

Town of Rensselaerville  
**Newsletter**

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

Volume 17, Number 11

November 2006

**Letter from Supervisor  
Jost Nickelsberg**

The Hilltown Market and Natural Food Co-op is open for business. They are having an excellent start and need our help to sustain this growth. This is the newest business in town and will provide jobs for citizens. Milk, ice cream, butter, eggs, yogurt, bread, cheese, vegetables, jams, jellies, chips, cereals, etc. are all available with more coming. Let's back the home team and wish Jeannette, Dianne, Guna, Roy, Gail, Susan, Kimberly and the rest of the team good luck.

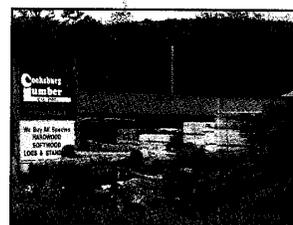
Cathleen Bobrick has started the process of lowering the speed limits in our town. We ask you to write or call in with your local road name, current speed limit and suggested speed limit. She is also working on the possibility of having one prefix (either 797 or 239) for out phone numbers in town. She and Don Parker are also

working on cell phone enhancement with the Planning Board, Land Use Committee and providers.

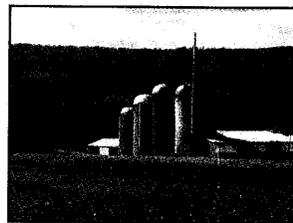
The Land Use Committee (LUC) led by Vernon Husek continues to work hard, collect and scrub data, and reach goals and conclusions.

You are invited to attend their meetings as they put together the best possible Comprehensive Plan for our town. The next 60 days will be important as critical milestones will be met, like additional town meetings and Planning Board additions and deletions.

On Thursday, the 16th of November at 7:30 p.m. the goals meeting of the LUC is planned which will include public review of the goals.



Cooksburg



Medusa



Potter Hollow



Preston Hollow



Rensselaerville

# THE RENSSELAERVILLE LIBRARY *Bookmark*

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

THURSDAY & FRIDAY  
4 - 9:00 PM

SATURDAY  
9 - 1:00 PM

*We are closed Sunday,  
Monday and Holidays.*



MAIN STREET  
518.797.3949

## **...Library**

Monday, November 6, 7:30pm.  
The Board regularly meets on the first Monday of every month. The public is welcome. Don't forget the Library will accept donations on the first Saturday of each month between 9 and 11 a.m. only. Donations of any size will not be accepted at any other times. If dates and times are not convenient, or if you have an unusually large donation, please contact the Library to make arrangements. The next donation day will be Saturday, November 4.

Save the Date: Saturday, November 11 – the Library welcomes author and artist Takayo Noda for a reading and presentation of her art.

Ms. Noda is the author of *Dear World* and *Song for the Flowers*, two poetry books for children. The books are illustrated using intricate, bright and colorful cut paper and watercolor collages.

Booklist says of her work, "Artist Noda's images are luminous indeed: her collages, made from handmade paper and watercolor, have a wonderful three-dimensional quality to them.

Layered and patterned almost like quilts, her pictures marry dreamlike perspectives and juxtapositions with deep jewel colors."

This event will be a treat for both adults and children. Please call 797-3949 or email rvll1@uhls.lib.ny.us for more details.

First Friday Movies are back! On Friday, November 3, join us for "Monster House," the story of three kids who discover that the house across the street is alive. It eats anything that goes on its property. Join them as they try to unravel the mystery of the house! This is a great movie for kids and adults, Rated PG, running time 91 minutes. Then, mark your calendars and join us on Friday, December 1, for "An Inconvenient Truth" a provocative documentary on Al Gore's campaign to make the issue of global warming a recognized problem worldwide. "An Inconvenient Truth" is not a story of despair but rather a rallying cry to protect the one earth we all share, rated PG, running time 96 minutes. All movies are shown at 7:30pm. Admission is \$2, and \$1 for children under 10.

Pre-School Storytime every Thursday beginning around 11:30am at the Rensselaerville Playground or Conkling Hall, depending on weather.

Have you gotten your new library card! The Library is issuing all existing and new cardholders new library cards. These cards have a special bar code that will enable card holders to access the Upper Hudson Library System Catalog from any computer on the internet to request materials from other libraries (you can have them sent to Rensselaerville) download free audio and e-books, get full-text articles from magazines such as Consumer Reports and newspapers from around the country, and also access special homework help sites for all ages and grades! The Library will hold special tutorial sessions to show you all of the wonderful features available to you with your new library card, so come and get one today.

Mark your calendars for a lot of wonderful events at the Library in December.

First, come and join us for our second Victorian Holiday Party Saturday, December 2, 5 to 8 p.m. See the Library transformed, mingle with friends and neighbors and enjoy tasty goodies.

