



Town of Rensselaerville

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

Volume 20, Number 12

December, 2009

October Town Board Minutes Summary

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on October 8, 2009, at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY 12120. 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, Clerk 1/Bookkeeper Andrea Cornwell.

ABSENT: Superintendent of Highways G. Jon Chase
There were 26 interested citizens present.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

- Mr. Gloriosio asked how we made out with the Right to Farm Law. Attorney Catalano mentioned that the signs would depend on what the resolution says. This will be checked into.
- K. B. Cooke asked what has been spent on the Pearson Road Project and what is the total cost at the completion of this job? Attorney Catalano mentioned when the project is completed, you will have the total project cost.
- Steve Wood mentioned that before a project is started you usually have the price and figures of the cost. Attorney Catalano mentioned that we had the cost of the bid at \$313,000.00 and Superintendent Chase's estimate at \$78,000.00. The only cost outside those costs is the engineering cost.
- Richard Amedure mentioned political signs and violation of the Town's law on such signage. Attorney Catalano mentioned that there has been recent case law regarding similar statutes in other municipalities and those cases indicate that the time period for political signage or another other aspects of free speech cannot be regulated as we have it in our law. He and CEO Overbaugh are already investigating the sign issue.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody to accept the minutes as read for the Regular Meeting held on September 10, 2009 and the Special Meeting held on September 21, 2009; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. *A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

TRANSFERS:

General Transfers		
From:	To:	Amount:
A1990.4	A7610.1	\$ 2,000.00
Contingency Account	Personnel	
A911 Appropriated Fund Balance Reserve—A7140.41		\$ 2,350.00
Bayard Elsbree Park		
A911 Appropriated Fund Balance Reserve - A7160.2		\$14,865.00
General Equipment CD		

(Continued on page 15)

Inside this issue:

Rensselaerville	2
Conkling Hall	3
Senior Corner	4
Extra Helpings	5
Middleburgh Library News	6
Notice For Bid	8
Church Services	9
Recall Notice	11
NY Burning Ban	12
HEAP Notice	13
Support for Holiday Program	14
Holiday Rummage Sale	19
Volunteer News	20
Kids Page	21
Tree Lighting	22
NEW Contact Information	23

Library Bookmark

We would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who helped to make our Halloween Scavenger Hunt a success! Special thanks go out to Bill & Nancy Madrian for their generosity and help in organizing the event; to Betty Madrian for face-painting and delicious treats; to Mary Musca for brainstorming ideas and helping to coordinate the event; and to Sarah Amedure, Michael Amedure, and Dixie Ouellette for ideas, creativity, and clean-up!

It's that time of year again! Please join us on **Saturday, December 5 from 10:00A.M.-1:00P.M.** for our **Annual Greenery Sale!** This popular event will feature complimentary cookie decorating for children (courtesy of the Palmer House), roasted chestnuts, and ample opportunity to obtain wreaths, trees, and roping to help make the holidays more festive! The Palmer House will be open for lunch as well. Please call 797-3949 for more information.

First Friday Films continue on Friday, December 4 at 6:30P.M. with a showing of *Up*. 78-year-old balloon salesman Carl Fredricksen finally fulfills his lifelong dream of a great adventure when he ties thousands of balloons to his house and flies away to the wilds of South America, but he discovers all too late that his biggest nightmare has stowed away on the trip: an overly optimistic 8-year-old Wilderness Explorer named Russell. Run time: 102 min. Rated PG for some peril and action.

Second Saturday Film Series continues on Saturday, December 12 at 7:00P.M. Movie TBA.

Please join us at this month's **Saturday Story Times at 10AM:**

December 5 - Theme: Bears

December 19 - Theme: Gingerbread

Want to know what's new this month at the Rensselaerville Library? Check out www.rensselaervillelibrary.org and click on "What's New?" for a complete listing of newly acquired materials.

We are now using an automated telephone system to alert patrons when their requests have come in. If you prefer to be notified by e-mail instead, just let a member of the circulation staff know - we will be happy to switch you. Keep track of the items you have out, request items, and check the status of pending requests at www.rensselaervillelibrary.org (click on "My Account" under Library Links).

CORRECTION

Two paid advertisements in the November 2009 newsletter were missing the tags identifying them as such. The center spread ads on pages 12 & 13 should have contained the tag "Paid Advertisement by the Democratic Party."

We sincerely apologize for any concern this may have caused.



Staff:
Liz King, Director;
Katie Caprio, Assistant;
Barbara Husek, Assistant;
Zachary Wellstood, Page

The next **Library Board meeting** is on **Monday, December 21st at 7:00P.M.**

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



Conkling Hall—What's On In December

Saturday, December 12: Village Voices Winter Concert, 7:00 PM. Come hear our friends and neighbors surround us with beautiful sounds. The choir will be accompanied by an instrumental ensemble. It will, again, be a wonderful experience.

Friday, January 1, 2010: RHDA New Year's Day Open House. Come join us for a pot luck open house to celebrate the beginning of the new year. Food and wine provided. Desserts welcome. Open to all. No charge. 1:00 - 4:00 PM.

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

Yoga: Tuesdays 9 - 10:15 AM: Move, breathe and relax. Good for what ails you. Open to all. Please call Sarah Nelson Weiss at 239 6825 for more information.

You can contact Conkling Hall at 518 797 3459 or read our website at www.ConklingHall.org. We send frequent 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



Children's Holiday Party **Saturday, December 5, 2009** **3:30 PM - 5 PM**

Rensselaerville Fire House

Paint your own ornament, crafts, games, snacks
Appropriate for all ages

5 PM

Santa arrives via fire truck to hear your Christmas wishes

5:30 PM

Santa and Mrs. Claus will light the village tree



Senior Corner

Need Information? Elder Source Line (447-7177) has information about Senior Services to help in a variety of ways. Call between 8:30AM-12:30PM Monday through Friday. Call for free assistance with housing options, insurance counseling, benefits and entitlements, community resources, adult daycare, and caregiver options. This program is funded by United Way of Northeastern New York and Senior Services of Albany Foundation.

