



Newark Valley News

December 2014

On the Web at www.townofnewarkvalley.com

"News from Your Town"

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK

We just completed our budget work and adopted the Town Budget for 2015. Thanks to the hard work from all of our employees and local officials there will be a tax rate increase of two (2) cents per thousand which is less than one half of one percent increase. The town is able to maintain our current services so far.

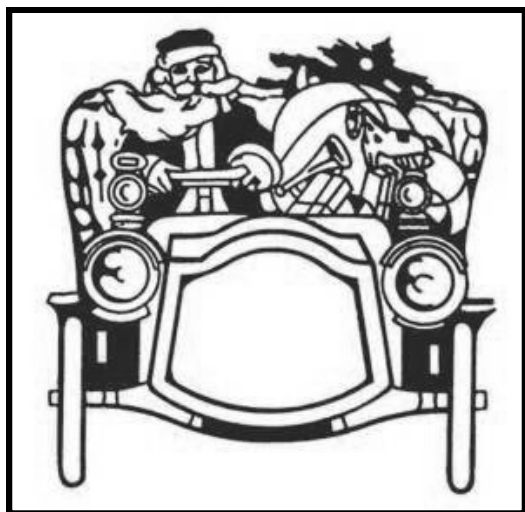
The board is also looking at changes to some of our local laws to help promote the standards our residents have come to expect. There will be a public hearing soon on changes to our sign law with more to follow on other law changes as they are finalized.

The board is currently working with the Highway Superintendent to start the construction of a salt storage facility. This is being done with savings in our building fund and in house labor as much as possible. We hope to complete this project without impacting the tax rate.

As winter approaches, I urge everyone to be prepared for winter driving. As hard as our Highway Department works at it there will be times the roads will be slippery. It is upstate New York. Keep good tires on your cars and use caution and good judgment when driving in winter precipitation.

I wish all a happy and healthy Holiday Season.

Stuart Yetter, Jr., Supervisor



TOWN CLERK'S CORNER

**Hours: Monday thru Thursday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Closed Fridays.**

DOG LICENSES

If you own a dog and live in the Town of Newark Valley:

Newark Valley Town Law requires you to license your dog(s). Your dog **must** have a license. In order to get a new dog licensed, you must have a current Rabies Certificate and the appropriate fee amount. If your dog is spayed or neutered, please provide a certificate, so you can get a discounted license fee. Please put the dog tag on the collar of your dog (highly recommended) then if your dog becomes lost, we will be able to identify the animal and owner easier. The tag is good for the life of the dog and just like the license is non-transferrable. If the tag is lost, a new one can be issued for a charge of \$3.00.

You can get a new license or renewal license by mail. You will need:

A current Rabies Certificate (all the required information about the dog and you should be on the Rabies Certificate)

A spayed or neutered certificate, if it applies

A check or money order made out to the Newark Valley Town Clerk in the amount of **\$7.50** for a spayed or neutered dog or **\$15.50** for an unspayed or unneutered dog for a year license

Mail to: Newark Valley Town Clerk, 109 Whig Street, Newark Valley, NY 13811

We will mail back all originals, the license and if needed, a license tag.

If you no longer have your dog, if you change your phone number, or you have a change of address (even if you move to another town), please contact the Town Clerk's Office to update our records. Your cooperation is vital in keeping our records current. In doing so, you won't receive a renewal or delinquent notice.

Cont. pg. 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 -

Timothy Dalton

Joseph Tomazin

Daniel Cheresnowski

Ron Graham

Court Officials -

Justice Todd Smith

Justice John Schaffer

Clerk Yvonne Tuetken

642-5278

Dog Control Officer -

Denise Liske

642-3287

Code Enforcement Officer

- Tom Larson

Fire Marshal -

Dennis Liebe

642-3617

Highway Supt. -

Charles Meade

642-9927

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. Thank you.

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.
7. 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 one hour prior to this office closing.

If you need a copy of a birth, marriage, or death certificate, contact the office at 642-8746. You will need to fill out a form. There is a \$10.00 charge for each copy.

Hunting and fishing licenses are still available for purchase.
Have a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Barb Mock, Town Clerk

HEAT & EAT

As temperatures drop, heating costs rise for all New Yorkers. This rise in heating costs forces some to make an impossible choice - pay to keep your home at a safe temperature or buy the groceries you need to stay healthy. For those New Yorkers facing this decision, SNAP could make it possible to heat their home and buy the food they need.

SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps, is a monthly supplement to your food budget. People that participate in the program are given a special debit card called an EBT card that is used to buy groceries. Because SNAP dollars are spent at local grocery stores and farmer's markets, SNAP is helping the residents of our community and the businesses that serve them.

With SNAP, lower income families, children, veterans, students and older adults will be able to buy the nutritious foods they need to stay strong and healthy through the winter months while keeping the heat on.

