

Town of Rensselaerville

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

Volume 19, Number 8

August 2008

June Town Board Minutes Summary

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The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 12th day of June, 2008 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Nickelsberg and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Jost Nickelsberg, Councilman Gary Chase, Councilwoman Marie Dermody, Councilman J. Robert Lansing, Councilwoman Sherri Pine, Attorney Joseph Catalano, Superintendent G. Jon Chase.

There were 30 interested citizens present.

MINUTES - A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 8, 2008, 2nd by Councilman Chase.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting held on May 8, 2008, 2nd by Councilman Chase.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

TRANSFERS - A motion was made by Councilwoman Pine to make transfers; 2nd by Councilman Chase.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

ABSTRACT - 2008-05 - VOUCHERS

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to pay all signed vouchers, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters were received from Albany County Soil & Water concerning the dry hydrant on Mr. Stoudemire's pond, Claire Leber resigning as election inspector, and the Town of Rensselaerville Zoning Board concerning accessory apartments. Letters are available to be viewed at the Town Clerk's office.

REPORTS

Reports were received from Court Clerk La Plante, Supervisor Nickelsberg, Superintendent Chase, Town Clerk Hallenbeck, Assessor Pine, and Building Inspector Overbaugh.

Court Clerk La Plante spoke concerning the State Legislature increasing the mandatory surcharge as of July 1st from \$55.00 to \$85.00.

A motion was made by Supervisor Nickelsberg authorizing the Town Board to write a letter to the State Legislature concerning their disapproval of the increase in this mandatory charge, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

Highway Superintendent - The Town Board held a lengthy discussion on Tanglewood Road, the highway agreement, CHIPS, Pearson Road, FEMA and hiring a mechanic.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pine to amend the highway agree

(Continued on page 9)

Library Bookmark

The Summer Reading Program is coming to a close this August 16, but there is still time for kids to sign up and enjoy the end of the program. We have more activities planned for the next two weeks.

Bring your young to the Rensselaerville Library for a special **story time** for preschoolers and kindergarten age children on **Tuesdays at 11:30 am**. Come and let the little ones enjoy a story or two and a craft.

On **Saturdays at 10:00 am to 11:00 am** the Rensselaerville Library will have a **story and crafting hour** for all kids. Kids can hear a story and make a craft. Stop by and have some fun with the Catch the Reading Bug @ Your Library.

The "Catch the Reading Bug @ Your Library" ending party is August 16th at 10:00 am. There will be stories read, crafts for the kids and food to eat.

Teens, are you looking for something to do? The Rensselaerville Library will have a **Teen Movie Night** at the Library on **Saturday night August 2 at 6:30 pm**. There will be all you can eat pizza, munchies and drinks. We will even have a Fear Factor type of event. Come and have fun on a Saturday night. There will be a suggested donation of \$3.00 to help cover the cost of food. Vince Anna's is donating some of the pizza for this party.

For the **Final Teen Party** at the Rensselaerville Library on **August 16th at 6:30 p.m.** we will have a gaming

party. There will be video games, pizza, munchies, and drink. The Rensselaerville Library will raffle off the prizes for the teen Summer Reading Program Metamorphosis. So far the prizes are movie tickets donated from Regal Theaters, passes to the Zoom Flume, and gift certificates to the Greenville Booksmith. Some pizza will be donated by Poppy's Pizza.

The Rensselaerville Library will hold the **Annual Board Meeting** on **August 16th** at 10:00 am, with voting for any open slots on the Board.

Come and enjoy the Annual Rensselaerville Library's **Lawn Party on August 30th!** The Party starts at 4:00 p.m. and goes to 7:00 p.m. Admission is \$15.00 per person donation and includes one drink ticket. Additional drink tickets are \$4.00 each or three for \$10.00. It is a fun time for everyone!

Come kick back and relax with us on Saturdays this summer! There will be coffee available for donation, and we welcome all to come enjoy a cup of coffee and a good book. We are also looking for volunteers to run a story and craft hour for children at the Library on Saturdays. If you are interested in doing so, please contact Candy at 797-3949.