Fiber Artist Sharon Costello will bold a felt ornament workshop Saturday, December 9, beginning at 1:30pm at the Rensselaerville Library. Due to the generosity of the Rensselaerville Historical Society, there will be no charge for this workshop. However, space is limited so sign up today. This workshop is for people 12 and older. The Annual Rensselaerville Library Greenery Sale and Market will be held on Saturday, December 16. If you are interested in volunteering, or being a vendor, please contact Rebecca at the Library.

The next Library Board of Trustees meeting will be held on

Published by **Digital Quill**  
Printing & Publishing  
**(518) 797-3425**



# Conkling Hall – What's On October

## Pilates – Saturdays 9-10

a.m. Pilates mat class with Sara Nelson Weiss. Strengthen your abdominals, gain long, lean muscles and work with good alignment.

Appropriate for all levels. Please call 239-6825 for more information and to confirm schedule.

**Friday, November 3:** First Friday movie : Monster House at 7:30 pm.

## Saturday, November 11:

Cajun Zydeco Night. Captain Squeeze and the Zydeco Moshers in collaboration with the Jesse Lege Band. 7:30 p.m. Come join us for moving music. Beer and wine available.

## Friday, November 17:

Noteworthy Coffeehouse. Wiley Dobbs Bluegrass Trio. Close harmony, jazz, and improvisation. 7:30 p.m. Come

join us for good music and fellowship.

## Friday, November 24:

Rensselaerville Annual Craft Fair. A wonderful opportunity to get a head start on holiday gifts. 9:30 a.m to 3 p.m.

## December: Sunday

**December 10:** Village Voices Concert at 2 pm. Come hear the beautiful music that our own town chorus makes.

## HEAP Offers Heating Help

HEAP is now available at Cornell Cooperative Extension CHOICES at Faith Plaza, Route 9W, Ravena. Please call 756-8650.

The initiative is funded by Albany County Department of Social Services.

Fuel Assistance Outreach dates are scheduled at Rensselaerville Town Hall from 12:30-3:30 p.m. on November 2, January 4, March 1, and May 3.

## Clerk's Office Hours

The Rensselaerville Town Clerk's office will be closed November 7 for Election Day, November 10 for Veterans' Day, and Nov. 24 for Thanksgiving.

## Town Business Directory

The Town of Rensselaerville would like to update the Business and Services Directory. Please review the Directory on the Town Website and if your business is not listed and you would like it to be included, or if your business is listed and you would like to have it deleted at this time, please call Kathy Hallenbeck at the Town Hall at 239-4225 or Wayne Woodward at 797-3283.

## Veterans Honored Nov. 12

Clark White American Legion Auxiliary Post #589 will host an afternoon reception on Sun., Nov. 12, from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Bell's Hotel, County Route 351, Rensselaerville, in observance of Veterans Day.

All veterans of the town are invited so that we may honor and thank you for your dedicated service to your community and country.

Come share your memories with us. Bring memorabilia of your experiences. We would especially like to honor the veterans that served during the Korean conflict and Vietnam.

The community is also invited to help us thank these men and women for serving their country.

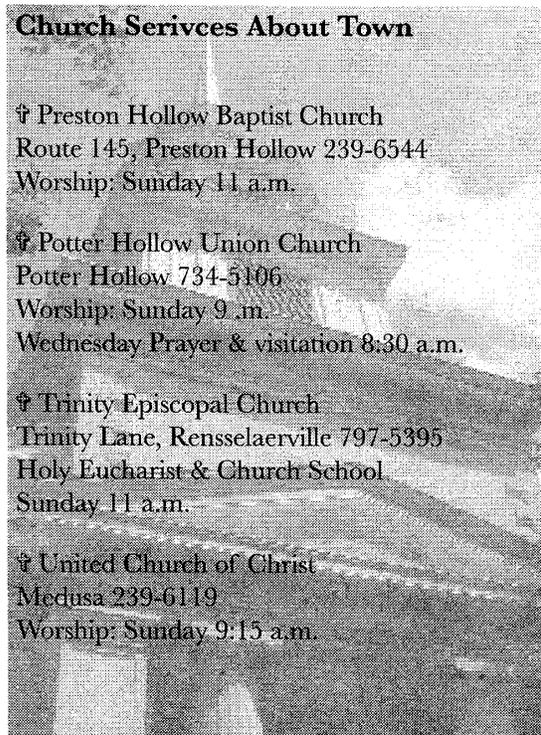
## Church Services About Town

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

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

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

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

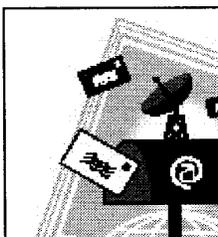


## HCRC preparing for Christmas

The Hilltowns Community Resource Center is in the midst of coordinating its annual winter holiday program, which is designed to assist families struggling with economic hardships that leave limited resources for providing clothing and gifts for their children during the December holidays. Families are referred to HCRC for holiday assistance by schools, religious organizations, community groups and other service agencies.

