797-3231

# Why Plan for Agriculture?

Adapted from American Farmland Trust "Guide to Local Planning for Agriculture in New York"

The agricultural scene in the Town of Rensselaerville has changed over the past few decades to include other types of farming businesses in addition to dairy: fruit trees, vegetables, maple syrup, beef and other meats, Christmas trees, wool and other farm products, green houses, apiaries, horse farms and more.

Many people assume that farms will be in their community forever and take them for granted. Without farming and agriculture, we are quite simply not rural.

If we would like to include farming and farmland in our town's future, we need to plan for farming's future and make agriculture a community priority.

Poorly planned development may fragment blocks of land into pieces that are too small for farm equipment, may discourage farm investment, or may set the stage for costly conflicts about farming practices.

Communities need to realize that without farmers to work the land, the land will not stay as farmland. Planning for farming should be proactive and not just reactive.

One must move beyond expressing what they do not want in planning in order to start laying out the vision for the future.

The grounds for supporting farms and protecting farmland may differ in every community. The following arguments have frequently been used to generate local support for farming:

#### Economic benefits:

Farms are local businesses that provide jobs and support the local economy by purchasing

local goods and services (where available).

**Fiscal Benefits:** Farmland and forestland require fewer community services and help maintain lower property taxes. They generate more local tax revenue than they cost in services. Residential development increases the demand for community services such as schools, roads, water and sewer.

**Scenic:** Working farms help to define the rural landscape that is attractive to many New Yorkers.

By protecting cropland, pastures and woods, communities can retain their traditional sense of place and rural identity.

**Tourism:** Farms help make NY a desirable place to visit. Wineries, u-pick farms and other agritourism establishments are direct draws to tourism.

**Environmental:** Well managed farms help protect water quality and natural resources. Farms maintain wildlife habitat, provide buffers for wetlands and waterways, and protect recharge areas for aquifers and other environmental resources.

**Cultural:** Farm buildings, rock walls, historic farm machinery, open fields and other elements of agriculture are an important link to our farming heritage.

**Health/Nutrition:** Locally grown food tastes better and is often healthier. With rising fuel costs, the security of having a local food supply may become even more important to communities.

**Recreation:** Many farmers, when asked, allow certain recreational pursuits such as

hunting, fishing, horseback riding, snowmobiling, or other activities on their land.

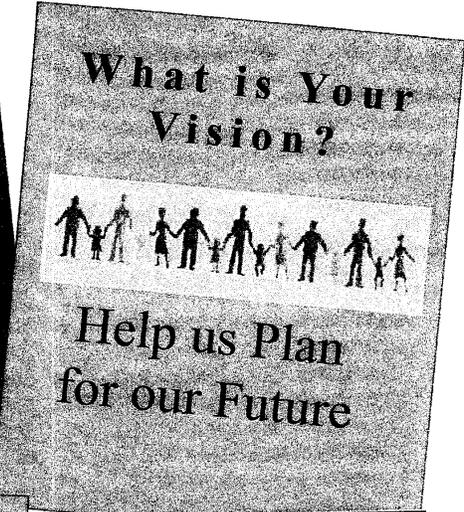
**Quality of life:** Farmland, forestland, and open space are spiritually and mentally nurturing.

Farmland is not just open space or vacant land. Agriculture requires people to manage the land and natural resources now and for future generations.

A community vision that highlights the role of farms and farmlands, combined with local plans and policies, can protect rural character and open space. In planning for agriculture, it is recommended that the following principles be followed:

- a. Understand the role of agriculture in our town. Become educated about the economic, property tax, environmental, historical, and quality of life benefits provided by local farms.
- b. Create a supportive business environment for farming. Towns can impact farms by developing local policies and regulations appropriate for farm businesses, and by supporting business opportunities that are compatible with farming.
- c. Support appropriate property tax policies for farmland and buildings. As farmland provides net property tax profit to a community, towns should acknowledge this benefit and develop local tax policies that support farmland retention.
- d. Develop strategies to protect the town's best farmland. Towns should have a clear idea of where they want to support agriculture over the long-term, and should seek to retain blocks of farmland that will support a range of farm businesses.

# Town of Rensselaerville Planning Workshop



- **When:** Thursday, August 17, 2006
- **Time:** 7:00 PM
- **Where:** 3 Locations for your convenience
  1. Medusa Fire House
  2. Preston Hollow Fire House
  3. Rensselaerville Fire House

- ### Highlights
- Small Groups Work Together
  - Share how you feel about Rensselaerville
  - What should Rensselaerville's future be?
  - Make sure your voice is heard!
  - Your Opinion counts!

All Residents, Property Owners, Civic Groups, Businesses and Government Officials are invited.

## EVERYONE IS WELCOME

For More Information, Contact Vernon Husek at 797-3607.

## July Minutes for Rensselaerville Board

Supervisor Nickelsberg convened the meeting, with approximately 30 citizens present. Council members present were Supervisor Nickelsberg, Gary Chase, Myra Dorman, Robert Lansing and Sheri Pine. Attorney William Ryan was present. Jon Chase was absent.

The minutes of the work meeting June 6 and regular meeting June 8 were approved.

### Transfers:

\$425.67 was transferred from the contingency fund to the newsletter fund.

### Disbursements:

\$23,098.47 from the general fund; \$86,007.26 from the highway fund; \$400.82 from the lighting district; \$43.82 from the sewer district fund; \$367.50 from a water district fund; totaling \$109,917.87 in vouchers were approved for payment.

### Audience comments:

John Kosich clarified his role in handling a subdivision for Chuck Rapazzo in 1995.

Bob Bolte asked if the household survey was anonymous and if so why was a number on each survey? Allyn Wright clarified the reason was to ensure that people would not photocopy the document and send in several responses.

Mr. Bolte also asked why he was being required to submit a FOIL request for everything that he wanted from the town clerk. Attorney Ryan responded that it was a requirement of the public officers law.

Mr. Bolte went on to ask why Gary Chase is allowed to respond for his father, highway superintendent Jon Chase, when

questions arise at town board meetings? Attorney Ryan pointed there is no requirement for Jon Chase to be present at town board meetings, although he must submit a report.

Mr. Ryan went on to say that Gary Chase would not be permitted by law to vote on disciplinary issues or salary issues regarding his father.