The Library is online! Check out our website at www.uhls.org/rvll_library. You can look up items in our catalog, vote for the First Friday Movie selections, and keep apprised of all upcoming events.



Staff:

Candy Wilson, Director;
Katie Caprio, Assistant;
Barbara Husek, Assistant

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

www.uhls.org/rvll_library

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

Rensselaerville: 797-3231

Medusa: 239-4826

Preston Hollow: 239-6111

Conkling Hall—What's On In August

Saturday, August 2: RHDA (Rensselaerville Historic District Association) holds their annual meeting at 11:00 AM.

Saturday, August 2: Sonny and Perley return to serenade us with familiar tunes. Food available at 7:00 PM, music begins at 8:00 . Tickets: \$8.00. Beer and wine will be on sale.

Saturday and Sunday, August 16 and 17 Good Cause Club presents their next smash hit. Please see their posters for performance times.

Saturday on the Sidewalk: Our popular market features breads, pastries, coffee and sandwiches as well as plants, flowers and garden produce. Come join us between 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM.

Saturday, August 30: Huyck Preserve Benefit Dance. Once again, we will close the summer season with a non-stop weekend of games, parties and dance. Come celebrate with us.

Pilates: Saturdays 9 - 10 AM. Pilates mat class with Sara Nelson Weiss. Strengthen your abdominals, gain long, lean muscles and work with good alignment. Appropriate for all levels. Please call 239-6825 for more information and to confirm schedule.

You can contact Conkling Hall at (518) 797 3459 or read our website on www.ConklingHall.org. We send out frequent email announcements/reminders about our events. If you wish to be added to the list, please give us your email address at ConklingHall@Earthlink.net.



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



Resource Center's Back-to-School Drive



The old adage 'always be prepared' is certainly true when it comes time to return to school in September and 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 Albany and Rensselaer Counties, wants to ensure that many of the children in our community are set for success in the next school year.

HCRC is conducting a BACK-TO-SCHOOL drive in the townships of Berne, Knox, Westerlo and Rensselaerville. Community members can help with the Resource Center's efforts by purchasing a variety of school supplies and dropping the items off at the following locations throughout the area: Post Offices in East Berne, Berne, Knox, Westerlo, Medusa, Preston Hollow and Rensselaerville; transfer stations and libraries in Rensselaerville

and Westerlo. Back-to-School items that can be donated include new boys/girls sneakers (all sizes), book bags/backpacks, pens, colored pencils, crayons, markers, highlighters, pencil holders, pocket folders, primary school writing tablets, 1", 2" and 3" 3-ring binders, loose-leaf paper, binder dividers, 3 and 5 subject spiral notebooks, composition notebooks, rulers, protractors, calculators, erasers, 3x5 index cards, tissues, post-it notes, and small and larger zip-lock bags. NO PENCILS OR 1-SUBJECT NOTEBOOKS THIS YEAR. WE HAVE PLENTY! The Resource Center is also seeking individuals and organizations willing to adopt-a-student in order to provide him or her with new clothing for the return to school. Monetary contributions are always welcome. Checks can be made payable to HCRC and can be sent to the Hilltowns Community Resource Center, P.O. Box 147, Westerlo, NY 12193. Please call 797-5256 with any questions.



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. The Grange would appreciate one day advance notice. Call 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, for more details.

Historical Society Annual Meeting Set for September 13

by Janet Haseley

Everyone is invited to attend the annual meeting, potluck dinner and program of the Town of Rensselaerville Historical Society Saturday, September 13.

The meeting will be at 5 p.m., the potluck at 6 p.m. and the program at 7 p.m. It will be at the fellowship hall of the United Church of Christ in Medusa.

The meeting at 5 p.m. will include a vote on proposed amendments to the Historical Society by-laws. Complete by-laws are available at the Rensselaerville Library and the Rensselaerville Town Building. They are also posted on the town's website, www.rensselaerville.com.

