



# Town of Rensselaerville

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

Volume 21, Number 6

June 2010

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## May 2010 Town Board Minutes Summary

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Dermody and the roll was called with the following results:

**PRESENT WERE:** Supervisor Marie Dermody, Councilman Gary Chase, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilwoman Dale Dorner, Councilman John Kudlack, Town Attorney Joseph Catalano, Town Clerk Kathleen A. Hallenbeck  
Also present were Superintendent Gary Zeh and 30 interested citizens.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

Rebecca Lewis thanked the Highway Department for clearing the brush around the old school house on Sayre Road.

**PRESENTATION:** Justin Nevins, Boy Scout Troop 242, is raising funds to purchase defibrillators for the Towns of Rensselaerville, Durham, and Greenville. The cost per defibrillator is around \$800.00; to date \$500.00 has been raised. On June 19, 2010, 5 to 8 pm there will be a Fundraiser Dinner at the United Methodist Church in Norton Hill. Tickets cost \$20.00 per adult and \$10.00 per child. This information will be put in the newsletter.

**MINUTES:** A motion was made by Councilman Chase to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 8, 2010, the Work Meeting held on April 6, 2010, and the Special Meeting held on April 22, 2010; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) - Dermody, Chase, Cooke, Dorner, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

**TRANSFERS:** A motion was made by Councilman Chase to make the following transfers:

From:	To:	Amount:
A1990.4 Contingency	A1450.4 Election, Cont.	\$1,429.95
2 <sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. <i>Motion Carried. Ayes (5) - Dermody, Chase, Cooke, Dorner, Kudlack; Nays (0)</i>		

**ABSTRACT 2010-05; VOUCHERS,BILLS- v10-288, v10-291-296, v1-299-v10-386:** The General Fund - \$9,260.38, \$185.75, \$63,959.59; Highway Fund - \$5,460.43, \$27,034.38; Lighting District Sewer District - \$284.91; Water District - \$273.10

A voucher from NYAIR will be added to the Abstract. The bill is for \$75.00; we will only be paying \$25.00 for payment for our email, 5/8/10 to 6/8/10. This will allow the new IT company time to move over our emails.

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

(Continued on page 15)

*Library Bookmark**What's New?*

Thank you to all who recently attended (or assisted with) our Annual Cocktail Party. The event was a huge success, and we couldn't have done it without the support of all of our friends and neighbors! We would like to extend a special thank you to the donors of our raffle prizes: Margaret Sedlmeir, Sue Shufelt, Story's Nursery, The Desmond, Glimmerglass Opera, and Thunderhart at Sunny Hill.

**Second Weekend Film Series at Conkling Hall**

**Saturday July 10 at 2:00 P.M. (please note the time change) - *Ponyo*.** 101 min.

This film is being presented in conjunction with this year's summer reading program. All families are invited to attend.

**Saturday, July 10 at 7:00P.M. - *Crazy Heart*.** 112 min. Rated R for language and brief sexuality.

**Two Wonderful Writers Arrive in Rensselaerville: Galway Kinnell and Peter Trachtenberg**

To keep the spirit of the Rensselaerville Library's very successful Festival of Writers alive (until our next big Festival in the summer of 2011), we are fortunate to host two award-winning authors this summer. Thanks to the kindness of two Rensselaerville residents (Ginny Carter and Lynn Love), two well-known authors, **Galway Kinnell and Peter Trachtenberg**, are coming to town in July.

**Friday, July 9 at 6:00P.M. -** Author Peter Trachtenberg will do a reading and book signing at the Rensselaerville Library (with refreshments);

**Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup> 10:00 A.M.-12:00P.M. -** Peter will conduct a workshop on the Lyrical Essay at the Library. The lyric essay is a form that uses the techniques of nonfiction to perform the work of poetry, or maybe the opposite. Rather than trying to argue and persuade, it seeks to create a state of mind. In this 2-hour workshop, students will read portions of lyric essays by well-known authors, as well as write their own with the help of the instructor's mysterious "Chinese menu" exercise. The workshop is designed to let air and fun into the classic essay, and to loosen the writing practice of participants. The cost of this workshop is \$50; registration is limited to 15 participants. To register, please send checks and contact information to The Rensselaerville Library, PO Box 188, Rensselaerville, NY 12147.

**Saturday, July 31 at 4:00P.M. -** Pulitzer Prize winning poet Galway Kinnell will do a reading at Conkling Hall. Tickets are \$10 (wine and cheese included.). Register early, as seating is limited to 100. Please send checks and contact information to The Rensselaerville Library, PO Box 188, Rensselaerville, NY 12147.

**Summer Reading Program:** Looking for things for the kids to do this summer? Bring them to the Rensselaerville Library to sign up for the Summer Reading Program - "Make a Splash Read". This year's program will run **June 29-August 6**

with a **kickoff Hawaiian-themed party** for everyone on **July 3<sup>rd</sup>** and a special showing of ***Ponyo*** on **July 10<sup>th</sup>**. Registration can be done online at [www.rensseleervillelibrary.org](http://www.rensseleervillelibrary.org) or at the Library. Every child who completes 20 hours of reading over the six week period will receive a book. Children who read throughout the summer perform better when school resumes in the fall. Visit the Library or our website for more details and a schedule of events.

**Annual Lawn Party and Live Art Auction:** On **Saturday, September 4, 2010**, our Annual Lawn party



The next **Library Board meeting** is on **Monday, July 19th 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*

*[rensseleervillelibrary.org](http://rensseleervillelibrary.org)*

**Staff:**

Kim Graff,  
Director

Katie Caprio,  
Library Technician

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## *Conkling Hall—What's On In July*

**FRIDAY, JULY 9:** Children's Movie (see Library announcement for details) at 6:30 PM. Admission is \$1. BYO treats.

**SATURDAY, JULY 10:** Grown-Up Movies return. "Crazy Heart" will be presented at 7:30 PM. Admission \$2. BYO treats.

**SUNDAY, JULY 11:** Conkling Hall's CAKEWALK returns. A pot luck luncheon begins at 12:30 PM followed by our world famous cake auction. Do come to enjoy a community event and to support Conkling Hall. Phone the Hall and let us know if you plan to make a cake: 797 3459.

**SATURDAY, JULY 31:** Pulitzer Prize winning Poet Galway Kinnell (one of the most influential poets of the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century) will do a reading at 4:00 PM. Tickets are \$10. (Wine and cheese included). Please contact the Library for tickets/reservations: 797 3949.



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

**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.

**Special Summer Yoga:** Thursdays 7:00 - 8:30 PM. Stretch, unwind, relax, breathe. Six Thursdays from June 24 to July 29. Sarah @ 239-6825.

