



## Town of Rensselaerville

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

# Newsletter

## Rensselaerville Mills

By Janet Haseley, Research Chair, Town of Rensselaerville Historical Society

Before any mills were built, the first settlers in the Rensselaerville area crushed corn, buckwheat and rye grain by using crude mortars made from large logs with a cavity burned out. Feed for animals was made by grinding corn cobs with some of the corn left on.

Usually the first type of mill built was a grist mill to grind grain into flour. Sawmills saved hours of manual labor by sawing trees into boards for building homes and meeting houses (churches). Woolen and fulling mills processed wool and handspun materials to make clothing.

The mills were built alongside streams or waterfalls where the rushing water could power the mills. An overshot or undershot water wheel was turned by means of water being fed over its top (overshot) or flowing towards its bottom (undershot). The mill wheel in motion looked something like a present-day Ferris Wheel turning. A system of gears turned a shaft connected to the grinding stones in grist mills and to a vertical saw in early sawmills. Later sawmills used a circular saw and the pattern left on sawn edges of wooden planks can tell the observer whether the board was sawn before or after around 1830 when circular saws came into use.

Fulling mills processed cloth from handspun materials. The purpose of this process was to give body to the cloth, raise the nap, remove the oil from the wool and shrink the material. Early writings tell us that there were three fulling mills in the town by 1813 and by 1824 there were six. Medusa had a fulling and carding mill in 1814, owned by Daniel Doolitell and Elihu Wetmore.

Grist mills ground wheat, oats and buckwheat with buckwheat being the most popular grain



locally. Buckwheat produced three products: the hulls which were used to cover ice and for bedding, the bran which was used to feed animals, and flour for pancakes. Samples of these grains are on exhibit at the Rensselaerville Grist Mill in the hamlet of Rensselaerville, the only surviving water-powered mill in the area. There once were 29 water-powered mills in the township of Rensselaerville.

The original grist mill in the hamlet of Rensselaerville was built by Samuel Jenkins in 1789, rebuilt by Daniel Conkling in 1830 and burned down in 1879. The present mill was built in 1880 but powered by a water-driven turbine in a protected shed instead of by the original wooden overshot water wheel which often froze in winter and ice had to be chipped off before the wheel could turn. Today the mill is owned by the Rensselaerville Historical Society and free tours are offered two days a week in summer months.

A grist mill powered by water from Catskill Creek was located at Cooksburg on Great Lot #7 which Peter Plank obtained from Stephen Van Rensselaer in 1793. A long list of owners of this mill may be read in the book *People Made It Happen Here*. Charlie Goff was the last

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## The Rensselaerville Library



### Bookmark

The Board and Staff of the Rensselaerville Library would like to extend a great big thank you to every one who turned out for our Lawn Party and Silent Auction on September 1. Whether you helped out, came to have fun, or both, we really appreciate your support!

We would also like to thank everyone who returned overdue materials during Amnesty Month in August. Thank you for searching high and low to maintain our collection!

**First Friday movies continue:** Join us at Conkling Hall on **Friday, September 7 at 7:30 P.M.** for *Firehouse Dog*. Rexxx, Hollywood's top canine star, gets lost and is adopted into a shabby firehouse. He teams up with a young kid to get the station back on its feet. Run time is 111 minutes. Rated PG.

On **Saturday, September 8 from 10-11**

**A.M.** the Library will be holding elections for new board members. Voting is open to all Library cardholders, and we hope you will all participate.

Just a reminder: As we continue in the process of automating our collection, the Library would like to remind patrons that we are still issuing the new bar-coded cards. With these cards, patrons can access the services of all libraries in the Upper Hudson System, and can also order items online. If you haven't yet gotten your new card, stop by the Library and get one today! We would also like to remind patrons of our fine policy. Late DVDs and movies will incur a charge of \$1.00 per day. All other items (books, periodicals, audio books, etc.) will incur a charge of \$0.10 per day.