The program will be "History and Accomplishments of the Rensselaerville Historical Society, 1964-2008", presented by Ken Storms who has been a very active leader in the Society for over 35 years. He was a planner and worker in the major restoration of the Rensselaerville Grist Mill in the early 1970s and his talk will include information about that effort as well as about other projects.

Other Historical Society projects include genealogical research; historical exhibits; sponsoring talks and workshops; publications and prints about Town of Rensselaerville history; collecting and preserving old deeds, photographs, and ledgers from hotels and stores no longer in existence; researching information for and ordering historical markers to commemorate significant places and events in the township, and assisting The Rensselaerville Institute with its annual "History You Can Touch" program for middle school students.

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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. Extra Helpings has changed the prices and the menus being offered. Anyone is welcome to purchase any or all of the package options. The menu for each month's Extra Helpings' offerings will still be published one month in advance. August's Extra Helpings menus are as follows:

August's Regular menu: \$20.00

- 2 lbs. Eye Round Steaks
- 1 lb. 90% Lean Ground Beef
- 3 lbs. Sweet Italian Sausage Rope
- 1 lb. package Chicken Patties
- 1 Cantaloupe
- 5 lb. bag Potatoes

Special #1: \$ 18.00

10 lbs. Baby Back Ribs

Special # 2: \$ 20.00

10 lbs. Box I.Q.F. Boneless/Skinless Chicken Breast

Special #3: \$30.00 MEAT BOX

- 1 bs. Marinated Sirloin Tips
- 3 lbs. Chicken Tenders (2/ 1.5 lbs.)
- 3 lbs. Pepper Steaks (8/ 6 oz.)
- 2 lbs. Bulk Breakfast Sausage (2/ 1 lb.)
- 3 lbs. Boneless Spare Ribs (2/ 1.5 lbs.)

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

PLEASE NOTE: Orders with payment are due at the HCRC office by **August 7TH** for pick-up on **August 26, 2008**. HCRC distributes Extra-Helpings at the Rensselaerville Firehouse from 11:30 to 12:30 p.m. and at St. Bernadette's Church in Berne from 11:30 to 12:00 p.m. on delivery days. The pick-up site must be noted with each order. Anyone wishing more information regarding Extra-Helpings or other Hilltowns Community Resource Center services, please call 797-5256. HCRC's mailing address is P.O. Box 147, Westerlo, NY 12193. Please include your phone number on all correspondence.

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DIRT Screened Garden Blend Screened Topsoil Compost (Aged Manure) Forest Compost (Aged Leaves, Sticks, etc.) Fill Dirt	CRUSHED BLUE STONE Stone Dust 1 A Stone 1/4" #1 Stone 3/8" #2 Stone 3/4" #3 Stone 1 1/4" Item 4 (Crusher Run) Fine Item 4	SAND Brown Septic Sand Mason Sand White Beach Sand
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NEW THINGS HAVE BEEN ADDED

THIS IS THE LAST SALE

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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 Mass

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

Potter Hollow, 734-5106

Worship: Sunday - 9:00AM

Bible Study and Prayer Group

Wednesday—6:30PM

Hilltown Market & Natural Foods Co-op

by Justin Behan

It started quickly and with enthusiasm, led by people who maybe had more passion for what they were doing than knowledge on how to accomplish their task. The friends and neighbors who founded the Hilltown Market & Natural Foods Co-operative in Rensselaerville fed a community need both literally as much as figuratively.

Over the last year and a half, the Hilltown Co-op has planted its feet firmly under itself and has quickly grown into a successful village marketplace. The town of Rensselaerville has gone many years without owning a true grocery store - thanks to the growth of big-chain supermarkets from the 1980s through the 1990s. However with rising fuel costs, a renewed interest in eating organic, and growing awareness of the value in supporting local agriculture, it was due time that the community owned a corner store once again... and "own" is definitely the operative word.

The Co-op is owned and run by its paid membership - we do not seek to make a profit beyond what is needed to keep the place going. Financially speaking, the goal is to make enough money on a monthly basis to cover the cost of purchases, pay the store manager a fair-wage, pay various operational fees such as rent and taxes, and keep a small amount in the bank in reserve as a buffer against hard times.

