



Newark Valley News

December 2011

On the Web at www.townofnewarkvalley.com

"News from Your Town"

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK

.We recently finished the long budget process here at the Town Hall. Due to the hard work of all members, the Board and I came up with a workable plan. Although the tax levy went up slightly, we are well under the 2% property tax cap levy limit enacted by the State. Due to an increase in taxable property values, there is actually a decrease of 3% in the tax rate that will result in a lower tax bill for most people. This was accomplished by freezing some salaries and being very frugal in our appropriations. You should not see a significant change in the level of services provided by the Town.

As always, if you have concerns or ideas, feel free to contact me at the Town Hall or at my place of business. All input is appreciated.

Stuart Yetter, Jr., Supervisor



TOWN CLERK'S CORNER

Hours: September to March: Monday thru Wednesday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Fridays. April to September: Monday thru Wednesday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. then 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Fridays.

My Deputy, Jane Locacio retired November 15, 2011. Thank you for all your hard work, it was a pleasure working with you. Congrats to you Jane, have a Happy Retirement! My new Deputy is Alex Torra. Welcome to the office, Alex!

DOG LICENSES

The Town of Newark Valley requires you to license **all** dog (s). If you own a dog and live in the Town or Village of Newark Valley, your dog must have a license. In order to get a dog license, you must have a current Rabies Certificate and the appropriate fee amount (fees will stay the same, \$7.50 for spayed/neutered dog, \$15.50 for an unaltered dog). If your dog has been spayed or neutered, please provide a certificate, so you can get a discounted license fee. You can mail the information to us or stop by in person.

The license has to be renewed every year. Please make sure you provide your rabies certificate if the old one has expired, altered certificate (if applicable) and sign the license. You can renew by mail. Just send everything in that is required, including your payment and we will send your license and certificates back to you.

If you no longer have a dog, please contact this office to update our records. Your cooperation is vital in keeping our records current.

Every month we have to generate delinquent dog notices and we do not like to send them any more than you like to receive them. So, to avoid this, please update us on the status of your dog(s) and renew your dog license(s) promptly.

Cont. on page 2

Get to know your Officials!

Supervisor -

Stuart Yetter, Jr.

Office: 642-8746

Can be reached during
daytime hours at
642-8084

Town Board Members -

Donald Thomas

Joseph Tomazin

Daniel Cheresnowski

Ron Graham

Court Officials -

Justice Todd Smith

Justice John Schaffer

Clerk Yvonne Tuetken

642-5278

Dog Control Officer -

Delbert Mock

642-3287

Code Enforcement Officer

- Tom Larson

Fire Marshal -

Dennis Liebe

642-3617

Highway Supt. -

Charles Meade

642-9927

HANDICAP PARKING

If you need a handicap parking tag, you need to get a form from us, or your doctor's office, have the doctor fill it out, (both of you need to sign and date it) and bring it into our office along with your driver's license. We will then fill the request from the application. There is no cost to you. You must live in Newark Valley to have this office issue you one. If you live in Newark Valley, you must get your tag here in Newark Valley.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Getting married? If you plan to get a marriage license from us, please note the following:

License Fee is \$40.00, payable by check or cash.

1. Both Bride and Groom must be present at time of the application.
2. Proof of identity (driver's license, non driver's license)
3. Certified Birth Certificate for proof of birth, name and age.
4. Certified Divorce decrees from all previous marriages.
5. There is a 24 hour waiting period between the purchase of the license and the wedding ceremony.
6. The license is valid for only 60 days.

The license has to be filed where it is purchased, not where the marriage takes place.

You may apply for a marriage license in any Town or City office in New York State. If you choose to apply in Newark Valley, you must arrive by 1 hour prior to this office closing.

Hunting and fishing licenses are still available for purchase. No doe permits are available now for this area.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Barb Mock, Town Clerk

DOG DATA

DOG CONTROL

RABIES CLINIC

Agway, at 116 Jennings Street has rabies vaccinations available the first Thursday of every month from 4:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at a cost of \$20.00, questions? Call 754-6660.

