

# R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 7

September, 2014

## Town Board Special Meeting Minutes - July 15, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Special Meeting on the 15th day of July, 2014 at 7 o'clock 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, Attorney Dana Salazar, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman John Mormile. Planning Board Chairman Richard Amedure arrived at 7:40 PM. Two interested citizens were also in attendance.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to continue the review of the Zoning Law. Supervisor Lounsbury turned the meeting over to Attorney Dana Salazar.

Attorney Salazar resumed the review of the Town of Rensselaerville Zoning Law by picking up on page 86, ARTICLE XI STANDARDS FOR SPECIAL USES; Section 14 Mobile Home Parks.

1. Under Section 14 Mobile Home Parks, CO2 detectors were added as a requirement, along with the existing smoke detectors that were already standard requirements.

2. Under Section 15 Timber Harvesting, permits are to be obtained by the Code Enforcement Officer/ Building Inspector instead of from the Planning Board. Also, under timber harvesting, instead of using the phrase 'special use permit' which attaches to the property permanently, the phrase 'timber harvesting permit' will be used which will be indicative of a one-time use.

3. Section 18 'Senior Citizen Housing' will be called 'Housing for the Elderly'.

Discussions will resume on page 95, ARTICLE XI STANDARDS FOR SPECIAL USES; Section 23 Hotel or Motel Establishments.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to schedule the next meeting to continue the review of the Zoning law for Monday, July 21, 2014 at 7:00 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker

Town Clerk

### Inside this issue:

Minutes: TB Special Meetings 7/21/2014	2	Senior Citizen Info	11
We Stand Corrected!	3	RVFD Poster & Press Release	12, 13
Highlights of TB Special Meeting 7/29/2014	4	Democratic Social Club Annual Picnic	15
Minutes: TB Special Meeting 8/7/2014	5	On the Calendar	16
Highlights: TB Meeting 8/14/2014	6	Contact Info	17
Rensselaerville Cycling Festival	8, 18	Historical Society: Firefighting History	17
Library News	9	Opinion	19
		The Back Page	20

## Town Board Special Meeting Minutes - July 21, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Special Meeting on the 21st day of July, 2014 at 4 o'clock in the afternoon 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 Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were Charles Welsch, Warren Bashwinger, and Union Representative Michael Lyons. Erin Nevins from Nevins Insurance Agency arrived at 4:15 PM.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to negotiate a new union contract.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to go into Executive Session at 4:01 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to return from Executive Session at 5:01 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

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

### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 5:01 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk

## Town Board Special Meeting Minutes - July 21, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Special Meeting on the 21st day of July, 2014 at 7 o'clock 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, Attorney Dana Salazar, Councilman Robert Bolte Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman John Mormile and Planning Board Chairman Richard Amedure. Two interested citizens were also in attendance.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to continue the review of the Zoning Law. Supervisor Lounsbury turned the meeting over to Attorney Dana Salazar.

Attorney Salazar resumed the review of the Town of Rensselaerville Zoning Law by picking up on page 95, ARTICLE XI STANDARDS FOR SPECIAL USES; Section 23 Hotel or Motel Establishments.

1. There were several additions, deletions and changes in terminology in an attempt to clarify and

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Town Board Special Meeting Minutes - July 21, 2014

*(Continued from page 2)*

avoid opening anything up for interpretation.

2. A large section was deleted due to the fact that what it contained was a duplication of what is already New York State Law.

3. The next Special Meeting which was scheduled for August 18, 2014 has been changed to August 27, 2014 at 7:00 PM.

4. The review of the current 'Town of Rensselaerville Zoning Law' has been completed. Attorney Salazar will put together a clean copy of the proposed changes.

### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker

Town Clerk

## We Stand Corrected!

FROM THE EDITORS: At the last Town Board meeting, the editors of the R'ville Community Newsletter were taken to task by a certain Town Councilman over the item in the August issue about the use of the "little red car" for running Town errands. The item read, "Did you know....that the "little red car" originally purchased with donations from the community and intended for transporting senior citizens to medical appointments is now also being used by various Town departments to run errands (to the post office, to the bank, to attend meetings, to pick up parts, etc.)? Is this an appropriate use of this vehicle?"

In fact, the vehicle in question was purchased with money secured for us by Senator Neil Breslin in the form of a \$15,000 grant. So, private donations were not the source of money to purchase this vehicle. But taxpayer money was.

This certain Town Councilman also emphatically stated that the grant money was to purchase a vehicle for the Town to use as it wished. However, that is not the case. The minutes from the May 14, 2009 Town Board meeting state: "A letter was received from Senator Neil Breslin stating that he has been able to secure \$15,000 in the 2009-10 State Budget for the Town. The money is toward the purchase of a small, gas efficient car to be used to transport seniors and/or disabled. This allocation falls under the NYS Office for the Aging. As soon as the Town receives the necessary paperwork, they should complete it as soon as possible and return it. Bob Bolte was thanked for starting this process."

So, we apologize for the misinformation regarding the source of the funding for the "little red car," but we stand behind our assertion that the car was purchased for use by seniors and the disabled. And since this certain Town Councilman played an instrumental role in this matter, he too should be better aware of the facts.