Joan Johnston expressed concern about the delay in providing help to Sheila Whiteford.

Channel 10 covered flooding on Potter Hollow Creek. There were several comments from the audience regarding how to help. Supervisor Nickelsberg suggested a special meeting to discuss these alternatives / options.

The board passed a resolution requesting that FEMA extend the designated area for federal help to flood victims to the Town of Rensselaerville.

David Bryan asked about the price of oil for the library and fire companies. It is available at a fixed contract price of \$2.79 per gallon negotiated by the town board.

Ralph Brand asked that Supervisor Nickelsberg call the dogs off Jon Chase. He pointed out how Chase had used town employees and equipment to help the Rensselaerville Water District save money when their system was leaking.

He asked Supervisor Nickelsberg to keep Chase out of the newspapers. He went on to object to dogs going to the bathroom all over the hamlet of Rensselaerville and requested a dog control ordinance.

### Correspondence:

Sheila Whiteford wrote

concerning the problem she has had with flooding.

Gene Smith wrote concerning the condition of a house at the foot of Camp Medusa Rd. and County Route 352. The board directed the building inspector to look at that property and report back to them at the next meeting.

Theron Raines wrote asking when Kenyon Rd. is scheduled for repair. It is in very bad condition.

Phyllis Burton wrote concerning her strong support for updating the comprehensive land use plan.

Henrietta Vogel wrote asking that Camp Winsocki Rd. not be posted for snowmobile use.

Steve Conklin wrote concerning the deplorable condition of town shale roads and explained in detail how Highway Superintendent Chase mismanages the roads.

He explained why they are in such bad shape and how they should be properly constructed and repaired. Conklin pointed to accidents caused by crushed stone left uncompacted on top of the roads and attributed excessive tire wear and damage to vehicles as major costs borne by residents because of improper application of road materials.

Paulette Ryder wrote objecting to the way her road has been transformed from an attractive, smooth and useful red shale road to a less attractive road of loose gray crushed stone.

Supervisor Nickelsberg read a letter he wrote to Chase concerning removal of topsoil on property, asking where he had taken the material. Supervisor Nickelsberg also wrote to Chase

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concerning complaints that the bulldozer he rented had been sitting unused for several weeks and requested a report on equipment use. He also directed Chase to remove salt and sand which is breaking the salt shed. The board adopted a motion that the salt be immediately removed from the back of the salt shed.

Selective Insurance wrote that they have completed their survey of town premises for the purpose of gathering underwriting information.

Donald Gardeski wrote concerning the problem with dikes at the confluence of Potter Hollow and Catskill Creek.

The board requested Supervisor Nickelsberg respond to all of the correspondence read into the record at the meeting from citizens.

#### **Supervisor's Report:**

Supervisor Nickelsberg reported that the town has account balances totaling \$1,721,921.33.

#### **Highway Report:**

Superintendent Chase reported that he is mowing and fixing storm damage, working on Travis Hill Rd., finishing the ditching of Niles Rd., requested replacement of a pickup truck, payment for a voucher, and requested the town approve Overbaugh Rd. be maintained to county standards. The town board will explore the cost of that recommendation before deciding the issue.

#### **Town Clerk Report:**

Clerk detailed funds received and funds paid out in the month of June.

The \$8,800 bid from General Code of Rochester for codification of the town's

legislation was approved. The board also approved \$1,764 from the general code for a laserfiche Viewer CD with an annual maintenance fee for the second year of \$350.

Decisions on repairs to town hall and the garage are waiting for a report from the NYS Energy Research and Development Administration before work begins.

The town engineer is scheduled to look at the salt shed and the dam associated with the Rensselaerville hamlet water supply.

Supervisor Nickelsberg requested an RFP for a waste oil furnace. The supplier is providing a cost benefit analysis that will assist in determining how much money will be saved.

The bid from the Labarge Engineering Firm to represent the town in preparing the comprehensive land use plan was accepted for \$45,000. The amount covers work on the comprehensive plan. Further assistance will be needed on other town planning documents.

The Beautification Committee Chairman Tom Mikulka finished planting trees around town buildings and reported that the area between town hall and the ambulance building where the highway department had bulldozed topsoil into a pile earlier in the year would be regarded and planted.

Allyn Wright, Planning Board Chairman, reported that the planning board has identified several concerns with the lay and use comprehensive plan subdivision regulations and zoning law. They have invited speaker Gary Klepell, a planning expert, to address them at their July 20 meeting. The household survey is out and the return is substantially

greater than the questionnaire administered 15 years ago.

Vernon Husek, Chairman of the Citizens Land Use Committee, reported that they have completed their review of planning documents adopted by other towns and are preparing articles for the newsletter. They have established eight subcommittees that are all producing inventory data for the plan on schedule.

Catholic Church Charities received an endorsement from the town board in the form of a resolution encouraging their collaboration with other Hilltowns. They are supporting the construction of a community center.

The town board reported they are working on a town standard operating procedures manual which will include procedures from the towns of New Scotland and Berne.

Supervisor Nickelsberg reported that there are outstanding issues with the Assessing Department. He expressed concern that they have taken a two month vacation, although it was reported that they are working by appointment during July and August.

Attorney Ryan reported that the town supervisor has been authorized to execute a lease for fire training with Susan and Chuck Rapazzo. The town board authorized the highway department to clean out the culvert on Bates Rd. and remove the dilapidated carriage house from the property of Naomi Wiener.

The resignation of Brian Fitzgerald was accepted. The board appointed Andrea Cornwell to the position of bookkeeper.

The hamlet water district asked the board to have the town's engineer look at the impoundment

*(continued on next page)*

### ... July Minutes

*(continued from previous page)*

that serves the district below the dam on Myosotis Lake. Any costs to be paid by the water district.

Kenneth Decker will fill in for the building inspector while he is on vacation.

It was announced that Don Parker is working on better emergency communications for the town. He has replaced Gerald Wood as the town's representative on these matters with the Albany County Sheriff's Department.

#### Audience Comments:

KB Cooke expressed his pleasure with the household survey. He asked why our town highway crew could not work on town parks, as did other nearby town crews.

Walter Cook expressed concern about debris causing stream bank erosion in local streams.

David Baithsholts expressed concern about the time to repair town hall.

