

# R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, Issue 11

January, 2017

## Medusa Firehouse Renovation Funding, Public Hearing, Draft Minutes, December 6, 2016

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Public Hearing on the 6th day of December 2016 at 6:45 in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

**PRESENT WERE:** Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilman [sic] Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

**ABSENT WAS:** Councilman Gerald Wood

Also present were two interested citizens.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive public comments in relation to the proposed borrowing by the Medusa Volunteer Fire Company from the Bank of Greene County in connection with renovations and improvements which the Fire Company wishes to make. The Fire Company is seeking approval of the Town of Rensselaerville in connection with the borrowing pursuant to applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code relating to borrowing by a private fire company through the issuance of tax exempt obligations. The Town will not be obligated in any way to the financing of the renovations.

As no public comments were introduced, either verbal or written, Supervisor Lounsbury entertained a motion to close the public hearing.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to close the Public Hearing regarding the financing of the renovations of the Medusa Fire House at 6:57 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

### RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk



### Inside this issue:

Draft T.B Minutes	2	Grandparent's Scam	20	Middleburgh Library	29
If You Could Ask God a Question; Senior Citizen Info	14	Library Youth Programs	21	Greenville Library	31
STAR Information	15	Library Tween/Teen Programs	22	Ender's Game	32
PO Info; Carey Institute; Grist Mill	16	Medusa VFC Breakfast	24	The Girl on the Train	33
Live Assured	17	RVFD News; Blood Drives	25	On the Calendar	34
Kid's Activity Page	18	Library News	26	Contact Info	35
Kudos	19	Painting Party	28	The Back Page	36

**Town Board Work Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 6, 2016**

The Work Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 6th day of December 2016 at 7:00 in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

**PRESENT WERE:** Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

**ABSENT WAS:** Councilman Gerald Wood

Also present were two interested citizens.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

**MINUTES**

Minutes to be accepted at the Regular Meeting on December 8, 2016:

November 9, 2016 – Public Hearing – Preliminary Budget

November 9, 2016 – Work Meeting

November 10, 2016 – Regular Meeting

**TRANSFERS, VOUCHERS, AND BILLS:** There will be transfers which will be addressed in detail at the Regular Meeting on Thursday.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The correspondence will be addressed at the Regular Meeting.

**REPORTS:** The regular reports from the Supervisor, Attorney, Highway Department, Town Clerk, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector, Assessors, Water/Sewer Committee, and Recycling Center will be given at the Regular Meeting on Thursday.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. A Public Hearing was held regarding the financing of the Medusa Volunteer Fire Company's renovations through a Promissory Note from the Bank of Greene County. Attorney Fallati will have the necessary paperwork on Thursday.
2. Attorney Fallati will also have the paperwork to finalize the amendment to the Zoning Law allowing for alternate members of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. The Highway's on-line bidding authority will have to be renewed at Thursday's meeting.
2. Discussion was had amongst the Board members regarding the rate of pay for CDL Certified vs. non-Certified seasonal, part-time highway employees. Supervisor Lounsbury will check into the Union Contract to see what the stipulations are. Further discussions will be had at Thursday's Regular meeting.
3. Supervisor Lounsbury is in receipt of the annual contract proposal from the accountants Pattison, Koskey, Howe & Bucci, CPAs, P.C. Their anticipated fees for the year are \$12,000 which is down from \$25,000 in prior years. Supervisor Lounsbury attributed the drastic drop to the Town now being caught up and some changes which were made to the accounting program. Supervisor Lounsbury will need authorization to execute the contract for 2017.
4. Supervisor Lounsbury suggested a date of December 30, 2016 at 7:00 PM for the Final Meeting of the Town Board and January 3, 2017 at 7:00 PM for the Organizational Meeting.
5. The list of seasonal road closures will be addressed at the Regular meeting and authorization to place a Legal Notice in the Altamont Enterprise will be needed.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Town Board Work Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 6, 2016

(Continued from page 2)

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 PM; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood*

### **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk



## Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 8, 2016

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 8th day of December 2016 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Thomas Fallati, Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck, two interested citizens, and Timothy Tulloch from the Altamont Enterprise.

### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

A request was made to add two items to the agenda: one being discussion on the renewal of the Blue Shield health insurance for retirees. **[See Editor's Note #1 on page 12]** This will be addressed at the Final Meeting of the year on December 30th. The other was to discuss the challenge that was made regarding the reason for entering into Executive Session during the October 11, 2016 Budget Workshop. Discussion ensued regarding this matter. Attorney Fallati made a recommendation to amend the verbiage used for the reason to go into the Executive Session.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to make a notation that the reason stated for going into Executive Session at the October 11th meeting was incorrect and the reason should have been described as 'to discuss employee history'. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wood. **[See Editor's Note #2 on page 13]**

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)*

### **MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2016 Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)*

(Continued on page 4)

## Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Meeting, December 8, 2016

(Continued from page 3)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2016 Work Meeting; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)*

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2016 Regular Meeting; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)*

### **TRANSFERS**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the following Budget Amendments:

- From 'Water Checking' 7031 to 'Budget Line' SW8310E 44107 in the amount of \$10,494.95 for replacement of sand and carbon for water filter; and
- From 'Water Checking' 7031 to 'Budget Line' SW8310E 22080 in the amount of \$1,101.70 for pump and hardware.

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)*

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to approve the following Budget Modifications:

- From 'Contingency' A1990E 44999 to 'Refuse Charges' A8160E 44050 in the amount of \$3,693.56 for exceeding the budget line; and
- From 'Contingency' A1990E 44999 to 'Vehicle Maintenance' A81160E 44072 in the amount of \$3,719.00 for exceeding the budget line.

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)*

**ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS**: General Fund - \$37,519.58; Highway Fund - \$10,494.25; Lighting District - \$703.10; Sewer Fund - \$126.38; Water Fund - \$8,485.43; T&A Fund - \$6,076.77. Total Abstracts - \$63,405.51

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to pay all signed vouchers and bills; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

**CORRESPONDENCE**: Supervisor Lounsbury will address the correspondence in her report.

### **REPORTS**

#### **SUPERVISOR**

1. Supervisor Lounsbury received an email from Jeannette Rice expressing her wishes to not be reappointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mrs. Rice's term expires on December 31, 2016. Mrs. Rice extended her appreciation for having been able to serve on the Hydraulic Fracturing Committee and Zoning Board of Appeals.

A motion was made by Councilman Cooke to grant Jeanette Rice's wish not to be considered for re-appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)*

2. Supervisor Lounsbury noted that a correction had been made to the 'Summary' page and the 'Estimated Tax Rate' pages of the budget. She noted that nothing within the budget itself had been changed, only that when figures were transferred from within the budget, one had been overlooked which in turn affected the Summary page which in turn affected the Estimated Tax Rate page.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to accept the revised Summary page and revised Es-

(Continued on page 5)

**Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Meeting, December 8, 2016**

(Continued from page 4)

timated Tax Rate page. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)*

3. Supervisor Lounsbury wished to thank Guy DeGennaro for trucking the roll-off containers of refuse and recyclables when the Town's truck was in for repairs. This allowed the transfer station to remain in service for the Town's residents. Mr. DeGennaro made four trips to Albany and submitted a voucher for \$300 which was only to cover his fuel and expenses. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck estimated that if an outside service had been called in, it may have cost approximately \$300 per trip, if not more.
4. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that Town Hall will serve as a venue for a Public Hearing on December 12th regarding the MIDTEL Unserved Broadband Capital Project.
5. The Town's Christmas luncheon will be held on December 20th at noon.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to accept the Supervisor's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

**ATTORNEY**

Attorney Fallati announced that a taxpayer who owns property which had gone into tax foreclosure was prosecuted by Albany County. The taxpayer apparently defaulted in that proceeding and the County obtained a default judgment and therefore also obtained the deed. That taxpayer then filed a proceeding in Queens County where apparently he resides making a motion to the Supreme Court to essentially set aside the whole proceeding in Albany County. Attorney Fallati explained that there was no basis in the law to do that and is procedurally improper.