The Library Board meeting will take place on **Monday, September 10 at 7:30 PM.**

#### Library Hours:

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

Thursday & Friday  
4:00-9:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

[www.uhls.org/nvl\\_library](http://www.uhls.org/nvl_library)

Staff: Ann Wolf, Director;  
Candy Wilson, Assistant Director;  
Katie Caprio, Aide



Visit us on the web: [www.Rensselaerville.com](http://www.Rensselaerville.com)

#### POST OFFICE INFORMATION

Rensselaerville: 797-3231

Medusa: 239-4826

Preston Hollow: 239-6111

#### NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

2" x 3.5" (Business Card) \$30.00  
4" x 3" (Quarter Page) \$46.00  
5" x 8" (Half Page) \$80.00  
8.5" x 11" (Full Page) \$150.00  
Separate Full Page Insert—\$300.00

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

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

## Conkling Hall—What's On In September

**Saturdays on the Sidewalk:** Join us as you run errands on Saturday morning. We will offer coffee, tea, pastries, bread, sandwiches and more from other participants who will bring produce, plants, chicken, lamb... Come sit with friends and neighbors and enjoy the pleasures of summer. We will be open from 10 AM to 1 PM.

**Upcoming Events: Chili Cook-off, Saturday, October 6:** Stay tuned for further announcements. Spend some time perfecting your prize-winning recipe. Find the Zen that exists between you and your chili powder. Come join us for the fun, friendship, and festivity of our annual chili tasting. Contact Stephen Peters, 797-9303, Cynthia Nicholson, 797-5154, or Diana

Dietrich, 797-3902.

You can contact Conkling Hall at (518) 797 3459 or read our website on [www.ConklingHall.org](http://www.ConklingHall.org).

**Pilates:** Saturdays 9:00 - 10:00 AM. Pilates mat class with Sarah 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.

**Children's Playgroup:** Thursdays 12:00 - 3:00 PM for children 0 to 5 years old. A fine opportunity to meet other children in our area. Call Sarah Nelson Weiss for information: 239 6825.



Methodist Hill Road  
Rensselaerville, NY 12147  
(518) 797- 3459  
[www.ConklingHall.org](http://www.ConklingHall.org).

## Rensselaerville Mills

*By Janet Haseley, Research Chair, Town of Rensselaerville Historical Society*

*(Continued from page 1)*

man to operate the Cooksburg Grist Mill ca. 1920. After remaining empty and unused for over 50 years, it was carefully dismantled in 1976 and rebuilt as a Pancake House in Connecticut.

In 1783 Uriah Hall built a cabin on Ten Mile Creek and several years later added a grist and sawmill, but the land still belonged to Stephen Van Rensselaer. Sixteen years later, in 1797, a friend, Fitch Lamphear, went to Albany and took a lease on the land on which the mill was built, then transferred the lease to Hall. The mill was rebuilt in 1919 by Herbert Jennings.

The first grist mill in Preston Hollow was owned and run by Abram Van Dyke and early owners of Potter Hollow mills were the Crapser brothers.

A sawmill in Preston Hollow was run by water power until about 1912 and then by steam for about ten years until the boiler would not pass inspection. Then it was run by a 25 HP gasoline engine.

The *Gazeteer of the State of New York for 1824* says that the ham-

let of Rensselaerville had three of the six grist mills and two of the eleven sawmills in the township of Rensselaerville. One sawmill was located below the Grist Mill where Jim Tigner lives, and one is shown on the 1820 map at the Sweet farm where Barry Kuhar lives today. Other sawmills were at Shufelt's farm and at Lincoln Pond. Other sawmill locations are detailed in *People Made It Happen Here*.

Many sawmills also had cider mills on the premises.

A paper mill was built in Medusa ca. 1845 by Van Alstyne and Golden to make wrapping paper from rye straw but it was not prosperous for very long. Eight pages in *People Made It Happen Here* give details of millers and dates of mills throughout the township. This book is available from the Rensselaerville Historical Society at the Rensselaerville Grist Mill. Call Irene Olson at 239-4345 or Janet Haseley at 797-3194 for more information.