Although small in size, we're proud to offer a wide variety of food and produce. Anything from snacks, to bread, to dairy, to local meat and vegeta-

bles can be found on our shelves every day for a fair price. We feel it's of utmost importance to help sustain local farmers like Sandy Gordon and his beef cows, Richard Ronconi and his honey bees, Eight Mile Creek Farm, and Maple Hill Farm in Cobleskill to just name a few. And when we can't have local produce on hand, we try hard to have it be organic and grown in the USA.

Since the middle of last year we've striven to become active in our local community in other ways outside of the store by supporting various events and causes. We've donated gift certificates. We adopted a family in need during the holiday season and bought them gifts they couldn't otherwise afford. We've begun a series of bus trips so people can get to know some of our local suppliers. We even held our first Fall Festival to great fanfare last October. Right now the board is talking about having the store host a series of workshops, teaching skills like cooking or carpentry.

With the rising costs of fuel, taxes, and health care we realize that it's more important than ever to have a *local* place where you can do most of your shopping and come home with safe, high quality food. If you have shopped at the store often, we're thankful for your support. We wouldn't exist without you. But if you haven't been to the Hilltown Market Co-op lately, or ever, we ask you to give us a go and come check us out. It's a fun time. What's better than good food and good company anyhow?

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- 4** DISH Network is the leader in product innovation with consistent breakthrough technology.
- 5** DISH Network is #1 in customer satisfaction beating cable 7 years in a row.*
- 6** DISH Network has the best offers available in satellite TV.



*According to the 2007 America Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) results for the U.S. largest Cable & Satellite TV providers: Charter Communications, Comcast Communications, Cox Communications, DIRECTV and Time Warner Cable. Tied with DIRECTV for the highest ACSI score in 2007. **500 hour recording time based on 72.2 model receiver. 3 Month Free offer requires participation in DishDVR Advantage with 24-month commitment and qualifying programming, including America's Top 100 or higher, DishHD package or a select qualifying International package. Customer receives three credits of \$29.99 each applied to the first, third and fourth months of service. Customers must request qualifying programming service to receive all three credits. Digital Home Advantage: Requires 24-month commitment. 30-day money-back guarantee. Social Security Number, valid driver's credit card and credit approval. If qualifying service is terminated prior to end of 24-month period, a cancellation fee equal to the lesser of \$24.99 or \$19.99 per month of service will apply. Equipment must be returned to DISH Network upon termination of qualifying programming service. Monthly service per receiver. Monthly additional outlet programming access fee applies for each additional receiver; fee will be assessed monthly for each such receiver continuously connected to Customer's phone line. HD receiver (sold separately). Customer must be eligible to receive local channels. Discounted price will continue to apply after 24-month commitment unless customer does not make a qualifying programming purchase. Offer ends 7/31/08 and is available in the continental United States for new, first-time DISH Network residential customers. All prices, packages and programming subject to change without notice. Local and state sales taxes may apply. Where applicable, equipment rental fees and programming are billed separately. All DISH Network products by satellite are only available to customers who reside in the specified Local Designated Market Area (DMA). Local channels may require an additional dish antenna from DISH Network, installed free of charge with subscription to local channels at time of initial installation. Social Security Numbers are used to obtain credit scores and will not be released to third parties except for verification and collection purposes only or if required by governmental authorities. All service marks and trademarks belong to their respective owners.

Volunteer News and Events

Medusa VFD

Company Meeting: Monday, August 4th, at 8:00 PM

Drill & Work Meeting: Monday August 11th and August 18th at 7:00PM



Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department

Join us for another season of saving lives and homes in your neighborhood!!
Calls as of July 14: 27

August:

- 4th - 7pm Company Drill
- 11th - 7pm Company Drill
- 27th - 8pm Company Meeting

September:

- 2nd - 7pm Company Drill
- 3rd - 7pm Ladies Battalion
- 8th - 7pm Company Drill
- 21st - 8am-11am Pancake Breakfast
- 24th - 8pm Company Meeting

Special Events:

9/21 - Ladies Battalion Pancake Breakfast...Good food, good fun, and good friends...