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

Senior Van: Tuesday: Bryant's Center, Greenville
Thursday: Cobleskill (Wal-Mart) Monday, Wednesday and Friday: Van is available to travel to doctor appointments. Call Ann Vogel at 797-3376 regarding scheduling and/or arranging for van pick up.

Helderberg Senior Services: Lunches are served Monday through Friday at noon for \$3.75. A one-day advance reservation would be appreciated and can be made by calling Marie at 797-3652 between 9:00AM-1:00PM for information and reservations.

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

Advertising Sale

For the first time ever, the Town of Rensselaerville is offering a sale on its advertising rates for the monthly newsletter. Ads submitted in December and payment made equivalent to the ten-month charge will automatically receive two months of the same ad absolutely free. All submissions (print ready) & payments must be made no later than Thursday, December 31, 2009.

Note: If you want your ad to run in the January 2010 newsletter, submission of print ready ad and payment in full must be made no later than December 15, 2009. Otherwise, the ten-month run will begin with the February issue.

Newsletter Advertising Rates

2" x 3.5" (Business Card)	\$15.00
4" x 3" (Quarter Page)	\$23.00
5" x 8" (Half Page)	\$40.00
8.5" x 11" (Full Page)	\$75.00
Separate Full Page Insert	\$150.00

Contact the Town Hall if you have a full page insert for the Newsletter.

Pay in Advance for a full year and get the 12th month FREE.

Not-for-Profit organizations, please call the Town Hall for advertising rates.



TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC

NEW SERVICES & UPGRADES



260 ARNOLD RD.
PRESTON HOLLOW, NY 12469
(518) 239-8106
(518) 275-1707
Tce260@yahoo.com



GUARDIAN
by Generac Power Systems, Inc.

Automatic Home Standby Generators
Generac Portable Generators

Authorized Dealer, Service, Warranty, Installation

PAUL MOLLOY

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. December's Extra Helpings menus are as follows:

Extra Helpings Menu: \$21.00

- Meat: 3-3/4 lb. Avg. Wt. Bavarian Holiday Ham Half
- 1 lb. Pkg. Chicken Patties
- 1 lb. Pkg. Hamburger (90/10)
- 1 lb. All Beef Hot Dogs
- 20 oz. Bag Peeled Butternut Squash
- 1 lb. Bag of Baby Carrots

Special #1: \$15.75

- 5 lbs. Cranberry & Apple Stuffed Boneless Pork Loin Roast

Special #2: \$22.75 Party Package—9.25 lbs. of Meat !!!

- 2.5 lb. Bag of All Beef Meatballs (fully cooked)

- 1.75 lb. Pkg. Cocktail Franks
- 2 lb Pkg. Buffalo Flavored Chicken Wings (fully cooked)
- 3 lb. Fox Sweet Italian Sausage (Rope)

Special #3 \$32.00 Meat Box:

- 2 lbs. Apple & Cranberry Stuffed Pork Chops
- 3 lbs. Honey Mustard Flavored Chicken Breast
- 3 lbs. Beef Patties (80/20)
- 2 lbs. Breakfast Sausage Links
- 3 lb. Bag Chicken Patties

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

PLEASE NOTE: Orders *with payment* are due at the HCRC office by **December 4th** for pick-up on **December 17th**. HCRC distributes Extra-Helpings at the Rensselaerville Firehouse from 11:00 to 12:00 p.m. and at St. Bernadette's Church in Berne from 11:15 to 11:45 p.m. on delivery days. Please note the new pick-up times. 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.

Thank You For Your Continued Support

**Kathleen A. Hallenbeck
Town Clerk/Collector**

Paid Advertisement

You are cordially invited to the Town of Rensselaerville

**Holiday
Eggnog
Open House**



Saturday, December 12, 2009
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Stonecrop Estate Home

Please come!



Paid Advertisement

Middleburgh Library Happenings

12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22 - 10:30 AM - Drop-In Story time. Join us on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 for stories, songs, finger plays, and a short movie. This fun, interactive program is meant for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. No registration is required.

12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22, 12/29 - 3:30 PM - Reading with Indy. Indy is a trained and certified therapy dog who along with his trainer, Karen Van Dyke, offers non-judgmental ears to your little one. Children who are just beginning to read, need practice reading, or simply need a confidence boost will find Indy a great friend.

12/2 - 1:00 PM - Wed. Matinee - Food for Thought Film Series - "Waitress" (PG - 13)

12/9 - 1:00 PM - Wed. Matinee - Food for Thought Film Series - "Babette's Feast" (PG)

12/16 - 1:00 PM - Wed. Matinee - Food for Thought Film Series "Big Night" (R)

12/23 - 1:00 PM - Wed. Matinee - Food for Thought Film Series - "Christmas in Connecticut" (NR)
Descriptions on line. Free Popcorn

12/3, 12/10, 12/17 - 7:00 PM - Knitting Circle - Bring your project and join your neighbors for some creativity and conversation. No registration is required.

12/4 - 7:00 PM - The Mop & Bucket Company - The Mop & Bucket Company (MopCo) is the Capital District's premiere improvisational theater company and the resident company at Proctor's Theater in Schenectady. MopCo will bring their popular Theatresports Show here to the Library. This heart-stopping competition of sports and improvisational theatre combine for an evening of pure fun! Olympic-style judges (local celebrities) score teams of improvisers. Full of audience participation and comedy, this will be a night you won't soon forget. Admission is free, but you must pick up a ticket at the library as space is limited. Tickets will be available beginning November 2nd.

12/5 - 2:30 PM - Victorian Botanical Crafts - an afternoon of crafting holiday botanical decorations. Space is limited so call now to reserve your spot. There is an \$8.00 materials fee. **Registration Required. Register on line or call 827-5142.**

12/11 - 6:00 PM - Miracle on Main Street - There will be activities in the library, plus lots of fun on the streets & extended store hours!