*Information from People Made It Happen Here, a 1977 publication of the Rensselaerville Historical Society, and a 1965 paper in the Historical Society archives by Joseph Civalier of the Natural Sciences Institute*

## August Town Board Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of August 2007, at 7:10 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY 12120. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Nickelsberg and the roll was called with the following results:

**PRESENT WERE:** Supervisor Jost Nickelsberg, Councilwoman Myra Dorman, Councilman J. Robert Lansing, Councilwoman Sherri Pine

**ABSENT:** Councilman Gary Chase, Highway Superintendent G. Jon Chase

There were also 21 interested citizens present.

**MINUTES :** A motion was made by Councilwoman Dorman to accept the minutes of the last Regular Meeting held on July 12, 2007, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Pine. A roll call vote was taken and was unanimously carried

**CORRESPONDENCE:** There was no correspondence.

### REPORTS

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:** Superintendent Chase did not report.

**TOWN SUPERVISOR:** Supervisor Nickelsberg reported on the Town's progress with FEMA. He mentioned that Daphane Pearson has done an amazing job working with the people at FEMA and gathering all the information and getting good results.

Supervisor Nickelsberg said that the current audit (available to the public) was recently done by the State Comptroller.

Supervisor Nickelsberg reported the account balance as of July 31, 2007. He also addressed other Town money matter such as pensions, health care, housing, and employment.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dorman to accept the Supervisor's Report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Pine. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

**TOWN CLERK:** The Town Clerk gave the report for the month of July.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dorman to accept the Town Clerk's report for the month of July, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

**TOWN ATTORNEY:** There will be no report from Attorney Ryan this month. He is on vacation.

**CURRENT EVENTS:** Supervisor Nickelsberg stated "Our 12 year old Little Leaguers were in a tournament with 9 other teams and they won the championship round. All were thrilled."

**OLD BUSINESS:** Mr. Bolte said that he paid \$150.00 for an ad about the bus to appear in the newsletter. "The Town owns this bus that they purchase and I have to pay \$150.000 for an ad. Something is wrong. Can we do something about it right now."

Councilwoman Dorman said, "This is a serious situation. I think it has to be clarified. We should get a couple of people to sit down and decide what is an ad, what is public service, what is an announcement, what is news, and which of those categories have to pay. We have to do this correctly so that everybody understands it. It is the Town's newsletter to carry all kinds of service messages or it serves no purpose at all. There should be room for personal and entertainment messages. It should be clear to all what needs to be paid for.

Supervisor Nickelsberg said, "We can give a refund for the bus ad." Mr. Bolte is to complete a voucher to get the \$150.00 back.

**LAND USE COMMITTEE:** Mr. Mikulka said, "By next week the Land Use Committee will have reviewed all the zoning regulations and suggested changes. Our goal is to get it out to the public sometime in September. We will start on the subdivision rules next Tuesday. Everybody is welcome to come."

**YOUTH COMMITTEE:** Supervisor Nickelsberg said, "One half of the 35 Little Leaguers that we have in Town went to Yankee Stadium on Sunday, and other group of Little Leaguers went to Shea Stadium on Saturday. Everyone enjoyed the games and had a good time. This is the beginning of a tradition, and we will keep that up."

**SEEGER DRAINAGE ISSUE:** The Town Board looked over the Seeger Drainage Issue Remediation. Supervisor Nickelsberg said, "We are getting money for Tanglewood Road. We have to make a motion to put an RFP out and to open it at the September meeting to get this done before this season is over."