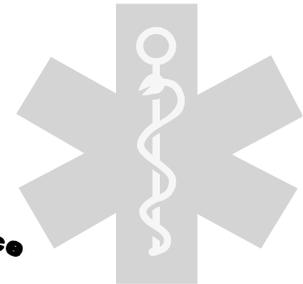
Peek at the future:

- 10/12 Fireman's Pancake Breakfast
- 10/25 7am-12pm Blood Drive @ R'ville Fire House
- 10/31 Halloween Party

Tri Village VFD

Company Meeting: Wednesday, August 6th at 8:00PM

Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance Service

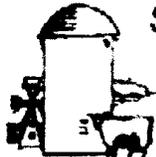


Company Meeting: Wednesday, August 20th at 7:00PM

Bayard Elsbree Memorial Park

Every Friday Night in August: Live Music by The Ghost Riders from 7:00—9:00PM

Thoroughbred & Trotter Horse Boarding



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June Town Board Minutes Summary

(Continued from page 1)

ment to allow the additional \$15,000.00 for the work on Tanglewood Road, 2nd by Councilman Chase.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody that Supervisor Nickelsberg and Councilman Chase sit down and do a cost benefit analysis on hiring a mechanic, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

Supervisor — A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody that Supervisor Nickelsberg find out the exact amount of the FEMA funds, that it is put into a separate account, and that it be done before the next Town Board meeting, 2nd by Councilman Chase.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

Code Enforcement Officer - Code Enforcement Overbaugh gave his monthly report and also reported on the following: DEC is trying to put a ban on all open burning except camp fires and agricultural burning. The Town Board discussed this. Public hearings will be held in June, July and August. Some members of the Town Board will attend the hearings.

A motion was made by Supervisor Nickelsberg that the Town Board opposes the ban on burning, 2nd by Councilman Chase.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

Assessing Department - Assessor Pine mentioned that Donna Kropp is now a certified assessor.

CURRENT EVENTS - Richard Tollner received a lifetime service recognition award from the Upper Hudson Library System.

OLD BUSINESS

SENIOR BUS & VAN

A motion was made by Councilman Chase that the Town Board accept the following rules for the use of the bus and van;

1. All scheduling must go through the Senior Services Coordinator, Ann Vogel. No one else is permitted to schedule or modify a schedule.
2. All groups other than senior citizens must bring the vehicle back with a full tank of gas.
3. All drivers must present a valid license to the Town Clerk two weeks prior to driving. (This applies to new drivers).
4. All trips must be logged in the book in the appropriate vehicle (bus or van). Information required: name of driver, number of passengers, time out and back, destination, and odometer readings.
5. Do not leave trash in vehicle.
6. When a trip begins before normal business hours, the vehicle(s) will be outside awaiting the driver.
7. When a trip ends after normal business hours, the key(s) to the vehicle(s) must be dropped in the mail slot of the door to the Town Hall.
8. No fee is charged for the use of the vehicle. However, donations are gratefully accepted. Such donations are deposited into the existing Senior/Youth Bus Fund.

2nd by Councilwoman Dermody.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

Mr. Bolte volunteered to see if he could get a minivan donated to the Town for the use of the seniors.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase authorizing Bob Bolte to go and see if he can get a minivan donated to the Town, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

TOWN HALL BEAUTIFICATION

Mr. Bowdish is interested in carrying on the beautification of Town Hall that Mr. Mikulka started. He spoke about planting flowers, weeding the gardens, starting a community garden.