*Compiled by  
Jost Nickelsberg*



## Minimum Road Specifications

The following is the Town of Rensselaerville minimum road specifications for taking over additional roads:

- 1) Minimum width of 50 feet, 18 feet of road surface, four feet of shoulders, remainder for ditches, etc.
- 2) 12 inches of gravel or state approved aggregate for sub base
- 3) four inches of crusher run on top base - rolled
- 4) All necessary drainage, culverts; signs must be in place, paid for by land owner(s)
- 5) Rubble for culver run off must be done by owner(s)
- 6) Turn around on end of dead end road has to be minimum of 100 feet
- 7) If oil and stone is required by the land owner(s), it must be paid for by the land owner(s) , after which time the town will keep it maintained.
- 8) The Superintendent of Highways shall inspect the work being performed.
- 9) All easements done by owner(s).
- 10) Deeded access to the town for right of ways at the owner(s)' expense.

*Adopted: Oct. 8 1998*

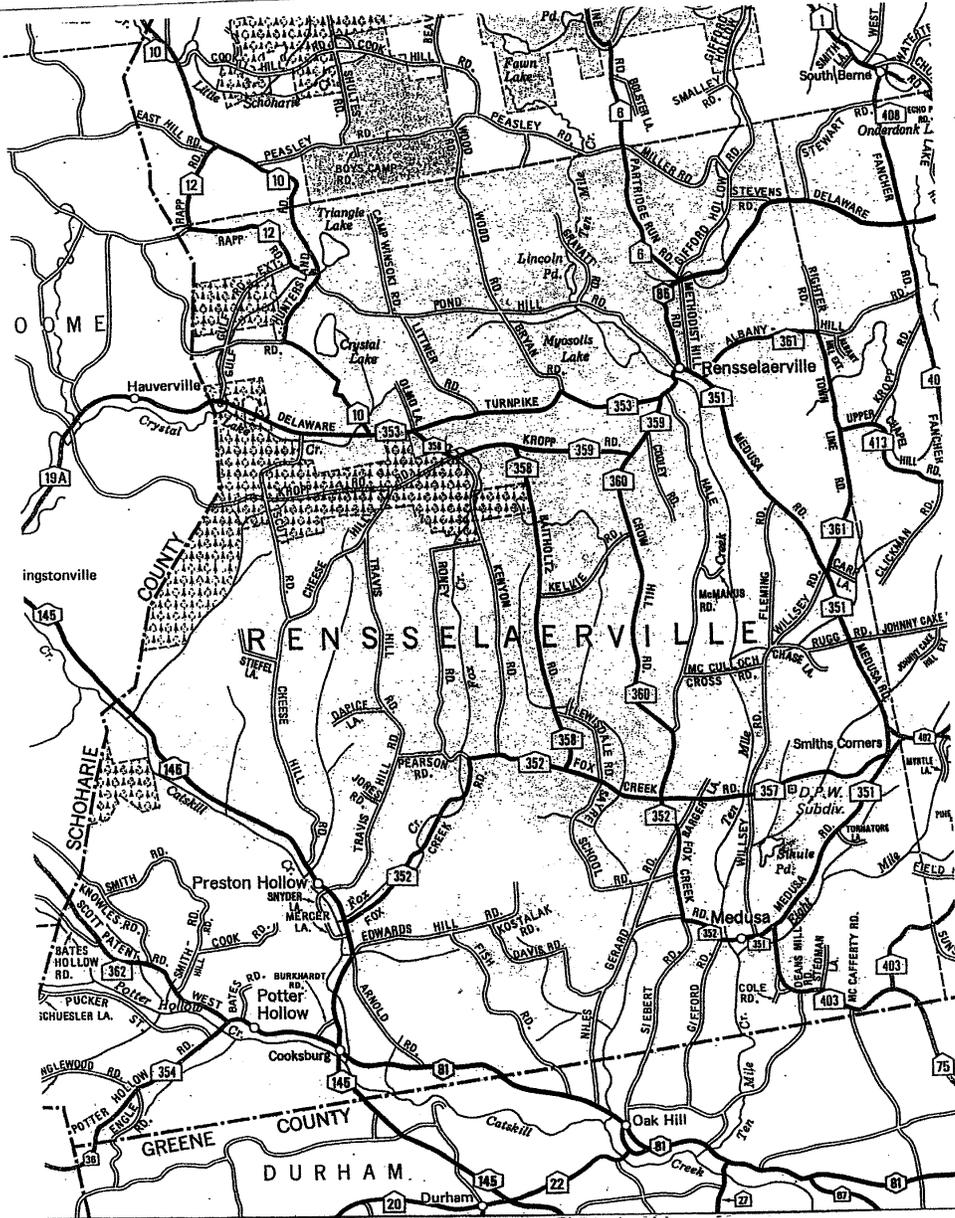
## Highway Department Budget

Year	Amount	Total Town Budget	% of Total Budget
1998	\$1,048,720	\$2,767,232	38%
1999	\$1,039,993	\$2,631,254	40%
2000	\$993,393	\$2,458,910	40%
2001	\$939,289	\$2,792,694	34%
2002	\$822,398	\$1,873,196	44%
2003	\$925,729	\$1,990,017	47%
2004	\$974,120	\$2,082,588	47%
2005	\$1,029,431	\$2,252,150	47%
2006	\$1,057,205	\$2,252,150	47%

### Town of Rensselaerville Officials

Your town officials are: Jost Nickelsberg, supervisor; Kathleen A. Hallenbeck, town clerk and collector; J. Robert Lansing, Sherri Pine, Myra Dorman, Gary Chase, councilmen; Mark Overbaugh, building inspector and code enforcement officer; G. John Chase, superintendent of highways; Peter H. Hotaling Jr., Jeffrey R. Pine, Donna Kropp, Assessors; Victor La Plante and Victoria K. Gledner, town justices; Tabner, Ryan and Keniry, LLP, town attorney.