12/12 - 1:00-4:00 PM - The Best House Victorian Tea - Victorian Christmas Tea at the Dr. Best House, 1568 Clauverwie, Middleburgh, featuring an exhibit of Christmas trees by Hattie. Donation \$5.00. Web Site www.mvls.info/lhg/besthouse/index.html.

12/15 - 5:30 PM - Film Discussion - Julie & Julia - REGISTRATION REQUIRED. We'll be watching Julie & Julia starring Meryl Streep and Amy Adams. Arrive at 5:30 for pizza & punch and if you'd like, bring a dessert (French?) to share. We'll watch the movie and discuss it afterwards over tea and sweets. This program is for everyone, not just book discussion regulars! **Please register on line or by contacting the library at 827-5142.**

12/16 - 10:30 AM - Library Babies - This special story time is designed especially for babies 3 - 14 months and their caregivers. We'll read, sing, bounce, and have fun all while teaching pre-literacy skills. No registration is required

12/19 - 9:00 to 2:00 PM - Drip-in Craft - Paper Ornaments. Use paper to make colorful Christmas ornaments to take home or put on our Library Christmas Tree

Family Films:

12/19 - 11:00 AM - "Up" (G) Description on line.

12/30 - 1:00 PM - "Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince (PG)

(Continued on page 7)



**ALL YOU CAN EAT
BREAKFAST
7 to 11 AM**

**DECEMBER 19TH
JANUARY 16TH
FEBRUARY 20TH
MARCH 20TH
APRIL 17TH**

**MEDUSA FIRE COMPANY
Free Will Offering**



Middleburgh Library Happenings

(Continued from page 6)

12/19 - 2:00 PM - Beautiful Biscotti - Making Italian Holiday Cookies - REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Learn to make three kinds of traditional Italian cookies. Bring some of your family's favorite cookies and the recipe to share. Register early as space is limited. Register on line, or call 827-5142, or stop by the library.

12/23 - 10:30 AM - Drop-in Storytime -Come to our once a month Storytime on Wednesday mornings with Doreen McCoy. Miss Doreen will delight your little one with stories and a craft

12/24 & 25 - Library is Closed - Happy Holiday.

12/29 - 10:30 AM - Pre-School Films -Some short holiday films perfect for preschoolers.

12/30 - 12:00 PM - Chat & Chew - Bring a bag lunch & join the director in a discussion about what we've all been reading.

Public Notice – Bids for Roof Town of Rensselaerville

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville seeks sealed bids for the installation of a metal roof on office end of Town building located at 87 Barger Rd., Medusa, NY 12120. Roof size is approximately 40' x70' with hips, valleys, and extensions. Size to be verified by bidder. The roof must be "Max Rib" Kynar 500, 29 ga. galvalume substrate or similar 40 yr. warrantied roofing. The bid shall include the cost of complete installation and purchase of all materials (color choice to be made by the Town of Rensselaerville). The metal roof is to be attached to 1"x 4" furring strips, 2 ft. on center, saw cut with end flashing including hip caps, eave, trim, and filler strips under hips, eaves, end wall flashing, and 4 (four) 12"x12" roof vents. Work is to be commenced and completed as soon as possible, weather permitting. Bids must provide for a certificate of insurance naming the Town of Rensselaerville as an additional insured for the entire time period from commencement of work to completion in the minimum amounts of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 general aggregate. Prevailing wage applies to all employees of bidder.

All bids are to be in a sealed envelope (one bid per envelope) and clearly marked with the bidders name and address and clearly marked "Roof Bid". All bids are to be in the Town Clerk's Office by December 8, 2009, 6:30 PM, Town of Rensselaerville, Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY 12120. Please contact the Town Clerk at 518-797-3798 or 239-4225 with any questions. Bids will be opened on December 8, 2009 at 7:30 pm, and reviewed and awarded within a reasonable time thereafter. The Town Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids. A non-collusive bidding certificate must accompany all bids.

By order of the Town Board,
Kathleen Hallenbeck
Town Clerk



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Rensselaerville Historical Society is seeking volunteers to help with a project that is making historical records internet accessible. Proofreaders and other workers are needed. If you are able to assist, please contact Janet Haseley via e-mail at Edhase@aol.com or by calling Kathleen Speck at 797-5139.



Church Services

Preston Hollow Baptist Church

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

Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church

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

United Church of Christ

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

Trinity Episcopal Church

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

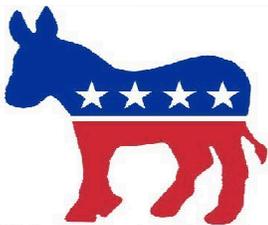
Potter Hollow Union Church

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

Please Take Notice:

Some of our Town email addresses have changed.
The new email address are noted on the Important
Contact Information page (Page 23).

THANK YOU



The entire Democratic Team
expresses its sincere appreciation for
your support in the recent
election. We look forward to
working cooperatively with our
Town officials for good
government.

Paid Advertisement

This Town is a Treasure

Thank you to every person in this wonder-
fully diverse and generous community for
all the ways, tangible and intangible you
have given to Ari and me.

You have enveloped us with the love and
support of a family. I feel blessed beyond
any words I can write.

Thank you, from deep within me, thank
you.

Karen Joy

Paid Advertisement

Potter Hollow Union Church News

Potter Hollow Union Church Fellowship Hall * 4824 Potter Hollow Rd. Potter Hollow, NY
 nathandmiles@hotmail.com * (518) 263-4478 * www.thepotterhollowchurch.weebly.com

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday

Morning Worship
 10am

**Mustard Seed Coffee Hour,
 Youth & Adult Bible Studies**
 11:30am

Praise & Prayer
 6:30pm

Midweek Bible Studies

Call for location and details.

December 13th (and every 2nd Sunday) pot
 luck in place of Coffee Hour and Bible studies)

Concert

"This Way Up" band



Three teen siblings from Mechanicsburg, PA bring unusual percussion with boomwhackers and PVC pipe, among other talents.