## Highlights of the Town Board Special Meeting - July 29, 2014

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir,

Councilman Gerald Wood, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present was one interested citizen.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to review the proposed new Health Plan options.

Erin Nevins has proposed the Bronze or Silver plan. The rates have increased approximately 60% over last year. The rates are based on a 'community rated' schedule.

The Affordable Care Act requires that health plans offered in the Individual and Small Business Marketplace provide coverage for a range of "core" services known as essential health benefits. By January 1, 2014, plans must include coverage within the following 10 categories:

- \* Ambulatory and emergency services
- \* Hospitalization
- \* Maternity and newborn care
- \* Prescription drugs
- \* Mental health and substance abuse service
- \* Rehabilitative and habilitative care
- \* Laboratory service
- \* Preventive and wellness services
- \* Chronic disease management
- \* Pediatric services, including oral and vision care

CDPHP's Bronze Plan 340 is the closest to what the Town had this past year. (The health care plan year runs from September 1st through August 31st .)

\* A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to go into Executive Session at 7:34 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried*

\* A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to return from Executive Session at 7:47 PM; 2nd by Councilman Wood. *Motion carried*

\* A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to vote in the Bronze Plan 340 with CDPHP and to sign the contract with E.P. Nevins Insurance Agency; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried*

\* A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to renew the Delta Dental Plan; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried*

\* A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to renew the Empire Vision Plan; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried*

\* A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to renew the HRA (Health Reimbursement Arrangement) Funding with a \$5,000/\$10,000 deductible; 2nd by Councilman Wood. *Motion carried*

\*Supervisor Lounsbury reminded all that for prescription only, there is an additional \$1,350/2,700 in deductibles.

\* Meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM

*Note: Full Town Board minutes can be found at [www.rensselaerville.com](http://www.rensselaerville.com)*

## Town Board Special Meeting Minutes - August 7, 2014

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Tom Fallati, Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Robert Bolte, Town Clerk Victoria Kraker

ABSENT WAS: Councilman Gerald Wood

Also present were two interested citizens as well as Board of Ethics committee members Diana Hinchcliff, Georgette Koenig, and Maryann Overbaugh.

The purpose of this meeting was to review the draft of the proposed changes to the procedures of the Board of Ethics.

Supervisor Lounsbury turned the meeting over to Attorney Fallati.

Attorney Fallati has compiled a final draft of the proposed changes to the procedures of the Board of Ethics. Additional comments and recommendations were received by Committee members as well as Town Board members in order to fine-tune these changes.

- In reference to the receipt and investigation of complaints, and the fear of retaliation specifically, Attorney Fallati has incorporated phrases which are commonly used in Employment Law.
- Committee member, Diana Hinchcliff, recommended that a portion of the phrase "...conduct complained of ..." be replaced with "... the conduct that is the subject of the complaint ..."
- Supervisor Lounsbury suggested that "days" be replaced with "business days" .
- Attorney Fallati will clarify in his next final draft, that the Town will cover the expense of the stenographer.
- In reference to finding a violation of the Code of Ethics, 'clear and convincing evidence' specifically, Attorney Fallati has again used words and phrases that are common in the practice of everyday Law.
- Ms. Hinchcliff believes that if at any stage any person attempts to unduly influence a Board of Ethics member it should be reported as soon as possible rather than at the next regular meeting of the Board of Ethics. Attorney Fallati will amend the wording to read that the member shall report the substance of the communication to the Board of Ethic's Chairperson, the Town's attorney, and the Town Supervisor by the close of the next business day.
- Marie Dermody stated that she knows in Town Law there is a distinction between 'Town Attorney' and 'attorney for the Town'. Because the phrase 'Town Attorney' has been used throughout she inquired into whether the rules applied to both terms. Both Attorney Fallati and Diana Hinchcliff explained that the use of 'Town Attorney' is used consistently throughout and is defined within the Draft as well. In addition, 'Town Attorney' is also defined in the Law, and if it is defined in the Law, it applies throughout.

Supervisor Lounsbury questioned whether the adoption of the new procedures required a Public Hearing. Attorney Fallati responded that in the past documents such as these could be done by Resolution.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Sedlmeir, and Bolte; Nays (0)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;  
Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk

## Highlights of Town Board Meeting - August 14, 2014

PRESENT: Attorney Tom Fallati, Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

ABSENT: Councilwoman Marion Cooke

Also present were Highway Superintendent Randy Bates, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Mark Overbaugh, Assessor Richard Tollner, Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Doug Story, Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck, and Sergeant Tracy Mance from the Albany County Sheriff's Department; 9 interested citizens.

Audience Comments: Marie Dermody -- encouraged the Board to review and re-evaluate the practice of having one individual hold three positions within the Town, which can be problematic for the Town when and if an extended illness, vacation, or leave of absence occurs. Ernest Kuehl -- requested the Town to remove a sign that was illegally placed in the middle of Olmo Road at the point where it becomes a Qualified Abandonment. Attorney Fallati has relayed this concern to the attorney for the landowner, and will be following through.