**KEY**  
— (BOLD LINES) = STATE COUNTY ROADS  
= = = = = TOWNS MAINTAINED ROADS



## Lamont Engineers

ENGINEERS • PLANNERS • FACILITY OPERATIONS

*Dedicated to Service... Committed to Excellence*

July 25, 2006

Mr. Jost Nickelsberg, Supervisor  
87 Barger Road  
Medusa, New York 12120

Project No. 2005109

RE: Preliminary Review of the Impoundment Structure at Water System Intake; Dam at Lincoln Pond; Sand-Salt Storage Structure and Review of Niles Road, Travis Hill Road & Cheese Hill Road

Dear Mr. Nickelsberg:

As requested, Francois Vedier and I met with you and members of the Water Board on July 14, 2006 to conduct a preliminary review of the impoundment structure at the water system intake located below Myosotis Lake – the water storage reservoir for the Hamlet Water System. Following our review of the structure, we also looked at the stone dam located at Lincoln Pond, a contributing water body situated upstream of Myosotis Lake and the impoundment structure.

Following the review of the water system impoundment structure, you accompanied Mr. Vedier & I to the Town's Sand – Salt Storage facility to review the extent of structural damage of some of the support elements at the front and back walls. We then proceeded to Niles Road to evaluate the readiness of the roadway prepared by the Town Highway Department for paving. Our site reviews concluded that day by an unescorted review of Travis Hill Road and Cheese Hill Road. The following is a summary of our findings.

### Water System Impoundment Structure:

Based on our observations, it appears that the June 27 - 28, 2006 storm event has further weakened the concrete abutments at both ends of the impoundment structure with the most severe damage to the easterly abutment which also contains the hamlet water system intake pipe.

The recent storm has scoured a considerable amount of soil from behind and from under the easterly abutment and has also destroyed the gabion-basket retaining wall that the water system intake pipe and valve-head is now exposed and will be subject to freezing.

The westerly abutment was also found to be somewhat scoured, but not to the same degree as the other side. Upon further review of the upstream reach to the

PO Box 610  
Cobleskill, NY 12043  
Tel: 518-234-4028  
Fax: 518-234-4613

PO Box 857  
Marathon, NY 13803  
Tel/Fax: 607-849-4929

PO Box 486  
Roxbury, NY 12474  
Tel: 607-326-3341  
Fax: 607-326-3346

[www.lamontengineers.com](http://www.lamontengineers.com)  
[lamont@lamontengineers.com](mailto:lamont@lamontengineers.com)

July 25, 2006

Mr. Jost Nicklesberg, Supervisor  
Town of Rensselaerville

impoundment structure we found a noticeable gravel-bar that has developed over time and has virtually shut-off a "relief-pathway" that would have directed some high-water flows around the impoundment structure, thereby reducing the stress on the aging structure and the embankment that the impoundment structure was cast into.

It was suggested that the Town contact NYSDEC directly to arrange for a site review with the hopes that NYSDEC would recognize the urgency to make the necessary repairs to protect the hamlet water supply system and respond quickly with the necessary permit(s) to make short-term repairs to impoundment structure and clear the over-flow pathway to lessen the stress on the structure in the event of future storms.

A short-term plan will be developed in cooperation with NYSDEC whereby the concrete abutments to the impoundment structure will be repaired; the easterly bank will be stabilizing and armored using quarried rock (i.e. medium sized "shot-rock") or reinforced poured concrete headwalls or other systems that will provide a stable approach to the impoundment structure.

While the short-term plan is being implemented, a long-term plan will be developed by the Town and Lamont Engineers (or a Specialized Sub-Consultant), taking into account any worse-case scenario and storm events that may result in the destruction of an upstream Beaver Pond, the Lincoln Pond Dam and ultimately impacting the Myosotis Lake structure, which may result in devastation of the aforementioned impoundment structure and the hamlet water supply.

#### **Lincoln Pond Dam:**

Lincoln Pond is upstream of, and contributes to the Myosotis Lake reservoir. Based on discussions with Mr. Wyman – of the Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve, Lincoln Pond is a fairly shallow pond with a surface area of approximately 8 – 10 acres. Additionally, there is a beaver dam situated upstream of Lincoln Pond that contributes approximately 2 – 3 acres more water surface area storage.

There were a number of leaks observed through the dike system at Lincoln Pond dam when reviewed with the Town and members of the Town of Rensselaerville Water Board and Richard Wyman. The dam did not indicate signs of deflection or eminent failure at this time. However, the Preserve has requested proposals from Consultants to address the safety and leakage of the aged structure.

At this time, Lamont Engineers will not submit a proposal for engineering services concerning this structure. However, any efforts to repair the Lincoln Pond dam shall be directly coordinated with the Town and those working on the aforementioned impoundment structure.

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**Town Sand-Salt Storage Facility:**

The sand and salt storage facility located near the Town Highway Garage and Town Hall was reviewed to evaluate the extent of damage to the exterior structural support members along the back and front walls.

There were 3 or 4 vertical support columns found to be either broken and/or deflected as well as deflected diagonal supports which appear to be the result of loading the structure beyond the recommended load-limit line (painted yellow line) on the inside of building. At the time of the site visit, the stored sand & salt mixture was found to be well over the limit line and from evidence of material on the ground, has at times spilled out through the eave openings at the top of the wall sections.

Also observed was a broken diagonal support located to the right of the door opening and broken door frames on both sides of the door opening. The door frame on the right side has been repaired using a section of box-beam guide rail as a supplemental support, while the left side was repaired using only pieces of 2" x 4" and 2" x 6" lumber at the top of wall connection.

Repairs to the structure should include the following:

- Removal of material stored along the inside, back-wall of the building to reduce the load against the wall;
- Re-plumb the exterior vertical supports along the rear wall and reposition the diagonal supports if possible.
- Apply 2" x 10" pressure treated lumber to each side of each vertical column that has been damaged or deflected, the full length of the exposed column, lapping the damaged area;
- Apply ¾-inch pressure treated plywood gussets to each side of the damaged areas, extending from grade to the top of wall connection or to the T-111 paneling. The gussets must project from the building and connect to the diagonal supports creating a support connection between the vertical columns and diagonal supports.

**Review of Town Roads – Niles Rd., Travis Hill Road & Cheese Hill Rd.:**

Niles Road (to the Town Line), Travis Hill Road and Cheese Hill Road were evaluated to determine if the roadways were adequately prepared for paving. Based on our review of the Town Highway Specifications, the following conditions should also be applied when the Town does their own road re-construction / repairs.