A motion was made by Supervisor Nickelsberg to accept Mr. Bowdish's beautification plan for the town property, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

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June Town Board Minutes Summary

(Continued from page 9)

KENNETH B. COOKE - NYS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR RULING

Mr. Cooke spoke about the Department of Labor ruling concerning him, Mr. Bolte and Mr. Bates, the work they did, and their checks. Mr. Cooke read a letter into the minutes. The Town Board discussed this topic at length.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase that we pay these 3 individuals the additional compensation pursuant to the Department of Labor communication, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

ALLOTTED SPEAKING TIME

Mr. Bolte mentioned that he was going to speak about the five minute speaking time tonight but it has been a pleasure to see the Board and the speakers talking without limiting the time to speak. Mr. Bolte would like to see more information from the minutes in the newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

HAMMOND SECURITY

Hammond Security is our security system monitor; the contract is up for renewal.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody authorizing Supervisor Nickelsberg to sign the contract with Security Systems By Hammond, Inc., 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

MARION COOKE - VOUCHER PROCESS

Marion Cooke asked what the voucher process was. The Town Clerk read the process. Marion Cooke asked what the Town Board looks for when auditing the vouchers. She is asking for checks and balances, integrity, honesty and to make sure that we know where the stuff is coming from and where it is going.

KENNETH B. COOKE - JOB APPLICATIONS

Mr. Cooke asked that when there is a job opening that it be advertised in the newsletter.

EN HUYCK PRESERVE - MYOSOTIS LAKE DAM - CHAD JAMISON

Mr. Jamison, EN Huyck Preserve, mentioned that they received a letter from DEC concerning the spillway. The spillway has been damaged over the last two years from the spring runoff and that work needs to be done to correct the problems. Mr. Jamison explained the damage to the Town Board. An engineering plan and action need to be created.

MYRA DORMAN - E-MAIL, WEB PAGE AND CHIPS

Mrs. Dorman asked if people can have their messages put on the web. Councilwoman Dermody, this is not a blog. Shawn Styer will be contacted about this.

Mrs. Dorman, if a person has a business notice on the web and it is incorrect, how can they correct it.

CHIPS was discussed earlier in the meeting. This does not have to be addressed again.

Councilwoman Dermody mentioned that she, Councilman Chase, and Councilwoman Pine each have an e-mail address if the residents want to contact them.

SENIOR WORKER

A job description for a senior worker will be created.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase that the opening for a senior worker be put in the newsletter, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

CAP ON SCHOOL TAXES

The Town Board discussed a memo received from Governor Patterson concerning putting a cap on school taxes.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pine that a letter be sent to Governor Patterson and the State Legislature that the Town Board is in favor of the cap on the school taxes, 2nd by Councilman Chase.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

UNION CONTRACT

Councilwoman Dermody and Councilman Lansing will go over the current contract and also the demands and get back to the Town Board with their findings.

(Continued on page 11)

June Town Board Minutes Summary

(Continued from page 10)

COMPUTER BACKUP

The Town Board discussed getting a tape backup for the computer system.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody to contact 3 or more vendors seeking a data backup system of some kind for the computer system, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Audience comments brought up for discussion was the CHIPS program, the video equipment and how it works, doing a cost benefit analysis for the mechanic's job, the highway agreement, civil service, vouchers, and creating a pamphlet listing local farmers and their produce.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:45 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Kathleen A. Hallenbeck

Town Clerk

Note: Full Town Board Minutes can be found on the Town website (www.rensselaerville.com) or at the Town Hall.

A Special Memorial Day Ceremony in Rensselaerville Cemetery

By Mary Ann Ronconi and Janet Haseley

On May 26, Memorial Day 2008, some twenty people convened at the Rensselaerville Cemetery at 2 o'clock for a special ceremony at the Civil War monument. For many it was their first visit to the cemetery and they expressed great pleasure in coming to such a beautiful place. For others who had grown up in the village and admitted to having played in the cemetery as children, the Civil War monument was a discovery.

The 17-foot monument, though identified only as a circle on the 1895 cemetery map drawn by Peter Tinklepaugh, is on a high knoll, the central point in the cemetery. It was erected by citizens of Rensselaerville and dedicated on July 4, 1867. On the obelisk monument adorned with a bas-relief of standing rifles, the names of the 29 young men from Rensselaerville who died in the war are carved. The regiments to which they belonged, and their respective ranks and ages are also carved on the monument.