\* Approved the following Town Board minutes: July 1, 2014 – Special Meeting Zoning Review; July 8, 2014 – Work Meeting; July 10, 2014 – Regular Meeting ; July 15, 2014 – Special Meeting Zoning Review; July 21, 2014 – Special Meeting Zoning Review; July 21, 2014 – Executive Session Union Negotiations; July 29, 2014 – Special Meeting Health Insurance Package

Approved the following transfers: From 'FEMA Irene & Lee' A 4187 to 'Bayard Elsbree Park' A7140PHE 44999 (\$796.65) for replacement of three memorial benches; From 'Bayard Park Savings' A 1277 to 'Bayard Elsbree Park' A7140PHE 44999 (\$531.10) for two new memorial benches; From 'Water District' SW 7031 to 'General Fund' A 8449 (\$45,550.00) for repayment of loan to make repairs on the Impoundment Dam; From 'General Gifts/Donations' A 1220R 02705 to 'Buildings Misc. Contractual' A1620E 44999 in the amount of (\$73.5)0 for donations to cover Town Picnic expenses; From 'Program for Aging Revenue' A7610R 02770 to 'Vehicle Maintenance' A7610E 44072 (\$1,359.79 for reimbursement from Lenny's Tire to cover bus accident; From 'HRV Farm Brewery Grant' A7120R 03020 to 'HRV Farm Brewery' A7120E 44057 (\$5,000.00) for Hudson River Valley Farm Brewery Grant; From 'Gifts/Donations' A 1220R 02705 to 'Paramedics' A4560E 44001'(\$2,908.38) for Emergency Medical Services Agreement

\* Approved the payment of all signed vouchers: General Fund -\$54,057.99; Highway Fund - \$60,083.09; Lighting District - 4667.10 (Preston Hollow - \$318.61; Rensselaerville - \$348.49); Sewer Fund - \$386.04; Water Fund - \$217.50; Trust Fund - \$3,741.41. Total Abstracts - \$119,153.13

\* Correspondence from Kimberly Graff seeking volunteers for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Rensselaerville Fire Department.

\* Accepted the Supervisor's Report: Councilwoman Cooke has volunteered to audit payroll. Department Budget Requests will be sent out next week. Reminder that there will be a Special Meeting on August 27<sup>th</sup> to continue the review of the Zoning regulations. The review of the Board of Ethics procedures is headed for completion.

\* Accepted the Attorney's Report: Presented and discussed "RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF RENNELAERVILLE TO COMPLY WITH THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CAPITAL REGION SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP"

\* Approved the above-mentioned resolution

\* Accepted the Highway Superintendent's Report: The highway department is about 90% complete as far as the C.H.I.P.s program is concerned. Currently paving Hale Road with the Town's own paver. Explained a collaborative effort between Rensselaerville, Knox, and Westerlo for projects within each town. The Town of New Scotland has a widener which they are willing to lend us in exchange for our paver. Equipment repair has been non-ending; the Highway will continue paver-patching, mowing, and ditching.

\* Accepted the Town Clerk's Report: Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$1,259.14. Paid to the Supervisor - \$1,183.02 (Clerk Fees - \$91.38; Recycling - \$140.00; Dog Licenses - \$183.00; Building Permits - \$553.64; Zoning - \$65.00; Planning - \$150.00) Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the 'Animal Population

## Highlights of Town Board Meeting—August 14, 2014

Control Program' aka 'dog surcharge': \$30.00; Electronic sweep from the Town Clerk's checking account for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for sporting licenses: \$23.62; Fees paid to NYS Health Department for Marriage Licenses: \$22.50; Water Rents: \$5,220.13 which includes \$56.70 in late fees; and Sewer Rents : \$5,862.86 which includes 83.53 in late fees.

\* Accepted the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector's Report: Several accessory building permits have been issued. The first new home permit of 2014 was issued during the month of July as well as a few solar panel permits.

\* Accepted the Assessors' Report: Everything was running smoothly in the Assessor's Department. The new clerk was working out great.

\* Accepted Water/Sewer Treatment Officer's Report: 438,000 gallons of water was filtered (an average of 14,000 gallons/day) at the top of the hill; and 219,000 gallons was pumped (an average of 7,000 gallons/day) at the bottom of the hill. These numbers indicate that a major leak still has not been located.

\* Approved the appointment of John Rice as the Deputy Water/Sewer Treatment

\* Accepted the Recycling Coordinator's Report: Green Fiber: 10.61 tons; Rensselaer Iron & Steel: 6.29 tons; Tires: 59; City of Albany Landfill: 69.95 tons; Sierra Fibers: 6.09 tons; Oil: 16 gallons. The transfer station was inspected on July 11 New York State Department of Conservation and received a satisfactory grade.

\* Current Events: Councilwoman Sedlmeir would like to present a proclamation from the Town honoring the Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Company's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and their service to the Town.