**SUMMER: SATURDAY ON THE SIDEWALK: A FOOD AND PRODUCE MARKET WILL RETURN. MEAT, EGGS, PRODUCE, WINE, PLANTS AND FLOWERS, SANDWICHES, PASTRIES AND FRESH BAKED BAGUETTES. JULY 3 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 4. 10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM.**

You can contact Conkling Hall at 518-797-3459 or read our website at [www.ConklingHall.org](http://www.ConklingHall.org). We send 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](mailto:ConklingHall@earthlink.net).

## *Library Bookmark*

*(Continued from page 2)*

will be preceded by a live art auction. We invite all local artists to donate a piece to be auctioned off!

**Artwork donations are due by August 1.** Please submit a donation form (available at the library or on our website, [www.rensselaervillelibrary.org](http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org)) by July 1. If you are not an artist but still wish to contribute, please consider donating fine wine to be auctioned, donating a piece of art from your personal collection, or volunteering to help the Library Board organize the event.

**Library construction:** Thanks to a grant from NYS Library's Division of Library Development, the Library has been under construction for the past few months. The main lobby is now the home of new books, magazines, media, and the public printer. Coming soon, patrons will also be able to search the catalog in this location. The public computers now have their own area with space to expand. There is a kitchenette in the computer room for library functions. The remodeling has opened up space to establish a teen area where young adult material can now be found. Grants are being sought to assist with obtaining furniture for this area. In order to meet fire code, we have installed fire escapes and provided a safe egress via a new decking that has been added to the back of the library. The siding has been repaired and updated, as well as the bathroom. Library staff is seeking additional grants to continue basement renovations and other needed repairs. We have established a community room in the

## *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 pro-

vided.

**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,

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## *Hilltown Meeting*

On Monday May 17, county officials held a meeting at the Hilltown Senior Center in Berne. This meeting was an effort to reach out to local officials in the hilltowns to make them better aware of the services available from county departments. There has been something of a disconnect when it comes to vital social services once you leave the Albany area. This meeting was both to inform the attendees of the county services available, and a promise of better outreach in the future for the hilltowns. Programs discussed included adult services, child support including help with enforcement of child support payments, job training, food stamps, HEAP, adult day care, health insurance counseling, weatherization, mentor programs, help for first-time home buyers, emergency home repairs, and much more.

Also, there is now a one call intake line (447-7177) to connect you to long-term care options across different government agencies. This service was highlighted at the meeting as an effort to help the caller navigate through the bureaucracy and secure the best help available for their loved ones needing long-term healthcare. Please feel free to contact me for more information or help in contacting the county for available services. - Deputy Supervisor Jeff Pine

### Please Take Notice

Town Clerk's Office will be closed  
on Monday, July 5, 2010  
In observance of Independence Day.

## *Extra Helpings Food Buying Club — Available to Everyone*

Extra Helpings is a program of the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York and is offered to the community through The Hilltowns Community Resource Center (HCRC) in Westerlo. The program is open to all individuals regardless age or income. Anyone is welcome to purchase any or all of the package options. July's Extra Helpings menus are as follows:

### **July's Regular menu: \$21.00**

- 1.5 lbs. Chicken Breast Stuffed w/ Broccoli & Cheese
- 1 lb. Sirloin- Beef Sandwich-Steak
- 1 lb. Pkg. Fully Cooked Breakfast Sausage
- 1 lb. Bag Baby Carrots

### **Special #1: \$ 11.50**

- 2 lb. Bag Bay Scallops 80/120

### **Special #2 \$14.25**

- 6 lbs. Italian Sweet Sausage Links (2/ 3 lb

### **Boxes)**

### **Special #3: \$32.00 MEAT BOX**

- 3 lbs. Home Style Beef Patties
- 3 lbs. Boneless/Skinless Chicken Breast
- 2 lbs. Boneless Center Cut Pork Chops
- 2 lbs. Maple Breakfast Sausage
- 3 lbs. Salisbury Steak

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

**PLEASE NOTE:** Orders with payment are due at the HCRC office by **July 8<sup>th</sup>** for pick-up on **July 27<sup>th</sup>**. HCRC distributes Extra-Helpings at the Rensselaerville Firehouse from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on delivery days. There will no longer be a distribution site in Berne. 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.

**Enjoy an evening in the shadow of the Catskills... tasting, shopping, and sightseeing!**

**Hilltown Farmer's Market:  
Fridays 4-7 pm**

At Jimmy Walker's Greenhouse Rt. 145 - Preston Hollow. Featuring Henry's Produce, Wine-tasting, Grass-fed Beef, Carlie's Cookies, Wild Thymes, local jams, maple syrup, & Live Music and Dancing for health and pleasure!

**Food Security is looking  
your grower in the eye!**



**(From June 18) New Vendors & Crafts welcome (tel. 239-4039)**

*Paid Advertisement*

## **New Historical Marker to be Dedicated by RHS for Sayre School**

By Janet Haseley, Research Chair, Rensselaerville Historical Society, 518-797-3194, [edhase@aol.com](mailto:edhase@aol.com)

A new historical marker at the site of the former Sayre School will be dedicated by the Town of Rensselaerville Historical Society on Sunday, June 27, at 2 p.m. on Sayre Road, near the intersection of Rt. 352, Medusa.

The public is invited to the dedication and to a reception following at Lewis Farmstead on Lewisdale Lane (opposite Sayre Road). Stories about the school and its pupils will be welcomed.

## *Middleburgh Library Happenings*

**July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 -6:30 PM - Family Film Night** -(1st) “Flushed Away” (PG) , (8th)“The Princess & the Frog” (G), (15th)“Swiss Family Robinson” (G), (22nd)“Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief” (PG), and (29th)“Alice in Wonderland” (PG)

**July 6 - 1:00 PM - Pirate Day at the Library** - Don't miss this day of piratey fun! For kids in kindergarten and up.

**Registration is Required.**

**July 7, 14, 21, and 28 - 10:30 - 12:00 - Wii Wednesdays** - Every Wednesday play with the Wii on the big screen in the Community Room. For all ages

**July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - 7:00 PM - Knitting Circle** - Do you like to knit or crochet or do you participate in other fiber arts? Bring your project and join your neighbors for some creativity and conversation. No registration is required.

**July 6, 13, 20, 27, - 10:30 AM - Drop-in Storytime** - This fun interactive program is designed for active children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. No registration is required.

