



Town of Rensselaerville

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

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Volume 23, Number 03

March 2012

A THANK YOU LETTER TO RALPH AND TERRY BORWEGEN

Dear Ralph and Terry,

On behalf of the Town Board and the citizens of Rensselaerville, we would like to thank you for volunteering your machinery, time and labor to restore Site 1 in Preston Hollow so that our Town is now in compliance with DEC regulations. After months of controversy and no apparent available funds, you and your company stepped up to the plate and protected the homes in Preston Hollow that were in danger of flooding if we were to have a heavy Spring thaw.

Please know that your wonderful generosity is very much appreciated, not only by the affected citizens of Preston Hollow, but also by the citizens of our whole township who care about each other's well-being.

Sincerely,

Valerie Lounsbury, Town Supervisor
Bob Bolte, Town Councilman
Marion Cooke, Town Councilwoman
Jack Kudlack, Town Councilman
Margaret Sedlmeir, Town Councilwoman

WANTED

Planning Board is seeking letters of interest to fill a vacant seat, from any town resident interested in sitting on the Planning Board for the Town of Rensselaerville. This is a 7 year term, with meetings held every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM as needed. The Planning Board's primary responsibilities are to review all minor/major subdivision requests and to ensure responsible land use within the Town.

All letters of interest should be addressed to :
Kathy Hallenbeck, Town Clerk at 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY 12120.

To: Residents of the Town of Rensselaerville

From: Town of Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance, Inc.

At the organizational meeting on January 18th, there was a total of nine members present. Of the nine present were two EMTs (which is required for each ambulance call). An Emergency Medical Technician is New York State Certified and has completed training and been tested by State Instructors to supply medical assistance. The other members are classified as drivers for the ambulance.

It takes two members to complete a crew which is on for twelve hours at a time. That means that we NEED 28 members to be active and fill all scheduled shifts. We are far from that number currently, leaving our shift schedule with many vacancies.

If it becomes necessary to hire an EMT to cover just Monday thru Friday from 6 am to 6pm, it could cost upwards of \$55,000 or more. The current cost to taxpayers is \$00.00. So as you can see this would be a considerable increase in taxes to do this. This would cover only weekdays, there will still be a need for services nights and weekends, which if added would certainly be a substantially greater tax burden.

So as you can see, our need for HELP is URGENT! We need manpower to avoid an increase in taxes as well as being able to supply emergency medical services to our neighbors and families in the Town.

If you are interested in discussing the possibility of becoming a member, feel free to call either Tony Guadagno, at 239-6235, or Kenneth Decker at 797-3827.

WE URGENTLY NEED YOUR HELP NOW!

THE PRESTON HOLLOW BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

The Preston Hollow Beautification Committee will hold its Annual Membership Meeting on Monday, April 9, 2012, at 7:30pm, at the home of Carolin and George Dempsey, 154 Travis Hill Road, Preston Hollow, New York. This meeting is open to the public and all are welcome to attend to hear about past events that have been held, plans for future events and current finances and donations, etc. The committee is always glad to welcome new members.

MOTHER'S DAY PLANT, FLOWER AND BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER

Mark your calendars now as The Preston Hollow Beautification Committee will be holding a plant, flower and bake sale on Mother's Day weekend, May 11th, 12th and 13th, at Jimmy Walker's Greenhouse on Route 145 in Preston Hollow. The sale will be on Friday afternoon from 3pm to 6pm, Saturday from 9:30am to 5pm and on Sunday morning from 9:30am to 12 noon. All proceeds will benefit the Beautification Committee's projects and events

The VFW Memorial Garden Committee continues to accept donations, please contact Committee Chairman Jim Glorioso at 239-5902 for more information.

The Committee thanks you in advance for your cooperation & participation in this project to honor those who have served honorably in our Armed Forces.

Rensselaerville Library

What's New?

READ with Helen of Troy a Therapy Dogs, Inc. therapy dog – Children can sign up for a time to read with Helen. Check the Library calendar for the next date and time.