\* Appointed Mary Carney to the permanent position of Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector's Clerk

\* Authorized the use of the Bulk Mail permit to send the notices regarding the official Town newsletter out to all residents

\* Heard comments from Councilman Bolte about the R'ville Community Newsletter regarding the funding for and the use of the 'little red car'. The car was obtained solely by a grant of \$15,000 from Senator Breslin's office, and is being used occasionally by the Highway Department to pick up parts as opposed to using their trucks and by the Town Clerk

\* Approved the appointment of Justin Pine as the newest Junior member of the Medusa Fire Department

\* Approved the bus trip for seniors and others of Rensselaerville and Westerlo to the United States Military Show at the Times Union Center on September 20, 2014

\* Denied a request to use the bus to transport school children from the Carey Center to the village of Rensselaerville for an educational program

\* Authorized the Highway Superintendent to bid up to \$20,000 at auction for an Oshkosh which is the amount available to him on the equipment line item. Attorney Fallati will look into drawing up a resolution which would allow the Highway Superintendent to bid a given dollar amount on *Auctions International* without having to hold a Special Meeting.

\* Audience Comments: Guy Degennaro - offered his assistance and services in transporting the truck (if Superintendent Bates is the winning bidder) from its location to Town Hall; Sergeant Mance - stated that all the presentations and demonstrations at the Altamont Fair will be offered again at the Rensselaerville Fire Department's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on September 6, 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM

**Please note:** Full Town Board minutes can be found on the Town's website at [www.rensselaerville.com](http://www.rensselaerville.com)

**ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2014, EVERYONE IS INVITED TO A GREAT BIG PARTY IN A LITTLE TINY TOWN.**

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27

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- 5 p.m. Bicycle Skills Clinics (Advanced and Beginner) led by Jamis - Hagens Berman professional cyclists Tyler Wren and Eric Schildge
  - Special dinner menu at the Palmer House Cafe and an opening at the Way Out Gallery on Main Street in Rensselaerville
- 

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28

- 7 a.m. Honest Weight Food Co-op Fuel Up Station and Packet Pickup open
  - 9 a.m. Team Jamis - Hagens Berman Gran Fondo Rides Depart (Gran, Medio & Piccolo), led our pro cyclist attendees and the Jamis - Hagens Berman team race car
  - 10 a.m. Festival Ride Departs, led by Rensselaerville Fire Dept fire truck
  - 12 p.m. Barbecue, Festival Market open, Kids' Mini-Fondo Ride Departs, live music starts from the Lustre Kings and Black Mountain Symphony
  - We'll also have a brewing demonstration from the Helderberg Brewshed, a guided hike of the Huyck Preserve, a Kids' Bike Rodeo & Corral, a talk from the New York State Wildlife Rehabilitation Council, a Ride With GPS Data Upload Station, and tons of great prizes to give away
- 

FESTIVAL MARKET VENDORS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • Carey Institute for Global Good                | • Palmer House Cafe                              |
| • Jamis Bicycles                                 | • Premo Designs Face Painting                    |
| • Helderberg Brewshed                            | • Honey Hollow Brewery                           |
| • Farmie Market                                  | • Greenwolf Brewery                              |
| • Shimano  | • Heather Ridge Farm                             |
| • Huyck Preserve                                 | • Baitsholts Farm                                |
| • New York State Wildlife Rehabilitation Council | • Kuhar Farm                                     |
| • Ride With GPS                                  | • Sheepy Valley Farm                             |
| • New York Bicycling Coalition                   | • Skipping Goat Farms                            |
| • Toole Design Group                             | • Partridge Run Farm & Apiary                    |
| • Sportique Brands                               | • Mountain Winds Farm                            |
| • Mad Dog Bicycles                               | • Gatherer's Granola                             |
| • NYCROSS.com p/b Craft                          | • Blue Sky Farm & Winery                         |
| • Black Fly Challenge                            | • Coldwell Banker Prime Properties of Greenville |

Volunteers are still needed! You can sign up for the Festival volunteer e-mail list here: <http://www.rensselaervillecycling.com/volunteer/>

*REMEMBER, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BRING YOUR BICYCLE TO APPRECIATE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR NECK OF THE WOODS, BUT WE HOPE YOU DO.*

## Library News

### **Rensselaerville Library**

**Fine Amnesty:** Do you have overdue Rensselaerville Library books, audiobooks, movies, magazines? Starting August 26th through September 2nd is Fine Amnesty. So dig through the closets, book bags and drawers, search the bookcases and family car, and recover those Library items. Fine Amnesty does not apply to damaged or lost items. The Library's Annual Meeting is on Monday, September 15th at 7pm The Library will be participating in the Discover the Hilltowns – Farm and Artisans Tours on Saturday, September 13th from 10-1pm with a used book sale. If you have books to donate please bring them to the Library during operating hours by September 12th.

Do you have an E Reader, MP3 Player or a Smart Phone? You have access to free e-books and audio books through the Library and your Library card. No Library card? Just stop into the Library and we can help you. Visit <http://digitalcollection.uhls.org> to start downloading.

One On One Computer & Internet Help Would you like one on one computer or technology help with setting up an email account, word processing, Facebook, Overdrive, E readers, Job Searching sites, etc? Kim is offering individual sessions in the Library to help get you started with almost any common everyday computer/internet questions. Appointments are required. Please visit or call the Library at 797-3949.