*(Continued on page 10)*

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

**September's Regular menu: \$20.00**

- 4/ 6 oz. Chicken Cordon Bleu
- 3 lb. box John Morell All-meat Franks
- 1.5 lbs. Home-style Beef Patties

**Special #1: \$17.00**

- 8 lb. Fresh Boneless Pork Loin

**Special # 2: \$ 16.00 GROCERY BOX**

- 4 - (6 oz.) Tuna
- 2 - (15oz.) Peaches
- 2 - (16 oz.) Peanut Butter
- 4 - (1 lb.) Elbow Macaroni
- 2 - (2 lb.) Rice
- 6 - (7.25 oz.) Macaroni and Cheese Mix
- 4 - (15 oz.) Peas
- 4 - (15 oz.) Corn
- 4 - (16 oz.) Cut Green Beans

**Special #3: \$30.00 MEAT BOX**

- 2 lbs. Cranberry and Apple Stuffed Pork Chops
- 3 lbs. Honey-flavored Chicken Breast
- 3 lbs. Home-style Beef Patties
- 2 lbs. Maple Breakfast Sausage Links
- 3 lbs. Chicken Patties

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

**Please Note:** Orders with payment are due at the HCRC office by **September 5th** for pick-up on **September 25th**.

HCRC distributes Extra-Helpings at the Rensselaerville Firehouse from 11:30AM to 12:30PM and at St. Bernadette's Church in Berne from 12:00 to 1:00PM, and St. Lucy's Church in Altamont from 2:30 to 3:30PM on delivery days. The pick-up site must be noted with each order. Anyone wishing more information regarding Extra Helpings or other Hilltowns Community Resource Center services, please call 797-5256. HCRC's mailing address is: PO Box 147, Westerlo, NY 12193. Please include your phone number on all correspondence.



### PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

*Town Clerk's Office will be closed until 4 PM on Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.*

*The revised hours for Tuesday, Sept 11<sup>th</sup> will be 4 PM to 7 PM.*

### HEAP OFFERS HEATING HELP

HEAP is now available at Cornell Cooperative Extension CHOICES at Faith Plaza, Route 9W, Ravena. Please call 756-6850. The initiative is funded by the Albany County Department of Social Services.

### REFUSE/RECYCLING CENTER

The Rensselaerville Refuse/Recycling Center is open on Saturdays and Wednesdays from 7:00AM -3:45PM. Please display your permit. If you do not have one, you can obtain one at the Town Clerk's Office.

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

## SENIOR CORNER

### ***Need Information?***

ElderSource Line (465-1903) has information at 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 North-eastern New York and Senior Ser-

vices 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: Bryants Center, Greenville  
Thursday: Cobleskill (WalMart)

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.

### ***Hiawatha Grange Lunches:***

Lunches are served Monday through Friday at noon for \$3.75. The Grange would appreciate 1 day advance notice. Call Marie at 797-3652 between 9:00AM-1:00PM for information and reservations.

## ***Assessor Office Hours***

*Regular Assessor hours will resume Thursday September 6, 6 – 8 pm*



**Donation: \$5:00 per Animal**



## Albany County Department of Health Rabies Clinic Schedule - 2007

The following series of Rabies Vaccination Clinics for dogs, cats, and ferrets has been arranged by the Albany County Department of Health in cooperation with the Capital District Veterinary Medical Society. All dogs, cats, and ferrets must be on leashes or in carriers. A record of prior vaccination will be required for three year immunization. If no record is presented, a one year vaccination certification will be issued. All clinics are open to any Albany County resident. Any inquiry can be directed to Division of Environmental Health Services, 447-4620 or 447-4625.