- Where any reconstruction of the road has taken place, the sub-base should be graded from the center to the ditch lines, providing proper under draining to minimize collection of water under the travel lanes;
-

- The travel lane shall have a side slope of at least 3/8-inch per foot (per Town road specifications – dated 4/1/91) and shall incorporate under-drains on either side of the travel lane directly beneath the shoulder/travel lane seam, in areas where there is poor drainage (ref. Town Specs.);
- Drainage ditches or channels shall be placed such that they are at least 24-inches below the outbound edge of the shoulder, preferably below the sub-base to promote good drainage from under the travel lane.
- All travel lanes shall have at least 12-inches of gravel or state approved aggregate for sub-base;
- 4-inches of "crusher-run" shall be used as the top course (top base) as stated in the Town's Highway Specifications.

As we discussed during the review of Niles Road, there were several areas where the ditch-line is not deep enough to de-water the travel lane or there are sections where the drainage needs to be re-directed to low points for proper drainage overland and away from the roadway.

This was also pointed out in a wooded section at the base of a steep grade traveling south on Niles Road where a section of culvert doesn't appear to have adequate drainage away from the discharge end of the culvert.

A similar condition was observed near the intersection with Davis Road. At this location the culvert doesn't appear to be in a location where it can provide proper drainage from both Davis Road and Niles Road. It currently does provide a means of managing ditch flow down the right side of Niles Road but doesn't capture the drainage along the right side of Davis Road. Thus, resulting in ponding along Davis Road.

There were also several areas where there appears to be a significant amount of dirt (clay) within the gravel and has resulted in a surface that has or will capture water beneath the travel lane and "pumps" when walked upon. This condition will surely result in a surface degradation in a very short period of time and a loss of the paved surface, creating the potential for a rutted and dangerous road condition.

In many areas it appears that the shoulders have been widened beyond the normal shoulder area and are quite soft even to a light vehicle. These areas should be tightly compacted prior to paving so that they provide a uniform connection with the travel lane. Currently, if a medium weight vehicle uses the soft shoulder, they are likely to venture into the ditch.

---

Mr. Jost Nicklesberg, Supervisor  
Town of Rensselaerville

July 25, 2006

A lengthy section of Niles Road that is sheltered by woods was not well-graded from the center to the shoulder and indicated a considerable amount of pumping. This section should be dug out, geo-fabric applied over the entire width of the roadway (shoulder included) and re-covered with graded gravel and crusher-run as specified in the Town Highway Specifications and well-compacted prior to being considered for paving. Failure to do this will result in road surface failure in a very short period of time. Many of the above conditions were also found along Travis Hill and Cheese Hill Roads.

While this report of findings is not intended to be a comprehensive review of all town roads, the sand-salt storage facility or the water system impoundment structure, we hope it does provide some helpful assistance and guidance for some corrective measures where discussed.

We look forward to assisting the Town of Rensselaerville with the aforementioned items and other areas where needed. Please feel free to contact me or Francois Vedier, P.E. if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

  
Doug Van Deusen  
Project Manager II

Encl. Sand-Salt Storage & Roadway Photos

cc: Francois Vedier, P.E. – Principal Eng. – Lamont Engineers  
File 2005109

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## Road Conditions Special Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2006 DRAFT:  
MINUTES OF, TOWN OF  
RENSSELAERVILLE SPECIAL  
MEETING JULY 25, 2006 7:00 PM  
The Special Meeting of the  
Town Board of the Town of  
Rensselaerville was held on  
the 25th day of July 2006 at 7  
o'clock in the evening. Supervisor  
Nickelsberg convened the meeting  
and the roll was called with the  
following results:

Present:

Supervisor Nickelsberg  
Councilwoman Myra Dorman  
Councilman J. Robert Lansing  
Councilwoman Sherri Pine  
Attorney William F. Ryan, Jr.

Absent:

Councilman Gary Chase  
Also present were Superintendent  
of Highways G. Jon Chase,  
Deusen, and Francois Vedier both  
from Lamont Engineers.  
Project Engineer, Doug Van

The purpose of this special  
meeting is to discuss the road  
conditions, particularly Niles  
Road, Cheese Hill Road, and Travis  
Hill Road.

Supervisor Nickelsberg  
mentioned that he and the Board  
are here to make sure that the  
taxpayer monies are spent in the  
best possible way. One reason our  
engineers were here is to suggest  
the most efficient ways to correct  
our roads so they would last 6-  
10 years. Supervisor Nickelsberg  
introduced Doug Van Deusen.

Doug Van Deusen began  
discussing Niles Road. Beginning  
from Medusa side to the Town  
line found a super elevation that  
slants one way or the other and  
does not have a crown and to ask  
the Superintendent to recreate a  
crown on a road that is partially  
paved or patched may not be  
financially impossible. However,  
the concentration was where  
re-grading has occurred or base

materials were applied. Some  
areas that the ridgeline is very  
shallow the ditch is the conduit  
of water and taking the water out  
of underneath the road base will  
reduce the potential of potholes.  
Patching and repairs will not  
help because of the water from  
underneath and from the top. It  
also seems in several areas dirt is  
part of the base mixing material  
which creates a problem, in that if  
you don't have a good knit with  
gravel it does not drain well. The  
gravel surface will drain, however,  
but the dirt, clay, and oil mixture  
will capture the moisture and  
water. Being the condition it was  
being prepared for paving, they  
were concerned that not properly  
prepared for that condition you  
are spending money for not long  
lived. It seems that a couple of  
culverts on the road have drainage  
problems resulting in ponding or  
back up into the pipes. Also seems  
that the shoulders were widened  
and soft.

With regards to Travis Hill  
Road and Cheese Hill Road, the  
Highway Department has done a  
good job in grading those areas to  
make it smooth travel ways but  
mostly the same conditions appear.  
The best way to address the road  
issues is to deal with the drainage  
problems.

Financially you may have  
to concede a few miles of road  
to make it better and last longer  
rather than do more miles and  
have to come back to them in a few  
years.

Supervisor Nickelsberg  
asked the Board to ask questions of  
the Engineers.  
Councilwoman Pine, explained  
that she lives on Cheese Hill Road  
and the road has a jot of bedrock  
and you can't do much about the  
ditch depth and that the Highway  
Department and

Superintendent Chase has  
made great improvements to the  
road.