Attorney Fallati contacted Judge Pettit who issued the default judgment in the first instance and asked her to issue an injunction to prevent the taxpayer from continuing to prosecute his action in Queens County. Judge Pettit signed the injunction and the paperwork was sent to the taxpayer's attorney in Queens.

The taxpayer does have a certain amount of time to file papers with the Albany County Court if he wishes to continue to challenge the foreclosure. However, from what Attorney Fallati has seen, he is beyond the time period (which is 30 days from entry of the foreclosure judgment) to challenge it.

Thus far, Tabner, Ryan, and Keniry's work has been treated as part of the retainer agreement and the Town will not be billed. Even though Albany County would be handling any legal matters that may arise in the future regarding this matter, Attorney Fallati requested a motion to engage Tabner, Ryan, and Keniry in the unlikely event they are required to perform any additional legal services.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to retain the law office of Tabner, Ryan, and Keniry if legal services are necessary regarding the above matter. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)*

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Superintendent Bates was attending a Highway Superintendent's function and would not be attending the meeting, although, he did request permission to begin the process of purchasing the new pickup truck.

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to allow Superintendent Bates to start the bidding on the new pickup truck; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

(Continued on page 6)



**Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 8, 2016**

(Continued from page 5)

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)*

**TOWN CLERK:** Town Clerk Kraker reported for the month of November as follows:

Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$1,935.42. Paid to the Supervisor - \$642.08 - the breakdown is as follows:

Clerk Fees - \$86.16; Recycling - \$125.00; Dog Licenses - \$82.00; Building Permits - \$338.92; Zoning - \$10.00. Total - \$642.08.

Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the 'Animal Population Control Program' aka 'dog surcharge': \$13.00

Electronic sweep from the Town Clerk's checking account for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation - Sporting licenses: \$1,280.34

\*Sewer Rents collected for the month totaled \$978.74; \$0.00 in penalties.

\*Three rents were submitted by the due date of November 1st, and were deposited in the month of November.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to accept the Town Clerk's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR**

1. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh reported two Home Repair permits; one New Home Construction permit; one Accessory Building permit; and one Building Repair permit for the month of November.
2. Following through on his progress with filing and clerical work, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh reported that he has purged all old files, making room in the cabinets for the newer files. Also, old building plans have been labeled with tax map numbers and can now be filed in storage.

Councilwoman Sedlmeir was concerned that the pile of wood leftover from the building on Fox Creek Road was underneath trees and would be a hazard if a controlled burn was planned. Mr. Overbaugh will look into the matter.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector's report; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

**ASSESSORS**

1. Assessor Pine reported that weather permitting the assessors may be out taking pictures.
2. The Assessors would like to put together some information on frequently asked questions and the STAR Program and have it placed in the Town's newsletter.

Councilman Wood questioned whether the Assessors had identification when they are out assessing. Supervisor Lounsbury explained that the assessors have name tags and magnets were made to place on their vehicles. Councilman Wood mentioned that there have been complaints that the assessors have not been identified. Assessor Pine suggested contacting the Sheriff's Department for assistance with making official photo I.D.'s.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to accept the Assessor's report; 2nd by Councilman

(Continued on page 7)

**Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 8, 2016**

(Continued from page 6)

Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

**WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE**

Town Clerk Kraker read from a written report submitted by the Water/Sewer Operator, John Rice as follows:

On November 25th, due to a burst hose line on Main Street, over 14,000 gallons of water was lost, draining the clear well and cutting off water to much of the District for over 12 hours. Operator Rice asked that users please be aware of their outdoor faucets especially this time of year.

Supervisor Lounsbury suggested that perhaps Mr. Rice could draw up something for the newsletter in this regard.

Preparations for changing the filter sand are nearly complete. The backup D.E. filter has been installed. The Highway Department will be bringing the new sand up to the filter and the granular activated carbon is also scheduled to be delivered soon.

Operator Rice also reported that 291,800 gallons of water was filtered (a daily average of 9,727 gallons); and 181,800 gallons of sewage was pumped (a daily average of 6,060 gallons).

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to accept the Water/Sewer Committee's written report; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

**REFUSE/RECYCLING**

1. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported the following for the month of November: Rensselaer Iron & Steel: 3.15 tons; Tires: 80; City of Albany Landfill: 71.03 tons; Sierra Fibers: 5.52 tons comingled and 4.35 tons old cardboard container; Oil: 35 gallons

Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck expressed his gratitude for the assistance Guy DeGennaro provided in trucking the refuse and recyclables to Albany and noted that it would have cost the Town much more if an outside company would have had to be called in.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Recycling Coordinator's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

**CURRENT EVENTS**

Councilwoman Sedlmeir announced that on Sunday, the 11th at 4 PM, there will be caroling down Main Street beginning at the Huyck Preserve and ending at Conkling Hall where refreshments will be served.

Also, the Village Voices Winter Concert will be held on December 17th at 7:30 PM.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Attorney Fallati read the Resolution relating to the financing of the Medusa Fire House renovations as follows:

(Continued on page 8)

**Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 8, 2016**

*(Continued from page 7)*

RESOLUTION OF THE  
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE  
TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, the Medusa Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. ("Fire Company") wishes to complete financing of \$100,000 in the form of a promissory note to the Bank of Greene County in connection with renovations and improvements that the Fire Company wishes to make with respect to its firehouse located at 28 County Route 351, Medusa, NY; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Company is seeking approval of the Town of Rensselaerville in connection with this borrowing pursuant to the applicable sections of the Internal revenue Code relating to borrowing by a private fire company through the issuance of tax exempt obligations (Internal revenue Code Sections 147 (f) and 150(e)); and

WHEREAS, the town Board conducted a public hearing on the proposed financing on December 6, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that the proposed financing will benefit the residents of the Town;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, that the proposed financing for the Medusa Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. from the Bank of Greene County in the amount of \$100,000 for renovations and improvements that the Fire Company wishes to make with respect to its firehouse located at 28 County Route 351, Medusa, NY is hereby approved, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this approval is contingent upon the Fire Company's acknowledgement, in writing, to the following conditions:

a. The Town is in no way a participant in the financing or the renovations and improvements being financed and shall have no obligations or liabilities in connection with such financing, renovations and improvements; and

b. the Fire Company shall hold harmless, defend and indemnify the Town in connection with any and all claims, expenses, costs or liabilities relating in any way to the financing or the renovations and improvements being financed.