**Saturday Clinics:** 1:00-2:30PM for cats and ferrets 2:30-4:00PM for dogs

September 8, 1:00-4:00PM Village Hall, 2 Thunder Rd., Colonie

November 3, 1:00-4:00 PM Public Works Garage, Cohoes Rd., Green Island

VOLUNTEER NEWS AND EVENTS

**I'LL SHOW YOU  
A VOLUNTEER**

*Show me a person who spends endless  
hours in training without pay,  
And, I'll show you a volunteer.*

*Show me a person where a cry for help  
brings split-second dispatch,  
And, I'll show you a volunteer.*

*Show me a person who is devastated when  
lives are lost or maimed,  
And, I'll show you a volunteer.*

*Show me a person who is graciously wel-  
comed as a next-door neighbor,  
And, I'll show you a volunteer.*

*Show me a person who takes ridicule more  
than compliments,  
And, I'll show you a volunteer.*

*Show me a person whose car is garaged  
with the grille facing out,  
And, I'll show you a volunteer.*

*Show me a person who sacrifices homelife,  
TV... even tender moments,  
And, I'll show you a volunteer.*

*Show me a person visibly moved at the  
strains of our National Anthem,  
And, I'll show you a volunteer.*

*Show me a person who may be asked to  
give more than just dedication,  
And, I'll show you a volunteer.*

*Show me a person who is asked to give  
more... and more... and more,  
And, I'll show you a volunteer.*

--Author Unknown

**Medusa VFD**

**Company Meeting:** Monday, September 10, at 8:00PM

**Drill & Work night:** Monday, September 17 and 24 at 7:00PM

**Upcoming Events:** Breakfast to Benefit a New Fire Truck

Saturday, September 15, 7:00-11:00 AM (see ad on page 15)

Our Monthly Breakfast begins again. Starting October 20th  
and every 3rd Saturday of the Month.

**Rensselaerville VFD**

**Company Meeting:** Wednesday, September 26, at 8:00PM

**Ladies Battalion:** Wednesday, September 5, at 7:30PM

**Upcoming Events:** All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast  
Sunday, September 23, 8:00-11:00PM

**Tri-Village VFD**

**Company Meeting:** Wednesday, September 5, at 8:00PM

**Upcoming Events:** Annual Fund Drive

Open House, Tuesday, October 9 between 6:00PM- 8:00PM  
(see ad on page 15)

**Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance Squad**

**Company Meeting:** Wednesday, September 19 at 7:00PM

**The Bayard Elsbree Park Committee**

The Bayard Elsbree Park Committee will be holding a meeting on Monday, Sep-  
tember 10, 2007, at 7:00 P.M. Meeting will be held at the pavilion at the park in  
Preston Hollow. The committee is looking for new members from the Tri- Vil-  
lage area to join them.



## A REMINDER TO THE SPORTSMAN

The Application Deadline to apply for your Deer Management Permit is the close of business on October 1, 2007.

Kathleen A. Hallenbeck  
Town Clerk

## Halloween Dance at Conkling Hall

By: Janet Haseley

A fall Community Dance will be held at Conkling Hall on Saturday, October 27, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Everyone is invited. Halloween costumes are optional.

The dance will be sponsored by the Town of Rensselaerville Historical Society as one of their series of traditional arts workshops which this year have included chair caning.

The caller will be Paul Rosenberg who is well-known for his ability to integrate beginning dancers and experienced dancers in a way that they all can have fun. Dances will include squares, contras, waltzes, polkas, mixers and more. The band will be

FireFlies, composed of Sue and Jim Mead, Jim Broden and Patricia Kernan. This band has played for Historical Society-sponsored dances at Conkling Hall for the last several years.

Partners are not necessary as the tradition is to change partners after each dance. No experience is necessary either as each dance will be taught before the music is added. All ages are welcome and can enjoy these dances together.

Admission will be \$7.50 for adults, \$6.50 for Historical Society members, \$5 for teens and \$2 for children ages 12 and under.

For further information call 518-797-3194.

## Our Town Newsletter

For the past few months, our town newsletter has been produced in house saving the Town approximately \$500.00 each month.

We ask that upcoming events be sent 2 months prior to the event. Your event will be published for 2 months.

All ads, articles, and events should be sent to the Town Hall via fax or email. The fax number is 239-6339, and the e-mail address is: clerk1@rensselaerville.com.