DOG ENUMERATION

Thank you for all the responses we received for the enumeration. **Keep in mind that if your dog is not licensed, you will receive an appearance ticket. Every dog needs to be licensed, even those that never go outside. Everyone has had a year to license their dogs without punishment. Starting in January, if your dog(s) are not licensed you will receive an appearance ticket with a maximum fine of \$250.00.** When you license your dog, put the dog tag on the collar of the dog. We have a leash law and every dog that is picked up without a license or ID will be taken to Stray Haven.

Also, if your phone number has changed, you have moved or are moving, your dog has died, the dog is missing, or been transferred to another person, you need to contact the Town Clerk or me and give one of us the information.

Do not pick up dogs from other towns. This is considered dog kidnapping and is punishable by law.

If you have a dog complaint, lost dog, found dog or questions, please call 642-3287.

Have a Merry Christmas!

Del Mock, Dog Control Officer



TAX COLLECTOR

The tax collections hours will be on the tax bills and are the following:

September thru March: Monday thru Wednesday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Fridays. April and May: Monday thru Wednesday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. then 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Fridays. No holiday or weekend collections

Want to pay your tax bill in December? Please call the office at 642-8746 between now and December 15th to "get on the list" of December payers. This is a fresh list, there are no carryovers from last year or previous years as we found last year that our list was very outdated. We will call you as soon as the tax bills are available so you can come in and pay or mail your payment before 01/01/2011.

If you expect to get a town and county tax bill and have not received it by January 7, 2011, please call our office at 642-8746 and we will send you a copy.

If you have a mortgage with escrow, your taxes are probably paid by you as part of your monthly payment. Then, your mortgage company or some designated processing company makes the actual tax payment on your behalf. We get notifications from most mortgage companies to send the tax bill to that company directly, which we do. However, in the absence of any notification, we will send the bill to you. As the property owner, you are responsible for the taxes.

Payment can be made in person or by mail. If you mail your payment, it is considered paid on the **postmark date** (not the date of the check) so, be sure that it is postmarked no later than the date it is due. If you do need to pay late, please include the interest amount as we cannot accept a payment for more or less than the exact amount due. If you do not pay in person, or your mortgage company pays on your behalf, a "PAID Receipt" will be mailed to your address of record. If that address has changed, please notify the assessor at 642-8666.

We do not accept payment after May 31, 2012. Call the Tioga County Treasurer's Office at 687-8670 to find out how to pay your tax bill.

If you have any questions call 642-8746

Barb Mock, Tax Collector



FIRE MARSHAL FACTS

During tropical storm Lee on September 7th the Newark Valley Fire Department went to over 50 emergency calls. A question was brought up why the fire department didn't pump out the water in the basements at that time. The reason why they couldn't pump it out at that time was because there is still likely to be enormous water pressure in the soil outside of your basement walls and under the slab. The water in your basement may actually be balancing the outside pressure. Without it, the basement walls could crack or crumble inward. This is the reason the fire chief made the decision not to pump out your basement until the water had receded and, so no structural damage was done to your home.

Dennis Liebe, Fire Marshal

FIRE CHIEF COMMENTARY

As fire chief, I not only want to thank the members of the Newark Valley Fire Department, but the residents of Newark Valley for coming together, neighbors helping neighbors to tackle the flood waters and other issues that were dumped upon this area in September. Your fire department serves over five thousand souls plus those traveling through and helping out our neighboring areas when requested. During the flood we had 21 trained volunteer fire fighters working hard and long hours. Some of them had to deal with flooding in their own homes. Yes we did go to homes with only one inch of water in their basement, and try to explain that we can't help. We only have two pumps to dewater with and they will only take the level down to about six inches. As the Fire Marshal explained, you can't take the water out of the basement too fast or the ground water coming through the floor and walls may cause major structural damage. We did help shut off electric breakers and move appliances when we could do so, safely. I want to thank Weltonville Fire, Berkshire Fire, Richford Fire, Berkshire EMS and the Town and Village of Newark Valley public work departments for assisting us during this time. Newark Valley Fire spent many hours helping other departments also. We sent equipment and personnel, when requested, to assist Owego Fire, Tioga County and NYS DOT.

Again, Thank you to the residents who understood the magnitude of the problems and arose and pitched in to help each other. It is the goal of our volunteer department to assist the residents of this community always and our limited number of dedicated volunteers made the events of September 2011 very challenging for all of us.