By motion made by Valerie Lounsbury and seconded by Margaret Sedlmeir, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 8th day of December 2016 as follows:

<u>Town Board Member</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent/Abstain</u>
Valerie Lounsbury, Supervisor	X		
Marion Cooke, Councilwoman	X		
John Dolce, Councilman	X		
Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilwoman	X		
Gerald Wood, Councilman	X		

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Medusa Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. understands, agrees and accepts the conditions in the attached Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville

*(Continued on page 9)*



**Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 8, 2016**

*(Continued from page 8)*

Medusa Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.  
By: Mark C. Overbaugh  
Title: President  
Date: 12/8/2016

END RESOLUTION

---

2. Attorney Fallati read the two Resolutions regarding the amendment to the Zoning Law allowing for alternate members of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE  
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE  
TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, the Town of Rensselaerville Town Board (the “Board”) is considering a proposed revision to its Zoning Law to allow for the appointment of an alternate member of the Town’s Planning Board (the “Action”); and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) 6 NY-CRR Part 617, and determined that the Project is subject to SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, by resolution on September 8, 2016, the Town Board determined this Project to be an Unlisted Action, declared its intent to be a Lead Agency for the purposes of Coordinated Review of the Project, and

WHEREAS, on or about September 13, 2016, the Town circulated a Notice of Intent and an Environmental Assessment form to all Involved and Interested Agencies; and

WHEREAS, no agency objected within the statutory period to the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville acting as Lead Agency in connection with the Action, and therefore the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville became Lead Agency by default; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Rensselaerville Town Board, as Lead Agency, has conducted a SEQRA review of the Project and reviewed the Environmental Assessment Form (“EAF”) attached hereto as Exhibit A;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, that pursuant to Part 617 of the SEQRA Regulations, the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville hereby confirms that it is Lead Agency for the SEQRA Review of the Action; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby adopts the EAF, attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to Part 617 of SEQRA and based upon the Town Board’s review of the EAF, the Lead Agency hereby determines that the Action will have no environmental impact and is thus an Unlisted Action; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville hereby adopts a determination of Negative Significance under SEQRA (attached hereto as Exhibit “B”), determining that the proposed Project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment, and directs the

*(Continued on page 10)*

## Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 8, 2016

(Continued from page 9)

Town Clerk of the Town of Rensselaerville to take all necessary steps to publish this determination.

By motion made by Valerie Lounsbury and seconded by Marion Cooke, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 8th day of December 2016 as follows:

<u>Town Board Member</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent/Abstain</u>
Valerie Lounsbury, Supervisor	X		
Marion Cooke, Councilwoman	X		
John Dolce, Councilman	X		
Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilwoman	X		
Gerald Wood, Councilman	X		

END RESOLUTION

---

### RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is desirable to amend the Town's Zoning Law to allow for the appointment of an alternate member of the Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has further determined that it is desirable for purposes of consistency and clarity to repeal the "Alternate Members of Zoning Board of Appeals Law" codified as Chapter 75 of the current Town Law and to amend the Town's Zoning Law to provide parallel provisions for the appointment of alternate members of the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board conducted a public hearing on the attached proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2016 on October 11, 2016;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, hereby enacts the attached Local Law No. 3 of 2016, which is incorporated herein.

By motion made by Valerie Lounsbury and seconded by Margaret Sedlmeir, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 8th day of December 2016 as follows:

<u>Town Board Member</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent/Abstain</u>
Valerie Lounsbury, Supervisor	X		
Marion Cooke, Councilwoman	X		
John Dolce, Councilman	X		
Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilwoman	X		
Gerald Wood, Councilman	X		

END RESOLUTION

---

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. The renewal of the Highway Superintendent's authority to participate in on-line bidding must be renewed for the first quarter of 2017:

(Continued on page 11)

Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 8, 2016

(Continued from page 10)

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, from time-to-time, the Highway Superintendent has requested from the Town Board approval to bid on equipment available in an on-line auction; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has found the auction process to be financially beneficial, allowing the Highway Superintendent to acquire useful equipment at a fraction of the cost of the acquisition of comparable new equipment; and

WHEREAS, Section 142(1) of the Highway Law permits the Town Board to authorize the Highway Superintendent to purchase equipment, tools and other implements to be used for highway maintenance, construction or reconstruction, snow plows or other devices for the removal of snow from the highways from monies appropriated for that purpose without prior approval of the Town Board, and in an amount or amounts to be fixed, from time to time, by the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, the Town board has determined that it is in the public interest to grant the Highway Superintendent such authority;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, that (1) the Highway Superintendent is authorized to bid on, and to purchase, equipment, tools and other implements to be used for highway maintenance, construction or reconstruction, snow plows or other devices for the removal of snow from the highways from monies appropriated for that purpose without prior approval of the Town Board, through March 31, 2017, up to an amount of \$10,000; (2) this resolution may be reviewed and re-approved quarterly; (3) the Highway Superintendent shall provide the Town Supervisor prompt notice of any bids and purchases made pursuant to this resolution; and (4) nothing in this resolution is intended to limit the Town Board's authority, by subsequent resolution, to modify or rescind this authority generally or with respect to a particular prospective purchase.

By motion made by Councilwoman Cooke and seconded by Councilman Dolce, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 8th day of December 2016 as follows:

Table with 4 columns: Town Board Member, Yes, No, Absent/Abstain. Rows include Valerie Lounsbury, Marion Cooke, John Dolce, Margaret Sedlmeir, and Gerald Wood.

END RESOLUTION

2. The Board discussed the rate of pay for seasonal highway employees who hold a CDL vs. those who do not hold a CDL. Superintendent Bates' main concern was that there should be two different levels of pay. Supervisor Lounsbury suggested \$18.00/hr. for CDL holders and \$16.00/hr. for non-CDL holders, which Superintendent Bates was comfortable with.

Supervisor Lounsbury addressed Councilwoman Cooke's concern over the Union contract and clarified

(Continued on page 12)

## Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 8, 2016

(Continued from page 11)

that it states 'not less than 75%', but rather, 'at least 75%' of the Union wage

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to set the seasonal employees rate of pay for a CDL holder at \$18.00/hr. and \$16.00/hr. for a non-CDL holder. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

3. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to authorize Supervisor Lounsbury to execute the agreement between the Town and Pattison, Koskey, Howe, and Bucci, CPAs, for the year 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

4. A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to schedule the Final Meeting for December 30, 2016 at 7:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

5. A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to schedule the 2017 Organizational Meeting for January 3, 2017 at 7:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

6. Town Clerk Kraker read the list of Seasonal Road closures as follows:

The following roads are Limited Use Highways and will not be maintained from December 1, 2016 through April 1, 2017:

- Gulf Road Extension from Gulf Road to the northerly end of State Lands;
- Kenyon Road from the intersection of Roney Road to CR 358;
- Roney Road from last residential structure in from Pearson Road to the intersection of Kenyon Road;
- Scutt Road from the southerly end of State Lands to CCC Road; and
- Edwards Hill Road from 500 feet in from SR 145 to the top of the hill.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to approve the list of closures and authorize the publication of a Legal Notice in the Altamont Enterprise. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 8:31PM; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

### **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk

**Editor's Note #1:** *This is not an accurate representation of what transpired at the meeting. I reminded the Town Board that, although they renewed the health insurance policy with Blue Shield of Northeastern NY for the retirees, they didn't address the added benefit that had been put in place at the November 12, 2015 meeting. This benefit provided up to \$500 reimbursement in co-pays after the retiree had met the initial \$3000 deductible. Although discussion ensued, no action was taken by the Town Board at that time. During the final "Audience Comment" section of the meeting, and after the Town Board failed to bring this matter up for discus-*

(Continued on page 13)

## Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, December 8, 2016

(Continued from page 12)

sion, I again asked whether the Town Board was going to act on this matter. It was only then, at the very end of the meeting, that the Town Board announced that this will be discussed at the December 30, 2016 end-of-year meeting. For the minutes to indicate that there were no Audience Comments at the end of the meeting is both erroneous and misleading.