**July 8 - 2:00 PM - SPLASH! Into Water Science** - In this 90-minute hands-on program. **Registration is Required.**

**July 14 - 1:00 PM - MMC Mania** - Have you ever made a cake in the microwave? For kids in grades 6 & up. **Registration is required.**

**July 15 - 1:00 PM - Wet & Wonderful Water Carnival** - Get ready to get wet - we'll have water games, squirt guns, water balloons and popsicles in the library parking lot. For kids in grades 1-4. **Registration is Required.**

**July 19 - 2:00 PM - Bubble Painting** - Use bubbles and colorful water color paint to create beautiful artwork. Easy enough for little ones and creative enough for older children. For kids going into grades K - 5. **Registration is required.**

**July 20 - 1:00 PM - Book Discussion - “The Water Horse”** - grades 3 & 4.

**July 21 - 10:30 AM - Library Babies** - Library babies is a language enrichment program for caregivers and babies from 3-15 months old No registration is required.

**July 21 - 1:00 PM - Family Film - “Ponyo”** (G)

**July 22 - 10:30 AM - Basic Photography Skills for Kids Ages 5-9** - Please have students bring a camera, as this is a hands on class. Parent or adult guardian must be present. **Registration is required.**

**July 22 - 1:00 PM - Basic Photography Skills for Ages 10-14** - Learn the basics and get a bit more detailed. Please bring a camera, as this is a hands on class. **Registration is required.**

**July 26 - 2:00 PM - Book Discussion - “The Magician’s Elephant** - Grades 4 & 5.

**July 27 - 1:00 - Frisbee Spin Art** - Create the coolest frisbee around using paint and a salad spinner.

**July 28 - 1:00 PM - Mother/Daughter American Girl Tea Party** - Mothers and daughters are invited to our second annual American Girl Tea Party. This program is for girls in grades 3 - 5. **Registration is limited.**

**July 29 - 11:00 AM - Book Discussion** - “Make Way for Ducklings” - This program is for kids going into grades K-1. **Registration is required.**

**July 29 - 1:00 PM - Reptile Adventures** - Touch a snake! Pet a turtle! See eye to eye with a South American frog! Plus, learn how these creatures live. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED.**

***Preston Hollow Beautification***

A newly formed Preston Hollow Beautification Committee (whose members are Carolin Dempsey, Ray Francis, Dennis Pitts, Clara Potter, Margaret Sedlmeir, Jimmy Walker, and Cynthia Willis) has been busily collecting donations and formulating plans for the beautification of "Main Street" in Preston Hollow from the post office to Cheese Hill Road. Their goal this year is to display 15 large hanging baskets of wave petunias, similar to those found in Middleburgh, East Durham, and Schoharie.

The Carrot Barn in Schoharie has worked closely with the committee in providing the necessary supplies, and Jimmy Walker's Greenhouse in Preston Hollow has been instrumental in securing the necessary insurance coverage as well as coordinating the arrangements and supervising the watering of the baskets.

If you are interested in joining the Beautification Committee or in participating in any way, please contact Chairperson Margaret Sedlmeir at 239-6282. Plans are underway for future projects, and we welcome everyone to join the effort.

This is a wonderful opportunity to add to the beauty of our town and to show our pride for where we live. If you find yourself wanting to sponsor one of these baskets, either on your own behalf or in loving memory of someone special, or if you wish to co-sponsor with a neighbor or two, please call 239-6282 or mail your check payable to the Preston Hollow Beautification Committee in care of Jimmy Walker's Greenhouse, 2969 Route 145, Preston Hollow, NY 12469. All donations are be greatly appreciated.



***NOTICE***

The next Waste Oil Collection day will be, July 24, 2010, at the Town Highway Garage, **7am to 12 noon** .

Please note the time change!

**POST OFFICE INFORMATION**

Rensselaerville: 797-3231  
 Medusa: 239-4826  
 Preston Hollow: 239-6111





**CONCERNED  
CITIZENS**

**We promote ethical, honest, and competent town government regardless of party affiliation!**

"I know of no safe repository of the ultimate power of society but people. And if we think them not enlightened enough, the remedy is not to take the power from them, but to inform them by education." — Thomas Jefferson

Contact us to contribute to our work

PO Box 159, Rensselaerville, NY 12147  
 518-797-3296  
<http://groups.google.com/group/concerned-citizens-of-rensselaerville>

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When our school taxes go up even though school budgets stay the same you know there's a problem with our property assessments!

Paid Advertisement

*Town of Rensselaerville, Planning Board  
Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2010 - FINAL*

Present: Sheri Pine, Ray Welsh, Dorothea Cotter, Allyn Wright, Muriel Frasher

Also present: Kathy Wank, Jon Kosich, 7 audience members

Absent: Richard Amedure, Alfred Stettner

Muriel Frasher called meeting to order at 7:36 PM

Motion to approve minutes from May 6, 2010 meeting made by Sherri Pine, seconded by Ray Welsh. All in favor, none opposed, so moved.

Motion to open public hearing regarding James Brooken's SUP application made by Allyn Wright, seconded by Ray Welsh. All in favor, none opposed, so moved.

Mr. Brookens addressed the audience regarding his SUP request, passed around pictures and drawings for review.

Mark Overbaugh, Code Enforcement Officer, reported on site visit. There are several minor safety issues that need to be addressed, such as exit signs, the outside step is currently 9", code states it should be no higher than 8", outside sign regulations, and the back door wooden steps need to be repaired, to which Mr. Brookens stated they are currently being replaced.

Audience comments - Mr. Tim Miller, Mr. Brookens immediate neighbor to the left, anticipates no problems with parking or operating an antique shop. No further comments made by either the audience or Board members.

Motion to close public hearing made by Ray Welsh, seconded by Sherri Pine, all in favor, none opposed, so moved.

Motion to approve Special Use Permit made by Sherri Pine, seconded by Ray Welsh, all in favor, none opposed, so moved.

Motion to amend approved SUP, to issue final resolution after Mr. Brookens has met with Mark Overbaugh, CEO, and has met all required building code safety issue, made by Ray Welsh, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dorothea Cotter, all in favor, none opposed, so moved.

Jon Kosich will write resolution for Mr. Brookens, after Mark Overbaugh has informed the Planning Board that all requirements have been met. The Board will pass the resolution at their next scheduled meeting, and a copy of the Special Use Permit and Resolution will be issued to Mr. Brookens.

Connie Proiksma - Special Use Permit - Pre application conference

File # 10-05-06 - SBL 159.-1-6 - 3316 State Route 145, Preston Hollow

Connie Proiksma came before the Board and expressed interest in opening a stained glass studio and gift shop at the above noted address.