Doug Van Deusen  
responded, granted and those  
conditions can- not be overcome.  
You need to work with what you  
have. He suggested that geo-  
fabric has come a long way and  
would help were shale is found.  
Using that will help some of those  
conditions even in the Niles Road,  
especially going up the hill. If  
you were to take several inches  
to a foot of depth of material and  
get down to a where you have a  
firm base or sub base of the road,  
lay the geo-fabric down from  
shoulder to shoulder, and replace  
the material using clean dirt free  
material. You will see a remarkable  
difference in the roads. Keeping  
the crown on Cheese Hill Road  
will be difficult especially with  
the plowing since the plow will  
remove the crown. The question  
was asked which type of topcoat  
was being used, recirculated  
paving or black top?

Superintendent Chase said  
that these roads were no where  
near completed and to come back  
when they are completed.

Supervisor Nickelsberg  
asked, what is the plan for going  
forward?

Superintendent Chase, they  
need to get finished up. We've had  
15 inches of rain and right now we  
are working on other roads that  
have been washed out.

Supervisor Nickelsberg,  
When there is time to get to these  
roads and finish them up and what  
is the process?

Superintendent Chase, We  
will be lucky to get a top on these  
roads this year.

Supervisor Nickelsberg,  
What will the process be to finish  
the roads, the ones that will get a

*(continued next page)*

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top on this year, if you have time?

Superintendent Chase, We need to crown the roads, finish the ditches we haven't even finish that yet.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, What will you do to crown the roads, putting the top on and what type of top are you putting on? Superintendent Chase, I don't know yet, we might put on motor paving, that is what that stone is in the pile out back, depends on what time of year we get done.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, Depends on time of year because?

Superintendent Chase, Because you can not pave after September.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, You will put some type of top on and wait for paving next year?

Superintendent Chase, Correct, just like we did on Travis Hill Road, the first section, hoping we would get another top on it this year.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, Do we have geo-fabric under these roads?

Superintendent Chase, Some of them do.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, What percentage of these roads have the fabric?

Superintendent Chase, depends on where it is needed, we are not doing the whole road, it is expensive.

Doug Van Deusen, that is what we were talking about, taking the sections where the road is soft, cut that section out.

Superintendent Chase, you are right, but until we get finished with the road I don't want to hear what we have to do. Once we finish the roads and it isn't right, it's a different story. We have not done anything on Cheese Hill except grind it. We haven't done the ditches, nothing.

Doug Van Deusen, not to be a comprehensive review, just a preliminary review of findings of what the conditions were the day we

were there.

Superintendent Chase, we usually do 5 - 7 miles a year, this year we have done nothing because of the weather. Just spent \$40,000 on repairs on the roads that were washed out. We have another month until the buses start running again. How expensive is the geo-fabric? How many miles of crushed stone on Niles, Cheese and Travis at this point?

Superintendent Chase, Niles has crusher run 8" full length, about a mile and a half.

Of the 1.5 miles, what percentage has geo-fabric?

Superintendent Chase, approximately 15%. When you grind the road you cannot put fabric. We grind the roads first, find where your soft spots are, take them out, fix them, and then crown the road. Davis Road, we haven't even been there to ditch it. Davis Road, will that get done this year?

Superintendent Chase, no, the section we were talking about, the culvert. We haven't gotten back there because of the water.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, 15% of Niles Road that will get done Superintendent Chase, 30% all together on Niles, We put about 1000 feet of drainage in right now, About another 500 feet at least to get drainage. It takes time.

Supervisor Nickelsberg asked Councilman Lansing and Councilwoman Dorman if they had any questions. Councilman Lansing did not, Councilwoman Dorman was not prepared at this time.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, What kind of base are you going to build? You have 8" of base on the full length of Niles, What are you going to put on top of the base? Superintendent Chase, Probably motor pave, a black top mix.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, How thick?

Superintendent Chase, 3.5 inches.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, that has oil in it?

Superintendent Chase, Yes. Supervisor Nickelsberg, on top of the motor pave, what goes on? Superintendent Chase, just a seal.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, so we will have a road approximately 11.5 - 12 Inches thick. Will that be the same with Cheese and Travis?

Superintendent Chase, Cheese Hill will be same, only problem is the road is all rock.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, So you have to build that up? How do you get that base?

Superintendent Chase, Right now we have put 8 inches on top of that, it will help once we get the ditches in. It has been ground up and compacted. It needs to be ripped out at the end, needs to be graded out, its not a finished product. We have had complaints that the black top is peeling up.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, How about Travis?

Superintendent Chase, it will be the same until the corner of Pearson and Travis. That will be motor paved from the end of Travis until Pearson. The corner on up will be oil and stone. Once again you are in solid rock, can't even get a ditch in.

Doug Van Deusen, Usually oil and stone surface treatment, that's were you have to very careful with the crown or snowplowing will peel the top off. The crown will have to be paved, where you have oil and stone it going to be a much wider profile otherwise you will perpetually be repairing and replacing it.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, How thick is the oil and stone?

Superintendent Chase, usually inch and half.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, that road will have 9.5 inches of road on top of the rock.

Superintendent Chase, On the rest of Travis, it won't have that much. From the Pearson up to Dapice Lane, some have 10 inches and some places have 4 inches.

(continued from previous page)

Supervisor Nickelsberg, on Niles we have 15% geo-fabric, on Cheese Hill.

Superintendent Chase, None, because we ground it. Put the gravel already in it. It depends on what top we are going to put on it to see what we are going to do next. The ditches need to be done. It won't be done this year,

Supervisor Nickelsberg, just give us 10 years out of these roads.

Superintendent Chase, have you gone down North Road, Wilsey Road? It was nothing but mud and stone. That road is going on 6 years.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, that where we want to be. So, there is no geo-fabric on Cheese, how about Travis?

Superintendent Chase, Cheese Hill will probably not get it this year, Travis has about 2/3 of geo-fabric. It has a 2.5 inch top put on. The upper half mile of Travis will have no paper. The lower half mile section of Travis will be determined when we rip it up.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, You will keep the potholes and such out of the road by good drainage.

Superintendent Chase, We are working on that now.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, Relative to the budget are we in line?