**Editor's Note #2:** This matter regarding the Town Board's violation of the Open Meetings Law could have easily been corrected at the time it occurred when the Town Board was challenged about entering into Executive Session to discuss a budget line item. Instead, they chose to ignore the objection and proceed as planned. The following excerpt from *The Altamont Enterprise* clearly supports my challenge.

"Dermody challenged the minutes of an Oct. 11 budget workshop meeting of the board as incomplete and stated again an objection she says she made at that meeting and that went unrecorded.

At the Oct. 11 meeting, the board went into executive session for the purpose, Lounsbury said, of discussing a "budget line item."

Dermody said at Thursday's meeting that she objected to this action at the time but was "ignored." Her objection: the reason given was not among those established by the state's Open Meetings Law as legitimate reasons for a public body to confer privately in executive session.

In fact, budgetary matters are not among those reasons the law defines as legitimate.

"You can't discuss in private," Dermody told the board, "what should have been discussed in public."

"Going into executive session," she told the board, again, "was illegitimate."

As for her original objection not being recorded, Lounsbury told Dermody, "Minutes don't have to be verbatim and the minutes have been approved."

"Minutes should reflect what happened," Dermody rejoined.

The New York State Open Meetings Law specifies only that "Minutes shall be taken at all open meetings of a public body which shall consist of a record or summary of all motions, proposals, resolutions and any other matter formally voted upon and the vote thereon."

Council member Marion Cooke joined the discussion, "I don't think it is a major issue either way."

But the board, in a unusual move, decided to amend the approved minutes and retroactively change the reason for entering executive session to read, "discuss personnel history."

Asked to comment, Robert Freeman, chairman of the State's Committee on Open Government said, "Minutes cannot be changed in a way that changes history."

He dismissed both the original and amended reasons for going into executive session as illegitimate and not allowed by the Open Meetings law.

"We hear all the time that 'personnel reasons' are given to explain the need for an executive session," he says, "but the word 'personnel' appears nowhere in the law."

The Open Meeting Law authorizes six reasons for conducting a non-public session; one of them is for the board to discuss "the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotions, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation."

Lounsbury said, "I misspoke," referring to the original reason offered and now replaced."

Source: <https://altamontenterprise.com/12132016/superfast-seqr-review-completed-missteps-corrected>

It has also come to my attention from several sources that certain Town Board members characterized my behavior at the 12/8/2016 meeting as being out-of-control and that they can and will go into Executive Session for whatever reason they want. If anyone is out-of-control, it seems to be the Town Board if they feel they can violate the law at will. I will remain a vocal advocate for this town even if they find my active participation annoying.





### If You Could Ask God A Question...

...what would it be? On **Saturday, January 7 from 5:30-8:30pm**, the Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church will host **Questions for God**. Participants will have a chance to discuss God, theology, religion, the Bible, spirituality and related topics with a panel of clergy from different faith traditions. Confirmed panelists so far are: Rev. Alexandra Lusak, moderator of the Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church; Imam Djafer Sebkaoui from the Al-Hidaya Islamic Center, Latham; and Rabbi Norman Mendel, Rabbi Emeritus, Congregation Beth David, San Luis Obispo, CA.

The event will start with a **pot luck supper in Conkling Hall** followed by answers to audience questions. Questions may be sent in advance to [rvillepreschurch@gmail.com](mailto:rvillepreschurch@gmail.com).

**This will be an informal evening open to everyone in the community no matter whether one is a person of faith, no faith, or questioning faith.** Please plan to attend.



### Senior Citizens Info

The Town offers car service Mon-Fri by appointment only. Contact Town Hall at 239-4225 or 797-3798 for doctor appointments. The Senior bus also goes shopping on Thursday either to Cobleskill or Catskill. Call Ruth & Tom Snyder (239-4376) the day before about riding the bus if you are interested.

The Town of Rensselaerville Senior Citizens meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at Medusa Fire House at noon. Anyone 55 years of age and older can join. Dues are \$8.00 a year due in June. We collect \$1.00 a month at the meeting for coffee, milk, etc. Please bring a covered dish to share. We eat promptly at noon and the meeting commences afterward. We have a picnic in August; in November, we have a Thanksgiving dinner at a local restaurant; and in December we have a Christmas dinner also. We have bus trips in the summer and fall. For further information, call Tom Snyder, President, at 239-4376.

Please note that we are in desperate need of drivers for the bus and the car. Please call Town Hall at 239-4225 if you're interested in volunteering as a driver for our senior citizens..

Additional Important Phone Numbers:

- Department of Aging 447-7179
- HEAP: 447-2551



Department of  
Taxation and Finance

## Register for the School Tax Relief (STAR) Credit

Congratulations! You've closed on your new home—now it's time to register for your STAR credit. New STAR applicants receive a credit in the form of a check directly from New York State instead of receiving a school property tax exemption. The amount of your STAR benefit is the same regardless of how you receive it.

New Basic and Enhanced STAR applicants must register with the New York State Tax Department to receive a STAR check.

Register anytime at [www.tax.ny.gov/star](http://www.tax.ny.gov/star) – It just takes a few minutes.

Property owners without access to a computer can register by phone weekdays from 8:30am to 4:30pm (518-457-2036).

### Are you eligible for STAR?

To receive the STAR credit, you must own your home and it must be your primary residence.

#### Basic STAR

The total income of the owners and the owners' spouses who primarily reside at the property must not exceed \$500,000.

#### Enhanced STAR

- The Income limit for Enhanced STAR is annually adjusted for inflation.
  - 2016 Income limit - \$84,550
  - 2017 Income limit - \$86,000
- All owners must be at least 65 years old (unless the owners are spouses or siblings, in which case at least one owner must be at least 65).



**POST OFFICE INFORMATION**<http://www.usps.com>

**MEDUSA POST OFFICE:** Phone 518-239-4826  
 (19 COUNTY ROUTE 351 MEDUSA, NY 12120)  
**Retail Hours:** Mon-Fri 8:00am - 12:00pm; Sat 7:30am - 11:15am  
**Last Collection Hours:** Mon-Fri 4:15pm; Sat 11:15am  
**Lobby Hours:** Mon-Fri 7:30am - 5:00pm; Sat 7:30am - 11:30am

**PRESTON HOLLOW POST OFFICE:** Phone 518-239-6111  
 (2930 ROUTE 145 PRESTON HOLLOW, NY 12469)  
**Retail Hours:** Mon-Fri 8:30am - 10:30am; 3:00pm - 5:00pm; Sat 9:00am - 12:00pm  
**Last Collection Hours:** Mon-Fri 5:00pm; Sat 12:00pm  
**Lobby Hours:** Mon-Sat 12:01am - 11:59pm

**RENSELAERVILLE POST OFFICE:** Phone 518-797-3231  
 (26 COUNTY ROUTE 353 RENSELAERVILLE, NY 12147)  
**Retail Hours:** Mon-Fri 8:00am - 12:00pm; Sat 8:00am - 11:00am  
**Last Collection Hours:** Mon-Fri 4:15pm; Sat 11:30am  
**Lobby Hours:** Mon-Fri 8:00am - 5:00pm; Sat 8:00am - 11:30am

**Events from the Carey Institute for Global Good****Extended Happy Hour & Food**

Thursday &amp; Friday 6 to 7PM

Happy Hour! \$1 off all pints, now on both days.

Light fare now being served weekly, provided by the Carriage House Restaurant.

Follow us on [Facebook](#) to see what's on the menu.**2017 Growler Club Sign Ups**

Growler Club Memberships are now available! Members receive seven growler fills, a limited edition t-shirt and a members' appreciation night, plus other special offers throughout the year. The cost is \$100.00. You can sign up at the tap room or by contacting Rebecca at [rplatel@careyinstitute.org](mailto:rplatel@careyinstitute.org) or [518-797-5100](tel:518-797-5100).