The Board reviewed her sketch plan application and attached drawings. Planning Board requested to see more accurate maps drawn on graph paper to scale. The Board requested seeing parking spaces, ingress/egress, size of building, location to road, where any future well or septic might be placed, overall to be as detailed as possible.

Mark Overbaugh, Code Enforcement Officer, will have to perform a building inspection prior to any final approval being granted.

Motion to accept application as complete, contingent upon scale drawings being submitted made by Allyn Wright, seconded by Dorothea Cotter, all in favor, none opposed, so moved.

Jon Kosich reviewed Short Environmental Assessment Form with the Board. Motion to declare a negative impact made by Sherri Pine, seconded by Dorothea Cotter, all in favor, none opposed, so moved.

Board asked Ms. Proiksma if she could have the updated sketch drawings, inspection by Mr. Overbaugh

(Continued on page 9)

## *Planning Board Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2010 - FINAL*

(Continued from page 8)

and fee of \$150 paid prior to our next meeting of June 3, 2010. She stated she could.

Motion to set public hearing for June 3, 2010 made by Allyn Wright, seconded by Ray Welsh, all in favor, none opposed, so moved.

E. N. Huyck Preserve - Minor Sub Division Pre Application Conference

File # 10-05-05 - SBL 126.-1-35 - 168 Gifford Hollow Road, Rensselaerville

Woodhouse family donating land to Preserve. Will subdivide 41.2 acres. 5 acres left with existing house, the remaining 36.2 acres to be entrusted to the Preserve.

Chad Jemison stood before the Board and gave a brief history of the land, and the current land owners' wishes to have the land in conservation. Dr. George Robinson, ENHP Chairmen of Science Advisory Committee and Professor of Ecology at SUNY, upon initial testing of the waters, deemed it to be one of the most pristine wetlands in all of Albany County. It is rare to have an emergent marsh wetland of this size in New York State. This marsh contains bog turtles which are on the endangered species list. The Preserve is interested in this land also in part due to the Rt. 85 access; it may help bring more visibility to the Preserve as people drive this route to enter the hamlet. The land will be used consistently with the Preserves mission of education, research and conservation.

Ray Welsh expressed dissatisfaction with the plot lines as described on the sketch plat. Chad Jemison explained the decision for the plot lines was for possible future land easements granted to the Preserve so there would be some type of "connectivity" between the land, as well as direct access to the wetlands, as there is stream running through property into the wetlands. The only viable place to put a bridge over the stream for access to the wetlands, is near the house, which they wanted to avoid sending people near the house property, as it will be sold this summer to new owners, once the subdivision is approved.

Motion to accept application as complete made by Allyn Wright, seconded by Sherri Pine. Roll call taken with following results:

Ray Welsh, nay; Dorothea Cotter, yea; Muriel Frasher, yea; Sherri Pine, yea; Allyn Wright, yea

Motion to classify this as a "minor" subdivision - motion made by Allyn Wright, seconded by Sherri Pine. Roll call taken with the following results:

Dorothea Cotter, yea; Muriel Frasher, yea; Sherri Pine, yea; Ray Welsh, nay; Allyn Wright, yea

Chad Jemison addressed property lines again. Mr. Jemison is going to revise lot lines on plat for Minor Subdivision application meeting which will be held on June 3, 2010.

John Morse, along with attorney Carolyn George, addressed the Board and Town's attorney indicating he wished to purchase property at 39 Crystal Lake Road, 1.6 acres; SBL 135.6-1-55.1; current owner Ronald Shelmadine. Mr. Morse wants to put a modular house on property for full time residence. The property deed currently has restrictions placed upon it, and purchase of property will be contingent on being granted permission to build a house.

Jon Kosich requested Planning Board Secretary to pull prior subdivision file of 1996 to see why deed restrictions were placed. Attorney Kosich advised Mr. Morse that the Planning Board has no authority to issue a statement as to whether the lot is "buildable", as this is up to the Building Inspector. The Department of Health will ultimately determine if this lot is "buildable" as there is currently no septic or well.

Jon Kosich discussed with the Board a new filing requirement that should be implemented into our current process. This will involve providing the applicants with a map filing form which must be date stamped by Albany County when filing new subdivision maps.

Ray Welsh made a motion, seconded by Dorothea Cotter to have Secretary, Kathy Wank, draft a form for review at the next scheduled meeting of June 3<sup>rd</sup>, all in favor, none opposed, so moved.

Sherri Pine made motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by Dorothea Cotter at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wank, Planning Board Secretary

**2010 Summer Services at the  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Rensselaerville, New York  
11:00 a.m.**

***“IF YOU WOULD JUST AGREE WITH ME, THEN EVERYTHING WOULD BE ALL RIGHT.”***

<b>June 20:</b> “Upon This Rock”	The Reverend Dr. Joseph W. Shook Moderator Pastor, Jermain Memorial Presbyterian Church; Watervliet, New York
<b>June 27:</b> “All in the Family”	The Reverend J. C. Austin, Director, Center for Christian Leadership Auburn Theological Seminary; New York City
<b>July 4:</b> “The Spiritual Community: A Gift of Faith and Trust”	The Reverend Canon George W. Brandt, Jr., Rector St. Michael’s Episcopal Church; New York City Joint Service with Trinity Episcopal Church Communion
<b>July 11:</b> “The Right Answer”	The Reverend Holly Cameron, Pastor Joint Service with New Scotland Presbyterian Church
<b>July 18:</b> “Grant Me, O God, To Be Like Them”	The Reverend Dr. Norman Kansfield Senior Scholar in Residence, Drew University; Madison, New Jersey
<b>July 25:</b> “What Kind of Super Hero Would You Be?”	The Reverend Michael Ellick Judson Memorial Church; New York City
<b>August 1:</b> “Inside Outside and Outside Inside”	The Reverend Dr. Jon M. Walton First Presbyterian Church; New York City
<b>August 8:</b> “Where Is God When We Fight?”	The Reverend Cass Shaw, General Presbyter, Albany Presbytery
<b>August 15:</b> “There’s A Wideness in God’s Mercy”	The Reverend James Reisner Westminster Presbyterian Church, Albany
<b>August 22:</b> “Brave Enough”	The Reverend Richard E. Spalding, Chaplain Williams College, Massachusetts Communion
<b>August 29:</b> “Navigating Life’s One-Way Streets”	The Reverend Dr. Lee H. Wesley, Interim Pastor, New Hope Lutheran Church; Jamaica, New York City





## 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

Paid Advertisement



**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

*Hammered Dulcimers  
Mountain Dulcimers – Autoharps  
played by musicians from  
around the country and beyond!*

### **Cranberry Dulcimer & Autoharp Gathering**

FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
July 23 & 24 at 7:30pm

Open to the Public  
\$15 admission  
(no reservation needed)

**Guggenheim Auditorium**



*Press Release*

**June 14, 2010, Rensselaerville, NY**

The Rensselaerville Meeting Center in Rensselaerville, NY announces the appointment of Joseph R. Maloney as Executive Director.

