

Town of Ballston

Resident Newsletter



Volume 4, Issue 2

Summer 2009

From Supervisor Southworth's Desk

Summer is finally here. Our children are out of school and enjoying outdoor activities and more family time. We hope you all have a safe, fun filled summer.

Winter storm clean-up kept many of us busy this spring, and no one was busier than our Highway Department. Under the leadership of Highway Superintendent Joe Whalen, workers systematically made their way through town, cleaning up storm debris. When that was completed, they moved on to drainage and roadwork. They have done a fantastic job again this year.

We are saddened by the loss of Jean Bergstrom (Board of Assessment Review) and Art Mengel (Ethics Board Chairman). Both of these individuals gave many hours as volunteers to the Town of Ballston. They will be missed.

There is currently an opening on the Town of Ballston Board of Assessment Review. This position does have a required training session. If you have questions regarding the position, please contact June Maniacek, Town Assessor, at 885-8502 ext. 20, or jmaniacek@townofballstonny.org. Applicants should contact Supervisor Patti Southworth at 885-8502 ext. 13 or psouthworth@townofballstonny.org.

The Town Council has recently passed a resolution increasing the town parks and recreation fee on newly built units from \$500 to \$1,000. The Council is interested in forming a Parks and Recreation Committee to guide the Council in future decisions. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Supervisor Patti Southworth at 885-8502 ext. 13 or psouthworth@townofballstonny.org.

Special thanks goes out to Historian Rick Reynolds, the Explore 400 Committee, and all the volunteers for the wonderful celebration of Ballston Lake held on July 11. There was singing, dancing, storytelling, a fishing contest, historical photos of Ballston, and much, much more. Around 400 people were in attendance, and all had an enjoyable time. We look forward to future celebrations of our town's rich history. A special thanks to The Good Times Restaurant for the use of their property.

August water meter reading will soon be here. Please record your meter reading on the card you receive in the mail and return it to the Water Department within the time period stated on your card. Meter readings can be emailed to bvoehringer@townofballstonny.org. Please be sure to include your meter number from the card you received in the mail. Your prompt cooperation in this process is appreciated.

An Historic Day in Ballston Lake

On Saturday, July 11, the Explore NY 400 Committee hosted its contribution to New York State's Quadricentennial celebration, "A Celebration of Ballston Lake: The Lake and the Village." The event was held at the Good Times Lakeview Restaurant on Lake Road and drew between 300 to 400 residents.

Numerous events were showcased on that day. Many pictures and memorabilia from the Historian's office were displayed, some of them as far back as 150 years ago. A saw, used to cut ice on Ballston Lake about a hundred years ago, was available so residents could see what life used to be like on the lake. Paintings by former local residents William Baker and Edward Sutphen were displayed. And there were lots of pictures of the old White Beach which served local residents from the 1930's to the 1950's.

Allen Hopkins, a singer from western New York, performed songs about the Erie Canal and Emma Begbie, a town resident, performed Irish dances with a fellow dancer from Latham. People who had helped construct a replica of the Onrust, the first Dutch boat built in America, were there to explain the boat that they had been working on for years. The Ballston Lake Improvement Association set up a table to explain their role in helping to preserve the lake.

Boy Scout Troops set up camps on the grounds of the restaurant, "Mr. Twisty" made balloons for the kids and a flotilla of boats traveled around the lake, tooting their horns! And a fishing contest for kids was held on the Town Pier. Yes, they actually caught fish, too!

O'Rourke Middle School students, in cooperation with the Community Library, video and audio taped people's remembrances of their life and times on the lake, both past and present.

Thanks go to Desiree Kelleigh for allowing the town the use of the Good Times as well as to Community Human Services for providing transportation for those unable to get to the event on their own. Carney's Tavern, Stewarts of Ballston Lake and Lakeside Farms also ran specials on that day to commemorate the celebration.

Ballston's Explore NY 400 Committee consists of Rick Reynolds, Town Historian and Chair; Amy Clark; Karen DeAngelo; and Pete Herman, all Ballston residents. The event was co-sponsored by the BHBL Women's Club and the BHBL Business and Professional Association.