Saturday Jan 2nd
6:30pm



This is an unconventional concert you won't want to miss!

Community Christmas Pageant!



Come celebrate with us! Old fashion Christmas Party and Pageant!

Sunday December 20th
6:30pm

NOTICE OF RECALL

Single Meter Socket Recall by Milbank Manufacturing due to fire and electrocution hazards.

A short may occur while in use due to an incorrect bridge installed in the product, to which the meter clips are attached. If the manufacturing defect exists, all metal parts of the meter could create a shock or burns can occur if the cover is off and the meter socket is energized.

The single meter 200 amp/4 terminal sockets are used for underground utility meter installations. The meter socket is 20 3/4 inches high by 9 inches wide and 4 1/2 inches deep with 1 meter position. It is used by the approving utility to mount their electric meter to measure how much electricity a residence uses. It can be used for an underground residential application. The recalled model number 9090 appears on the right or left side of the installed meter socket. If not installed, model numbers U9090-0 or R9090-0 will appear on the label on the outside of the box.

These meters were sold at electrical supply distributors in NY, PA,VT, and MA, and at local hardware stores in NY from May 2009 through August 2009 for about \$70.00.

Customers should stop using the recalled product immediately and contact the electrical supply contractor who installed the sockets. Contractors will contact Milbank Manufacturing for a replacement or reimbursement. Milbank will contact all distributors and stores where the recalled product was sold.

For additional information, contact Milbank Manufacturing's Sales Engineer toll-free at 888-537-0881 between the hours of 8a.m. and 4p.m. CT Monday through Friday, or visit the company's web site at www.milbankmfg.com

To see this recall on CPSC's web site, including pictures of the recalled product, please go to: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml10/10012.html>

This notice is being placed by the Building Department.

Take Notice

The Town Clerk's Office will be closed on the following days:

- December 11th—at 10:30 to attend Town Clerk's Meeting
- December 24th—at Noon
- December 25th—Christmas Day



Rensselaerville Realty

LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKERS

WWW.RVILLEREALTY.COM

FRED STETTNER

ENID STETTNER

260 ROUTE 351

MEDUSA, NY 12120

FRED@RVILLEREALTY.COM

TEL: 518 - 239 - 4635

CELL: 917 - 509 - 1758

FAX: 518 - 966 - 5998

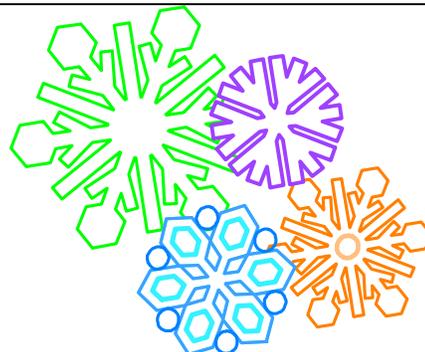
Paid Advertisement



NYS Ban on Open Burning

Effective on October 14, 2009, all open burning is prohibited in New York. The chart below is intended to assist you in understanding what is permitted and what is prohibited by this law.

PERMITTED	PROHIBITED
* Campfires less than 3 feet in height & 4 feet in length	* Burning leaves
* Heat-treated (kiln dried) firewood	* Chemically treated wood such as pressure treated lumber & plywood
* Organic agricultural waste; other conditions apply	* Burning of pesticides, plastics, or other non-organic material
* Open fires for the control of invasive plant & insect species	* Brush piles at transfer sites -- only downed limbs & branches generated at a transfer site, not such materials collected from local residents
* Ceremonial &/or celebratory bonfires	
* Liquid petroleum fueled smudge pots to prevent frost damage to crops	* Burning tires & other wastes for smudge
* Small cooking fires, provided that only charcoal or untreated wood is used as fuel & the fire is not left unattended until extinguished	ADDITIONAL NOTES: * Open fires do not include burning in outdoor furnaces or boilers that are used to heat building when the devices are actually used for such purpose * Burning of tree limbs with attached leaves (brush) is prohibited from March 16 through May 14 * The existing incinerator rule already prohibits burning household trash in wood stoves, fireplaces, & outdoor wood boilers.
* Tree limbs with attached leaves (brush); limbs must be less than 6 inches in diameter & 8 feet in length	
* Prescribed burns (as a vegetative or wildlife management goal) only in accordance with DEC regulations	
* Fire training burning only in accordance with guidance from NYS Dept. of State's Office of Fire Prevention & Control	
* Individual open fires to control plant & animal disease as approved case-by-case by DEC & upon the request by the Commissioner of Agriculture & Markets	
* Disposal of a flag or religious item only if a small fire & not otherwise prohibited by law or regulation	FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: http://www.dec.ny.gov/environmentdec/44034.html http://www.dec.ny.gov/press/58544.html http://www.dec.ny.gov/regs/4261.html
* Explosives or other dangerous contraband only on an emergency basis by police or other public safety organizations	
* Barbecue grills, maple sugar arches, & similar outdoor cooking devices when actually used for cooking or processing food	



WHAT IS HEAP?

HEAP is an energy assistance program which helps to pay for utility bills.

Where Can I Apply?