Joe Maloney has built over thirty years of experience in the food and beverage industry, at such noted establishments as Schuyler Meadows Club (Albany, NY), Everglades Club (Palm Beach, FL), Coral Ridge Yacht Club (Fort Lauderdale, FL), and Bald Peak Colony Club (Lake Winnepesaukee, NH). Most recently, he held the positions of Certified Executive Chef and Food/Beverage Director at the Rensselaerville Meeting Center.

Joe earned his certification as an executive chef through the American Culinary Federation (ACF) and is currently studying for his Certified Wine Professional (CWP) certificate through the Culinary Institute of America (Napa Valley campus).

To his new role, Joe brings not only vast experience and expertise in the hospitality industry, but also the drive, enthusiasm, and managerial skills that, along with his knowledgeable team, will fulfill Rensselaerville Meeting Center's mission to host *meetings that matter*.

# MEDUSA VILLAGE WIDE GARAGE SALES

## AUGUST 14<sup>th</sup>

9am to 3pm  
RAIN OR SHINE

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

-----  
APPLICATION TO HAVE A SALE - AUGUST 14, 2009

NAME -----

PHONE -----

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

ADDRESS -----  
-----

(be sure to include house number and route number)

Applications must be in by August 11

\$10.00 per sale location- Make checks payable to:

United Church of Christ

Send or give to: William Moore, P.O. Box 35, 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.

## *Volunteer News and Events*

### **Medusa Volunteer Fire Department**

*Company Meeting: Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 PM*

*Drill & Work Meeting: Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM*

### **Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department**

**The sun is shining and SPRING has SPRUNG, won't you join us, help neighbors & have fun?  
Calls as of May 9, 2010: 24**

#### **July:**

5<sup>th</sup> - 7pm Company Drill  
12<sup>th</sup> - 7pm Company Drill  
28<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm Company Meeting

#### **August:**

2<sup>nd</sup> - 7 pm Company Drill  
9<sup>th</sup> - 7pm Company Drill  
26<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm Company Meeting

***Summer Break for RVFD Ladies Battalion. No meetings in July or August.***

#### **Looking into the future:**

- 9/19 - Battalion Pancake Breakfast: What could be better than Flapjacks in the Fall!!

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

*Company Meeting: Wednesday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00PM*



### **Tri-Village Vol. Fire Co. Inc Annual Fund Drive**

The Tri-Village Vol. Fire Co. Inc.'s annual fund drive is underway and will run through the summer. Please send in your tax-deductible donations to PO Box 575 Preston Hollow NY 12469 and HELP US HELP YOU!!!!

### ***Historical Society Seeks Anecdotes about John Geritz***

By Janet Haseley, Research Chair, Rensselaerville Historical Society

On June 5 the Rensselaerville Historic District Association (RHDA) held a posthumous celebration honoring the late John Geritz (1935-2010) and several people told short anecdotes about his life and his quirky sense of humor. These are being transcribed now and will be published by the Rensselaerville Historical Society (RHS). Others who did not speak at the RHDA celebration but who have stories to relate about John may e-mail them to Janet Haseley at [edhase@aol.com](mailto:edhase@aol.com) or snail mail them to her at POB 76, Rensselaerville, NY 12147 before July 2.

John's ancestors, the Golden family, had a store in Rensselaerville and he spent summer childhoods here. He purchased one of the oldest houses in the hamlet in the early 1970s and was an active volunteer helping many local groups for over four decades. He was a trustee of the Historical Society and was one of the volunteers who worked to restore the Rensselaerville Grist Mill in the 1970s.

Another publication which the Historical Society is compiling is a collection of some of John's writings about Rensselaerville. Most people do not know that he wrote eloquent essays about Rensselaerville and insightful observations about trips he took to exotic places.

# Youth Programs at the Huyck Preserve



## Nature Study

Grade K-2

M - F, July 19-23, 2010

2:00-4:00 PM

Grade 3-5

M - F, July 12-16, 2010

1:00-4:00 PM

Cost: \$30 nonmember/ \$20 member

## Middle School Natural History Day Program

Students will explore nature through studying wildlife, keeping an illustrated nature journal, and learning basic ecology field research techniques. Course is for rising 6th grade students through recent 8th grade graduates. Cost: \$200 nonmember/ \$180 member.

M - F

July 5-9, 2010

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

## Swim Lessons

### Session 1

M, W, F July 5 - 16, 2010

11:00 AM-12:30 PM

### Session 2

M, W, F July 19-30, 2010

11:00 AM-12:30 PM

Cost: \$30 per child per session, nonmember/  
\$20 per child per session, member



Call the Huyck Preserve Office at (518) 797-3440 for details and to register

Or registration form available at [www.huyckpreserve.org](http://www.huyckpreserve.org)

## *May 2010 Town Board Minutes Summary*

(Continued from page 1)

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Letters were received from the following;

- Rensselaerville Senior Citizens thanking the Town Board for needed funds.
- Rensselaerville Meeting Center - The letter concerned using their facility asking for input from the people using the facility.

### **REPORTS:**

**SUPERVISOR DERMODY:** The Town Board reviewed the financial report as submitted by the Bookkeeper.

•**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT:** Supervisor Dermody reported that the Annual Update Document for 2009 was submitted to the State Comptroller on April 29, 2010. If there are any questions, please put them in writing and Supervisor Dermody will present them to Bookkeeper Cornwell.

Councilwoman Cooke asked if this report could be put on the webpage.

Supervisor Dermody will look into this.

•**BUDGET** - Councilwoman Cooke mentioned that the Preliminary Budget is on the website, the Final budget is not. Supervisor Dermody has the large budget; she needs to get rid of the extra columns before putting it on the website. Councilwoman Cooke has a version of the budget with just the two columns; this will be sent to Supervisor Dermody.

•**FEMA:** Supervisor Dermody reported that 2 more folders have been completed. We have five more to go. There are three projects that are considered completed but Supervisor Dermody is not certifying anything until we have figured out the dollar amounts. Supervisor Dermody spoke about the Pearson Road project.

•**SENIOR BUS:** Supervisor Dermody thanked Bob Bolte and Councilman Kudlack for delivering and picking up the bus to Penn Yam, NY to get fixed. Bob Bolte reported that the company also fixed some other items on the bus free of charge.