Do you have an Ereader? You now have access to **free ebooks and audio books** through the Library and your Library card. No Library card, just stop into the Library and we can help you. Visit <http://digitalcollection.uhls.org/> to start downloading. If this is your first visit click on the MyHelp! on the left-hand side to walk through downloading your first book. **Nook owners, are you having difficulty downloading library books at home? The Library can help!** We now have software installed on two public computers to assist Nook owners with downloading books. Nook owners, you need to bring your device, your Nook cord, your library card and if you have already established an account with Adobe, your Adobe user id and password.

Do you need assistance with your technology? Contact the Library Director, Kim Graff, to schedule a time to discuss and work through any problems with digital cameras, laptops, software, Library databases, Ereaders, cell phones, GPS etc. Email director@rensselaervillelibrary.org with your type of device and the topic or problem you would like to discuss. Kim will get back to you with dates and times to choose from. Make sure to bring your device and cords with you. We look forward to working with you.

NY State **Tax forms** are available at the Library. We don't have the Federal forms but we can assist with down loading forms from the Internet.

Save the Date for Rensselaerville's 7th Annual National Poetry Month Celebrations.

- **Saturday, April 14th at 4:00pm –Spoken and Sung: An Afternoon with Walt Whitman.** Enjoy an afternoon of poetry and music at Conkling Hall with soprano Sarah Nelson-Weiss, and poet-professor Howard Nelson author of *Earth, My Likeness: Nature Poetry of Walt Whitman*.
- **Friday, April 20th 7:00pm** at the Rensselaerville Library there will be a **Poetry Reading** by local poet Linda Sonia Miller, who will read from her newly released chapbook: *Something Worth Diving For* and other work.
- **Sunday, April 22nd from 2:00 - 4:00pm** the **Favorite Poem Project** featuring Hudson Valley poets Cecele Krauss and Mimi Moriarty, as well as your neighbors and friends, and emceed by the inimitable Claire North at Conkling Hall. The Favorite Poem Project, sponsored by Conkling Hall and the Rensselaerville Library, is part of a national movement begun by former poet laureate Robert Pinsky. This event encourages communities to come together to share poetry. Last year, almost 50 participants gathered to read aloud their favorite poems, everything from the silly to the serious, favorites from childhood and adulthood, as well as original poems. **Please bring 1-2 favorite or original poems to this year's event or just come to listen.**



Library Board of Trustees Meeting

**Monday,
March 19th at
7:00P.M.
Open to the public**

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

Library Hours:

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

*Thursday & Friday:
4:00 - 9:00 PM*

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

rensselaervillelibrary.org

Staff:
Kim Graff,
Director

Katie Caprio,
Library Technician

Amber Case
Madeline Ouellette
Pages

- **Friday, April 27th at 7:00pm *the haiku year*** - A talk and reading by actor, writer, director **Tom Gilroy** of Rensselaerville and NYC at the Rensselaerville Library. Seven friends made a pact to write haikus every day for a year. The result was the acclaimed and influential book *the haiku year* by Tom Gilroy and others. Tom will talk about the haiku project as well as read from the book.
- **Saturday, April 28th from 10:00-12:00 a Haiku Writing Workshop with Tom Gilroy at the Library. The fee is \$25** and all proceeds go to support the Library. **Pre-registration is required.** Mail checks to: The Rensselaerville Library, P.O. Box 188, Rensselaerville, NY 12147.

Save the date for the next **Festival of Writers: Country and Conflict, July 27-29, 2012.** Artist and illustrator Thomas Locker will have a gallery opening and art show in the hamlet to showcase some of his most impressive original pieces. Locker's landscape paintings are in the tradition of Thomas Cole and the Hudson River Art School. He has written and illustrated many childrens books about our region, including *Where the River Begins*, *In the Blue Mountains: an Artist's Return to America's First Wilderness*, and *Calico and Tinhorns*, written by Candace Christensen, who is also a featured writer at the Festival. Locker and Christensen will join New York State Assemblyman, Jack McEneny and Professor Bruce Dearstyne (formerly of New York State Archives) on a panel to discuss the anti rent wars and the parallels in today's political climate. Charlie Burgess and friends will also be creating music to go along with the historical lyrics listed in the back of *Tinhorns* and *Calico* to create a rent war themed evening with a special cheers to the hilltowns. The outdoor performance will take place in the evening on Friday, July 28 in a tent behind The Palmer House Cafe. The FOW Committee will continue providing updates on the progress.