Cornell University Cooperative Extension/CHOICES
Faith Plaza, Route 9W, Ravena, NY 12143

- 12/03/09 Cornell Cooperative Extension, Voorheesville, 3:00pm-6:00pm
- 12/07/09 Hilltown Resource Center, Westerlo, 12:30pm-3:30pm
- 12/11/09 Colonie Senior Resource Center, 1:30pm-3:30pm
- 12/16/09 Bethlehem Town Hall, 4:30pm-6:30pm
- 12/16/09 WIC Lutheran Church, Berne, 9:30am-12:30pm
- 01/07/10 Cornell Cooperative Extension, Voorheesville, 3:00pm-6:00pm
- 01/08/10 Colonie Senior Resource Center, 1:30pm-3:30pm
- 01/13/10 Families Together, East Berne, 9:00am-12:00pm
- 01/14/10 Rensselaerville Town Hall, 12:30pm-3:30pm
- 01/20/10 Bethlehem Town Hall, 4:30am-6:30pm
- 02/01/10 Hilltown Resource Center, Westerlo, 12:30am-3:30pm
- 02/04/10 Cornell Cooperative Extension, Voorheesville, 3:00pm-6:00pm
- 02/17/10 Bethlehem Town Hall, 4:30pm-6:30pm
- 02/17/10 WIC Lutheran Church, Berne, 9:30am-12:30pm
- 03/04/10 Cornell cooperative Extension, 3:00pm-6:00pm
- 03/10/10 Families Together, East Berne, 9:00am-12:00pm
- 03/11/10 Rensselaerville Town Hall, 12:30pm-3:30pm
- 03/17/10 Bethlehem Town Hall, 4:30pm-6:30pm
- 04/01/10 Cornell Cooperative Extension, Voorheesville, 3:00pm-6:00pm

To apply for Emergency HEAP you must apply at the HEAP certifier office and then take the application to Albany County Department of Social Services located at 162 Washington Avenue, Albany

Call 756-8650 for more information regarding eligibility and document requirements.



SUPPORT FOR SENIORS AND FAMILY SPONSORS SOUGHT FOR HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

The Hilltowns Community Resource Center (HCRC), a program of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany, is beginning to coordinate its annual winter holiday program. We are all feeling the economic pinch, so this is a hard time for us to ask but, as we proceed with our efforts we need to know that you are with us. As always, we are seeking individuals, families, organizations and businesses interested in assisting struggling Hilltown families which leaves them limited resources for providing clothing and gifts for their children during the December holidays. There is still time to consider being a sponsor this year!! We've emphasized to our families that, because of the economic climate, our focus would be on children in the households. Sponsors may want and be able to provide for a whole family, but the primary focus will be the children.

Referrals of families seeking holiday assistance are made to HCRC for holiday by schools, religious organizations, community groups and other service agencies. You may call the office to discuss options available in sponsorship (i.e. number of children). Sponsors will be given a list from a family stating their immediate needs and desires to use a guide when shopping. **Cash donations** for sponsorship are also welcomed. Family names are kept confidential and a code number is assigned to each.

If you are interested in being a 2008 Christmas Program sponsor, please call HCRC at 797-5256 as soon as possible.

In 2007, the Hilltowns Community Resource Center began the HCRC Holiday Fund for Seniors which replaced the Albany Times Union Fund for the Elderly. We are continuing that effort this year which provides seniors with a little extra cash during the December holidays. Annually, HCRC, with the help of the Helderberg Kiwanis and St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Delmar, has served approximately 70 Hilltown senior citizens in December by providing a food basket meeting his or her dietary requirements, small gift items and a small check. Anyone interested may contribute to the Hilltown Fund for Seniors by writing a check payable to HCRC with a notation in the memo line...Senior Fund. Dollars will be redistributed to eligible seniors through Catholic Charities. Contributions may also be made at collection buckets placed through out the community.

Volunteers are also needed to assist in sorting through donated items, setting up the Christmas Store at Woodman Hall, assisting at the holiday party for kids, packing and delivering food baskets, and other tasks during the weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Volunteers may also conduct workplace food drives which HCRC collects for distribution to families not only during the holidays, but year round. Please call HCRC anytime at 797-5256 to volunteer, or to ask questions about The Christmas Program or other Hilltown Community Resource Center services.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.



October Town Board Minutes Summary

(Continued from page 1)

A910 Un-appropriated Fund Balance	A8160.2	\$20,100.00
From:	To:	Amount:
Sewer Transfers:		
SS911 Un-appropriated Fund Balance	SS8110.4	\$ 600.00

Clerk 1 Cornwell explained the transfers to the Town Board.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody to approve the transfers; 2nd by Councilman Chase. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

VICTORIA KRAKER RESOLUTION: The following resolution was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilwoman Pine;

WHEREAS, Victoria Kraker has served as Town Justice for the Town of Rensselaerville for over eight years; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board understands that the office of Town Justice is an extremely difficult position that requires tremendous dedication and time and, since a justice must always be available at any hour of the day, it is very often disruptive of a justice's personal and family life; and

WHEREAS, Victoria Kraker served the office of the Town Justice with superlative dedication and integrity; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board, upon the resignation of Victoria Kraker, wishes to express its appreciation on behalf of all the residents in the Town, for Victoria's dedicated public service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, that the Town Board, with regret, accepts Victoria Kraker's letter of resignation from the office of Town Justice of the Town of Rensselaerville; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville that the Town Board hereby recognizes, and expresses its deep appreciation to Victoria Kraker for her dedication and exemplary public service during her many years as Town Justice of the Town of Rensselaerville and wishes her the best in all her future endeavors.

A vote was taken and unanimously carried.

Victoria Kraker thanked everyone for their support during her years as judge; she could not have done it without you. Victoria thanked Gail La Plante and Judge La Plante and Richard Simons, Constable and her Clerk, Lynette Terrell for everything that they have done.

Judge La Plante mentioned we feel a personnel and professional loss with Victoria's leaving and all he can say is we have all stood on shoulders of giants in this Town when it came to town justices. One of them is Councilman Bob Lansing. They gave us the challenge we have tried to accept and exceed. Victoria did both. This town has suffered a loss; we can only say thank you for everything that you have done on behalf of our town.

JUSTICE APPOINTMENT: A motion was made by Supervisor Nickelsberg to appoint Timothy Miller as interim Town Justice, term to expire December 31, 2010; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody authorizing Timothy Miller to attend the judge training in November and December and that his expenses be reimbursed or paid for by the town directly; 2nd by Supervisor Nickelsberg. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

VOUCHERS/BILLS/ABSTRACT 2009-10

V09-664 - V09-671- General Fund - \$12,259.66; Highway Fund - \$6,422.15, Total Abstract - \$18,681.81.