The log book has been created for the bus.

•**IT UPDATE:** Supervisor Dermody reported that i.t.s. has completed all the RAM updates except one. The speed is incredible. The Building Department computer was not updated due to the fact that it would cost \$700.00 to update the RAM's. i.t.s. submitted a quote for a new computer system for \$1891.00. Before making any decisions, i.t.s. will be contacted to see if we can get this price lowered.

•**AUDIT:** Comptroller Connors and his staff will begin the audit of the books next week.

•**FOIL:** Councilwoman Dorner and Supervisor Dermody are working on updating our FOIL. Councilwoman Dorner is going to come up with a draft policy that they can start working on together.

•**DVD:** Supervisor Dermody asked if Mr. Tollner had a chance to copy the DVD from the March meeting. He has not done it yet.

•**PAYROLL AUDIT:** Supervisor Dermody thanked Councilwoman Cooke for doing the March audit. On May 24<sup>th</sup> Supervisor Dermody will help Councilman Kudlack with the April audit.

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

**TOWN ATTORNEY:** Attorney Catalano mentioned the items he has to address are later on in the agenda.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:** Superintendent Zeh reported the following (complete report on file in the Town Clerk's Office):

•**CURRENT HIGHWAY DEPT. WORK** - They have repaired potholes and washouts on unpaved roads, (Pond Hill, Travis Hill, Edwards Hill, ½ of Davis Mountain, Saybrook Valley, Stedman, Sayre, Pucker, Kenyon and Rivenburg); ditched Edwards Hill and portions of Davis Mountain. The drainage swale behind the building has been ditched. Signs have been straightened and replaced and trees cleaned up after wind storms.

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## May 2010 Town Board Minutes Summary

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●**MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS** - DA5130.4, we have spent \$30,700 on repairs, \$11,800 on maintenance and \$3500 on tires for the backhoe and grader. \$9,000 left in this budget line for the rest of the year. The Oshkosh is in need of repair; the cost of the new parts could exceed \$20,000. The cost for used parts has not yet been received.

●**NEW TRUCKS** - Superintendent Zeh has not been able to locate any used heavy duty trucks. Superintendent Zeh explained the leasing of trucks. Superintendent Zeh mentioned that there are medium duty trucks available for around \$35,000 to \$40,000. He has no problem looking for a used medium duty truck. The Town Board discussed this issue of getting a medium truck at length.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dorner to advertise for a used medium duty truck; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Cooke. Motion Carried. *Ayes (5) - Dermody, Chase, Cooke, Dorner, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

●**NEW HIRE** - Superintendent Zeh would like to hire someone to replace the person who retired last October. He submitted to the Town Board a summary of his funds in budget line items, DA5110.1 and DA5142.1. He has enough funding to pay for a part time employee for the summer and a full employee. He also has an employee who will be retiring in October.

When the budget was done were funds allocated for the benefits?

Bookkeeper Cornwell will be contacted about this. We will hold off on a new employee until we have an answer on the benefits.

●**EQUIPMENT RENTAL** - Superintendent Zeh would like to rent a sweeper and an air compressor. He has the funding in his budget but needs Board approval for the rate.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase authorizing Superintendent Zeh to rent a sweeper for the cost of \$650.00 a month plus a broom core; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Dorner. *Motion Carried.*

*Ayes (5) - Dermody, Chase, Cooke, Dorner, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

A motion was made by Councilman Chase authorizing Superintendent Zeh to rent an air compressor for \$350.00 a week; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Cooke. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) - Dermody, Chase, Cooke, Dorner, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

●**SAFETY AND TRAINING** - Superintendent Zeh reported that they conduct weekly safety meeting. A Personal Protective Equipment Program has been implemented. Local 106 Operating Engineers have a training center and our men can use it for the cost of \$.10/ hour which equates to about \$1,400.00 to \$1,500.00 per year.

●**HIGHWAY SCHOOL** - Superintendent Zeh would like to attend the Highway School in Ithaca, June 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> and he asked that his expenses be reimbursed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody authorizing Superintendent Zeh to attend the Highway School in Ithaca June 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> and that his expenses be reimbursed; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) - Dermody, Chase, Cooke, Dorner, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

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

**TOWN CLERK:** Town Clerk Hallenbeck reported the following collected and paid out for the month of April 2010: Town Clerk Department - Total Collected - \$1,703.25. Paid to the Supervisor - \$1,396.45 (fees); Paid to the Albany County Clerk - \$25.85 (dog license); Paid to NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets - \$6.00 (spay and neutering program); Paid to NYS Departmental Conservation - \$274.95 (sporting license); Paid to NYS Department of Health - \$0.00 (marriage license). Water Rents Collected - \$1,705.06. Sewer Rents Collected - \$1,796.44.

Town Clerk Hallenbeck reported on the NYS Town Clerk Association Conference she attended on April 26 to April 28 (written report and materials available). Town Clerk Hallenbeck reported that on Satur-

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## *May 2010 Town Board Minutes Summary*

(Continued from page 16)

day, August 28, 2010, 9 am to 1pm, the Albany County Board of Elections will here to demonstrate the new voting machines to be used for voting this year. People will be able to try the new machines out.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to accept the Town Clerk's Report for the month of April 2010; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) - Dermody, Chase, Cooke, Dorner, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR:** CEO Overbaugh reported that he and Councilman Kudlack looked at the old building on the Town land in Potter Hollow. The cost to board it up would be about \$400.00, but it would only be a temporary fix. The Tri-Village Fire Company would burn it down by holding a drill if the Town Board got it knocked down. The Town Board discussed their options of using the Town's employees or getting a contractor in to take down the building. The Highway Department would have to rent a large excavator to get the building down.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase authorizing CEO Overbaugh to act as liaison for the Town to do what is needed to get the building down; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dermody. *Motion Carried. Ayes (5) - Dermody, Chase, Cooke, Dorner, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

CEO Overbaugh reported that he is giving a verbal report tonight because he can't get the reports out of his computer. Over the last two months he has issued about 21/22 permits and renewals.

Supervisor Dermody mentioned that Joe from i.t.s will be here tomorrow and to ask him look at the building department's computer. The Town Board went over the funding CEO Overbaugh has in his budget.

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

### **ASSESSING DEPARTMENT:**

•**HELDERBERG MARKET.COM** Assessor Pine reported that on April 17th there was forum at the EN Huyck Preserve where the Helderberg Hilltowns Association's organization meeting was held. The people in attendance learned about [www.HelderbergMarket.com](http://www.HelderbergMarket.com). This will serve as an online Farmers Market. Assessor Pine explained this program. The next meeting will be at the Senior Center in Berne.