The memorial ceremony on May 26, 2008 began with a reading of the names of those men who "gave the last full measure of devotion. . ." as President Lincoln honored them in the Gettysburg Address. There followed the singing of Julia Ward Howe's "Battle Hymn of the Republic". One of her descendants, Rensselaerville resident Susannah Lessard, was in attendance. The group had copies of the hymn as first published in the *Atlantic Monthly* of February 1862 and of two other iconic works of the Civil War era, the Gettysburg Address and the poem mourning the death of Lincoln, "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" by Walt Whitman. The group shared the reading of the address and the poem to the accompaniment of a chorus of spring birds in the colossal old trees nearby.

Because a part of the Whitman poem speaks of the funeral train which bore the coffin of President Lincoln and the mourning crowds who awaited its passage through the country, we had wanted to include a letter which Janet Haseley's great grandfather wrote describing his emotions at the time, but Janet was out of town and did not get the invitation to attend the ceremony until it was over. Her great grandfather, Rensselaerville native Charles Niles, was in the Union Army and was one of the soldiers standing guard at Lincoln's casket.

(Continued on page 12)



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A Special Memorial Day Ceremony in Rensselaerville Cemetery

By Mary Ann Ronconi and Janet Haseley

(Continued from page 11)

We're reproducing Charles Niles' letter here now for everyone in the town to read. It was written to Rensselaerville, to Charles' father, Judge John Niles, on April 22, 1865, from Ft. McHenry, Baltimore.

We escorted the remains of the President yesterday. It was a mournful occasion. The crowd was immense, but everyone seemed sad. It was a mournful sight to stand by the coffin and watch the expressions of sorrow upon the countenances of the thousands who passed to take their last look at the remains of the murdered President. It was the most solemn spectacle I ever witnessed. Much as I have always loathed and hated treason and traitors in years gone by the hatred was added to tenfold on yesterday while looking for the last time on President Lincoln's remains. I have no sympathy or mercy for them now.

Charles went on to say I could not go to N.Y. as I expected last week on account of the excitement. All of the Military were under arms to prevent an outbreak. The feelings of the people were wrought up to such a pitch that it was feared that sympathizers might be made to suffer. But everything was quiet. Of course I cannot leave now. So I shall postpone going until I try and get home in June.

On April 23, 1865, Charles' sister Mary Niles wrote to their sister Cornelia about rites held in Rensselaerville: I must say one word about the fearful tragedy at Washington; was there ever anything so terrible? Just when the whole nation was rejoicing over the prospect of peace. We had funeral services in our church, which is tastefully draped in mourning, and the church was filled to overflowing. Elder Corwin preached the sermon, and it seemed as though every person present felt that they had met with great personal affliction, every one had lost a friend in Lincoln.

(Note: The above letters and some from other people at the time, as well as more about the Civil War and about Lincoln's last days, can be found in *Greenbacks and Copperheads* by David Comstock, a copy of which is at the Rensselaerville Library.)

MEDUSA VILLAGE WIDE GARAGE SALES

AUGUST 9th

9am to 3pm
RAIN OR SHINE

RUMMAGE SALE, MAPS, REFRESHMENTS IN CHURCH HALL

APPLICATION TO HAVE A SALE - AUGUST 9, 2008

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

(be sure to include house number and route number)

Applications must be in by August 7

\$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.

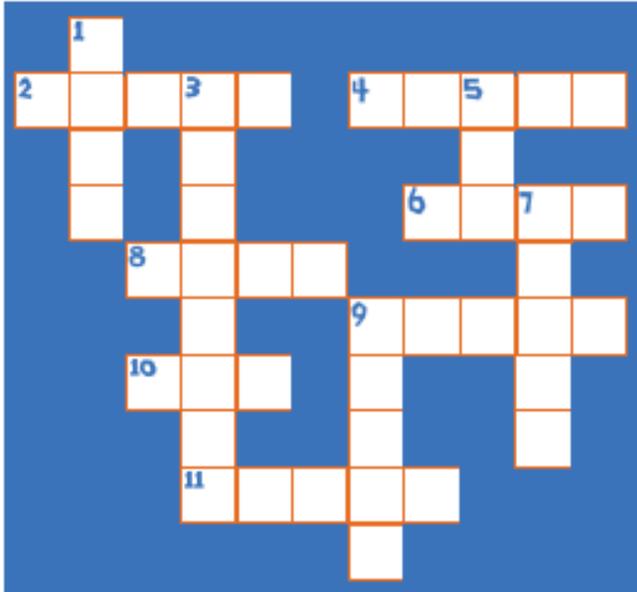
SALE LOCATION NUMBERS WILL BE GIVEN OUT THE DAY BEFORE SALE. Maps are not ready or available until the day of the sale.