**Library Wish List** – Are you remodeling, reorganizing, or purchasing new technology? Consider donating to the Library. We are looking for the following items: counter height table, large outdoor style rug, children's educational toys, any version of Amazon Kindle, Apple iPad or tablets. Thank you to everyone who has made donations.

**Donations** -- Your financial support allows the Library to purchase resources, fund programs and support services as well as maintain our historic building. For more information on how to make a contribution please go to the DONATION link on the web site. Thank you for your continued support.

Getting ready for back to school? We know every parent wants their child to succeed, and one of the simplest ways you can ensure your child's academic success is by making a quick trip to the library. September is Library Card Sign-up Month, a time when the Rensselaerville Library joins with the American Library Association and public libraries nationwide to make sure that every student has the most important school supply of all – a free library card.

Going Fishing? Stop into the Library and check out a fishing rod. The Library has five rods to loan. Just remember if you are over 16 you need a fresh water fishing license. The program is made possible with assistance from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Museum Passes: The Library has Museum Passes to the Clark and a 50% discount pass to the Adirondack Museum. Have you visited the Library's New Web Site? The new site provides a gateway to a listing of our new books, databases, programs, donating and so much more. Come visit!

The Rensselaerville Library invites you to join its small, informal and supportive writing group. Writers of all interests, backgrounds, and abilities are welcome. We currently have a mix of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry writers. You will always have time to write during our 2 hour session, and you will never be "forced" to share anything. If you have "works-in-progress" or would just like to put pen to paper, the library's writing group will give you the time and support you need. If you have any questions, you can call Linda Miller at 936-4402.

The Library has a new Poetry Group that is organized by Tom Corrado. The group meets from 7-9 pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Bring your poem and receive feedback from fellow

*(Continued on page 10)*

## Library News (cont'd)

(Continued from page 9)

poets or just share your words. For more information please contact Tom at [tjc123@midtel.net](mailto:tjc123@midtel.net).

Contact information: 1459 Route 351, Rensselaerville, NY 12147  
 (518) 797-3949; Fax (518) 797-5211  
[www.rensselaervillelibrary.org](http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org)  
 Director Kimberly Graff: [director@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:director@rensselaervillelibrary.org)  
 Library Assistant Katie Caprio: [library@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:library@rensselaervillelibrary.org)

### Middleburgh Library

- Sept 2 1-4pm Mahjonn** - In the Community Room (Also meets, Sept 9, 16, 23, 30)
- Sept 4 7:00pm 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. (Also meets on Sept 11, 18, 25)
- Sept 6 4-7pm Birthday Bash Carnival** - Join us to celebrate the Middleburgh Library's 82nd birthday! Sign the birthday card and have a piece of cake! Play old fashioned games and win prizes! Visit the petting zoo! Talk to Sparky the Firedog The Middleburgh Fire Department's fire truck! Enjoy carnival food, including snow cones, Slushies, popcorn and cotton candy! Listen to music by local musicians and more. Visit the Middleburgh Library history table and learn how the library began. This is a low cost, family friendly event. No registration required.
- Sept 10 11:00am Doodlebugs: Preschool Art Exploration** - Doodlebugs is preschool art exploration for little ones and their caregivers. Appropriate for ages two and up. Registration is required.
- Sept 11 7:00pm The Not so Quiet Concert Series: Martyn Joseph** - Martyn Joseph is a powerful singer and songwriter gifted with the rare ability to speak to the soul with his expressive and poignant lyrics. With a career spanning 30 years, 31 albums, over a half a million record sales and thousands of live performances, the versatility of his music touches genres of folk, rock, soul, folk funk and Americana, yet somehow all these labels cannot define the spirit of his music. *Tickets are available at the door. A \$10.00 donation is suggested.*
- Sept 24 11:00am Start with Science: Preschool Science Exploration!** - Preschoolers' ages three to five will learn about basic science through stories and hands on science activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required.
- Sept 25 7-8pm "Climate Change" Stephen Pekar (Community Room)** - Stephen Pekar, a geology professor at Queens College, has been investigating past climate and oceanographic changes during times (16-45 million years ago) when carbon dioxide was as high as what is predicted for this century. As carbon dioxide is rising rapidly today, which is predicted to be like putting our climate on a "hot plate",

(Continued on page 11)

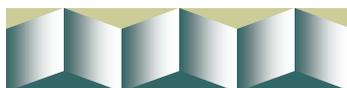
## Library News (cont'd)

(Continued from page 10)

exploring these times for him is like "Looking Back to Our Future". *Registration is requested.*

The events calendar for the Middleburgh Library can be found at:  
<http://engagedpatrons.org/EventsCalendar.cfm?SiteID=8616&thisMonth=9&thisYear=2014>

Contact information: 323 Main Street, Middleburgh, NY 12122  
(518) 827-5142  
[middleburghlibrary.info](http://middleburghlibrary.info)



## Senior Citizens Info

We are happy to report that as of August 18, Ann Vogel has resumed her duties of scheduling the car and bus. Please call her if you need to make an appointment for the use of these vehicles. She can be reached at 797-3376. The Town offers car service Mon-Fri by appointment only. The Senior bus also goes shopping on Thursday either to Cobleskill or Catskill. Call Ann 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.