•**COLD WAR VETERANS LAW** - Assessor Pine spoke about the Cold War Veterans Exemption, we need to have this completed by the end of the year.

•**GRIEVANCE DAY** - Grievance Day will be May 25, 2010, hours; 3 to 5 pm and 6 to 8 pm. Assessor Pine mentioned that if anyone has any concerns about their property to please come to the assessing department and perhaps they can be helped.

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

**BOARD OF ETHICS:** There was nothing to report.

### **WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE:**

**SEWER DISTRICT:** The SPDES Permit has been received from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Environmental Permits, Region 4. The permit becomes effective on June 1, 2010 and expires on May 31, 2015.

**WIND POWER COMMITTEE:** There is nothing to report.

### **CURRENT EVENTS:**

1. Ladies Auxiliary #291, Saturday 10 am to 1 pm will be accepting items for the veterans in the VA Hospital.
2. Eagle Scout Troop #242 is having a Ham Dinner on May 27, 2010, \$10.00 per ticket, at Baumans.
3. Chicken Barbecue - Rensselaerville Fire Company and Trinity Church, Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1 to 4 pm.
4. Medusa Fire Company, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 9 am to 3 pm, Medusa Fest and History of Medusa.
5. Rensselaerville Fire Company - Garage Sale Day, May 14, 2010, 9 am to 3 pm
6. Library Book sale, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 9 am to 3 pm

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## *May 2010 Town Board Minutes Summary*

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### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **LOCAL LAW NO. 1 FOR THE YEAR 2010, "MORATORIUM EXTENSION LAW OF 2010 OF THE TOWN OF RENNELAERVILLE".**

Attorney Catalano mentioned that the Albany County Planning Board will not meet until May 20, 2010. We can't vote on this law until we hear from them. He suggested scheduling a Special Meeting toward the end of the month to give them time to respond back to us.

The Town Board will hold a Special Meeting on May 26, 2010 at 7 PM to discuss and possibly act on Local Law No. 1 for 2010 and also to discuss and possibly act on highway issues. The Town Clerk is authorized to put the legal notice in the paper.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**PRESTON HOLLOW PARK COMMITTEE & RENNELAERVILLE PARK COMMITTEE - RESURFACING PROJECT:** The Representatives from the two Park Committees will be at the June Work Meeting with information on the Resurfacing Projects.

**PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT:** Supervisor Dermody reported that at the Work Meeting on Tuesday evening, Victoria Anderson and Willie Balta, who are involved in a Participation in Government Class, explained that they were given the task of going to the surrounding towns and talk about the summer recreational program put on by the Town of Greenville. Children from the Town of Rensselaerville who go to Greenville School have to pay tuition in order to go to this program. They asked if we as the Town Board would be willing to fund the Rensselaerville students who go to Greenville School who want to participate in this program. The children in the Town of Greenville do not have to pay. The cost is \$50 per child, 2 children \$100.00, 3 children - \$130.00 and up. Children going to Middleburgh School are not eligible for the program. The Town Board discussed this topic at length. The Town is already paying for 3 parks and their programs and didn't feel they could pay for this program. A notice will be put in the newsletter informing the residents of this summer program in Greenville.

#### **EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN AUTHORIZATION - MYOSOTIS LAKE DAM**

Supervisor Dermody mentioned that at the Work Meeting we talked about the need for an Emergency Action Plan for the Myosotis Lake Dam. The Town Board authorized Supervisor Dermody to contact Paulette Barlette of Fraser Associates concerning this. They already have the documents that were created by Rebecca Platel. Ed Horn will take a look at them and get back to us with a ball park figure of what it will cost. We really don't have a choice but to move forward.

Councilwoman Cooke asked, the Town has to pay for this rather than the Water District; is there a reason for that.

Attorney Catalano mentioned that it is a Town Board decision. It is one of those issues where it is hard to separate it in a black and white category, who is responsible for what. In this case the Town's control and operation of the Dam on Myosotis Lake is for continuing the water supply for the Water District. The property is owned by the Preserve, but by a lease agreement with the Preserve many years ago the Town took on the obligation of issues concerning the Dam. If there are repairs to the Dam, the Water District would pay for them. This is an insurance and liability issue; the liability and insurance issues are spread beyond the Water District.

Discussed was splitting the cost. Any damage incurred will go beyond the Water District.

The Town Board discussed this issue at length.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase authorizing Supervisor Dermody to have Fraser Associates work on the Emergency Action Plan; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried.*

*Ayes (5) Dermody, Chase, Cooke, Dorner, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

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## *May 2010 Town Board Minutes Summary*

(Continued from page 18)

### AUDIENCE COMMENTS

- Mr. Bolte mentioned that the senior bus needs a front end alignment.
- Mr. Bolte mentioned that he doesn't understand why the expenses for the Myosotis Dam. The people in the Rensselaerville Water District should drill wells. The people in Medusa and Preston Hollow don't get any advantage out of the Lake.  
Councilwoman Dorner mentioned that the Water District has done research on wells. Part of the difficulty is coming up with the money to drill the well. There are a lot of regulations for wells. Any money spent on the small dam (impoundment dam) has been paid for by the Water District as well as the other improvements. Mr. Bolte spoke about the moving of the sand. Wells were briefly discussed.
- Mrs. Stoudemire, Siebert Road, mentioned that every year after a snowfall she gets washed out, the gravel goes all over her lawn, her fence is now getting ruined. Mrs. Stoudemire also spoke about the water coming across the road by the corner. Superintendent Zeh mentioned that they will be working on that problem this year.
- Mr. K.B. Cooke, on the Annual Financial Report, how much was left at the end of 2009? He thinks there is over a million dollars. Mr. Cooke spoke about the funding and asked if the Town Board would consider taking some of this money and put it toward new equipment.
- Mr. Tollner spoke about the funding from the Ambulance Squad; could this money be used to get some trucks.

## ***HILLTOWN COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER'S 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 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 the Resource Center at 797-5256 if you or your organization is interested in sponsoring a student.

In addition, during the remainder of July and all of August, HCRC will be conducting a BACK-TO-SCHOOL supply drive throughout 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 in bins at the following locations: 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 boys and girls sneakers (all sizes), pens, pencils, colored pencils, crayons, markers, high lighters, pencil holders, pocket folders, primary school writing tablets, 3-ring binders, binder paper, binder dividers, spiral notebooks, composition notebooks, rulers, protractors, calculators, erasers, 3x5 index cards, tissues, post-it notes, small and larger zip-lock bags. 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.