V09-677 - V09-731 - FEMA - \$63,769.70; General Fund - \$29,131.11; Highway Fund - \$7,476.55; Lighting - \$634.92; Sewer District - \$58.14; Water District - \$1,845.00. Total Abstract - \$102,915.42.

V09-732-V09-733 - General Fund - \$675.00. Total Abstract - \$675.00.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pine to pay all signed vouchers/bills; 2nd by Councilman Chase. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

CORRESPONDENCE: The following correspondence was received and is available for inspection after the meeting;

- Mr. McCabe wrote concerning dead trees on Methodist Hill Road
- Ingalls & Associates - Pearson Road
- Mr. Brightenback - a donation and thank you for using the senior vehicle

(Continued on page 16)

October Town Board Minutes Summary

(Continued from page 15)

- Albany County Soil & Water Conservation District - Tire Recycling

REPORTS

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Supervisor Nickelsberg asked if the Town Board wanted to talk about the statement of conditions, general fund, unencumbered numbers, or if they had any questions.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Attorney Catalano reported that there were two tax grievances submitted to small claims court. Verizon withdrew their claim, and the other claim was settled yesterday.

The Code Enforcement Officer asked him to help him do research with respect to our law on political signs. He will have that information to CEO Overbaugh in a couple of weeks.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pine to accept the Town Attorney's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: Supervisor Nickelsberg read the following report from Highway Superintendent Chase;

1. Received \$143,079.68 from CHIPS.
2. Received \$105,998.44 from FEMA for the storm of December 2008.
3. Pearson Road will be open this Friday afternoon, weather permitting.
4. Working on Methodist Hill Road with Central Hudson cutting the dead trees.
5. We should put a single seal of asphalt and stone for a top on Pearson Road. The cost for single seal is estimated at \$14,000 from Gorman Brothers. Decision needs to be made tonight because of the cold weather coming. Closing off extension.
6. Gifford Hollow...presently working on culverts.
7. Ditching, culverts, cleaning up from August rainstorm, mowing and patching throughout the town.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to accept the Highway Superintendent's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

TOWN CLERK: Town Clerk Hallenbeck reported the following collected for the month of September 2009: Town Clerk - Total Collected - \$10,342.70; Paid to Supervisor Nickelsberg (Fees) - \$1,185.45; Paid to Albany County Treasurer (dog lic.) - \$7.05; Paid to NYS Environmental Conservation (sport lic.) - \$9,127.70; Paid to NYS Department of Health (marriage lic.) - \$22.50. Water Rents Collected - \$747.13. Sewer Rents Collected - \$380.49.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody to accept the Town Clerk's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

BUILDING INSPECTOR/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: Code Enforcement Officer Overbaugh reported the following for the month of September 2009: 2 Building New Accessory, 1 New Home Construction. Total received - \$186.92.

He and Attorney Catalano are working on the political sign issue and should have an answer in 2 weeks.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pine to accept Code Enforcement Officer Overbaugh's report; 2nd by Councilman Chase. *A vote was taken and unanimously passed.*

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT: Assessors Pine and Hotaling discussed the sales in the area. Discussed at length were REVAL and the equalization rate. The estimated cost to do a REVAL would be about \$67,000.00.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to accept the Assessors' report; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Chairman Pizzigati, they recommended that the fuel go out for contract to a lot of different vendors.

It is noticed in the paper.

Chairperson Pizzigati, they recommended that they go with a central data processing line on the budget which would incorporate everyone's computer.

The Town Board went through the following recommendations;

1. That the Town Board develop a zero based budget for the Fiscal Year 2010.

Clerk 1 Cornwell explained that when the Town Board starts out they start out with nothing.

2. That the Town Board includes subcategories to give a better understanding of the expenses included in that category.

This has been done.

(Continued on page 17)

October Town Board Minutes Summary

(Continued from page 16)

3. Town adopts the format for the capital budget that the Chair submitted to the Board.
4. That the Town Board adopt the RFP process and policy that was submitted to the Board. This has been discussed; she also gave the Town Board a copy of Albany County's RFP.
5. Rewrite the energy RFP citing only the products which the Town actually purchases;
 - A. mail RFPs to local vendors to insure response.
 - B. award the energy contracts by product and/or service.

Highway Department

1. That the non-personnel expenses for the Town and Highway Department which exceed \$1,000 annually be put out to bid.
2. That worksheets and materials with cost, cross referenced to highway projects, be submitted as an ongoing procedure of reporting expenditures of the highway budget.
3. That the permanent improvements expenses of the Highway Department's Agreement for Expenditures be included and appropriated in the annual Town Budget.

Clerk 1 Cornwell, anytime you have CHIPS that is being reimbursed from the State, the amount should be a wash.

4. That CHIPS reimbursement funds be appropriated to the highway department's subsequent year budget. Specifically, that the 2009 surplus of CHIPS revenue (available fund balance) be used as an offset to balance the 2010 highway budget.

Attorney Catalano, his understanding of the CHIPS program is that you can't bank those funds; they have to be actually spent.

Completed Recommendations

1. That a RFP be developed for the mowing, weed whacking and port-a-lets at all three town parks.
A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody to accept the Budget Committee's report as submitted by Chairperson Pizzigati; 2nd by Councilman Chase. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

CURRENT EVENTS

- Medusa Fire House - October 31st - Halloween Party - 5 -7 PM
- Conkling Hall - October 11th -- Fundraiser for a young woman with who is very ill who has no health insurance.
- Thunder Hart -October 11th-- there will be a golf outing for the kids' baseball team to make some money for them.

BOARD OF ETHICS: Nothing to report.

WATER/SEWER DISTRICTS COMMITTEE: The SPEDES Permit has expired; testing must be completed and the Town must re-apply for their permit. Testing equipment has been ordered and received and is expected to be done this weekend or next week.

OLD BUSINESS

BIDS - CEILING REPAIR: The Town Board advertised for bids for the ceiling work, One bid was received; this was from Marks Remodeling, Mark Duncan, 415 Siebert Road, Medusa, NY 12120. Mr. Duncan bid \$7,000.00 for the above mentioned job. Non-collusive bidding certificate was included.