Chief Ernie Tuetken, Newark Valley Fire Department

CODE COMMENTS

Prepare your home now and save money later

As I travel around the community, I see many homes that are not adequately prepared for winter. Now is the time. We are approaching the really hard months of January through March when the temperature goes to its lowest and the snow gets its deepest. Below I have provided a list of items you should go through in your mind to make certain that you are ready for winter.

FURNACE INSPECTIONS - Have an HVAC professional inspect your furnace, clean filters, and change nozzles as needed. If you are saying to yourself, "The furnace is running fine. I can hold off spending the money now and wait until later." You are only fooling one person. Yourself. Furnaces and stoves usually break when the weather is the worst, on a weekend and at two a.m. Get it checked out now.

CHECK THE EXTERIOR, DOORS AND WINDOWS - Your house is a barrier from the cold westerly wind, an envelope that holds in your expensive warm air, and a thermos bottle that holds that precious air in the envelope with insulation. Look for flaws in your defenses. Cracks and holes need to be plugged. Insulation needs to be thickened or repaired.

GET THE FIREPLACE AND FOSSIL FUEL STOVE READY- Make certain that there is a weather cap on the top of the chimney. Rain and snow turns the creosote to a liquid corrosive that will destroy the mortar inside your chimney. How do I know? It happened at my house. Use dry seasoned wood. I actually saw on the ground around the base of a stainless steel chimney, a puddle of creosote that was two and a half feet wide and three quarters of an inch thick. When I asked the owner what happened, he replied "oh yea, I had to burn some green wood last winter." Of course I told him that it was a miracle that the house was still standing and then talked about chimney safety.

INSTALL OR CHECK SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS - In my home I replace the batteries on New Year's Eve. You pick the time that is best for you but do it annually. Do not wait for it to beep.

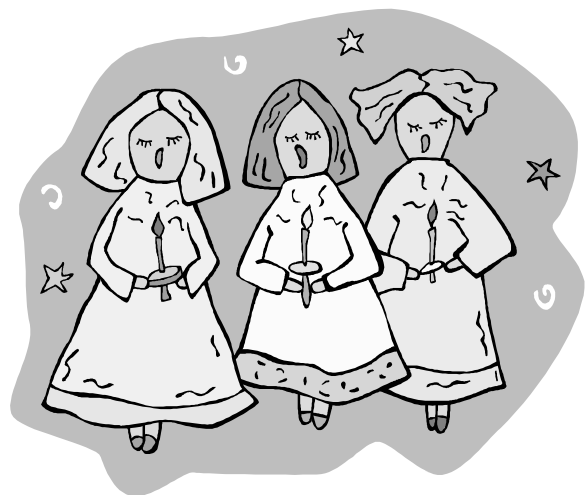
Buy a fire extinguisher or check the one in the kitchen and furnace room. If a fire extinguisher is over ten years old, replace it. If the extinguisher is power filled, shake it vigorously to keep the powder from settling every 3 months.

PLAN A FIRE DRILL AND A POWER FAILURE DRILL - Decide as a family before the event takes place, what you are going to do during these always unexpected events. These can be fun family activities for the entire family. It helps mom and dad sleep better when they know the family is as prepared as they can be. I witnessed a demonstration fire of a ten foot square room last summer. The fireman started the fire in a waste basket with papers in it next to a common sofa. The room was totally on fire from top to bottom in four minutes.

CHECK THE HEAT TAPE NOW if you reside in a manufactured home - Even though heat tapes that prevent your pipes from freezing are built as well as they can be, the unexpected can happen. Rodents and other animals can nibble at them, they can slide out of position and wrap around themselves, and they can be physically damaged. Check them out now before they fail or worse.

This is not a complete list. I recommend that you Google, "HOME WINTERIZATION" and read through more detailed suggestions. Plan for a safe and warm winter.

Tom Larson, CEO



HISTORIAN CORNER

September 2011 will be remembered for the flooding that took place not only in Newark Valley but many of our neighbors around us. Unfortunately, much history was washed away. We treasure what we have and are very grateful for the safe environment that Newark Valley has.