The Christmas program is a cooperative effort of individuals, families, organizations and businesses interested in helping those in need. It's not too late to consider being a 2006 sponsor. Sponsors are 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 and sponsors names are kept confidential.

If you are interested in being a 2006 Christmas program sponsor, please call HCRC at 797-5256 by Nov. 3. Thank you in advance.



United States Postal Service  
in the Town of Rensselaerville

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

## R'ville Fire Departments Contribute to Food Drive

The three Town of Rensselaerville fire departments recently held a food and supplies drive to benefit Hilltowns Community Resource Center, an outreach site of Catholic Charities.

HCRC services the towns of Berne, Knox, Westerlo and Rensselaerville to assist needy families and individuals to gain self sufficiency while meeting their emergency needs. Currently about 300 families are being assisted.

The town of Rensselaerville residents came through with \$450 in cash, checks and store cards and more than 330 items ranging from baby food, cereal, soups, canned vegetables, laundry detergent, toothpaste and toothbrushes, tea, etc.

On behalf of the HCRC and Medusa, Rensselaerville, and Tri Village Fire Departments, we thank the following drop off locations: Hilltowns Café, Town Hall, Medusa Post Office and Preston Hollow Baptist Church, and to the residents of the town, we extend our heart felt thanks for supporting this worthy cause.

## *New Extra Helpings Food Club*

Extra Helpings is a program of the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York and is offered to the community through the Hilltowns Community Resource Center (HCRC,) in Westerlo.

The program is open to all individuals regardless of age or income. Extra Helpings has changed the prices and 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.

November's Extra Helpings regular menu, for \$20, includes a 10-12 pound whole turkey, 1 pound of mild bulk sausage roll, 5 pounds of potatoes, 1 pound of beef stew meat, a dozen fresh large eggs, and one bunch of sleeved celery.

Special #1, for \$17.75, 8 pound average fresh hony-glazed spiral-cut ham.

Special #2, for \$13.25 is 2 pounds, 41-50 count cooked shrimp, thaw and serve.

Special #3, for \$30, is the meat box, which includes 2.5 pounds of boneless beef chuck pot roast, 3 pounds IQF boneless and skinless chicken breasts, 3 pounds of Italian sweet sausage, 3 pounds of pepper steaks, and 2 pounds of bulk breakfast sausage. Substitutions of equal value may be necessary due to availability.

Please note: Orders with payment are due at the HCRC office by November 5 for pickup on November 14. HCRC distributes Extra Helpings at the Rensselaerville firehouse from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and St. Bernadette's Church, Berne, from noon to 1 p.m., (please note the new time) and St. Lucy's Church, Altamont, from 3:30-5 p.m. on delivery days.

The pickup site must be noted with each order. Anyone wishing more information regarding Extra Helpings or other HCRC services, please call 797-5256. HCRC's mailing address is PO Box 147, Westerlo, NY 12193. Please include your phone number on all correspondence.

## 'From Bees to Honey' Nov. 18

"From Bees to Honey" will be the topic for the November Parlor Talk sponsored by the Town of Rensselaerville Historical Society. Beekeeper Richard Ronconi will be the speaker.

The meeting will be held at the Town of Rensselaerville Library on Sunday, November 18, at 2:30 p.m. and all interested persons are invited. Refreshments will be served. There is no charge.

## Christmas Party in R'ville Firehouse

The Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Battalion is sponsoring a Childrens' Christmas Holiday Party Dec. 2 at the Rensselaerville Firehouse beginning at 3:30 p.m., with a visit from Santa at 5 p.m., and the Village Tree Lighting at 5:30 p.m.

## Breakfasts in Medusa Planned

All you can eat breakfasts are planned from 7-11 a.m. at the Medusa Firehouse.

A free will offering will be accepted.

Breakfasts are slated for Nov. 18, Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 17 and April 21.

## Refuse/Recycling Hours

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

Please display your permit. If you do not have one, one can be obtained at the Town Clerk's office.

Please cover your refuse, so that it is not left on someone else's property. No sheet rock or shingles will be accepted.

## Senior Corner

### Conkling Hall Luncheon

A harvest luncheon is slated for Wed., Oct. 18 at noon. The cost is \$4. Attendees are invited to bring desserts to share. If enough interest is shown, this may again become a monthly event. Call Ann Vogel at 797-3376 for information.

### Senior Citizens Club

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the Medusa Firehouse at noon. \$1 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 – Bryants Center, Greenville

Thursday – Cobleskill (WalMart)

Monday, Wednesday, Friday – Available for travel to doctor appointments

Call Ann Vogel at 797-3376 regarding scheduling and/or arranging for van pick up.

### Hiawatha Grange Lunches

Lunches are served Monday through Friday at noon for \$3.75.

The Grange would appreciate one day advance notice. Call Marie at 797-3652 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. for information and reservations.