Helderberg Christian School will host its Parent Orientation on Tuesday, September 4 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Our building is located at 933 County Route 401, Westerlo, N.Y. Helderberg Christian School is an independent, non-denominational Kindergarten—6 grade Christian School. Helderberg offers affordable, academic excellence with individualized attention. Transportation is available from 7 local school districts. Parents have the opportunity to see our classrooms and meet our teachers. Refreshments will be served.

### NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

*"Helderberg Christian School admits students of any race, color, or national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. The school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, or other school-administered programs."*

*Paid Advertisement*

# History and Future of Farming

to be featured at Historical Society Annual Meeting

by Janet Haseley 797-3194; edhase@aol.com

History and Future of Farming in the Hilltowns” will be the topic of a talk at the annual meeting of the Town of Rensselaerville Historical Society on Saturday, September 8.

Speaker for the evening will be Matthew Hobart who is Assistant Director of Public Policy for the New

York State Farm Bureau. His talk will be at 6:30 p.m. at the fellowship hall of the United Church of Christ of Medusa. All are welcome; you do not have to be a member of the Historical Society to attend.

The business meeting will be at 5 p.m., followed by a potluck supper

at 6 p.m. Both are also at the fellowship hall of the church. The public is invited to these also.

Matthew is the grandson of Claire Leber, secretary of the Historical Society.

## CHURCH SERVICES



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

Potter Hollow Union Church  
Potter Hollow, 734-5106  
Worship: Sunday - 9:00AM  
Visitation & Prayer Wednesday - 8:30AM

Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church Summer Session Worship Services 11:00 a.m.

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

United Church of Christ  
Medusa, 239-6119  
Worship: Sunday - 9:15AM

### *Honoring Diversity: A Path to Understanding.*

June 17	"DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?" The Rev. Dr. Joseph W. Shook Moderator of Session, Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church Communion Service	July 29	"DIVERSITY... THAT ALL MAY BE ONE?" Sister Joan Scanlon, OP, PhD Executive Director, Dominican Alliance, Chicago, Illinois
June 24	"THAT'S A JESUS THING TO DO." The Rev. Dr. Jean Kidderdon Retired Presbyterian Minister, New York City	August 5	"THE TRANSFIGURED PATH." The Reverend Stephen D. Muncie Rector, Grace Church, Brooklyn Heights, New York City Communion Service
July 1	"BEHOLD HOW GOOD AND PLEASANT TO BE..." The Rev. Dr. Heather S. Anderson Pastor Emerita of the Black Presbyterian Church, New York City	August 12	"THE GUEST HOUSE" The Reverend Richard E. Spalding Chaplain, Williams College, Williamstown, Mass.
July 8	"TO BEAR THE NAME SAMARITAN." The Rev. Dr. Norman Kansfield Former President, New Brunswick Theological Seminary, New Jersey	August 19	"FOSTERING UNITY THROUGH DIVERSITY." The Reverend Dr. Lee H. Wesley President, Lutheran Social Services for Metropolitan New York, Retired
July 15	"AND WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?" The Rev. Dr. Jan M. Walton Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, New York City Communion Service	August 26	"DAR WAS ZEN; DIS IS TAO: THE 21ST CENTURY CONGREGATION." The Reverend Donna Schloper Pastor, Luban Memorial Church, New York City
July 22	"REPAIRING A BROKEN WORLD." Rabbi Julius Bard Director, Multi-Faith Education Auburn Theological Seminary, New York City	September 2	"AM I YOUR ENEMY?" Dr. Barbara G. Wheeler, President Auburn Theological Seminary, New York City Communion Service Assisted by the Reverend Dr. Joseph W. Shook, Moderator

## August Town Board Minutes

(Continued from page 4)

**LAND USE SURVEY:** Supervisor Nickelsberg said, "The survey will go out soon. It will be sent to every taxpayer and every voter."

