



# Newark Valley News

December 2015

On the Web at [www.townofnewarkvalley.com](http://www.townofnewarkvalley.com)

*"News from Your Town"*

## MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK

This year has been the most difficult and frustrating budget year in all of my years as Supervisor. The State has lowered the tax cap again to try to help alleviate the property tax burden. This is an admirable goal, however this year we have failed to stay below the tax cap. After a hard winter last year, expenses are up. Our equipment is aging requiring more expensive repairs. The Highway Budget has had to be modified a number of times to accommodate this. The cost of health insurance has increased 12%. Our workers comp bill increased 25%.

As a result of this, we are looking at a 9.6% tax rate increase. This seems very steep until one looks at the budget in depth. Our total spending increase is only .14% or 2,150 dollars in a 1.5 million dollar budget. What has happened is we no longer have a surplus fund balance to offset taxes. We made many cuts to try to eliminate a tax increase including eliminating a full time highway employee. Any further cuts in spending will seriously compromise our ability to maintain necessary services and keep our infrastructure from deteriorating.

The board and I are doing our best to spend as little as possible now without creating problems in the future that will cost even more to take care of.

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 or Village 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 **\$10.00** for a spayed or neutered dog or **\$20.00** 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.**

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## Get to know your Officials!

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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.

### **WE CAN NO LONGER ISSUE ANY KENNEL LICENSES.**

### **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

## **CHRISTMAS CANTATA**

"The Promise of Light!"

a Christmas Cantata will be presented by a combined choir of singers from the churches of the Newark Valley area. The cantata will be directed by Mrs. Jewel Griffith and accompanied by Mrs. Brenda Yeier and Mrs. Ann Lowdermilk. This free musical celebration on Sunday December 13th at 7:00pm will be held at the Newark Valley United Methodist Church. Original music is blended with traditional Christmas carols and songs will tell the timeless story of the birth of Christ, the Light of the World. We hope you can come and let us shine the light of Christmas on you!

If inclement weather causes cancellation, the Cantata will be held on the following Saturday the 19th at the same time and location.

Jeanne Lindsay



## 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 01/01/2016.

If you expect to get a Town and County Property Tax Bill and have not received it by January 10, 2016, 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, 2016.** Call the Tioga County Treasurer's Office at 687-8670 to find out how to pay your tax bill after May 31, 2016.

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

### Staying safe at home this winter

Winter comes with a few hazards for homeowners, but there are plenty of things you can do to protect your family. Keep these tips in mind:

- **Request a home heating inspection**

The fact that your central heating unit, space heater, or fireplace was working properly at the end of last season does not mean it's ready for this winter. Before frigid temperatures set in, hire a professional to conduct a safety inspection of your heating unit, fireplace flue, and Chimney.

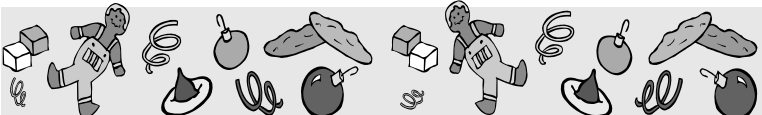
If any potential risks are found, act immediately to remedy them. If you have been using gas space heaters, make sure your rooms have the proper ventilation.

- Make certain units are not placed near anything flammable. Using unsafe heating systems can result in fire, injury, or carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Also make sure that your mailbox numbers are the right size so that the emergency vehicles can see your numbers from at least 100 feet away. The

Town code states that the numbers on your mailbox shall be 4" high on both sides. Each number should be Arabic in design and should sharply contrast from its background.

A reminder that the NYS DEC burn ban will be on again from March 15 through May 15 of 2016. You may have cook outs, and small camp fires. Only charcoal or clean untreated and unpainted wood can be burned.

Dennis Liebe, Fire Marshal



## DOG DATA

Please remember to report a missing/located dog IMMEDIATELY by contacting the Newark Valley Dog Control - Denise Liske (607) 642-3287. The Dog Control Officer can assist with searching and retrieval of your dog as well as should anything ever happen to your dog while they are not within your care; the Dog Control Officer often has to make difficult decisions on the dog's behalf. 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.

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

Denise Liske – Dog Control Officer

## HISTORIAN HAPPENINGS

In October we received a request from a gentleman in Madison, Wisc. to help identify 2 baseball players in old time uniforms, with NV on them. It was taken by "Cortwright Photographers and Crayon Artists of Newark Valley". (Their studio was across Whig St. from the Funeral Home! This building is now gone.) Ginny searched the Gilbert Purple book for names from the late 1800's-early 1900's. Marty wrote to him and asked for family surnames. The picture was found in a friend's mother's attic.