Your membership fee directly supports our mission of using 100% NYS ingredients in our beers. We source our grain and malt from the Hudson Valley and Rochester and our hops from the Capital Region.

**GRIST MILL NEWS***By Janet Haseley*

The Grist Mill Museum will be closed for the winter from mid-October until mid-May because there is no heat in the Mill. After the Mill closes, the Research Group will continue to meet weekly, on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the basement meeting room of the Rensselaerville Library. Inquiries may be sent to the new email address, [renselaervillehistoricalsoc@gmail.com](mailto:renselaervillehistoricalsoc@gmail.com).



## Live Assured: Winter Safety in Your Home

The first months of the New Year typically bring some of the coldest days of the winter season. Is your home ready? Sure, you may have already tackled a snowstorm or two, but review the tips below to ensure your home is prepared for those below-freezing temperatures.

### TIPS TO PREVENT FROZEN PIPES

- Insulate pipes in crawl spaces, attics, and basements that are exposed to the cold. More insulation means more protection.
- Heat tape or thermostat-controlled heat cables can be used to wrap pipes.
- Always use UL listed products according to manufacturer's instructions. Do not use interior-use products outside.
- Seal all cracks and holes in outside walls and foundations near water pipes that allow cold air in, especially around electrical wiring, dryer vents, and windows.
- Keep your kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors open during cold spells to allow warm air to circulate around pipes.
- Remove and drain garden hoses. If the supply line to the hose bib has a shut-off valve, shut off the supply to the hose bib and drain the supply line.
- If your house will be unattended for an extended time during the winter months, drain the water from the supply lines.

Source: <https://www.preferredmutual.com/docs/default-source/resources/living-assured-winter-2014.pdf?sfvrsn=12>



## A Message from the Water-Sewer Officer

Attention Rensselaerville Water District:

On November 25th, due to a burst hose line on Main St., we lost 14,000 gallons of water, which drained the clear well & cut off water to much of the water district for over 12 hours. Water district users, please aware of your outdoor faucets in the Fall — Winter is upon us — and thank you for being mindful of your usage.

Thank you,  
John Rice

# 2017

How many "2017" outlines can you find below?  
Can you colour them in so that no 2017 is next to another 2017 of the same colour?






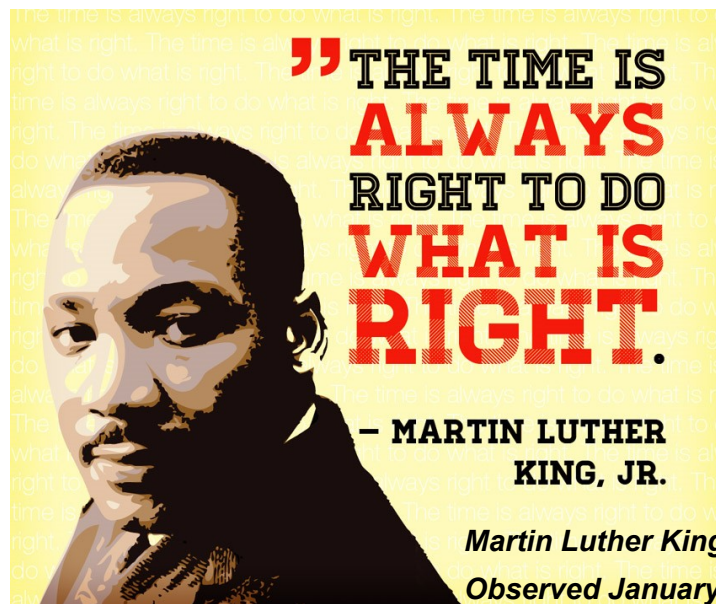
***Move Breathe Relax***

YOGA: Tue. & Thu. 9-10:15 am  
PILATES: Wed. 5:45-6:15 pm & Sat. 9-10 am

Classes Open to All at Conkling Hall in Rensselaerville

Sarah Nelson Weiss, CYT  
savitrisarah@gmail.com, 518.817.8720

Fees: Wed Pilates—\$7.00  
All Others—\$12.00  
10 Classes—\$100.00



We are pleased to recognize Guy DeGennaro, owner of DeGennaro Carting Company, for recently assisting Garbologist Jon Whitbeck. The truck for the transfer station was out of service for repairs & Mr. DeGennaro graciously transported 4 loads of material to Albany at an extremely reasonable cost to the Town. As a result, Jon was able to keep the transfer station open & continue to provide this valuable service to Town residents.

## Beware of the Grandparent Scam!

The following information may keep you from becoming a victim of the Grandparent Scam and may help you keep a loved one from being victimized.

**Q. What is the grandparent scam?**

**A.** The grandparent scam is a form of telephone fraud. The scammer phones a grandparent and pretends to be a grandchild in distress and asks that funds be wired to a specified location.

**Q. How does the scammer choose a target?**

**A.** No one knows for sure. Phone calls may be made at random until an elderly person answers, or scammers may be harvesting information from the Internet that enables them to choose targets. Some have suggested [Facebook as a possible source of information](#).

**Q. Why doesn't the target realize that the caller is not a grandchild?**

**A.** If the target says that the caller does not sound like his or her grandchild, the scammers may blame a bad connection or a cold. Also, identifying voices over the phone is difficult for some senior citizens.

**Q. Does the scammer know the grandchild's name?**

**A.** It appears that sometimes the scammers have the correct names at their disposal. This is one reason some investigators think that scammers are gleaning information from the Internet. More often, however, the scammers may elicit the name of a grandchild from the target, who often does not even realize that he or she has supplied a name.

**Q. What kind of stories do the grandparent scammers use?**

**A.** The scammers often say that the grandchild needs money because of an accident, an injury, a theft or an arrest. Sometimes the "grandchild" pleads that other family members not be told because DUI or embarrassing circumstances are involved.

**Q. Can victims of the grandparent scam recover their money?**

**A.** Due to the nature of wire transfers and the fact that most cases involve U.S. citizens wiring money to other countries, recovery of funds is very difficult. The Federal Trade Commission estimates that grandparent scams and other impostor scams cost Americans millions of dollars each year.

**Q. What amounts of money are involved?**

**A.** Amounts can vary widely, starting with less than \$1000. Often scammers who are successful in persuading targets to wire money will immediately ask for a second transfer.

**Q. Are there other negative results from being scammed?**

**A.** Yes. Those who are the victims of scams may lose faith in their own judgment, a doubt that family members may share. Sometimes the result is that an elderly person is prematurely stripped of control of his or her own money. Sometimes older persons become hesitant to answer their phones.

**Q. What countries are implicated in the grandparent scam?**

**A.** Most cases originate in Canada, but scammers in Puerto Rico, Haiti and China are joining the action.

**Q. Why can't we catch the scammers?**

**A.** The nature of international wire transfers makes it difficult to catch the perpetrators. Many times they use prepaid cell phones that cannot be traced. Some scammers have been caught and charged.

Source: <http://grandparents.about.com/od/grandparentingissues/tp/Grandparent-Scam-Faqs.htm>

# Rensselaerville Library

## Youth Programs

### January Activities

#### Monthly Craft

Check out the craft table for work on your own projects.

#### STEAM

10:30-11:30am, Tuesdays

A multi-level **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering, **A**rt and **M**ath program aimed at a variety of ages. The group/parents will select the next week's topic at the end of each session - the goal is to address the educational needs of children in our community by integrating the disciplines and stimulating young minds.