Attention all Sportsmen — and Sportswomen

In April, the New York State Legislature approved a measure to increase the hunting, fishing, and trapping license fees. The new fees will be in effect for all 2009-2010 licenses which will go on sale August 17, 2009 and for all Lifetime Licenses beginning October 1, 2009. It would be a savings for Senior Sportsmen, ages 65 and older, who usually purchase an annual license, to consider the purchase of a Lifetime License before October 1, 2009. This \$50 Lifetime Senior Sportsman License includes an annual Turkey Permit and the Deer Management Permit application fee of \$10 is waived forever. Here are a few highlights of the changes in the sporting licenses for the 2009 – 2010 Season, followed by links to key webpages:

- All Lifetime Licenses and 2008-09 sporting licenses will remain available for the previous fees and with the previous age requirements through September 30, 2009. Remember, 2008-09 licenses are only valid until Sept. 30, 2009.
- Beginning October 1, 2009, the minimum age for Senior license types has been raised from 65 to 70. The cost of a Senior license will be \$10, the turkey license will be \$10, and the deer management permit will cost \$10. Hunters currently 65 years or older may purchase a Senior Lifetime Sportsman License through September 30, 2009 for \$50.
- A new Trapper Super Sportsman license provides all the privileges of the resident Fishing, Small and Big Game, Trapping license, Muzzleloading privilege, and Turkey Permit.
- Deer Management Permit Applications will now be free only to Junior Hunting and Junior Bowhunting licenses holders and to holders of Lifetime Sportsman Licenses purchased prior to October 1, 2009.
- For those of you that like to fish, a new Recreational Marine fishing license will be required to fish in the Marine or Coastal District or in any other waters when pursuing "migratory fish from the sea."

To learn more, see: Town Website <http://www.townofballstonny.org> home page under news and notices **decfees09**

Sporting License Fees <http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6107.html> ,

Sporting License FAQs <http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/54955.html>

Town News Briefs...

The Wellness Express Transportation Program is a free service provided by the Town of Ballston to its residents through Community Human Services of Glenville. This curb-to-curb service is available for medical appointments for residents of any age in the Village of Ballston Spa and the towns of Ballston and Milton.

Appointments are filled on a first come, first serviced basis; therefore, requests should be made at least one week in advance. Transports are limited to a fifty mile radius from the point of origin. This service is provided on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For additional information or to make a reservation, call CHS at 399-4624 or visit the website at www.chsny.org.

WANTED: New Jenkins Park Advisory Board Members

We are in the process of expanding Jenkins Park Advisory Board by creating Alternate memberships. We are looking for residents of the Jenkins Park District who could serve on the board. Please contact us if you are interested, have any questions, suggestions, or requests. Lynnette Ziskin Lynnettez@earthlink.net, 384-3737 or urotas@ieee.org, 399-2030

Information for travelers from County Clerk Marchione

Saratoga County Clerk Kathy Marchione is advising travelers documentation proving US citizenship is mandatory prior to returning to the United States. All persons taking a trip across land and sea borders to and from the United States to Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and the Caribbean are now required to produce a passport or other federally-approved travel document. The New York State

Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) began issuing an economical Enhanced Driver License (EDL) in September, 2008. This Enhanced Driver License has been approved as proof of citizenship and as an alternative to a passport for land and sea border crossings to and from the United States to Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and the Caribbean.

County Clerk Marchione said that an Enhanced Driver License can be obtained from any of the three Saratoga County Department of Motor Vehicles offices with proof of citizenship, two proofs of NYS residency, proof of identity such as a driver's license or non-driver ID card, and your social security card. The Saratoga County Clerk's Office is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 to 5:00 for general transactions and from 8:00 to 4:15 for passport applications and recordings.

Doing Business in Ballston — A look at local Business and Professional Associations

The Ballston Spa Business and Professional Association is a partnership of local businesses, residents and non-profit organizations whose goal is to help build a strong and vital Ballston Spa. We encourage business development and community pride by educating the general public to the benefits of a healthy, vibrant and vigorous business district. In support of this mission, the Association sponsors many community events and programs throughout the year, most of them free to the public. Wiswall Park, in the heart of the village's historic downtown, is home to many of our summer activities. The Concerts in the Park series (every Thursday, 6-8 pm through the month of August) presents a diverse offering of musical performers, while the seasonal Farmers' Market (Thursdays 3- 6 pm and Saturdays 9 am-12 pm) supports over 30 local growers, bakers and artisans. The Way We Were Car Show takes place every Columbus Day weekend with last year's event bringing in over 300 classic and custom cars. Ballston Spa's signature event First Fridays, is now in its 5th year. On the first Friday of every month from 6-9 pm, there are art exhibits, live music and special happenings in many downtown shops, restaurants and galleries, and free outdoor family movies in the park after dark in the summer.