**** **We need your phone number** ****

DEAR FAMILY,

Family Reproducible Worksheet

To prepare for emergencies, families can collect items that might be useful and put them in an emergency supply kit. Go to www.ready.gov and click on *Ready Kids* to find out how your family can prepare for unexpected situations. Then complete this crossword puzzle to give you an idea of what kinds of things should be part of your family's emergency supply kit.



CLUES

ACROSS:

- 2. _____ light: A handy tool to have if the lights go out!
- 4. Every person needs one gallon of this per day!
- 6. This comfortable piece of furniture should not be part of a family's supply kit.
- 8. Furry family members that should be part of your preparedness plan.
- 9. Some people have a _____ between meals if they are hungry.
- 10. You might find water, a flashlight, or a whistle in an emergency supply _____
- 11. Fun items that families can play together.

DOWN:

- 1. Families can create a communication _____ so that they know where to meet and who to call during an emergency.
- 3. _____ bag: Great for napping or keeping warm.
- 5. Every family member should carry a contact list with at least _____ different phone numbers that will allow you to keep in touch during an emergency.
- 7. It's important to get the _____ about different kinds of emergencies, so that you know what to expect.
- 9. Keep an extra pair of these in your supply kit to keep your feet dry!

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Crossword Puzzle Answers
Across: 2. flashlight; 4. water; 6. sofa; 8. pet; 9. snack; 10. kit; 11. games
Down: 1. plan; 3. fire; 5. flashlight; 7. towel; 9. shoes

Important Contact Information

Town Board Meetings
Second Thursday 7:00 pm

Working Meeting
Tuesday 7:00 pm
before regular meeting

Town Justice Court
Mondays 7:00 pm

Planning Board
First and third Thursdays 7:30 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals
Second 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
Wednesdays 10am - 12 pm
Home office 7 days 7:30am - 10:30pm

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

Assessors' Clerk Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday morning

Dog Control Officer
Cheryl Baitsholts
518-797-5201

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

Water/Sewer District Meeting
First Thursday 7:00 pm

Town Supervisor
Jost Nickelsberg

Town Clerk & Collector
Kathleen A. Hallenbeck

Town Justices
Victor LaPlante,
Victoria Kraker

Attorney for the Town
Joseph Catalano

Deputy Town Attorney
Jon Kosich

Councilpersons
Gary Chase, Marie Dermody,
J. Robert Lansing, Sherri Pine

Building Inspector
& Code Enforcement Officer
Mark Overbaugh

Assessors
Jeff Pine, Peter J. Hotaling, Jr.,
Donna Kropp
Rachel Chase, Clerk II

Highway Superintendent
G. Jon Chase

Planning Board
Muriel Frasher, Chairman
Rebecca Platel, Secretary

Zoning Board of Appeals
Alden Pierce, Chairman
Rebecca Platel, Secretary

Deputy Town Clerk
Dee Andrus

Bookkeeper
Patricia Britton

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

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

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

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

Albany County Highway Dept.
518-239-6715, 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,
943-9010
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

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Supervisor: townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk: townclerk@rensselaerville.com
Planning Board: planningboard@rensselaerville.com
Assessors: townassessors@rensselaerville.com
Newsletter: newsletter@rensselaerville.com

Councilman Gary Chase: gchase@rensselaerville.com
Councilwoman Marie Dermody: mdermody@rensselaerville.com
Councilwoman Sherri Pine: spine@rensselaerville.com

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