Superintendent Chase, I haven't look since the last bills were paid, but yes, we are in line. You will have my report at the end of next month. It will be for the next 5 years. We are about a year and a half behind the 10 year program. I can't go any longer than that because of the oil prices also, this fabric is up and down.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, Thank you for being here, all your good work and keep us posted. We are trying to get the most of roads.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilwoman Dorman, second by Councilwoman Pine.

All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Compiled by  
Nancy Class

paid for by

**John & Nancy La Rocca  
Mark La Rocca &  
Nina Nsilo Swai  
Tom & Kathy Mikulka  
Sonny & Sue Shufelt  
Michael & Gail Benedict  
Kerry McFarland  
Robert and Beth Whiteman  
Gordon & Elise Enk**

**MEDUSA VILLAGE WIDE  
GARAGE SALES**

**AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup>**

**9am to 3pm  
RAIN OR SHINE**

**RUMMAGE SALE, MAPS,  
REFRESHMENTS  
IN CHURCH HALL**

APPLICATION TO HAVE A SALE - AUGUST 5, 2006

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**(be sure to include house number and route number)**

**Applications must be in by August 2**

\$9.00 per sale location- Make checks payable to:

United Church of Christ

Send or give to: William Moore, Medusa, NY 12120 518-239-4843

Please list some of the main items you are selling.

**SALE LOCATION NUMBERS WILL BE GIVEN OUT THE DAY  
BEFORE SALE.\*\*\*\* We need your phone number \*\*\*\***  
Maps are not ready or available until the day of the sale.



ON SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> 2006   
 POTTER HOLLOW  
 IS CELEBRATING ITS  
 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY,  
 AND  
 YOU ARE INVITED

FESTIVITIES START AT 12:00 NOON,  
 AND WILL INCLUDE:

A Postal Cancellation featuring the Potter Hollow Schoolhouse  
 The Haskin Family Reunion, (do you want to include yours)

Local Music 

Old fashion horseshoe pitching and board games

Heritage crafts - including wool spinning and weaving, and blacksmithing

MECC - Missing and Exploited Children Clearing House - they will  
 answer questions and have information handouts, they also make

ID cards of your children for parents to keep

☺ Two local women will entertain children with old time games  
 and nature studies

The Rensselaerville Historical Society and  
 The Rensselaerville Library will also be there

And of course Food - Pot Luck - Bake Sale

Hamburgers and Hot Dogs

History of Potter Hollow in Pictures  
 and A donation Box for the Restoration  
 Of The Potter Hollow Schoolhouse

 Festivities will be held at

Cotter Equestrian Center

in the Hamlet of Potter Hollow

Contact Sue Lynch at 518-239-4748 for further information

---



**HUYCK PRESERVE'S FIRST BENEFIT  
PHOTOGRAPHY INVITATIONAL EXHIBITION**

\*\*\*\*\* **ENTRY FORM** \*\*\*\*\*

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **AGE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE-DAY**

\_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE-EVE**

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YEAR:** \_\_\_\_\_ **MEDIUM/PROCESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIZE** \_\_\_\_\_ **WOULD BE WILLING TO SUPPLY ADDITIONAL PRINTS YES/NO**  
(HEIGHT X WIDTH)

**DEADLINE: ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 21ST.**

**FACTS:** • THERE IS NO AGE MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM RESTRICTION.

- PHOTOGRAPHS UP TO 16 X 20 " IN ANY MEDIUM OR PROCESS TAKEN IN OR ON THE HUYCK PRESERVE WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR EXHIBITION IN CONKLING HALL IN RENSSELAERVILLE, NY ON SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>.
- ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE **UNFRAMED AND** ACCOMPANIED BY **2 COPIES OF A COMPLETED ENTRY FORM RECEIVED NO LATER THAN AUGUST 21ST.**
- ALL PHOTOGRAPHS SUBMITTED FOR EXHIBITION WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE. PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE E.N.HUYCK PRESERVE MARGE ROONEY & KATHERINE ELMORE ENDOWMENT FUND.
- ALL ENTRIES SUBMITTED FOR EXHIBITION WILL NOT BE RETURNED & BECOME PROPERTY OF THE E.N HUYCK PRESERVE.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**SIGNATURE** **DATE**



# Upcoming Activities & Events At the E.N. Huyck Preserve

## AUGUST

Monday August 14<sup>th</sup> - Friday 18<sup>th</sup>  
Residential Middle School  
Environmental Education Camp  
Bullfrog Camp  
Registration Required

**YOU'RE  
INVITED!**

## SEPTEMBER

Saturday September 2<sup>nd</sup>  
7 p.m.

*Diamond Jubilee Ball  
Annual Benefit Dance  
with COM.EN.ART Exhibition  
(downstairs).*  
Conkling Hall, Methodist Hill Road  
Photography of the Preserve  
to benefit the Huyck Preserve

Monday September 4<sup>th</sup>  
2-4 p.m.

*Afternoon Tea by the pond.  
Eldridge Research Center  
Open House and Presentation;  
A Celebration of  
Huyck Preserve History*

Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup>  
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

*Wildflower Walk:  
Public Program  
Eldridge Research Center  
Members \$5; non-members \$8;  
Reservations at 797-3440*

## OCTOBER

Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup>  
1:15-2:45 p.m.

World Premier of the film  
*John James Audubon:  
Drawn from Nature*  
With remarks and Q&As  
by the producers  
Larry Hott and Diane Garey,  
Florentine Films  
For information call 797-3105

**WHO:** ANYONE & EVERYONE - ALL AGES

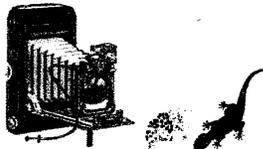
**WHAT:** PARTICIPATE IN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EVER  
HUYCK PRESERVE PHOTOGRAPHY  
BENEFIT EXHIBITION: PHOTOGRAPHS IN  
ANY PROCESS TAKEN ON THE HUYCK PRESERVE

*Edmund Niles Huyck  
75 years  
PRESERVE*

**WHEN:** SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>  
ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 21<sup>ST</sup>

**WHERE:** CONKLING HALL  
RENSSELAERVILLE, NY

**HOW:** USE YOUR ARTISTIC SKILLS.  
FOR DETAILS, OBTAIN ENTRY FORM  
\*\*\*\*\* @ [WWW.HUYCKPRESERVE.ORG](http://WWW.HUYCKPRESERVE.ORG) OR  
FROM VISITORS' CENTER AT HUYCK PRESERVE  
OFFICE IN RENSSELAERVILLE (518) 797-3440



## Well Water Information To Be Collected

Most would agree that adequate clean water is our most precious resource.