Each month, the BSBPA sponsors Mid Week Mixers on the second Wednesday from 5:30-7 pm and Networking Breakfasts the third Tuesday from 7:30-8:30 am, both at a different business location each month. These gatherings provide participants with the opportunity to network with local business professionals and community leaders and residents. Ever mindful of the importance of thinking globally and acting locally, Ballston Spa is proud to have been recently designated as New York State's first Fair Trade town. Several merchants and food establishments in the village offer fair-traded products and the village government has passed a resolution endorsing fair trade.

For more information about Association events and to learn more about our members, please visit www.ballston.org

The BH-BL Business and Professional Association is made up of business owners, leaders and neighbors throughout our community. We were founded in 1987 to encourage, support, and promote business in the Towns of Ballston and Glenville, as well as in the Burnt Hills—Ballston Lake School District, and to enhance the quality of life in this area. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month and hope that you will consider attending to learn how we can help each other while working to create a positive community spirit! We are responsible for many community events, including the Flag Day Parade and Town Clean-up Day. Special thanks to the many dedicated people who worked together to make these two events a success this year, including Dave Near, Peter Herman, Gary Bynon and Rick Reynolds. The BPA is a supporter of the new Community Business Center next door to Mail'n'More. Stop in and check it out! We have also been exploring how to best promote a revitalization of the Route 50 corridor, and met with members of the community, town council, and State DOT to further these efforts. Recently, DOT completed the survey for a site evaluation to create safer pedestrian access across Route 50 near Mama's at Lakehill.

2nd ANNUAL COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE - Saturday, Sept 26th. Join your neighbors and participate in this great community-wide event! We have already receiving registration forms. The 2nd annual sale will bring people to our community in the early autumn when the trees are turning, the cider is fresh, and the town looks simply beautiful. It will also help limit the number of signs and sandwich boards littering the roadsides all year. Visit the website to sign up!

For more information, please visit www.BHBLBPA.com or contact Chris Nyhan, President, BH-BL BPA at chris.nyhan@edrdjones.com

Septic Systems — Preventative Maintenance

Often during times of wet weather, septic system failures become an issue. Proper maintenance of the system is important.

The New York State Health Department's Individual Residential Wastewater Treatment Systems Design Handbook recommends that septic tanks be inspected annually to determine sludge build up. Septic tank additives are not recommended. Tanks should be pumped out every two to three years. Tank baffles should be inspected. Deteriorated baffles must be replaced. Failure to maintain septic tanks and baffles causes sludge to migrate to the leach field causing leach field failure.

Failed septic systems must be replaced. Section 73-2-A of the Code of The Town of Ballston, requires that replacement systems be designed by a New York State licensed Design Professional. The design and replacement of a system can be expensive; a good reason to perform preventative maintenance.

Town of Ballston Contact Information

Town of Ballston Website www.townofballstonny.org

Town Supervisor

Patti Southworth 885-8502 extension 13
E-mail psouthworth@townofballstonny.org

Ballston Town Council Members:

Jim Briaddy 399-4436; E-Mail: jbriaddy@townofballstonny.org
Mary Beth Hynes 884-9590; E-Mail: mbhynes@townofballstonny.org
Kim Ireland 399-3880; E-Mail: kireland@townofballstonny.org
Tim Szczepaniak 399-3388 E-Mail tszczepaniak@townofballstonny.org

Ballston Town Clerk

Muriel Swatling 885-8502 ext. 10; E-Mail: townclerk@townofballstonny.org

Ballston Highway Superintendent

Joe Whalen 885-8502 ext. 25; E-mail: jwhalen@townofballstonny.org

Ballston Town Assessor

June Maniacek 885-8502 ext. 20; E-mail: jmaniacek@townofballstonny.org

Ballston Building Inspector Thomas Johnson

& Zoning Enforcement Officer Tony Rohrmeier 885-8502 ext. 14;

E-mail: building@townofballstonny.org

Stormwater Management Coordinator

Lester Bonesteel 885-8502 ext. 40; lbonesteel@townofballstonny.org

Town Council Meetings

Agenda Meetings – Last Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 pm
Monthly Meetings – First Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 pm

Do you need Town Forms for:

- A Handicapped Parking Permit,
- Putting on an addition,
- Planning and Zoning Board Appearances
- Small Claims Court
- Reserving the Community Room...?

Visit <http://townofballstonny.org/formsCentral.htm>

www.townofballstonny.org

Visit the New town website

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