Anyone in Tioga County interested in getting more information about SNAP or getting a free and confidential prescreening to find out if they may be eligible to participate should feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kathi Latson

**NOEP Coordinator for Tioga County
Family Enrichment Network**

**1277 Taylor Road Owego, NY 13827
607-201-5678 or 607-723-8313 x590**

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax collection hours will be on the tax bills and are as follows:

January and February: Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Closed Fridays. No Holiday collections.

If you want to pay your tax bill in December please call the office at 642-8746 between now and December 20th to get on the "list" of December payers. This is a fresh list, there are no carryovers from last year, or previous years. We will call you as soon as the tax bills are available so you can come in and pay or mail your payment before 01/01/2015.

If you expect to get a Town and County Property Tax Bill and have not received it by January 10, 2015, 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.**

If your mortgage company or bank is supposed to pay your taxes through an escrow account, or will not be paying your taxes anymore, please make sure they notify Tioga County Real Property by filling out Form 953 and faxing or mailing it to them at 56 Main Street, Owego, NY 13827. Hopefully, this will alleviate any of the problems we have had in the past.

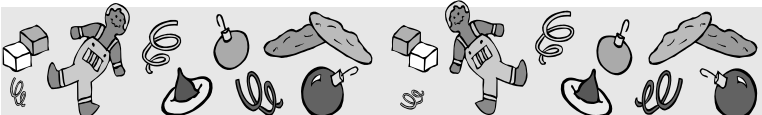
Payment can be made in person or by mail. If you mail your payment, it is considered paid on the **postmark date** (not the date of the check) so, be sure that it is postmarked no later than the date it is due. If you do need to pay late, please include the interest amount, as we cannot accept a payment 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, 2015. Call the Tioga County Treasurer's Office at 687-8670 to find out how to pay your tax bill.

If you have any questions, please call the office at 642-8746.

If you have questions about your assessment or exemptions, please call the Assessor at 642-8666.

Barb Mock, Tax Collector



FIRE MARSHAL FACTS

CHIMNEY AND WOODSTOVE FIRE SAFETY

There are hundreds of fire incidents involving chimneys, fire-places, and woodstoves. These are responsible for numerous deaths and injuries, and result in millions of dollars in property losses. This type of fire linked to heating systems make up a large percentage of all fires that occur each year.

PURCHASING

- Be sure the stove you are purchasing to burn wood, pellets or coal is approved by Underwriter's Laboratory or another recognized testing laboratory.

INSTALLATION

- A building permit must be obtained prior to the installation of fireplaces, fireplace inserts, or wood, pellet, or coal burning stoves. NYS Building Code requires inspection by the Town Code Enforcement officer or the Fire Marshal prior to initial use.
- Allow 36" of clearance (or as the manufacturer's installation guide recommends) around or in front of the appliance to prevent combustibles from coming in contact or exposed to radiant heat sources. Assure that an adequate hearth is provided per the appliance needs to prevent embers or sparks from landing onto combustible flooring.
- Solid-fuel heating appliances cannot share a flue utilized by other solid-fuel, fossil-fuel, of gas-fired appliances.
- For fire and life safety purposes, smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms are required. Install devices and/or assure existing safety alarms are working.

INSPECTIONS

- If solid-fuel devices are to be installed in existing chimney or flue, have the flue/chimney inspected by a qualified person prior to use. Cracks in the flue or mortar joints can allow flames and heated gases to extend into the structure, which is one of the leading causes of building structure fires.

Dennis Liebe, Fire Marshal



DOG DATA

For nuisance issues, neglect/abuse concerns or to report a missing/located dog, please contact the Newark Valley Dog Control - Denise Liske (607) 642-3287. I believe that social media can be beneficial to giving lost or stray dogs an opportunity to be reunited and returned back to their home. Therefore, I have established <https://www.facebook.com/newarkvalleydogcontrol> - please like this page as well as share any updates!

The law requires that an outdoor dog has proper protection from the weather. The ideal situation for any dog is to be part of the family and live indoors but I realize that some individuals for various reasons don't bring their animals inside. If this is the situation, please remember that dogs can suffer from frostbite, exposure and dehydration when temperatures are below freezing. Water should be available for the dog at all times and it should be given adequate food as dogs will need more calories in the winter to accommodate for their increased need for body heat.

A doghouse should be large enough for the dog to stand up, lie down and stretch out in without touching the sides or top but not too large that it can't hold its own body heat. The doghouse should be waterproof and at least 2 inches off the ground. Appearance is not as important as insulation so I always recommend wood versus plastic as it is more weather resistance. Please be sure to have a door flap or windbreaker on the entrance during the winter months. The doghouse should have dry bedding - straw or wood shavings are best because blankets and fabrics tend to hold the moisture which decreases a dog's body temperature. The doghouse should also be in a location where the dog has access to shade from the sun.

Happy Holidays to All The Fur Babies Out There & Their Families!!