Plan ahead! Our trip to Holyoke, MA, to the Log Cabin for a Christmas show is scheduled for December 4. More information will be coming your way.

The winners of the Senior Citizen Raffle were:

First prize: Nicole Schuessler

Second prize: Faye Croote

Third prize: Larry Bryan

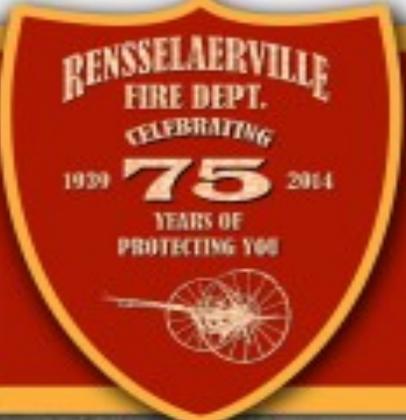
We thank everyone who purchased tickets.

Please note that we are in desperate need of drivers for the bus and the car. Please call Ann Vogel at 797-3376 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



**RENSSELAERVILLE  
FIRE DEPT.  
CELEBRATING  
1939 **75** 2014  
YEARS OF  
PROTECTING YOU**

# ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>**  
AT THE CAREY INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL GOOD  
FUN AND GAMES FOR ALL AGES STARTING AT 9AM  
**PECKHAM HOLLOW PROJECT**  
AWARD CEREMONY | FIREMATIC LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT COMPETITION  
CHICKEN BARBEQUE AT 6 | SNACKS ALL DAY | CASH BAR  
\$13 TICKETS - CALL 518-797-5287 TO PURCHASE BY AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup>

**SEPTEMBER 6, 2014**  
**RENSELAERVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT TO**  
**CELEBRATE 75 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE**

The Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department celebrates its seventy-fifth anniversary on Saturday, September 6, at Rensselaerville's Carey Institute. The free, daylong event commemorates the current department plus all who have served during its continuous operation in the Helderberg Hilltowns since 1939.

Everyone is invited to enjoy the day's many activities. Beginning at 9:00 a.m., area fire departments will compete in "firematic" games where teams of firefighters engage in contests of strength and skill. Competition winners and distinguished service members to the department will be recognized at a mid-day awards ceremony.

There will be a demonstration of the "jaws of life" and a blood pressure clinic. There will also be fire trucks from the surrounding communities and the MacBoston 18 Fallen Firefighter Memorial Truck. Games and activities for children, including carnival games and a bouncy house, will take place throughout the day.

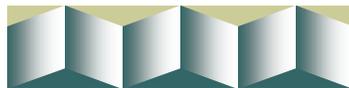
The Albany County Sheriff's Department will be on hand demonstrating their Mobile Command Center and other high-tech equipment. The trained K-9 unit will also be featured.

Food and beverages will be available throughout the day. At 6:00 p.m. full barbecued chicken dinners including drinks, side dishes, and desserts will be offered at \$13.

Dancing to the popular local band The Peckham Hollow Project begins at 7:00 p.m. and resumes after a fireworks display at dusk.

Please come join in the fun and take part in the long and continuing history of the Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department.

For more information, find us and like us on Facebook at Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department.