## Christmas Events in Medusa

The Ninth Annual Medusa Community Tree Lighting will be on Dec. 3 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Medusa Church, with the singing of Christmas carols, special readings, entertainment, and the lighting on the church lawn.

Refreshments will follow with goodies donated by attendees. Everyone is invited to attend, including those from surrounding communities. Past years have seen some great entertainment, such as "The 12 Days of Medusa" by the after school club.

Any group, individual, scouts, seniors, 4H clubs etc. are invited to perform skits, sing or whatever. Please contact Bill Moore at 239-4843 before Nov. 29.

## Holiday Sale at Medusa church

The Medusa United Church of Christ will present its annual Holiday Rummage Sale on Dec. 9 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Church Hall will be filled with Christmas crafts, gifts, decorations, books, toys and more. Lunch will be available with soup, sandwiches, salad and more. The church continues to receive many useful items to sell.

## Village Voices Concert Dec. 10

Rensselaerville's Village Voices will present their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas Concert Sun., Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. at Conkling Hall, Methodist Hill Rd., Rensselaerville.

The program will include Samuel Scheidt's Christmas *Magnificat*, Mozart's *Missa Brevis* in G, K140, some smaller Christmas pieces, and conclude with last year's audience pleaser – a *Musicological Journey Through the 12 Days of Christmas*.

# Town of Rensselaerville History Notes

*(This is a new column to highlight historical facts about the town)*

## **Dr. Samuel Preston**

Dr. Samuel Preston, from whom the village of Preston Hollow took its name, came there soon after the Revolution; he, having emigrated from Connecticut, settled here in 1789, and was the first settler and founder of the village, although Houck had erected a cabin about a quarter of a mile on the northeast of the village previous to this.

Dr. Preston lived in a large wooden frame building (the first erected in the village), which was still standing a few years ago upon the site where now stands the new dwelling of Hon. W. Coon.

Dr. Preston erected the first sawmill and mill dam in the village, being upon the same site as that now maintained by H. T. Devereux.

During the time Preston ran this sawmill this valley was a dense wilderness of huge timber, and lumbering was the chief

business of him and the other early settlers.

Of Preston's family we learn of his having three sons, Eben, Jeremiah and Roswell. He had two daughters, one of whom became the wife of Nathaniel Rider (afterwards a wealthy and leading citizen); the other became the wife of Samuel Hill. The latter were the parents of Mrs. Matilda Brant, who is still living with her children in the village.

By George Rogers Howell,  
*Bicentennial History of Albany* 1866,  
page 919

Reprinted from *The Rural Folio*, the Rensselaerville Historical Society Quarterly, Vol. 1, No. 1, Winter 1976

## **Notice of Hearing Upon Preliminary Budget Nov. 8, 2006**

Notice is hereby given that the Preliminary Budget of the Town of Rensselaerville for the Fiscal Year beginning Jan. 1, 2007, has been completed and filed in the office of the Town Clerk, at Town Hall, 87 Barger Rd., Medusa, NY, where it is available for inspection by any interested persons during normal business hours.

Further notice is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville will meet and review the said Preliminary Budget and hold a Public Hearing thereon at the Town Hall, 87 Barger Rd., Medusa, NY 12120, at 7:10 p.m. on the 8th Day of November, 2006, and that at such hearing any person may be heard in favor of or against the Preliminary Budget as compiled, or for against any item therein contained.

Pursuant to Section 108 of the Town Law, the proposed salaries of the following town officers are hereby specified as follows:

|                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Supervisor               | \$10,500                  |
| Justice of the Peace (2) | \$9,150 (each)            |
| Councilman (4)           | \$3,500 (each)            |
| Town Superintendent      | \$41,000                  |
| Town Attorney firm       | \$31,000                  |
| Town Clerk               | \$28,975                  |
| Town Assessors (3)       | \$16,415 (total salaries) |

Dated: October 25, 2006  
By Order of the Town Board  
Kathleen A. Hallenbeck  
Town Clerk



Rensselaerville's  
 Village Voices  
 acknowledgewith gratitude  
 the overwhelming response  
 for their  
 3rd Annual Progressive  
 Dinner

**Notice of Public Hearing  
 Town of Rensselaerville  
 Special Districts**

Notice is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville will hold a Public Hearing on all the Special Districts in the Town, Rensselaerville Fire Protection District, Preston Hollow Fire Protection District, Medusa Fire Protection District, Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance District, Rensselaerville Sewer District, Rensselaerville Water District, Preston Hollow Lighting District, Rensselaerville Lighting District and Rensselaerville Hydrant District. Districts seeking increases listed below:

Rensselaerville Fire Protection District  
 Contact price from \$42,000 to \$43,000

Said Public Hearing will be held on Nov. 8, 2006, at 7 p.m. at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Rd., Medusa, NY 12120.

All persons interested in the foregoing may be heard at the time and place indicated above.