Allyn Wright said, "We should stick with the 5 or the 20. Five is what it currently is, the 20 is what some wish to have it. If you start ending up getting 12, 13, 18 and somebody is going to want a medium and the next thing you are going to end up sending another survey. We discussed it at the Land Use meetings, and I think it is best to leave it a 5 and 20."

Councilwoman Pine would like to leave it at the 5 or 20 acres.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dorman to send this survey with two choices, 5 acres and 20 acres to be put on the survey, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Pine. A roll vote was taken and unanimously carried.

**POTTER HOLLOW PARK:** The following resolution was made by Councilwoman Dorman approving the acquisition of the land for the Potter Hollow Park, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Pine;

RESOLVED THAT the Town Board authorize the purchase of the Potter Hollow Park for the sum of \$6,000.00 to be used as open space and in connection with that acquisition the supervisor is authorized to execute the contract for the purchase of the Potter Hollow Park and any and all other documents with respect to the acquisition to Potter Hollow Park.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE:** Concerning the current zoning, Mr. Mikulka suggested that when anybody has a dumpster on a commercial site that it be shielded. The present zoning law would dictate that the present transfer station should be properly shielded but is not. I propose that we put up an 8 foot cedar fence basically across from the end of the building to the salt barn, allowing a place for traffic to go in and out by the salt barn. Albany County Soil and Water Conservation District will donate evergreen trees to put in front of the fence.

Mr. Mikulka went on to say that there are other options but it has to be an opaque fence. He is getting figures.

### NEW BUSINESS

**FARMLAND STUDY – GRANT:** Supervisor Nickelsberg mentioned that at the last meeting Mr. Mikulka talked about the Farmland Study grant.

**COMPUTER SYSTEM – TAPE BACKUP:** Town Clerk Hallenbeck reported that three quotes have been received from Radical Systems for a tape backup system. The Town Board would like Shawn Styer to look over the quotes and come up with specifications that we can put out to bid.

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:** Councilwoman Pine asked if anyone had any names of people interested in this position. Supervisor Nickelsberg said, "Walter Cook he is interested. He is on the Land Use Committee, and has been a member of the Planning Board. He would do an excellent job. Does anyone else have any names?"

**FEMA LINE ITEMS:** Town Clerk Hallenbeck explained to the Town Board that we will be getting FEMA monies and need to set up line items in the budget to accept the revenues and pay the bills.

A motion was made by Councilman Lansing to set up the following line items in the budget;

Appropriations – A8989.1 Personnel, A8989.4 – Contractual, Revenues – A4960, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Dorman.

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** Many audience comments were heard.

**ADJOURNMENT :** A motion was made by Councilwoman Dorman to adjourn the meeting at 9 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Lansing. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted; Kathleen A. Hallenbeck, Town Clerk

Approved for Newsletter Publication; Jost Nickelsberg, Town Supervisor

**NOTE:** Full Town Board minutes can be found on the Town website ([www.Rensselaerville.com](http://www.Rensselaerville.com)) or at the Town Hall.

# IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL



# UPCOMING AROUND TOWN....

October 9th 6:00PM-8:00PM

## Fire Prevention Open House

Tri-Village Fire Hall, Preston Hollow  
(www.tri-villagefire.com)

Refreshments

Rescue Equipment on Display

Dress Drills

Smoke Room

Fire House Operations

Games

Fun and Educational for the Whole Family



## ROAST PORK DINNER

Trinity Episcopal Church of Rensselaerville will be serving a Roast Pork Dinner on September 22nd, at the Rensselaerville Fire Hall on Route 85 from 4:30-7:00pm.