Denise Liske – Dog Control Officer



HISTORIAN HAPPENINGS

My calendar tells me that 2014 is on the way out! One thing about our job, history is always on the move. We have had many interesting challenges this year and are looking forward to 2015 when I'm sure we will have even more.

Our annual events (Spring Fling, NV Days, Apple Festival, and the Veterans Dinner) came and went. Next will be the Holiday Magic and then bingo, The New Year.

Congratulations to Deputy Marsh for his recent award for his published book "The Brotherhood of Battle". This Veterans award was presented by Jim Raftis at the annual Veterans dinner sponsored by the NV Historical Society. Earlier in the day Jerry was the keynote speaker at the Tioga County Veterans Memorial Service in Owego; he spoke of Tioga County's role in the Civil War. His book depicts Newark Valley Civil War Soldiers and their families.

Thank you to Nellie Snapp and her daughter Susan for the great job they have done with the Veterans Service Log. They have worked diligently recording the service records of local Veterans (Newark Valley, Berkshire and Richford). Presently they have a total of over 700 soldiers, Great Job!

We lost a friend this week. Joe Ceurter has passed away. He was a man of many talents. His service record is one to admire. You would never know it by speaking with him. He was inducted into the NYS Senate Veterans Hall of Fame in 2010. He served in the Korean Conflict, and was awarded 2 Silver Stars, 2 Bronze Stars and 5 Purple Hearts. Thanks Joe, may you rest in peace.

Shirley Callahan, Town Historian

ASSESSOR NOTES

All Aged (Senior) and Enhanced Star renewal forms will be mailed at the end of December. Those Enhanced Star participants who have filed an IVP Form where the State verifies their income will receive a postcard from the Assessor rather than a renewal form. As a reminder, all renewal forms must be returned by March 1, 2015.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your assessment or exemptions, please contact me. I am in my office at the Town Hall each Monday from 2 PM to 5 PM. My office number is 642-8666. I can also be reached by e-mail at nvassessor@stny.rr.com.

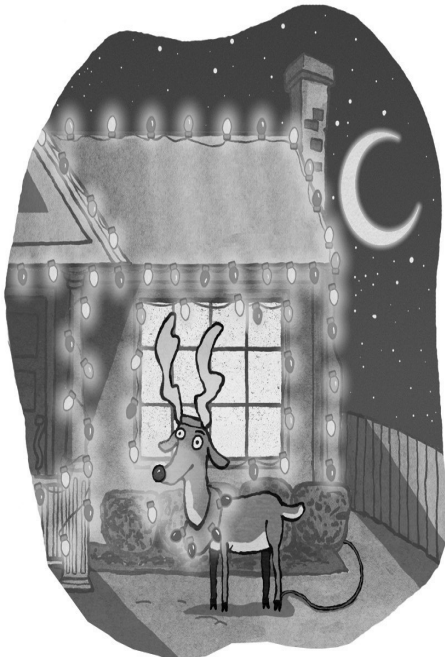
Douglas Barton, Assessor

HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS

Well this year is gone and we here at the Highway Department have been very busy.

All projects were completed and a few more. The Ketchumville Road Bridge was completed by November 7th and it took just two weeks. Next year I want to paint the deck and the guide rail. I want to thank the people that had to use the detour while we had the Bridge closed. A big thank you to my crew that worked diligently and hard to get the Bridge opened up; we waited two months for the beams. Also a big thank you to the Town of Candor's excavator with operator Grady and Tioga County Highway Department's welding Truck with operator Charlie. A sincere thank you to all and a job well done! Please make sure you have your snow tires on and are ready for Mr. Winter! I hope it doesn't happen here what happened in Buffalo, but if it does we are ready! From all of us here at the Highway Department, Seasons Greetings to you and your families. May Santa bring happiness, joy, and blessings to you all. Thank you.

Charles Meade, Hwy. Supt.



CODE COMMENTS

Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

Holiday Decorating

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

Holiday Entertaining

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.

Tom Larson - CEO

Thanks to NFPA

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

642-8746

Assessor - Douglas Barton

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

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE PAID
NEWARK VALLEY, NY
PERMIT NO. 3

Postal Customer
Newark Valley NY 13811

COMMUNITY NEWS



Come and enjoy, "Sing and Shout for Joy!" a Christmas Cantata presented by a combined choir of singers from the churches of the Newark Valley area directed by Mrs. Jewel Griffith and accompanied by Mrs. Brenda Yeier. This free musical celebration on Sunday December 14th at 7:00pm at the Newark Valley United Methodist Church includes favorite Christmas carols, praise songs and some beautiful new songs as well. The songs and narrative weave together a Christmas message to 'Shout for Joy to the Lord, all the earth, for He comes'. Please come and join us for joyous Christmas celebration.

If inclement weather causes cancellation, the Cantata will be held on the following Sunday the 21st at the same time.



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 thru Thursday 10 AM to 1 PM. Closed Fridays. .

Town Assessor: Mondays 2 to 5 PM

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