The Library has a **new electronic newsletter** announcing programs and events at the Library. If you would like to have the newsletter delivered to your email account you can email Kim at director@rensselaervillelibrary.org, call the library or sign up online at <http://bit.ly/A3YQaa>.

Submitted by Kimberly Graff

To All Residents

The VFW Memorial Garden Committee is in need of a Recording Secretary for our meetings. Will someone please step forward to help us. Also we would like to have more members join our committee. It is open to all veterans and town residents, please support your veterans. Thanks

Jim Glorioso
Chairman of VFW Memorial
Home Phone 239-5902

HEAP Outreach Days Scheduled

HEAP has scheduled the following date to be at the Rensselaerville Town Hall:

03/08/12

1:00pm - 3:00pm

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.

A Lasting Gift from John Geritz

The Rensselaerville Historic District Association has recently planted five sugar maple trees on the Main Street of the hamlet. These trees are the bequest of John Geritz, whose devotion to the hamlet is apparent in many aspects of our life here.

Thanks to the following people for their efforts to see this project completed: Sue Arbit, Bill Logan, Jeanne-Marie Lusk, Micah Kuhar, Tom Delp, Eric Wilson, Jan Bishop and Charlie Burgess.

We hope you will enjoy these trees, and appreciate John's generosity for years to come.

Submitted by Sue McChesney

The Potter Hollow School House

The Potter Hollow School House in the Town Of Rensselaerville was officially placed on the National Register of Historic Places on January 4, 2012. The school house served students for more than 100 years; from completion of construction in 1853 to closing in 1954. The Greenville Educational Foundation, a non-profit group, along with community members, have made it a mission to restore the school, ensuring it will be enjoyed as a piece of history for many generations to come.

Submitted by Richard Ferriolo

Conkling Hall - What's On In March

FRIDAY, MARCH 16: **NOTE DAY CHANGE.** Open Mic (Conkling Café) at Conkling Hall hosted by Peter Michael. We encourage all forms of appropriate performance art for all ages. Mic, sound system and piano available. No fee. Donations appreciated. Coffee, tea and treats available.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17: **IRISH WRITERS** for St. Patrick's Day sponsored by RHDA. 3:00 - 5:00 PM. Read, recite, sing, dance or act Irish work. Call Jan Bishop 518 797 9727 for details. Refreshments served.

APRIL POETRY MONTH. **SAVE SATURDAY, APRIL 14 FOR WALT WHITMAN AND SONG. AND SAVE SUNDAY, APRIL 22 FOR FAVORITE POEMS. DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN NEXT NEWSLETTER.**

CLASSES WITH SARAH NELSON-WEISS - FOR INFORMATION CALL 518 239 6825.

Tuesdays : 9:00 - 10:15 AM YOGA
Wednesdays: 5:45 - 6:15 PM PILATES
Saturdays: 9:00 - 10:00 AM PILATES

All classes open to all.

You can reach Conkling Hall at 518 797 3459 or read our website at www.Conklinghall.org. We send frequent announcements/reminders via email. If you want to be added, please send your email address to Info@ConklingHall.org



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

Submitted by Diana Dietrich

A note from the Town of Rensselaerville Newsletter Coordinator

The deadline for all articles has been extended from the Friday following the Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting to the Wednesday following the Meeting. Please send all articles, notices, and advertisements to newsletter@rensselaerville.com as well as to town-clerk@rensselaerville.com. Any items received after the Wednesday deadline will be placed in the following monthly newsletter.