Adult Dinner—\$10.00  
Children under 5—\$5.00

**Medusa Fire Truck Fund Breakfast**  
**September 15th**  
**7:00 to 11:00 AM**




**Free Will Offering  
To Benefit Our Fire  
Truck Fund**

**All You Can Eat**

**All Are Welcome**



# It's A *Quagmire!* Bring Them Home Now

John & Nancy La Rocca; Mark La Rocca & Nina Nsilo Swai; Tim Lippert;  
Tom & Kathy Mikulka; Sonny & Sue Shufelt; Michael & Gail Benedict;  
Jeff & Sherri Pine; Justin Mikulka & Elise VanAllen; Kerry McFarland;  
Robert and Beth Whiteman; Gordon & Elise Enk; Richard & Nadia Creamer;  
Sue & Jay McChesney; George & Carolin Dempsey; Richard & Mary Ann Ronconi;  
Greg Hostash; Roswell Eldridge; Roger and Bonny Gifford; James Walker;  
Robert Scardamalia; Bill & Barbara DeMille; Tom & Marion Frowein;  
Cynthia Willis; Dick Sabol; Dave & Mary Bryan; Ben Bryan; Emily Bryan;  
Bill & Kathie Quackenbush; Virginia Carter; Joann Eckstut; Tim & Linda Miller;  
Wayne & Charlene Teter; Kevin & Katherine Ceroala; Rich & Linda Snyder; Robert Mitchell and  
Cecile Gleason; Jenny Shufelt; Greg & Diane Bischoff; Helen Tworkov; Gordon & Tracy Benson;  
Dian Ryan; M. Steven Dickerson; Kathy Daniels; Phil Sheehan and Nancy Ortner.

Groups and Organizations: The Chatham Peace Initiative; Veterans for Peace (Hudson Valley); NY Veterans Speak Out;  
Olean Area Coalition for Peace and Justice; Bethlehem Neighbors for Peace; Troy Peace Action; Upper Hudson Peace Ac-  
tion; Women Against War; Veterans for Peace (Chapter 10, The Tom Paine Chapter); Schenectady Neighbors for Peace;  
Vietnam Veterans Against the War; PaxChristiMi.org; Michigan Peace Works; Vietnam Veterans for America

Say it out loud if you think it. +++++ Thank You To New York Civil Liberties Union

## The Oak Hill Kitchen is now open 24 hours!

Sunday 10 am to Friday 3 pm Closed Friday night & all day Saturday

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& live music every Monday Night



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933 CR 401, Westerlo, NY 12193

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

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

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

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

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

**Albany County Highway Dept.**  
518-239-6715

**Rensselaerville Fire Company, 911**  
Social Number - 797-3218

**Tri-Village Fire Company, 911**  
Social Number - 239-6780    www.tri  
-villagefire.com

**Medusa Fire Company, 911**  
Back-up Emergency Number -  
943-9010  
Social Number - 239-6166

**Rensselaerville Vol. Ambulance, 911**  
Information Number - 518-797-5233

**Albany County Sheriff, 911**  
518-765-2351

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

**Dog Control Officer**  
Cheryl Tefft-Baitsholts  
518-797-5201

**IMPORTANT BUSINESS HOURS**

**Town Board Meetings**  
Second Thursday 7:00 pm  
**Working meeting Tuesday before regular  
meeting 7:00 pm as needed**

**Town Justice Court**  
Monday 7:00 pm

**Planning Board**  
First and third Thursdays 7:30 pm

**Zoning Board of Appeals**  
Second Tuesday 7:00 pm

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

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

**Supervisor's Hours**  
Wednesday 10am - 12 pm  
Home office: 7 days 7:30am - 10:30pm

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

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

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

**Water/Sewer District Meeting**  
First Thursday 7:00 pm

**IMPORTANT E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

Supervisor: townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com  
Town Clerk: townclerk@rensselaerville.com  
Planning Board: planningboard@rensselaerville.com  
Assessors: assessors@rensselaerville.com  
Building Inspector: codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com

*Town of Rensselaerville*

87 Barger Road  
Medusa, NY 12120  
Website: [www.Rensselaerville.com](http://www.Rensselaerville.com)

Phone: 518\*797\*3798  
Phone: 518\*239\*4225  
T.D.D.: 800\*662\*1220

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**Just a Reminder....**  
**School is Back in Session**  
**Please Drive Carefully**