The Town Board discussed the bid at length.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to award the bid for ceiling repair as discussed (change - add lighting fixture hangers and take out the roof vents) to Marks Remodeling for \$7000.00 contingent on the Town Board receiving the Certification Insurance; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A vote was taken and unanimously carried.

RFP FOR METAL ROOF: The Town Board discussed putting out an RFP for metal roofing. CEO Overbaugh and Councilwoman Dermody will work on this.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to put out a Request for Proposal for roof repairs based on CEO Overbaugh and Councilwoman Dermody's recommendations for the addition; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

2010 BUDGET: A motion was made by Councilwoman Pine to schedule special meetings on October 13, 20, 21, 22, 27, and 29 at 7PM to work on the 2010 Budget; 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody to schedule the Public Hearing on the 2010 Preliminary

(Continued on page 18)

October Town Board Minutes Summary

(Continued from page 17)

Budget for November 4, 2009, 7 PM and a Special Town Board Meeting immediately following the Public Hearing; 2nd by Supervisor Nickelsberg. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

CLEANING POSITION: A motion was made by Councilwoman Dermody to appoint Deanna Lockwood to the cleaning position for \$10.00 an hour with 100 hours probation period; 2nd by Councilman Chase. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

PLANNING BOARD/ZONING BOARD CLERK OPENING: Only one letter of interest was received.

HISTORICAL MARKER: Councilwoman Dermody mentioned that Gene Smith's grandnephew will pay for the historical marker. The Town Highway Department has a pole and they will erect this marker. The Historical Society is taking this as their endeavor and will work with Gene and her niece on the wording for the sign. A letter will be written by Supervisor Nickelsberg to Gene Smith in appreciation for getting us on the map with her book.

TOWN LAW & HIGHWAY MANUALS: Councilwoman Dermody mentioned to Supervisor Nickelsberg that he was supposed to give the Town Board a list of the people who are recipients of the Highway Manual and Town Law Manual. Supervisor Nickelsberg does not have this list yet.

NEW BUSINESS: Victoria Kraker submitted her 2009 Town Justice Annual Report, January 1, 2009 through August 31, 2009. Cases - Vehicle and Traffic - 79; Conservation - 7; Penal Law - 8; Civil and Small Claims - 3; Public Health Law - 1; Total Cases - 98. Total money collected and transmitted to Audit and Control - \$8,081.00.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to accept Judge Kraker's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. *A vote was taken and unanimously carried.*

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

- Is the Rick Assessment Report done and will it be available for the public?

Councilwoman Dermody mentioned that we do not have a final draft from Mr. Doyle yet.

- Do we have an inventory?

Yes, there are copies available.

- What happened to the waste oil; did we burn it?

Councilman Chase mentioned that we got rid of the waste oil on the recommendation of the Town Attorney. The waste oil, waste oil furnace, and tank were discussed at length.

The audience asked that the Town Board find out where the oil went and have this information next month.

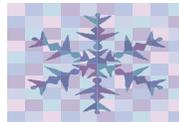
The furnaces that are in the garage are only about 70% efficient. If you spent the same \$14,000.00 and upgraded them, you would have been saving money all along without any controversy. The waste oil furnace should have been thought out more thoroughly and the proper procedure followed.

ADIJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pine to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 PM; 2nd by Councilman Lansing. Motion Carried.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Kathleen A. Hallenbeck
Town Clerk



JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST ALBANY'S NEW LICENSE PLATE MANDATE

Albany is requiring every motorist to replace their vehicle license plates, starting next spring. The mandate covers cars, trucks, trailers, and motorcycles--even ATVs!

The new plates will cost \$25 each with an extra \$20 if you want to keep your present license plate number.

If you are so inclined, consider joining the growing number of taxpayers in urging our representatives to repeal the new license plate requirement. (At the time of publication, this legislation was in limbo.)

Visit <http://nonewplates.com> and add your name to the petition. Tell Albany to Give Us a Break!

HOLIDAY
RUMMAGE SALE

December 5th

MEDUSA CHURCH HALL

10AM TO 3PM

CHRISTMAS GIFTS & DECORATIONS

BOOKS – TOYS – MISC.

RECORDS – PICTURES

LOTS OF GOOD ITEMS

LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE

SOUP – SANDWICHES

HOT DOGS - CHILI

Volunteer News and Events Medusa Volunteer Fire Department

Company Meeting: Monday, December 7th, at 8:00 PM
Drill & Work Meeting: Monday, December 14th and 21st at 7:00PM

Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department

Calls as of November 5th : 40

December:

- 2nd - 6pm Battalion Christmas Party
- 5th - 3:30pm Kids Christmas Party
- 7th - 7pm Company Drill
- 14th - 7pm Company Drill
- 30th - 7:30pm Company Meeting

January:

- 4th - 7pm Company Drill
- 6th - 7pm Ladies Battalion
- 11th - 7pm Company Drill
- 27th - 7:30pm Company Meeting

Special Events:

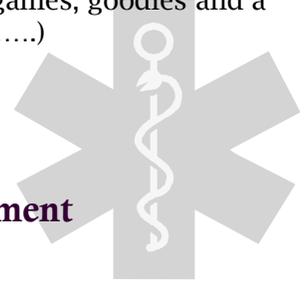
- 12/5 3:30pm Kids Christmas Party - Bring your children for fun, games, goodies and a visit from SANTA !!! (All their friends will be looking for them.....)