We feel privileged to have recently acquired one of Phil Biehl's paintings. I know his display at the Depot this summer was enjoyed by a great many. A big THANK YOU to his brother Don for sharing with us! We appreciate this gift as a memoir of the life that Phil enjoyed thru his photography and his paintings.

In spite of the weather, the Apple Festival did survive. Many enjoyed our little "corner of history" in the Education Center.

Thanks to Deputy Schneider for putting the bicycle history display in the Lena Bushnell Meeting Room at the Town Hall. And to Deputy Mullen for her help in researching a very interesting portion of our early bicycle history. The Town Hall is open Monday—Thursday from 10-3, and 10-1 on Friday. Drop in and see the results of their efforts.

Thanks to Deputy Marsh and Deputy Schneider for the display of our war memorabilia at the annual Veteran's Day Dinner put on by the Newark Valley Historical Society. A Thank You to Mr. Burrell (from Owego) for sharing his war souvenirs with us.

If you attended the yearly Volunteer Dinner provided by the Historical Society you got a preview of Deputy Marsh's book about the Civil War veteran's and their families in Newark Valley. He has done a fantastic job! You will hear more in the near future.

Our "snow birds" Tom and Ginny may be out of sight but the e-mails fly back and forth with "Stuff" for our constant searching.

See you in 2012!!

Shirley Callahan, Historian

ASSESSOR NOTES

The Senior, Agriculture and Enhanced Star Renewal letters will be mailed out at the end of December. You may contact me anytime at the following numbers:

642-8666 Phone

1-315-391-8323 Cell

1-315-458-0365 Fax

I have updated the Enhanced Star IVP (Income Verification Program) listing, this should help with the confusion over the Enhanced filings we were having. We will send postcards to all who have signed up for the IVP who have qualified for the Enhanced Star Exemption.

Michael Maxwell, Assessor



Officials cont.

Town Historian -
Shirley Callahan

Deputy Historians -
Joan Shaver

Ginny Mullen

Marty Schneider

Nellie Snapp

Gwen Stephens

Nancy Hess

Jerry Marsh

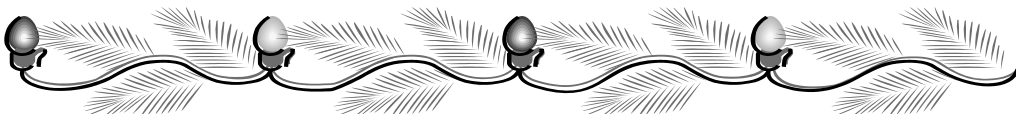
642-8705

Shirley can be
reached at home
by calling 642-3361

Town Clerk/Tax
Collector - Barb Mock
Deputy - Alex Torra
642-8746

Assessor - Michael
Maxwell 642-8666

These are your local officials. We are all here to serve the needs of the Taxpayers. Please don't hesitate to call us for help or to offer suggestions to improve "Your" local government.



Newark Valley News
Town of Newark Valley
109 Whig Street
Newark Valley, NY 13811

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PAID
NEWARK VALLEY, NY
PERMIT NO. 6

Postal Customer
Newark Valley NY 13811

COMMUNITY NEWS

Newark Valley's 6th Annual
Holiday Magic
Saturday, Dec. 10th 4-8 p.m.

Village Green & Noble Room

Santa in the Gazebo 4-5 p.m.

Gingerbread Houses (for contest details: 642-3906)

Christmas Music

Raffles

Hot cocoa & coffee

Homemade candies, cakes, soup, bread, pies, popcorn and peppermint pigs!

Horse & Wagon Rides between Village Green & Depot

Depot 4—5 p.m.

Silent Auction of 16 beautiful wreaths

More than 20 decorated trees

Music by Grassanova with Tom Quigley

Delicious food: pulled pork, chili, sloppy joes, hot dogs & deserts

Hot chocolate & mulled cider

Santa 5:30—7:00 p.m.

Much, Much more!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Town Board Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7PM.

Town Planning Board Meetings: 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 PM.

Town Court: 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7PM. 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6PM.

Town Clerk: Monday through Wednesday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Fridays.

Town Assessor: Call for day & time

Town Hall Receptionist: Monday through Friday
10 AM to 1 PM.