#### StoryTime Movement & Music

4:30-5:30pm, Wednesdays



@your library

Stories, music and movement activities for parents/caregivers and children. This program is designed as an early literacy program aimed at developing and reinforcing the skills that children need to be successful learners. Parents and caregivers this program also provides the opportunity to develop a local social support group.

#### Homework Help

5:30pm, Wednesday Nights.

1459 County Route 351  
Rensselaerville, NY 12147  
518-797-3949  
Youth@RensselaervilleLibrary.org  
[www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org](http://www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org)

# Rensselaerville Library

## Tween & Teen Programs

### January Activities

#### Homework Help

5:30pm, Wednesday Nights.

#### Wednesday Nights @ 6pm STEAM

**4th.....**3-D Paper Sculpture

**11th.....**Poetry Workshop

Work with local published Poet  
Linda S. Miller

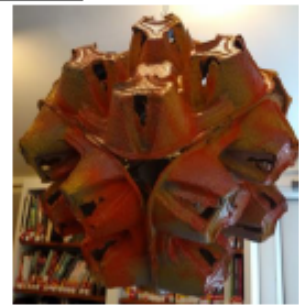
**18th.....**MOVIE – Ender’s Game

Rated:PG-13

RunTime: 1:54

**25th.....**Know Your Knots?

Jim Chapman will teach safety with knots. Bring a rope 12-15 feet long or we will provide.



Rensselaerville Library  
1459 County Route 351  
Rensselaerville, NY 12147  
518-797-3949  
Youth@RensselaervilleLibrary.org  
[www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org](http://www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org)





# Rensselaerville Library

## Tween & Teen Programs

Wednesday

January 25, 2017

6:00 pm

Know Your Knots?



Local resident Jim Chapman will teach safety with knots. Bring a ½" rope 12-15 feet long or we will provide you with one for the program.

Rensselaerville Library  
1459 County Route 351  
Rensselaerville, NY 12147  
518-797-3949  
Youth@RensselaervilleLibrary.org  
[www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org](http://www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org)





**BREAKFAST  
AT THE MEDUSA FIRE HOUSE**

7:00AM TO 11:00AM

~~September 17, 2016~~

~~October 15, 2016~~

~~November 19, 2016~~

~~December 17, 2016~~

January 21, 2017

February 18, 2017

March 18, 2017

April 15, 2017

**PLEASE JOIN US TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPT**

*Fresh, hot, all-you-can-eat breakfast made to order*

**Free will offering**



### RVFD News

- **IMPORTANT:** Our social number is: **966-0338**. Please update your records. In case of an emergency, call 9-1-1.
- **Is there a fire in you? Please come to a drill or meeting to find out more.**
  - ⇒ Drills are the first two Mondays at 7:00,
  - ⇒ Battalion meeting first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm (no meeting in August), and
  - ⇒ Fire Meeting last Wednesday of every month at 7:30 pm.



**American Red Cross BLOOD DRIVE**

**Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance**

380 Fox Creek Rd

Medusa, NY 12120

7:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**Saturday, January 21, 2017**



**American Red Cross BLOOD DRIVE**

**Greenville Christian Life Center**

11693 Route 32

Greenville, NY 12083

1:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Friday, January 20, 2017**



**American Red Cross BLOOD DRIVE**

**Our Lady of the Valley**

24 Wells Ave

Middleburgh, NY 12122

12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Friday, January 13, 2017**

## Library News



P.O. Box 188  
1459 County Route 351  
Rensselaerville, NY 12147-0188  
Phone: 518.797.3949  
Fax: 518.797.5211  
[www.rensselaervillelibrary.org](http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org)

### Library Staff

**Director** - Kimberly Graff  
[director@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:director@rensselaervillelibrary.org)  
**Assistant** - Katie Caprio  
[library@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:library@rensselaervillelibrary.org)  
**Youth Services Coordinator**  
Lee Ackerman-Sawyer  
[youth@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:youth@rensselaervillelibrary.org)

### Pages

Ruby Acker  
Keara Kelley  
Emileigh Tanner  
Leah Waldron

### Library Board of Trustees

**President**  
Janet Acker  
**Vice President**  
Linda Styer  
**Secretary**  
Paul Kelly  
**Treasurer**  
Scott Kunkler  
**Trustees**  
Carol Ash  
JR Delia  
Penny Grimes  
John Gordon  
Holly Hake  
Hans Soderquist

*The Rensselaerville Library works to preserve a comfortable historical gathering place that is open, free and inviting to all of the residents of the 5 hamlets and environs. We strive to awaken and promote a life-long love of reading and learning by fostering personal connections and providing access to a stimulating variety of texts, technology and programming.*

The Rensselaerville Library is a 501c3 non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

### Upcoming Library Events

Movie Night on Friday, January 27 at 6:30pm. Please visit the web site for more details. <http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/movie-night.html>

Know your Knots? Wednesday, January 25, 6-7pm come learn about knots and knot safety with local resident Jim Chapman. If you have 12 to 15 feet of ½" diameter rope bring it along or we will have some for you. This program is part of the Tween/Teen Night but all ages welcome.

Painting Party on Sunday, January 15 at 2pm. Instruction provided by Roaming Paintress Meghan Evans. Seating is limited. \$30 to reserve your 11x14 canvas. This is a Library fundraiser and snacks and beverages will be available. Visit the Library website to see the image we will be painting.

### January Youth Programs

**STEAM** – Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am. A multi-level Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math program aimed at a variety of ages. The group/parents will select the next week's topic at the end of each session - the goal is to address the educational needs of children in our community by integrating the disciplines and stimulating young minds.

**StoryTime with Movement & Music** – Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30 pm, stories, music and movement activities for parents/caregivers and children. This program is designed as an early literacy program aimed at developing and reinforcing the skills that children need to be successful learners. Parents and caregivers this program also provides the opportunity to develop a local social support group.

**Monthly Craft Project** – kids stop in and check out the craft table downstairs and discover crafts to work on your own.

**Tween and Teens STEAM Activities** – Wednesday evenings from 6-7pm there will be a different program each week of the month. 1/4 – 3D Paper Sculptures, 1/11 – Poetry Workshop, 1/18 – Movie – Ender's Game, 1/25 learn all about Knots with Jim Chapman.

**Homework Help** - Wednesdays at 5:30pm. Please see Lee Ackerman-Sawyer or email [youth@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:youth@rensselaervillelibrary.org)

The Library monthly Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17 at 7pm. Board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month except when noted. All Board meetings are held at the Library in the downstairs meeting room and are open to the public.

The Writing Group meets on the second Thursday of the month. On January 12th the group will meet at 7pm in the downstairs meeting room. Come share your work, receive feedback and spend time working on your own project.

Poetry Group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7pm, January 10 and 24. Come share your work, receive feedback and spend time working on your own project. The Poetry group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month downstairs in the Library.

(Continued on page 27)

## Library News

(Continued from page 26)

Did you receive a coloring book over the holidays? Join the Library Coloring Book Club on Thursday, January 19th at 6pm. Or feel free to stop in anytime and color on your own, materials are located in the basement meeting room. Coloring is a great way to relax and give our creativity a boost. Coloring books designed especially for adults have more intricate designs and patterns. Coloring pages, colored pencils, markers and crayons will be available or bring your own.

Planning to spend those holiday gift cards? Consider supporting the Library with one of these shopping services that give back to local organizations of your choice. When shopping with [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/14-1409657), Amazon will donate to 0.5% of your eligible Amazon purchases sign up at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/14-1409657>.