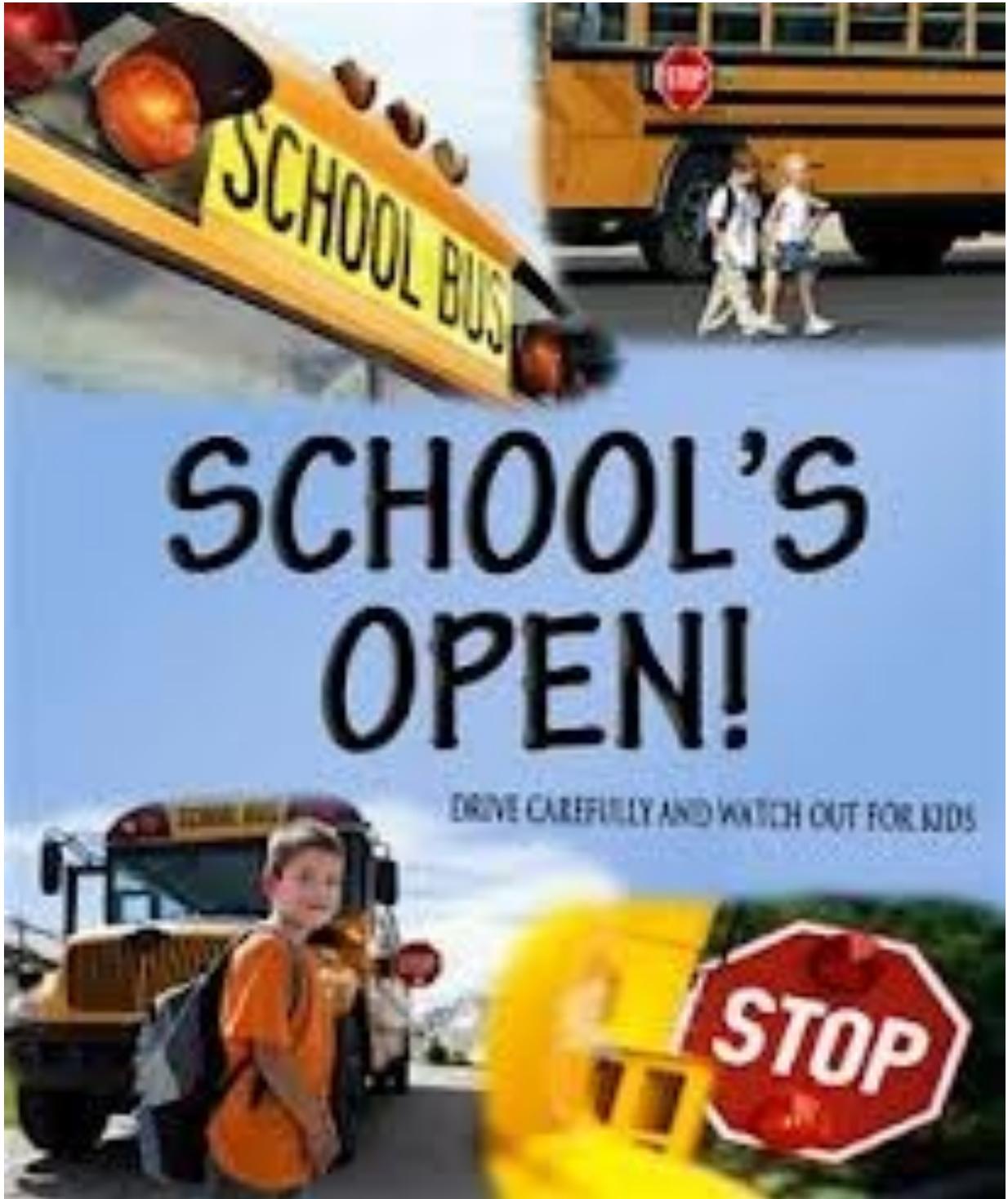


***Move, Breath, Relax***

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

Sarah Nelson Weiss, CYT  
savitrisarah@gmail.com, 518-239-6825

Classes at Conkling Hall in Rensselaerville  
Open to all, \$10



YOU ARE INVITED!!!!

**The Town of Rensselaerville  
Democratic Social Club  
Annual Picnic**

Sunday, September 7, 2014

Bayard Elsbree Memorial Park Pavilion  
Preston Hollow, NY

1 PM 'til ???



Door Prizes



50/50 Raffle



Music



Food

Please join us for an afternoon of food, fun, & camaraderie!

Please bring a covered dish to share.

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**



## On The Calendar

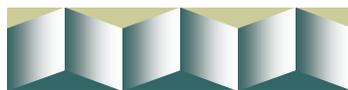
Sept 6	9am-?	<b>Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department</b> 75th Anniversary Celebration	Carey Institute
Sept. 7	1pm - ?	<b>Democratic Social Club Annual Picnic</b>	Bayard Elsbree Park
Sept 9	12-9pm	<b>State/Local Primary Elections</b>	Designated Polling Sites
Sept 9	7pm	<b>Town Board work meeting</b>	Town Hall
Sept 10	12 noon	<b>Senior Citizens Lunch/Meeting</b> ***Change in date due to Primary Elections on September 9***	Medusa Firehouse
Sept 11	7pm	<b>Town Board regular meeting</b>	Town Hall
Sept 13	1-4pm	<b>Rabies Clinic</b> Village of Colonie Municipal Garage <b>1:00-2:30pm</b> for cats and ferrets; <b>2:30- 4:00pm</b> for dogs	2 Thunder Road Colonie
Sept 13		<b>The Rensselaerville Historical Society</b> Annual Meeting, Potluck Supper and Program. The title of the program is "History of Firefighting in the Town of Rensselaerville."	Medusa Firehouse
Sept 16	7pm	<b>Town Board Special Meeting: Zoning</b>	Town Hall
Sept 20	7am-11am	<b>Medusa Fire Department Breakfast</b> Free will offering	Medusa Firehouse
Sept 20	2-5pm	<b>A Celebration of the Life of Art Pizzigati</b> (Art passed away on August 18, 2014.)	Medusa Firehouse
Sept. 28		<b>Rensselaerville Cycling Festival</b>	
Oct. 1-2		<b>Senior Citizen's overnight trip:</b> Lancaster Co. Amish: the play "Moses" at the Sight and Sound Theater, a visit to Amish shops, and an Amish dinner. A very few seats are still available. \$190 for members; \$220 for non-members. Call Tom and Ruth Snyder at 239-4376 to make your reservations.	

### Did you know....

... that a non-profit organization in the Town of Rensselaerville was denied the opportunity to post a community event on the Community Calendar, an free event that is open to anyone and everyone who wants to attend? And yet commercial postings requiring a fee or for profit are permitted. Who's making the rules?