Dated: October 25, 2006  
 By the Order of the Town Board  
 Kathleen A. Hallenbeck  
 Town Clerk



# Town Board Meeting, October Minutes

Supervisor Nickelsberg convened the meeting.

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Jost Nickelsberg, Councilman Gary Chase, Councilwoman Myra Dorman, Councilman J. Robert Lansing, Councilwoman Sherri Pine, Attorney Ben Neidl. Also present were Superintendent Chase and 100 plus interested citizens.

## MINUTES

The September 14, 2006 Regular Meeting minutes were approved.

## TRANSFERS

Transfers were approved:

| From                         | To                               | Amount      |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| A1990.4 Contingency          | A1670.41 Newsletter              | \$ 1,340.00 |
| A7310.4 Medusa Youth Program | A7140.42 Medusa Park             | 94.70       |
| A1990.4 Contingency          | A8020.4 Planning Board           | 848.70      |
| SW8310.2 Water Admin.        | SW8310.4 Water Cont.             | 254.17      |
| SW8340.4 Water Trans.        | SW8320.4 Water, purification     | 806.80      |
| A1320.4 Indep. Auditing      | A1329.1 Indep. Auditing (create) | 3,674.00    |

All bills were paid.

## AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Supervisor Nickelsberg mentioned that if you have something to say you have three minutes to do so. Please come up front and address the Board; no debates; say your piece. If any disturbance within the hall, we are going to ask you to leave.

Jeff Pine read a statement critical of expenditures on roads, the proposed budget and the process followed to put it together. He alleged there was a million dollars of surplus funds accumulated. He proposed the town cut the tax rate in half.

Rebecca Lubin and Janet Hasely spoke opposing a cut in the Library funding.

Sal Santanostaso submitted a petition to the Town Board with 244 signatures: the petition alleged that the Supervisor was trying to fire the deputy road superintendent, David Potter.

Georgette Koenig, Rensselaerville, proposed the newsletter be printed by a micro-publisher in house. The Town of Berne does it this way.

Penny Grimes, Rensselaerville, stated the newsletter is a waste of money. She did not approve of the letter from Supervisor Jost Nickelsberg. She questioned the cost for the current town attorney compared to a couple of years ago when her son-in-law was one of the two local attorneys.

Mr. Dempsey, Preston Hollow, questioned the interest rates that are being obtained for the town currently at 5.12%. Interest income will be somewhere between \$40,000 and \$50,000 for this year, relative to the \$22,000 last year.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Letters received:

1. Judge Victor La Plante, topic – use of the courtroom;
2. Thereon Raines – relative to Kenyon Road and its status;
3. Thereon Raines - Relative to Kenyon Road and its status;
4. A petition from 3 people on Kenyon Road, status and state of the road;
5. Dana Montieth in regard to Jon Whitbeck;
6. Mike LaConte reference to local taxes;

7. Joseph Wagner with 5 people signing concerning the dollars going to the playground and the youth group;
8. Vettner Family relative to their decision to move into town making Kelly Road a year round kept up road;
9. Mike Breslin relative to the septic system in the Crystal Lake and Triangle Lake area;
10. Albany County Soil & Water – concerning pasture management workshop;
11. Attorney Ryan relative to a letter from Sal Santanostaso; and
12. Jost Nickelsberg to Jon Whitbeck

#### REPORTS

Supervisor Nickelsberg. It is very important to understand that the economy is very strong right now with an over 4% rate of growth, and the stock market is at an all time high. When the economy gets weaker, which it will, down to a 2% rate of growth or less, government receipts are going to shrink and the bottom line will be higher taxes. School taxes will continue to go up no matter what the economy does.

Our job is to try to take down the unfunded mandates that keep getting pushed on us from above. For example, we just had a \$1.9 million pass-down relative to voting machines. The initial proposal was that towns would pay all of that. The supervisors of the towns in this county got together and said that the county, state or federal government should pay for those costs. It was suggested that the towns pay \$600,000 of that \$1.9 million and the county pay the balance. Mr. Breslin agreed to this. Unfunded mandates are going to continue. Our job is to take a stand against these mandates that especially effect people 65 and older living on fixed incomes. Our senior citizens continue to be the backbone of this town and we must try to keep taxes at least flat or to hopefully reduce them. That is our job. That is our reason for requisitions, for bids, for getting new insurance policies and for aggressively paying attention to how our tax money is being spent. When we pay our taxes in a couple of months we are going to be paying taxes computed by Mike Breslin to be 53% higher than the average taxes in the next highest taxed state. We are the highest taxed state and we will continue to be unless we take a stand through collaboration and innovation to aggressively hold costs down. This can only be done if we work together to control our costs instead of allowing these costs to control us. We need to take a stand. We need to care about what taxes do to our 65 year old, fixed-income citizens. We need to care about what high taxes do to keep young people from staying in this town. We need to care about how high taxes prevent us from attracting new, young families to come and move to our town. We MUST continue to work hard to get our tax rate down and to keep it down.