Tri-Village Volunteer Fire Department

Company Meeting: Wednesday, December 2nd at 8:00PM

Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance Department

Company Meeting: Wednesday, December 18th at 7:00PM



Come join us! Pizza and Pasta Buffet

Sunday, December 6

Seatings at 5:30 pm, 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm
\$19 (plus tax and gratuity) per person

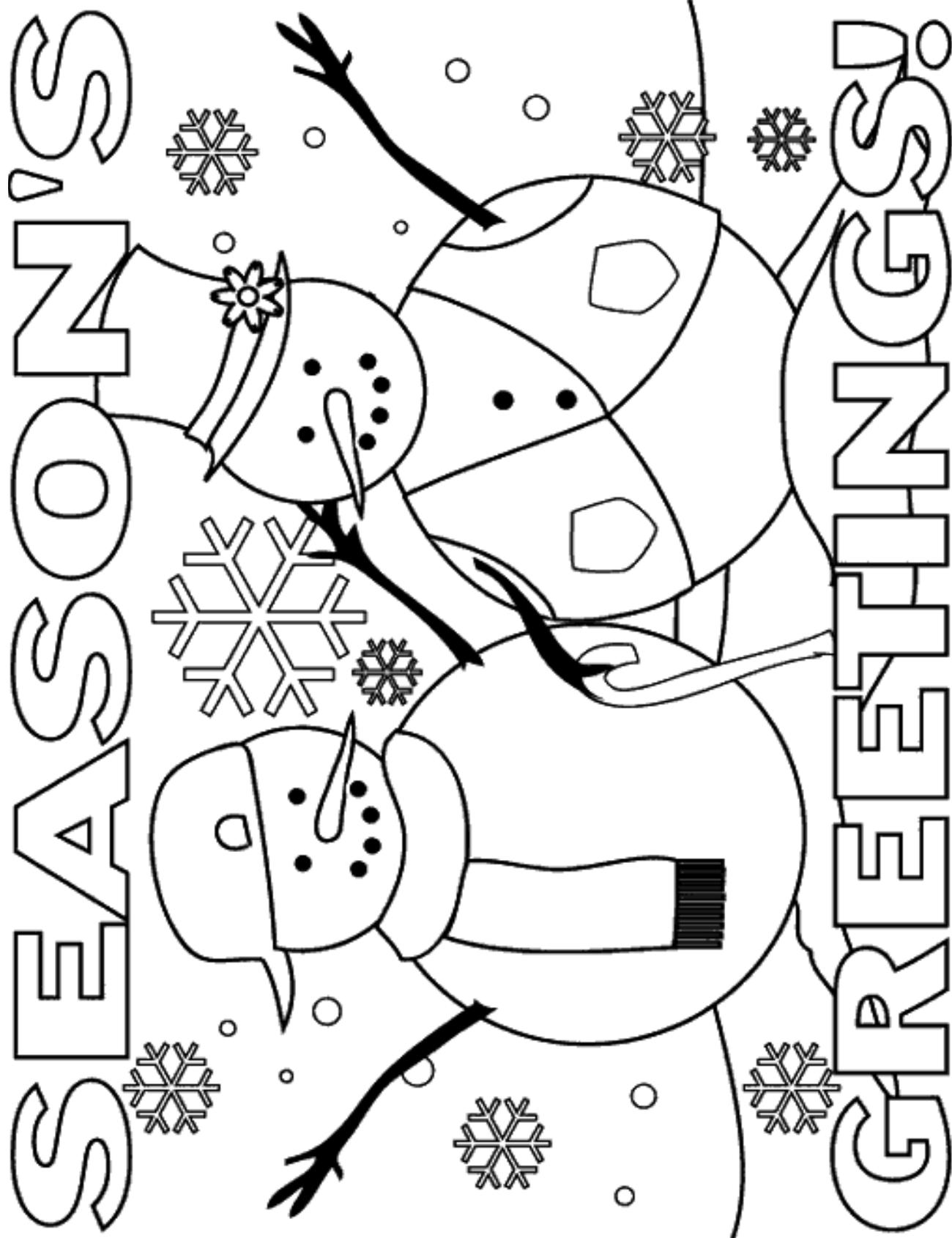
Featuring wood-fired brick oven pizza,
pasta specialties, garden salad,
house-baked breads, desserts, coffee and tea

-Reservations are recommended-



RMC Carriage House Restaurant / www.rmeetingcenter.com
Phone 518-797-5100; fax 518-797-3692

Paid Advertisement



**12th ANNUAL MEDUSA
COMMUNITY
TREE LIGHTING**

**November 29
STARTING AT 6 PM**

*WITH SINGING of CAROLS,
SPECIAL READINGS,
“The Night before Christmas”,
ENTERTAINMENT, TREE LIGHTING, &
REFRESHMENTS*

DONATIONS OF GOODIES ARE NEEDED

**PLEASE NOTE THAT GROUPS, INDIVIDUALS, SCOUTS, SENIORS,
4-H CLUBS, ETC. ARE INVITED TO DO SKITS or
SING SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SONGS (religious or non-religious)
DURING THE PROGRAM. Contact Bill Moore at 239-4843 before Nov 25th.**



ALL ARE INVITED TO COME
from Medusa and other communities

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
First Tuesday 7:00 pm

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

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

Supervisor's Hours
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,

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
Andrea Cornwell

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

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

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

Assemblyman John McEneny, 104th Dist.
LOB, Room 648
Albany, NY 12248
518-455-4100

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

Albany County Highway Dept.
518-239-6715, 518-239-6710

Rensselaerville Fire Company, 911
Social Number - 797-3218

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

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

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

Albany County Sheriff, 911
518-765-2351

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

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Town Supervisor: townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk: townclerk@rensselaerville.com
Newsletter: newsletter@rensselaerville.com
Bookkeeper/Clerk I: clerkI@rensselaerville.com
Board of Ethics: ethicsboard.rensselaerville@yahoo.com
Deputy Town Clerk: deputytownclerk.rensselaerville@yahoo.com
Code Enforcement Officer: codeenforcement.rensselaerville@yahoo.com
Assessors: assessors.rensselaerville@yahoo.com
Planning Board: planningboard.rensselaerville@yahoo.com
Councilman Gary Chase: gchase.rensselaerville@yahoo.com
Councilwoman Marie Dermody: mdermody.rensselaerville@yahoo.com
Councilwoman Sherri Pine: spine.rensselaerville@yahoo.com

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