Back came Livermore! So Marty searched the "Livermore Scrapbook" that we have, and found baseball rosters from 1886, 87, 88. And there was Bert Livermore! Does anyone have any information if he had a wonderful handlebar mustache? That would ID one of these gentlemen!

Jerry Marsh is also doing more research.

The message from the gentleman says he thinks we are amazing! It's been a fun search.

At the Apple Fest, another family from Mass. asked about Paul Smith. This has led to correspondence with them, sharing information. This man's great-grandmother evidently was the Lena Bushnell of Whitney Point! He has scrapbooks much as we do.

We are pleased that our exhibit on the Joslin Tours will be featured at the Tioga County Historical Society Museum in Owego from January to March.

J.D. Joslin ran extensive tours to the National Parks and West Coast, to the Caribbean, and to Europe from his Main Street Newark Valley home in the early 1900s. The exhibit includes photos of local residents who went on some of the trips, along with postcards, articles, brochures, and more. Joseph Joslin was also Lehigh Valley Station Agent here, and leader of 4 bands in Newark Valley, spanning almost 50 years.

Shirley Callahan, Town Historian

Ginny Mullen, Volunteer Historian

Marty Schneider, Volunteer Historian



## HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS

I hope everything that your family had planned for 2015 was done. Everything here at the highway was done along with a big crossover pipe that was changed on N.V Maine Rd and that wasn't planned, but had to be done. I will only have five men instead of six from now on to take care of the snowy roads this winter due to cut backs to keep the taxes down. Each road will be done but it will take 1 to 2 hours longer. Make sure you put on the snow tires and drive slower. The New York State government and federal government cut our revenues, so we are cutting also! Have a safe and enjoyable winter season and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Charles Meade, Hwy. Supt.

## 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, 2016.

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](mailto:nvassessor@stny.rr.com).

Douglas Barton, Assessor



## CODE COMMENTS

A rule currently in development would amend the provisions of the State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code.

This change, when passed, will make significant changes to our state code. The code will likely take effect in early 2016.

The Department of State invites public participation in the rule development process.

In general, the Uniform Code, as amended by this rule, will be set forth in the 2015 edition of the codes published by the International Code Council, Inc. (the "2015 ICC Codes") including the -

International Residential Code, International Building Code,

International Plumbing Code, International Mechanical Code, International Fuel Gas Code, International Fire Code, International Property Maintenance Code, and the International Existing Building Code.

For more details including the rule text and code supplements

See: [http://www.dos.ny.gov/dcea/noticerule\\_dev.html](http://www.dos.ny.gov/dcea/noticerule_dev.html)

([www.townofnewarkvalley.com](http://www.townofnewarkvalley.com))

Tom Larson - CEO



## Officials cont.

Town Historian -

Shirley Callahan

Volunteer Historians -

Joan Shaver

Ginny Mullen

Marty Schneider

Nellie Snapp

Gwen Stephens

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

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Postal Customer  
Newark Valley NY 13811

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Holiday Magic 2015

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! One and all! Holiday Magic is returning to Newark Valley once again this December—Saturday, December 12, 2015, to be exact. The magic begins at 4:00 pm and comes to a sad but satisfying end at 8:00 pm.

There will be lots of delicious food and music at the Village Hall. Marvel at the beautiful gingerbread creations in the Noble Room while enjoying hot beverages and other goodies. To enter the gingerbread contest, please contact Stacy Hoyt at 321-1572 or stacy93@aol.com.

Warm yourself by the fires outside the Village Hall and then head over to the Tappan Spaulding Memorial Library where special guests will be available for pictures.

Then take a magical horse and wagon ride through village streets over to the Depot, which will be done up for the holidays too. This year's theme is a Heavenly Frosty Christmas. You won't want to miss it! There will be oodles of delectable food and luscious desserts, too. Warm your tummy with hot chocolate or mulled cider. Of course, the jolly old man in white beard and red suit will be on hand to listen to the wishes of boys and girls. You'll also want to watch the live nativity at the Depot.

Don your warmest mittens and festive hat and come join in the holiday fun at Newark Valley's tenth annual Holiday Magic Festival.

Leslie Inderwies

## 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.