# Come Enjoy and Hike the Huyck Preserve

## Free to the Public

- Hike our 10 miles of trails
- Fish and ice fish in Lake Mysotis
- Join us for guided walks and talks
- R'ville Regatta with RHDA (July 17)
- Attend the Science Symposium (July 24)
- Community Fishing Tournament (July 31)
- Canoe, kayak, row or sail on Lake Myosotis (all non-motorized boats allowed)



## Low-cost Programs open to everyone

- Nature Study for elementary school students
- Middle School Natural History Day Program
- Swim Lessons in July

## Join the membership and ...

- You can purchase of swim pass regardless of where you live and access to kayak/canoe storage rack rentals (limited)
- Vote at Annual Meeting for Board Members
- Receive discounts on courses, merchandise, books at events and visitor center
- Receive Myosotis Messenger newsletter
- **One-time 50% discount for new membership**



*Connecting people to nature through research, education, recreation and conservation*

To become a member or for a listing of courses and free events call 797-3440 or visit [www.huyckpreserve.org](http://www.huyckpreserve.org)



### *Why Do We Celebrate the 4th of July?*

Most people in the United States celebrate the 4th of July, but do you know exactly why the holiday is so important to our country? Imagine how you would feel if someone older than you (maybe an older sister or brother) kept telling you what to do all of the time and kept taking more and more of your allowance. That is how the colonists felt in the years leading up to 1776. Great Britain kept trying to make the colonists follow more rules and pay higher taxes. People started getting mad and began making plans to be able to make their own rules. They no longer wanted Great Britain to be able to tell them what to do, so they decided to tell Great Britain that they were becoming an independent country. (To be independent means to take care of yourself, making your own rules and providing for your own needs.)

The Congress met in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and they appointed a committee (a group of people working together to do a specific job) to write a formal document that would tell Great Britain that the Americans had decided to govern themselves. The committee asked Thomas Jefferson to write a draft (first try) of the document, so he worked for days, in absolute secret, until he had written a document that he thought said everything important that the committee had discussed. On June 28, 1776, the committee met to read Jefferson's "fair" copy (he put his best ideas together and wrote them neatly.) They revised (made some changes) the document and declared their independence on July 2, 1776. They officially adopted it (made it theirs) on July 4, 1776. That is why we call it "Independence Day." Congress ordered that all members must sign the Declaration of Independence and they all began signing the "official" copy on August 2, 1776. In January of the next year, Congress sent signed copies to all of the states.

The Declaration of Independence is more than just a piece of paper. It is a symbol of our country's independence and commitment to certain ideas. A symbol is something that stands for something else. Most people can look at a certain little "swoosh" and know that it stands for "Nike." Well, the signers of the Declaration of Independence wanted the citizens of the United States to have a document that spelled out what was important to our leaders and citizens. They wanted us to be able to look at the Declaration of Independence and immediately think of the goals we should always be working for, and about the people who have fought so hard to make these ideas possible. The people who signed the Declaration risked being hanged for treason by the leaders in Great Britain. They had to be very brave to sign something that would be considered a crime! So every time we look at the Declaration of Independence, we should think about all of the effort and ideas that went into the document, and about the courage it took for these people to stand up for what they knew was right -- independence!

Declaration of Independence Fact::

What was one of the reasons that Adams told Jefferson, the youngest man on the committee, to draft a declaration?

Adams knew that he was unpopular and considered obnoxious by many delegates. In order for the declaration to be accepted, he had to keep a low profile.

There were three main reasons that factored into Adams' decision: First, the thirty-three-year-old Jefferson was a Virginian. "Virginia was the largest, richest, and most politically powerful of all the colonies," elaborated author Kenneth C. Davis. "He [Adams] understood there were some public relations to be done."

Second, Adams knew that he himself was unpopular and considered obnoxious by many delegates. "[Adams] was a very smart man, but it didn't take a genius to figure out that he wasn't popular in the summer of 1776. In order for [the Declaration of Independence] to be acceptable to people, he had to be low-profile," says Davis.

Finally, Adams said Jefferson could "write ten times better than I can." Explains Davis: "Adams *did* write some wonderful things over the course of his life, but Jefferson was a bit more poetic."

*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  
Monday, 9am—12 noon  
Wednesday, 9am—12 noon  
Friday following monthly TB meeting  
9am—12 noon  
Other times by appointment

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

Assessors' Clerk Hours  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday morning

Dog Control Officer  
Cheryl Baitsholts  
518-797-5201

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

Water/Sewer District Meeting  
First Thursday 7:00 pm

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

Town Clerk & Collector  
Kathleen A. Hallenbeck

Town Justices  
Victor LaPlante  
Timothy Miller

Councilpersons  
Gary Chase, Marion Cooke,  
Dale Dorner, John Kudlack

Building Inspector  
& Code Enforcement Officer  
Mark Overbaugh

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

Highway Superintendent  
Gary Zeh

Planning Board  
Muriel Frasher, Chairman  
Kathy Wank, Secretary

Zoning Board of Appeals  
Alden Pierce, Chairman  
Kathy Wank, 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](mailto:townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com); [mdermody.rensselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:mdermody.rensselaerville@yahoo.com)

Town Clerk: [townclerk@rensselaerville.com](mailto:townclerk@rensselaerville.com)

Newsletter: [newsletter@rensselaerville.com](mailto:newsletter@rensselaerville.com)

Board of Ethics: [ethicsboard.rensselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:ethicsboard.rensselaerville@yahoo.com)

Deputy Town Clerk: [deputytownclerk.rensselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:deputytownclerk.rensselaerville@yahoo.com)

Code Enforcement Officer: [codeenforcement.rensselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:codeenforcement.rensselaerville@yahoo.com)

Assessors: [assessors.rensselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:assessors.rensselaerville@yahoo.com)

Planning Board: [planning.rensselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:planning.rensselaerville@yahoo.com)

Councilman Gary Chase: [gchase.rensselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:gchase.rensselaerville@yahoo.com)

Councilwoman Marion Cooke: [mcooke.rensselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:mcooke.rensselaerville@yahoo.com)

Councilwoman Dale Dorner: [ddorner.rensselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:ddorner.rensselaerville@yahoo.com)

Councilman John "Jack" Kudlack: [jkudlack.rensselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:jkudlack.rensselaerville@yahoo.com)

Highway Superintendent Gary Zeh: [hwysupt.rensselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:hwysupt.rensselaerville@yahoo.com)

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Medusa, New York 12120

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