Or create an account with Giving Assistant and once you set up the Library as your charity an average of 5% of your purchases will be donated to the Library. Visit <https://givingassistant.org>. Thank you to everyone using these services. The Library has received over \$90 from Amazon Smile.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Library's year end appeal. There are many ways to make a contribution throughout the year. Visit <http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/donate.html> for details and the variety of options including a one-time gift by credit card, an ongoing monthly contribution, or a donation of securities the website will provide instructions. Thank you for supporting the Library this holiday season.

*Library Hours: Closed Sunday and Monday  
Tuesday & Wednesday: 10am – Noon & 4– 9pm  
Thursday & Friday: 4– 9pm  
Saturday: 9– 1pm*



*"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."*

*- Martin Luther King Jr.*

# Painting Party

Sunday, January 15, 2017

2:00 pm

Rensselaerville Library

---

Painting Instruction Provided by

Roaming Paintress

Meghan Evans.

\$30 to Reserve your 11x14 canvas.

Payment is required at time of Reservation.

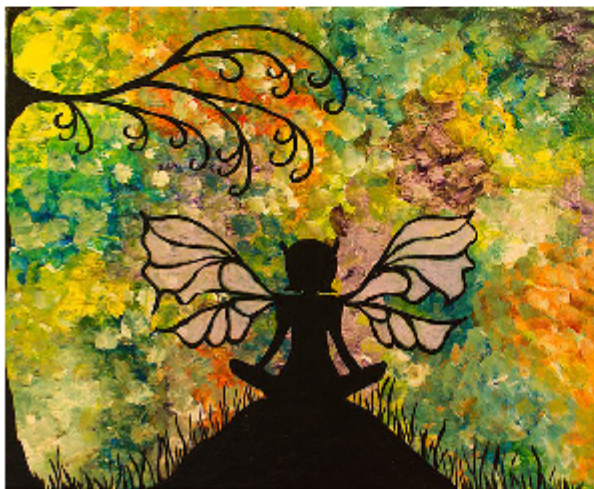
Limited Seating.

Snacks and Beverages will be available.

A Fundraiser Benefiting the Library.

---

The Image We Will Paint!



Rensselaerville Library  
PO Box 188  
1459 County Route 351  
Rensselaerville, NY 12147  
518.797.3949  
director@rensselaervillelibrary.org  
www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org



## Library News

### Middleburgh Library

**Drop-in Storytime** - There will not be any Storytime in January.

**1/3, 10, 17, 24, 31 - 1:00 PM - Mahjong Mania** - Every Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 a spirited group of people get together in the Community Room to play Mahjong. Don't know how to play? No problem! They will teach you how. No registration required.

**1/3, 10, 17, 24, 31 - 5:15 PM - Insight Meditation** - Join us for a simple group Zazen meditation practice. All are welcome. *No registration required.*

**Discovery Wednesday's** - There will not be any Discovery Wednesday's in January.

**1/4, 11, 18, 25 - Wednesday Matinee - Free Popcorn**

**1/4 - "Florence Foster Jenkins" (PG-13)** Florence Foster Jenkins, an heiress from NYC always wanted to be a concert pianist and play Carnegie Hall. An injury in her youth deterred that dream. So she sets out to sing her way to Carnegie Hall knowing the only way to get there would be "Practice Practice Practice". Her husband supports her venture and the true story of Florence Foster Jenkins playing Carnegie Hall becomes a truly historic event.

**1/11 - "The Dressmaker" (R)** - Based on Rosalie Ham's bestselling novel, The Dressmaker is the story of femme fatale Tilly Dunnage who returns to her small home town in the country to right the wrongs of the past. A stylish drama with comic undertones about love, revenge and haute couture.

**1/18 - "Sully" (PG-13)** - On Thursday, January 15th, 2009, the world witnessed the "Miracle on the Hudson" when Captain [Chesley Sullenberger](#), nicknamed "Sully" & is portrayed by [Tom Hanks](#) glided his disabled plane onto the frigid waters of the Hudson River, saving the lives of all 155 aboard. However, even as Sully was being heralded by the public and the media for his unprecedented feat of aviation skill, an investigation was unfolding that threatened to destroy his reputation and his career.

**1/25 - "The Light Between Oceans" (PG-13)** - A lighthouse keeper and his wife living off the coast of Western Australia raise a baby they rescue from a drifting rowing boat.

**1/4, 18 - 5:00 PM - Kundalini Yoga** - Kundalini Yoga involves repetitive movements with the breath, building strength, toning the nerves and clearing the adrenal glands. Wear comfortable clothing and bring 2 blankets or a mat and blanket. A \$5.00 donation is requested. *Please use the back entrance when entering the building. No registration required.*

**1/5, 12, 19, 26 - 7:00 PM - Knitting Circle** - These friendly ladies (men are welcome, but we haven't seen any yet!) knit and crochet, embroider and quilt, and more. You can learn a new skill here or share your own special talents with others - or just craft in the company of friends. Drop in anytime! *No registration required.*

**1/7 - 3:00 PM to ? - Board Games for Adults** - Come and join us for some fun and different board games.

**1/9 - 6:30 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting** - Our meetings are open to the public. Please join us!

**1/13 - 5:30 PM - Dinner & a Movie - "Sully"** - Join us for a neighborly dinner and a movie! The library will provide pizza and drinks and you bring a snack or dessert to share. This month we'll be watching *Sully*.

On Thursday, January 15th, 2009, the world witnessed the "Miracle on the Hudson" when Captain [Ches-](#)

*(Continued on page 30)*

## Library News

(Continued from page 29)

ley Sullenberger, nicknamed "Sully" & is portrayed by Tom Hanks glided his disabled plane onto the frigid waters of the Hudson River, saving the lives of all 155 aboard. However, even as Sully was being heralded by the public and the media for his unprecedented feat of aviation skill, an investigation was unfolding that threatened to destroy his reputation and his career. **Registration is required.** ***Please note that this movie is rated PG-13 and is not appropriate for young children***

**1/16 - Martin Luther King Day - The library will be closed to observe the holiday.**

**1/19 - 11:00 AM - Adult Crafternoon Beaded Jewelry** - Join us for another installment of our popular beaded jewelry class! Get your creativity flowing as you learn to create your own jewelry by stringing beads. Create a necklace, earrings or bracelet or all three! Children over the age of 10 are welcome with a parent. All materials will be provided. *Refreshments will be served. Registration is required.*

**1/21 - 1:00 PM - Cooking by the Vegan Book - "Appetite for Reduction"** - We pick the cookbook, you pick and make the recipe! The book club is free and open to the public. How the cookbook club works; Every month, a cookbook will be selected and will be at the circulation desk, for you to look at and we will print up the recipe of your choice. Sign up online or at the circulation desk, let us know what you're cooking so we don't have duplicates. **Registration Required.**

**1/23 - 2:00 PM - Adult Coloring Club** - Come and experience the latest trend in relaxation, adult coloring books! Studies how coloring can have a calming effect on the adult mind and helps promote overall wellness. Coloring pages designed especially for adults as well as colored pencils will be provided. This will be a recurring program. We will meet every 3rd Monday of the month at 2pm. **Registration is required.**

**1/26 - 1:00 - 2:30 PM - Healthy Living for Your Brain** - Tips from the Latest Research is designed for individuals of any age. To help people age well, the Alzheimer's Association® is offering the Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: **Registration is required.**

**1/28 - 10:00-11:00 AM - Third Annual Schoharie-Otsego County Master Gardener Seed Swap.** Come and swap vegetable, herb, and flower seeds with other gardeners from throughout our region. Participants are encouraged to bring seeds to swap, but they are not required, and there will be plenty for everyone to take some home. For more information contact Schoharie-Otsego County Cooperative Extension at 234-4303 or [dgc23@cornell.edu](mailto:dgc23@cornell.edu).