Thank you!
Susan Lewis



Waste Oil Collection Day:
Saturday, March 31st
7AM–Noon



Rensselaerville Realty
 REAL ESTATE BROKERS
WWW.RENSSELAERVILLE.COM
Great Service
Great Service
 518 Rensselaerville
 Rensselaerville, NY 12150
info@rensselaervillerealty.com
 Phone 518-239-4025
 Phone 518-239-4758
 Phone 518-239-5998

Paid Advertisement

Chicken BBQ-Take-out only

Sponsored by the Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Dept. Ladies Battalion

Saturday, March 24, 2012

4:00-6:00 pm

\$10 per Dinner

Rensselaerville Firehouse, Route 85

Pre-sale Tickets Available

Quantity of Dinners are Limited

To reserve: Call Kris Tanner 797-5287 or complete ticket below & mail with check payable to RVFD Ladies' Battalion to:

Kris Tanner, 695 Hale Rd., Rensselaerville, NY 12147

Tickets & money must be received no later than 03/19/2012.

Confirmation of reservation will be made.

Hope to see you there!

Ladies' Battalion Chicken BBQ - Take Out - Saturday, March 24, 2012

Select Pick Up Time:

4:00 pm 4:30 pm 5:00 pm 5:30 pm

Name: _____

Telephone #: _____ or email address: _____

of Dinners: _____ @ \$10 each

Total Paid \$ _____ Check # _____

***All orders must be received by 3/19/12 and confirmation of order will be made. Make checks payable to RVFD Ladies' Battalion. Mail check and order form to Kris Tanner, 695 Hale Road, Rensselaerville, NY 12147. Thank you.

Volunteer News and Events

Medusa Volunteer Fire Department

Monthly Meeting: Monday, March 5th at 7:30PM
Company Drill: Monday, March 12th at 7:00PM
Work Night: Monday, March 19th at 7:00PM

Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department

Calls as of February 10, 2012: 5

Check and replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms.
Replace any smoke alarms older than ten years. Replace any CO alarms older than five years.

March:

5th - 7:00 pm Company Drill
7th - 7:00 pm Battalion Meeting
12th - 7:00 pm Company Drill
24th - Chicken BBQ - Take out 4-6 pm
28th - 7:30 pm Company Meeting

April:

2nd - 7:00 pm Company Drill
4th - 7:00 pm Battalion Meeting
7th - 2:00 pm East Egg Hunt
9th - 7:00 pm Company Drill
25th - 7:30 pm Company Meeting

Upcoming Events:

March 11th - Spring Ahead - Change your clocks & your batteries!
March 24th - Chicken BBQ 4:00 - 6:00 pm - Take out only - See poster for reservation information.
April 7th - Easter Egg Hunt - 2:00 pm - Location to be determined

Special thank you! The Members of the RVFD would like to inform you that we recently installed an automatic generator so we can serve as an Emergency Shelter. Thank you for your support and your donations!

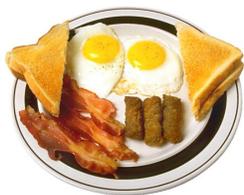
Follow us/Like Us on Facebook - Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department

Tri-Village Volunteer Fire Department

Company Meeting: Wednesday, March 7th at 8:00PM (Drill at 7:00PM)

Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance Department

Company Meeting: Wednesday, March 21st at 7:00PM



Free Will Offering

7 AM TO 11 AM

All You Can Eat Breakfast
MAR. 17th
APR. 21st

MEDUSA FIRE COMPANY

Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee Assessment Relief Act

On December 20 2011, the NYS Legislature voted to approve the *Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee Assessment Relief Act* to allow property owners tax assessment relief, from their July 1, 2011 assessment. This was due to catastrophic damage from those storms. This law would allow those catastrophically affected by 50% devaluation or more of the property to be reassessed on the 2011 Assessment Roll based upon its post storm condition. The law specifies that their catastrophic property devaluation **MUST** exceed the 50% of the recorded assessment of the July 1st, 2011 assessment. Property owners must submit an application between January 23rd and March 8th 2012 at the Town of Rensselaerville Assessors office at 87 Barger Road, Medusa NY by mail or hand delivery. Please completely fill out the form with detailed supporting documentation, *with property owners signature(s)*. Due to the law no requests can be received after March 8, 2012 deadline. To download the application RP-56-AR (12/11) off the internet please GOOGLE NY RP-56-AR (12/11)

For more information please email requests to assessors@rensselaerville.com or leave Name, Questions, Phone number and email at (518) 239-4225 and (518)797-3798

Our deadline to determine all tax assessment relief requests, will be postmarked on or before March 31st, 2012. (The law governing this program is Part G of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2011). The law states that requests must be made between January 23rd, 2012 and March 8th, 2012 deadline with at minimum request for Assessment Relief of 50%.