#### ROAD SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Chase. We have finished Arnold Road. We finished Niles Road except for the shoulders which will be done shortly. This week we are working on Cheese Hill and then in Potter Hollow. Next week we will be working on Kenyon Road and in Rensselaerville, Gifford Hollow and a couple of other roads.

#### TOWN CLERK'S REPORT – SEPTEMBER

Funds collected for the Town Clerks department for the month of September 2006 - \$4,020.50; Supervisor for fees - \$1,181.65; County Treasurer for dog license - \$39.60; NYS Ag. & Markets for dog license - \$6.00; NYS Environmental Conservation - \$2,793.25; water rents collected - \$951.15; sewer rents collected - \$1,263.73.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### WASTE OIL FURNACE

Midstate Supply, bid \$5,595 for one clean-burn multi-oil furnace – Model CB-2500; \$1,750 for one Recycling Center; \$360 for one Tankless Air Compressor; \$2,250 for installation -- for a total bid price of \$8,955. Councilman Chase questioned the advisability of buying the furnace without more information.

Mr. Jenkinson, sales representative from Clean Burn Waste Oil Heaters, reported that filters are recommended to be cleaned every 1000 hours - which is approximately one operating season for this furnace.

*(continued next page)*

## ... **October Town Board Minutes**

The company has service people to do this if needed. The cost of a service contract is \$300 to \$400 which would include a clearing. The payback on the investment of the furnace and waste oil system is 18 to 24 months. Clean Burn is an old established company with units around this general area including Borweegen, VanAuken, Carver, and Whitbecks.

Supervisor Nickelsberg: We have been working on this for about 4 months. Does anyone want to make a motion. Councilman Chase felt that there were too many unanswered questions to make a motion to vote on it now. Councilman Chase made a motion to not accept this bid, which passed.

### BIDS

#### Garage Repairs, Phase II

There was one bid for repairs to the garage, this was from GAH General Contracting, LLC, Gary A Hood, 404 King Hill Earlton Road, Surprise, NY 12176. Mr. Hood bid \$58,063.00 for this repair work. A motion made by Councilwoman Dorman not to accept this bid passed.

#### Salt Shed

There was one bid received for the work on the Salt Shed, Phase II, this was from GAH General Contracting LLC, Gary A. Hood, 404 King Hill Earlton Road, Surprise, NY 12176 for \$33,872.

Councilwoman Dorman: Considering how serious this situation with the salt shed is, we should accept the bid. A motion made by Councilwoman Dorman to accept this bid from GAH Contracting, LLC for \$33,872 passed.

### LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Legislator Gordon reported on the shared municipal program. Legislator Gordon mentioned that county taxes have gone up 2 of the past ten years and down 8 years.

### LAND USE COMMITTEE REPORT

Vernon Husek, Chairman of the Land Use Committee, reported that they have completed the inventory phase of the comprehensive plan. The vision statement will soon to be on the internet. You will be able to review it and we are asking for comments. The planner is setting the schedule now -- she is determining our deadlines. Our next order of business is to set goals. The planner will take the goal statements and from that develop possible strategies for the comprehensive plan.

### RENSSELAERVILLE WATER/SEWER DISTRICTS

Jack Long, Chairman of the Sewer/Water Committee. Mr. Long spoke on the 2007 budget request. Work was done on the small dam.

### POTTER HOLLOW PARK

Tim Lippert, Potter Hollow, mentioned that we have had a lot of energy associated with the little schoolhouse in Potter Hollow. A new proposal has come down since the property next to the schoolhouse has become available for sale. Some of the residents of Potter Hollow got together and would like we can buy it. What they would like to do is donate it to the Town of Rensselaerville if it was inclined to take on another park. It is early on in the project and they are in negotiations with the seller. We wanted to get some feedback from the Town Board to see if they wanted another park. It would be a one-acre piece of land inside the hamlet. It hasn't been purchased yet. There may be a park coming down the road if the town is interested. He will keep the town posted as things move along.

### LEGAL REPORT

Attorney Neidl related that the budget hearing must be held by the first Thursday after Election Day. The budget can be corrected at that time. It is not necessary to vote on a revised preliminary budget. It is perfectly sufficient to make corrections at the final budget.

---

#### MEDUSA FIRE DEPARTMENT - NEW MEMBERS

William Adam's, Matthew Duncan, Robyn Albergo, Guy Albergo, Dominick Higgins & Michael Forman.

#### PLANNING BOARD RECEIVES GRANT

Tim Lippert reported that the Planning Board received a \$6,500 or \$7,000 Greenway Grant. It looks like there is another pool of money for comprehensive land use review and other things.

#### 2007 BUDGET

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dorman to set the public hearing for the 2007 Budget for Wednesday, November 8, 2006 at 7 PM and seconded by Councilman Lansing.