In our town most of our drinking water comes from private wells. The quality and quantity of well water in this town is sometimes a problem and there is a risk that water that is abundant and pure today may not always be that way.

The biggest reason why your water quantity and quality may change is related to the size of the underground reserve (aquifer) you are tapping into and the rate at which it refills (recharges). If too many homes tap into the same aquifer there is a real danger that at some point everyone pumping from that limited supply will begin to have water problems.

One goal of the next questionnaire you will receive from the Town is to provide the information needed to map aquifers in the town and predict the density of development each aquifer can sustain. Some of the well data needed can be obtained from the Albany County Health Department. However, data on wells drilled before 2000 is not available.

To fill this gap, the Town will be sending a second

questionnaire with specific questions regarding your household water supply.

Since most of us do not know the actual yield of our wells in gallons per minute or the quantities of minerals in it, the questions will be general. For the data to be meaningful we will also need to know your address.

It must be stressed that this information will be strictly confidential and will only be used to create the aquifer maps. The end result will be the protection of your water supply.

— Tom Mikulka, Chairman  
Water Subcommittee  
Citizens Land Use Committee

## Preston Hollow Little League Successes

The Preston Hollow Little League Teams have wrapped up a successful season. The Majors (ages 10-12), and Minors (ages 9-10) teams won their respective championships. The Rookies (ages 7-8) and T-Ball (ages 5-7) teams also had great winning percentages. I would like to thank all of the kids and their families for their dedication and support of the Town's Little Leaguers. The kids at all of the age levels showed enthusiasm and determination in learning, and playing the game. The kids worked very hard at practices to improve their game, and it showed on game day!

As one of the coaches of the T-Ball team, I was very impressed with the way the kids listened and demonstrated what we showed them. The high level of sportsmanship of the Preston Hollow teams was a great reflection of the culture of our Town.

I also liked to see all of the family support at each of the games. Parents, siblings, grandparents, and extended families attended many of our games this year. This kind of support is important to the kids' success.

Game days are a fun time for the whole family! There is a concession stand, playground, and a great baseball game to watch. Donations to the park have made it possible to make many improvements to the field. The kids feel like they are playing on their own "big league" field.

Parent and Coach,  
Mike Duncan

## Free Baseball Clinic

There will be a free baseball clinic with "world class" instruction held at the Preston Hollow Town Park on August 12.

The clinic will be open to any boy or girl ages 5 through 12 who resides in the Town of Rensselaerville. Ages 5-8 will be held from 3:45-5:45, ages 9-12 will be held from 6:00-8:00. If there is enough interest for kids over age 12, we may add another clinic for them.

Please call Mike at 239-6708 or Ed at 239-4925 to sign-up for the clinic by August 5.

**Rensselaerville Democratic Social Club**  
**Annual Picnic**

**August 6, 2006 – 1 PM till?**  
**Bayard Elsbree Park, Preston Hollow**

**Free Food, Drink and Music.**  
**Visit with friends and neighbors.**  
**Bring your appetite and a covered dish**  
**to share, if you wish.**  
**Plan on having a good time.**

Paid Advertising

**Tutoring Services: K-8**  
 All subjects, specializing in math



**B.S., M.A., certification N-6**  
 33 years classroom experience  
 Consultant for Hands-On Equations®  
 Dean's Award for Excellence in Teaching  
 Who's Who Among America's Teachers



**Marie Dermody**  
 Preston Hollow, NY 12469  
 Phone/Fax: (518) 239-4552

**TRASH REMOVAL SERVICE**  
 Serving Rensselaerville Township  
 Weekly Pick-up  
 Residential and Commercial  
**STARTING AT \$20.00 PER MONTH**  
 (tax included)  
 Clean-ups and other special hauling  
 available  
 Bernie Aloisi (518)239-4732

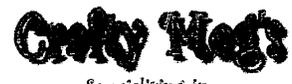
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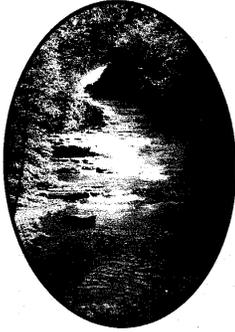
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TDD 1-800-662-1220  
Sen. Neil Breslin, 42nd Dist.  
LOB, Albany, NY 12247; 518-455-2800  
Assem. John McEneny, 104th Dist.  
LOB, Albany, NY 12248; 518-455-4100  
County Legislature, 39th Dist.  
Alexander (Sandy) Gordon, 872-2602  
144 Beebe Rd., Berne, NY 12023  
Albany County Highway Dept.  
239-6715, 239-6710  
Rensselaerville Fire Company, 911  
Social number— 797-3218  
Tri-Village Fire Company, 911  
Social number— 239-6780  
Medusa Fire Company, 911  
Social number— 239-6166  
Rensselaerville Vol. Ambulance, 911  
Information number— 797-5233  
Albany County Sheriff, 911, 765-2351  
State Police, Rensselaerville & Hilltowns  
911, 477-9333  
Town Board Meetings  
Second Thursday, 7 p.m.; Working meeting  
Tuesday before regular meeting, as needed.  
Town Justice Court  
Mondays, 7 p.m.  
Planning Board  
First and third Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.  
Zoning Board of Appeals  
Second Tuesday, 7 p.m.  
Building Inspector/Zoning Officer  
Thursday, 8-10 a.m., 7-9 p.m.  
Town Clerk's Hours  
Monday – Wednesday, 9 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.  
Thursday, 1:30-7:30 p.m.  
Friday, 9 a.m.-noon  
Supervisor's Hours  
Seven days a week, by appointment  
Assessors' Hours  
Thursday, 6-8 p.m.  
Assessors' Clerk Hours  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday mornings  
Dog Control Officer  
Cheryl Tefft-Baitsholts, 797-5201  
Town Refuse Station Hours  
Wednesdays, 7 a.m.- 3:45 p.m.  
Saturday, 7 a.m - 3:45 p.m.  
Water/Sewer District Meeting  
First Tuesday, 7 p.m.