Board of Assessors
Town of Rensselaerville

Hamlet Cross Word Puzzle

Can you find : Cooksburg, Medusa, Potter Hollow, Preston Hollow, Rensselaerville

R	P	O	T	T	E	R	H	O	L	L	O	W	H	F	D
I	E	W	N	G	J	C	O	L	V	T	U	X	G	S	U
S	J	N	B	U	G	A	B	T	S	S	E	I	C	E	F
X	W	N	A	T	O	S	C	U	R	C	M	B	R	I	N
C	O	O	K	S	B	U	R	G	E	A	R	T	H	D	S
K	P	L	A	N	T	D	S	W	Q	L	E	A	R	O	Y
P	R	E	N	S	S	E	L	A	E	R	V	I	L	L	E
L	S	Q	P	T	J	M	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	J	P
J	M	N	W	O	L	L	O	H	N	O	T	S	E	R	P

Please visit the Town of Rensselaerville website at www.rensselaerville.com for meeting minutes, the community calendar and much more.

HILLTOWN YOGA

Saturday mornings – 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.



BREATHE. STRETCH. TRANSFORM.

Beginners and experienced practitioners welcome
Drop-in class by donation: (Suggested Donation - \$10)

Location: 53 Strawberry Lane, Westerlo

Taught by **Loretta Pyles**, Certified Yoga Teacher
Contact lpyles@gmail.com or 694-0981 for more information

Paid Advertisement

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, 239-4843 or 722-8126
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

Updated Contact Information

Town Board Meetings
Second Thursday 7:00 pm

Working Meeting
Tuesday preceding regular meeting 7:00 pm

Town Justice Court
Mondays 7:00 pm

Planning Board
First and third Thursdays 7:30 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals
First Tuesday 7:00 pm

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

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

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

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

Assessors' Clerk Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday morning

Dog Control Officer
Cheryl Baitsholts
518-797-5201

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

Water/Sewer District Meeting
Fourth Thursday 7:00 pm

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

Town Supervisor
Valerie Lounsbury

Town Clerk & Collector
Kathleen A. Hallenbeck

Town Justices
Gregory Bischoff
Timothy Miller

Councilpersons
Robert Bolte, Marion Cooke,
John Kudlack, Margaret Sedlmeir

Building Inspector
& Code Enforcement Officer
Mark Overbaugh

Assessors
Donna Kropp, Richard Tollner
Michael Weber
Rachel Chase, Clerk II

Highway Superintendent
Randy Bates

Planning Board
Richard Amedure, Chairperson
Kathy Wank, Secretary

Zoning Board of Appeals
James Glorioso, Chairman
Kathy Wank, Secretary

Deputy Town Clerk
Dee Andrus

Clerk I
Sarah Hunt

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

Co. Legislator, Deborah Busch, 39th Dist.
518-872-0146

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

Rensselaerville Fire Company, 911
Social Number - 797-3218

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

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

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

Albany County Sheriff, 911
518-765-2351

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

Hilltown Community Resource Center
518-797-5256

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Town Supervisor: vlounsbury@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk: townclerk@rensselaerville.com
Newsletter Coordinator: newsletter@rensselaerville.com
Board of Ethics: ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com
Code Enforcement Officer: codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com
Assessors: assessors@rensselaerville.com
Planning Board: planning@rensselaerville.com
Councilwoman Marion Cooke: mcooke@rensselaerville.com
Councilman Robert Bolte: rbolte@rensselaerville.com
Councilman John "Jack" Kudlack: jkudlack@rensselaerville.com
Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir: Msedlmeir@rensselaerville.com
Highway Superintendent Randy Bates: TBA

Town of Rensselaerville
87 Barger Road
Medusa, New York 12120

Phone: 518-797-3798

Phone: 518-239-4225

Fax: 518-239-6339

www.rensselaerville.com

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