#### TOWN MANUAL - STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

The Town Board went over the memo presented by Attorney Ryan with the corrections, dilatations, and additions relative to the New Scotland Employee Manual.

- 104 - Purpose of manual - No questions
- 301 - Elected Officials - No questions
- 302 - Contractual Relationships - No questions
- 303 - Overtime - No questions
- 401 - Departmental Hours - No questions
- 402 - Flex Time - No questions
- 501 - Tardiness - No questions
- 606 - Mileage Reimbursement - No questions
- 607 - Overtime Pay and Compensatory Time - No questions
- 608 - Longevity Pay - No questions
- 701 - Liability Insurance - No questions
- 702 - Health Insurance - No questions
- 706 - Vacation Policy - No questions
- 707 - Sick Leave Policy - No questions
- 708 - Bereavement Leave Policy - No questions
- 904 - Smoking Policy - No questions
- 905 - Telephone Use - No questions
- 906 - Unauthorized Work and Outside Employment - No questions
- 907 and 908 - Employee may not use town vehicles, supplies, tools, equipment for private use - Schedule A - No questions
- 909 - Disciplinary Actions - No questions

The manual was adopted unanimously by the Town Board.

#### AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mr. Feiner suggested that the Town Board investigate a heat pump for the building.

Sal Santanostaso complained that his company was not hired to perform the duties of the town engineer.

Sandy Gordon wanted to know if the town is looking to do a merger as proposed in the Town of Berne between the town road department and Albany County. Supervisor Nickelsberg: Once that is decided in Berne, Rensselaerville will find out if it makes economic sense. We will look into everything that makes sense.

Dave Bryan, spoke in favor of the library and recommended an equipment replacement plan. He also said he was a little nervous about the anonymous donations to the library. Supervisor Nickelsberg: I gave Councilwoman Dorman a check for \$3000 -- she is a Board Member on the Library.

*(continued next page)*

## ... **October Town Board Minutes**

Jeff Pine complained about the cost of the newsletter.

Gerald Wood pointed out transposed numbers in the proposed budget.

Penny Grimes complained about the cost of the newsletter. Supervisor Nickelsberg pointed out that the website and the newsletter are a significant upgrade from what we had in the past and that a lot of people have come forward to say that they think the information in the newsletter is very important to them.

Joli Pizzigati asked about the availability of town correspondence.

Debra Santanostaso complained about the library budget.

Richard Amedure: You are all welcome to come to the Planning Board meetings to see what goes on. You have to get all the facts to have a reasonable opinion. This newsletter is getting fatter and thicker because there is a lot going on in town. You should get involved.

Barbara Bolster-Barrett: I think that the Board and the residents deserve respect. I am the associate librarian and I understand that you are trying to cut taxes but I want to make sure that the Library stays strong for many years.

Janet Hasely: The newsletter is getting bigger but look at all the people who came out to the visioning meetings. I didn't know anything about them until I read it in the newsletter. The workshop was very useful. The information that is being given to us is helping all of know more. I am seeing interest in the government. I don't know how much of that is because of the newsletter.

Chuck Rappazzo, Rensselaerville, spoke on the moratorium and cost of the doing the work on the land use plan.

Ed Pizzigati, Medusa, spoke in favor of the road department staff and asked for clarification: Is your plan to lay off a town employee, demote David Potter and hire an outside person to do that position?

Supervisor Nickelsberg: I know nothing about your last point. We have never talked about replacing David Potter. This is just another of the lies that someone is putting out.

Superintendent Chase: I have a letter from Neil Breslin that was sent to you. Superintendent Chase read the letter which was only to make the town aware of a civil service exam for Mr. Potter.

Attorney Neidl: Civil servants are required by law to take an exam from time to time and pass them. That law comes from the State not from the Town Supervisor.

Supervisor Nickelsberg: I took a hard look at Durham. We need to get down to a cost of \$10,000.00 per mile per year for taking care of our roads. This is where Durham is with 8 employees for total of 79 miles of road -- Berne is for 78 miles of road. That is what we are attempting to do. I am saying we want to be more efficient.

Cynthia Willis said the roads in Berne are very bad. They are not taken care of as well as they are being taken care of here.

Georgette Koenig asked about taking away money necessary for training and the effect on insurance premiums and complained about the cost of the newsletter

Councilman Chase: I would like to put a motion on the floor that we will not have any layoff in the highway department whatsoever as you allocated in your budget. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Pine and was voted down.