**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	Robert Bolte	rbolte@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Margaret Sedlmeir	msedlmeir@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Gerald Wood	gwood@rensselaerville.com
Supervisor's Clerk	Sarah Hunt	shunt@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk	Victoria Kraker	townclerk@rensselaerville.com
Highway Superintendent	Randy Bates	rbates@rensselaerville.com
Assessors	Donna Kropp Richard Tollner Kathryn Wank	assessors@rensselaerville.com
Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer	Mark Overbaugh	codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com
Planning Board	Richard Amedure	mcarney@rensselaerville.com
Zoning Board of Appeals	John Mormile	mcarney@rensselaerville.com
Board of Ethics		ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com
Dog Control Officer	Cheryl Baitsholts	Phone: 797-5201
Town Hall		Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339



**Firefighting History**

Members of the three firefighting companies in the town will present the program at the annual meeting of the Town of Rensselaerville Historical Society on Saturday, September 13, at the Medusa Firehouse.

Everyone is welcome to attend all or any part of the meeting. The business meeting will be at 5 p.m., a potluck supper will be at 6 p.m. and the program will be at 7 p.m. The title of the program is "History of Firefighting in the Town of Rensselaerville" and will include photos and stories and facts about all three fire companies in the town, Medusa, Rensselaerville and Tri-Village.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2014

A GREAT BIG PARTY IN A LITTLE TINY TOWN



**Volunteer at the Festival and Win  
up to \$850 for your Community Group**

## **VOLUNTEER INFORMATION MEETING**

Sunday September 7, 7:30pm at Conkling Hall

Information on aid stations, roles and more

Refreshments will be served

**RENSSELAERVILLE CYCLING FESTIVAL**

**RENSSELAERVILLECYCLING.COM**

**CALLING ALL REGISTERED DEMOCRATS FOR SEPT. 9TH**

Summer is fading and the Democratic Primary on September 9<sup>th</sup> is rapidly approaching.

This grandmother, in all good conscience, cannot be a lemming and send Cuomo back to Albany. I'm disturbed that our public schools are not being funded adequately by the state and there is a greater funding gap between poor and wealthy school districts. I do not like how the miserably implemented Common Core, along with excessive and expensive high-stakes testing, has been imposed upon our teachers and students. I'm disgusted that we do not have a ban on natural gas drilling with solid plans for transitioning to renewable, sustainable energy. The Moreland Commission controversy was the "topper" where Cuomo claimed wanting to clean up corruption, but now is part of an investigation by Preet Bharara, US Attorney for the Southern District of New York, for apparently being part of the problem. The list is longer! It's likely you can add your own concerns!

Discontent breeds action - we do have a clear choice for Governor of NYS. Fordham professor of law, Ms. Zephyr Teachout, is challenging Gov. Andrew Cuomo in the September 9th primary. She and her running mate for Lt. Governor, Tim Wu, are aiming to win. Teachout and Wu are brilliant intellectuals, approachable, and tireless. They do not have \$33+million from corporate backers, but they do have people power – truly a grassroots campaign. They quickly gathered 45,000 signatures to get on the Democratic Primary ballot. (They only needed 15,000.) Cuomo challenged the signatures, and then he challenged Ms. Teachout's residency. Cuomo lost both challenges, and then sent two minion intern lawyers to challenge the court's decision – thrown out – Zephyr Teachout and Tim Wu ARE on the DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY BALLOT – SEPT. 9TH. Subsequently, Cuomo took his buddies and hubris on a trip to Israel, avoiding debates with Zephyr Teachout and Tim Wu. As I write this, I understand he's hiding in Rhode Island!

We can change things. It's our responsibility. You can find out more about Zephyr Teachout and Tim Wu at [www.teachoutwu.com](http://www.teachoutwu.com) and decide for yourself.

Incumbent Governor Abercrombie (D-Hawaii) lost his primary to a relatively unknown, underfunded opponent, a rare historic event. May the registered democrats of NYS do the same and elect Zephyr Teachout and Tim Wu to be on the Democratic line for Governor and Lt. Governor in November's election. There is a great chance for a primary upset for Cuomo – Let's collectively upset Cuomo for a change, and elect Zephyr Teachout and Tim Wu on Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>.

Please check this site out too: <http://allvoices.com/article/100000460>

Sincerely,

Jeannette P. Rice

Rensselaerville, NY 12147

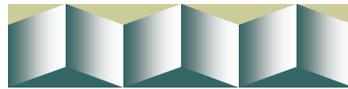
## The Back Page

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The following link will take you to the Albany County Sheriff's Office newsletter for August 2014:

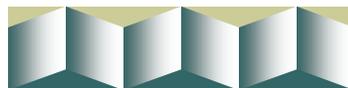
[http://www.albanycounty.com/Libraries/Sheriff\\_Department/2014\\_August\\_Newsletter.sflb.ashx](http://www.albanycounty.com/Libraries/Sheriff_Department/2014_August_Newsletter.sflb.ashx)

Did you know....

... that the announcement board that sits in front of Town Hall has been vacant of messages for quite some time? Why is the Town not advertising Town Board meetings: work meetings, regular monthly meetings, special meetings, etc.? Why is this past practice being ignored?



**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 [rville-newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rville-newsletter@gmail.com). We look forward to getting your feedback.



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