**1/28 - 12:30 - Computer Help Group Sessions** - Did you receive a new gadget this holiday season? Are you frustrated and annoyed? Are you ready to throw that thing out the window? Stop don't do it! We are here to help you! Join us for an information session. Bring your gadget and questions to this Group Q&A. Let's figure it out together. Registration is required but walk ins are welcome as well.

**Please check our Calendar on our website at [www.middleburghlibrary.info](http://www.middleburghlibrary.info) for future programs.**

Contact information: 323 Main Street, PO Box 670, Middleburgh, NY 12122  
(518) 827-5142

Hours: Monday 1:30 - 8:30      Tuesday 10:00 - 5:00 & 6:30 - 8:30  
Wednesday 10:00 - 4:00      Thursday 10:00 - 4:00 & 6:30 - 8:30  
Friday & Sunday - closed      Saturday 9:00 - 2:00

**Library News  
Greenville Library**

**Jan 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, Toddler Time Tuesday from 10–10:45am & 11–11:45am  
24, 27, 31 Friday from 10–10:45am & 11–11:45am**

Parents and caregivers are invited to bring their children to our Toddler Time Programs. Infants, toddlers and preschoolers are all welcome. Registration is not required. Drop in on the day(s) you would like to attend.

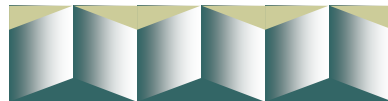
This activity enriched educational time includes stories, games, singing, marching and socializing. They can also choose books to take home and enjoy during the week. The instructor for these sessions is Devon Balta.

**Jan 5, 19 Joy of Coloring 12:30 - 2:00pm** Come and unwind with the latest artistic craze: adult coloring books. Fabulously intricate and creative books have now been published for adults to engage in this calming, creative activity that we loved as children. The library will provide the creative pages and water color pencils. Feel free to bring your own supplies and share with others. Bring your imagination and enjoy the relaxing exercise of coloring. Just Drop In!

**Jan 10, 24 Lego Fun! 3:00 - 4:00pm** Do you love to imagine and build? Do you enjoy the rush of satisfaction when you find the perfect piece in a pile of colorful plastic bricks? Do you love the satisfying snap of a well placed Lego? Do you feel little pain when you step on a scattered Lego brick? If you answered yes to these questions then this program is meant for you! Bring your imagination, we'll provide the Legos! Just Drop In!

Contact Information: Greenville Public Library  
11177 Route 32; PO Box 8 Greenville, NY 12083  
Phone: 518-966-8205 Email: [greenvillelibrary@outlook.com](mailto:greenvillelibrary@outlook.com)

Hours: Monday & Wednesday: 9:00am - 5:00pm Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00am - 6:00pm  
Friday: 12:00pm - 5:00pm Saturday: 9:00am - 1:00pm  
Sunday: Closed





DATE: January 18, 2017

TIME: 6:00 pm

LOCATION:  
Rensselaerville Library





**DATE: January 27, 2017**

**TIME: 6:30 pm**

**LOCATION:  
Rensselaerville Library**



## On The Calendar

Jan 1	<b>TOWN OFFICES CLOSED</b> New Year's Day	
Jan 1 10:00am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Jan 1 11:00am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Jan 3 7:00pm	Town Board Organizational Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 8 10:00am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Jan 8 11:00am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Jan 10 12 noon	Senior Citizen's Lunch/Meeting	Medusa Fire House
Jan 10 7:00pm	Town Board Work Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 12 7:00pm	Town Board Regular Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 15 10:00am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Jan 15 11:00am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Jan 16	<b>TOWN OFFICES CLOSED</b> Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	
Jan 17 7:00pm	Town Board Special Meeting (at the request of Town of Rensselaerville Ambulance)	Town Hall
Jan 21 7am-11am	Medusa Fire Company Breakfast Free Will Offering	Medusa Fire House
Jan 22 10:00am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Jan 22 11:00am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Jan 29 10:00am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Jan 29 11:00am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville

### Planning Ahead:

- \* The Huyck Preserve Winter Festival will be from 12 noon - 3:00pm, Saturday February 4. New this year will be a bake-off. Interested bakers should contact the Huyck Preserve Main Office (797 -3440 or [info@huyckpreserve.org](mailto:info@huyckpreserve.org)) for details.
- \* Also, we will have a full moon hike on Friday, February 13 beginning at 8:00pm, meeting at the Eldridge Research Center (284 Pond Hill Rd.). Those attending must RSVP on our website [www.huyckpreserve.org/whats-new-blog/night-hike-series](http://www.huyckpreserve.org/whats-new-blog/night-hike-series)

Please get events to Bill Moore...

- by phone – 239-4843;
- by e-mail – [whmoore44@yahoo.com](mailto:whmoore44@yahoo.com); or
- by mail to: 11 CR 351, Medusa, NY 12120



## Contact Information for Elected Officials & Department Heads

Position	Name	Email Address
Town Supervisor	Valerie Lounsbury	vlounsbury@rensselaerville.com townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Marion Cooke	mcooke@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	John Dolce	rbolte@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Margaret Sedlmeir	msedlmeir@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Gerald Wood	gwood@rensselaerville.com
Town Justices	Ronald Bates Dwight T. Cooke	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339
Supervisor's Clerk	Linda McCormick	clerk1@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk	Victoria Kraker	townclerk@rensselaerville.com
Highway Superintendent	Randy Bates	rbates@rensselaerville.com
Hwy Supt Clerk	Kim Welsh	
Assessors	Donna Kropp Jeffry Pine Kathryn Wank	assessors@rensselaerville.com
Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer	Mark Overbaugh	codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com
Planning Board	Richard Amedure	spfleging@rensselaerville.com
Zoning Board of Appeals		spfleging@rensselaerville.com
Board of Ethics	Georgette Koenig	ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com
Dog Control Officer	Cheryl Baitsholts	Phone: 797-5201
Refuse/Recycling Coordinator	Jon Whitbeck	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339
Town Hall		Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339

**\*\* Please note: These assignments are valid as of December 31, 2016. However, the 2017 Organizational Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 3, 2017, at which time annual appointments may or may not change. An updated information sheet will be available with the February 2017 issue of The R'ville Community Newsletter.**

## The Back Page

Contributors:

Anne Choiniere  
Kimberly Graff  
Janet Haseley  
Diana Hinchcliff  
Anne Lamont  
William Moore  
Dawn O'Neal  
Jeffry Pine  
John Rice

Editors:

Nancy Class  
Marie Dermody  
Georgette Koenig

**From the Editors:**

*As always, we ask that you make a copy or two of this newsletter to share with friends and neighbors who may not have Internet access. Our readership continues to grow, but we invite others to sign on by sending their email address to [rvillenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rvillenewsletter@gmail.com). We look forward to getting your feedback.*



**To unsubscribe:** Send an email to [rvillenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rvillenewsletter@gmail.com) with the word "Unsubscribe" on the subject line. We'd be sorry to see you go, but we will honor your wishes immediately.

*Our New Year's Wish for You!*

*May this New Year bring you a peace-filled life, warmth and togetherness in your family, good health, and much prosperity! Happy New Year!*

*With warmest regards,  
Nancy, Marie, & Georgette*

A community newsletter **BY** the community **FOR** the community