—*Jost Nickelsberg, Supervisor*

**PUBLIC NOTICE:**

**THE TOWN of  
RENSSELAERVILLE  
SEEKS PUBLIC  
INPUT ON COMMUNITY GOALS**

**WHAT: PUBLIC MEETING**

**WHEN: NOVEMBER 16, 2006, 7:30 PM**

**WHERE: TOWN HALL**

**All residents, property owners, civic groups, businesses, and government officials in Rensselaerville are invited to come learn about and comment on the new draft goals developed by the Land Use Committee for the Updated Town of Rensselaerville Comprehensive Plan.**

## **Advertising Rates**

**RENSSELÆRVILLE Newsletter**  
**2" x 3.5" \$30 (business card size)**  
**4" x 3" \$46 (double business card size,  
quarter of a page)**  
**5" x 8" \$80 half page**  
**8.5" x 11" \$150 full page**  
**Separate full-page insert \$300**

**Please contact Town Hall if you  
have a full page to be separately  
inserted into the Newsletter**  
**Cost of ad is for camera-ready copy.**  
**Any typing or graphics work will  
cost an additional \$30**  
**Annual rate—pay in advance for  
entire year and get 12th month free!**

*Happy  
Thanksgiving!*

*paid for by*

- John & Nancy La Rocca
- Mark La Rocca & Nina Nsilo Swai
- Tom & Kathy Mikulka
- Sonny & Sue Shufelt
- Michael & Gail Benedict
- Jeff & Sherri Pine
- Kerry McFarland
- Robert and Beth Whiteman
- Gordon & Elise Enk
- Richard & Nadia Creamer
- Sue & Jay McChesney
- Tim Lippert
- George & Carolin Dempsey
- Richard & Mary Ann Ronconi
- Greg Hostash
- Roswell Eldridge
- Bill & Barbara DeMille
- James Walker
- Tom & Marion Frowein
- Cynthia Willis
- Dick Sabol
- Dave & Mary Bryan
- Ben Bryan
- Emily Bryan
- Bill & Kathie Quackenbush
- Virginia Carter
- Joann Eckstut
- Tim & Linda Miller

*You know what we think.*



**SHAPES**  
**FITNESS FOR WOMEN**  
 10741 Route 32, Greenville, NY 12083  
 (Opposite the Drive-in)  
 (518) 966-4680 • Shapes8910@aol.com  
**No Pressure, Just Results**

**TILE PAINTING FLOORS**  
**CATSKILL**  
**PAINT CO.**  
 Tim Lippert 518-239-8490

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



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



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



**Thoroughbred & Trotter Boarding**  
 Fruit tree sales  
 Fruit Plant Nursery  
**Fields of Glory Farm**  
 (518) 239-5902

Jim & Theresa Glorioso 232 Knowles Road  
 Mastercard & Visa Accepted Preston Hollow, N.Y. 12469



**Rensselaerville Realty**  
 LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKERS  
**FRED STETTNER**  
 LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER

Cell 618.539.4249 260 Route 351  
 fred@rvillerealty.com Medusa, NY 12120  
 www.rvillerealty.com T 518.239.4655 • F 518.966.5998

**TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC**



NEW SERVICES & UPGRADES

260 ARNOLD RD.  
 PRESTON HOLLOW, NY 12469  
 (518) 239-8106

PAUL MOLLOY



*Town of Rensselaerville*  
87 Barger Road  
Medusa, NY 12120  
(518) 797-3798  
(518) 239-4225

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
MEDUSA, NY  
PERMIT NO. 11

## Postal Patron

**Town Hall/Highway Dept.**  
797-3798; 239-4225; FAX, 239-6339  
TDD 1-800-662-1220

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

**Assem. John McEneny, 104th Dist.**  
LOB, Albany, NY 12248; 518-455-4100

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

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

**Rensselaerville Fire Company, 911**  
Social number— 797-3218

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

**Medusa Fire Company, 911**  
Social number—239-6166

**Rensselaerville Vol. Ambulance, 911**  
Information number—797-5233

**Albany County Sheriff, 911, 765-2351**

**State Police, Rensselaerville & Hilltowns**  
911, 477-9333

**Town Board Meetings**  
Second Thursday, 7 p.m.; Working meeting  
Tuesday before regular meeting, as needed.

**Town Justice Court**  
Mondays, 7 p.m.

**Planning Board**  
First and third Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

**Zoning Board of Appeals**  
Second Tuesday, 7 p.m.

**Building Inspector/Zoning Officer**  
Thursday, 8-10 a.m., 7-9 p.m.

**Town Clerk's Hours**  
Monday - Wednesday, 9 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.  
Thursday, 1:30-7:30 p.m.  
Friday, 9 a.m.-noon

**Supervisor's Hours**  
Seven days a week, by appointment

**Assessors' Hours**  
Thursday, 6-8 p.m.

**Assessors' Clerk Hours**  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday mornings

**Dog Control Officer**  
Cheryl Tefft-Baitsholts, 797-5201

**Town Refuse Station Hours**  
Wednesdays, 7 a.m.- 3:45 p.m.  
Saturday, 7 a.m - 3:45 p.m.

**Water/Sewer District Meeting**  
First Thursday, 7 p.m.

**Rensselaerville Fire House**