



**\*\*\*VILLAGE NEWSLETTER\*\*\***

***NEWSLETTER OF THE VILLAGE OF NEWARK VALLEY  
APRIL 2014***

**MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR:**

Hello everybody,

Each March an annual extraordinary event takes place in the Village of Newark Valley and many other Villages around the State. Registered voters, via their ballot tell local officials what they think. Their votes may not be verbal; but the result certainly is loud. We may believe voting, at times, is not important but a quick view around the world states differently. We do not live and die by our vote but some unfortunately do die for their vote.

We are now out of a winter season tougher than many in the recent past but our businesses in the Village survive and improve. Some of our larger businesses adjust payroll based on client or retail activity but we continue to attract new businesses. During the most recent year local entrepreneurs have opened their doors to us and we believe they see an active local government friendly to their needs. We can list the new business activity but that may seem unfair to those who have served our needs for many years. I believe it is sufficient to say “shop local” because when we need them – they may not be here. We have the necessities and convenience of: grocery and pharmacy and small box general merchandise, funeral parlor with headstone design, wines and spirits, beer and soda manufacturer, quick serve and full service restaurants, walk in clinic,

head start facility, beauty hair and nail salons, gas and convenience, post office, floral wholesale and retail, engineering, a travel agency, bed and breakfast, bottle and can redemption, laundromat, dance studio and exercise facility, bowling, unique monthly magazine, building contractors, auto repair, quality carpentry, lawn care, senior citizen and low income housing facility, rental storage facility and wonderful single family and multi family rental availability. Our volunteers: Emergency Ambulance Service, Fire Department, Historical Society, Tillers and Toilers Garden Group, Scout Troops, Tappen Spaulding Library and many other operations making this unique Village quite self sufficient.

Our local government process is: businesses must thrive, residents must be safe and government must be thrifty and efficient while serving the public those things they deem important. Clean potable water with safe reservoir and piping distribution, solid waste pick up at the least possible cost, street care via paving and plowing. We work industriously toward additional grant funding to maintain those assets owned by all of you. Hopefully the demolition and take away of the building once known as the Ladder Factory will occur in the coming years which will improve the neighborhood look and safety. The Sidewalk Committee headed by your neighbors and friends search for remedy

and methods to improve. We will await their recommendations.

Government efficiency may be subject to late night comedy shows but we search for remedy cost containment. We work closely with neighboring towns and villages; sharing services. This year and the years that follow we will create methods of efficiency with municipalities' and school districts to provide Village services at the least possible cost. We believe property upkeep and sidewalk safety is essential. Many responding to the recent survey stated vacant homes not kept up is the number one eyesore in the Village. No one wants their neighbor to abuse their property with boarded up housing or garbage strewn yards. We attempt to be fair to all but I believe with ownership comes common sense and responsibility to others.

We believe our Village scape is not: unlicensed, uncared for vehicles and building deterioration. Long term we wish to work with property owners; not to beautify as that is not realistic. We strive to maintain the look most have worked hard to maintain. Economic turndown and population exodus from NYS results with many empty homes. Current State Fire Codes suggests Code Enforcement should hang large colored "X" signs at all entrances of those homes for firefighter safety. Our Town of Newark Valley does administrate the program and the Village will begin soon. This seems a bit sad but firefighter safety trumps eye appeal for those structures. We will contact the vacant building owners before that occurs.

Our state leaders promise mandate relief where feasible. We have not seen proof of that promises so we must remind those leaders of those commitments. Each effort to improve our infrastructure: water system, municipal building restoration, ladder factory destruction costs more due to those unreasonable mandates set by NYS. Your mayor will join others in Albany to make our points known.

I have made promises to you; now you must make promises to me. Tell me reasonable solutions for what you think; so we can do better. Your mayor is always around and I know you can find me. Maybe, your idea will solve a dilemma. Who knows, until you get involved?

*Best Regards,  
Jim Tornatore  
Mayor*

#### **CLERK'S REPORT:**

After the harsh winter, I hope we get some much needed nice weather!

Results from village elections held on March 18th – Mayor James Tornatore, Trustees (4-yr) Michael Reynolds and Virginia VanEtten, and Trustees (2-yr) Douglas Card and Patricia Beck. Congratulations, Welcome, and Welcome back!

We are currently in the process of collecting taxes. We will be collecting taxes now until October 31<sup>st</sup>, at which time they will be turned over to the county and added to your town tax bill. Please be sure to pay with the exact amount as we cannot accept anything other than the correct amount. Feel free

to call the village office to get the correct amount. 642-8686.

**We now have a facebook page. Please check us out, and “like” to receive on going information.**

Enjoy your summer!

*Mertie Pozzi*

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:**

Spring looks like it might make it soon but it’s off to a slow cold start. Most of the large piles of snow have been moved and are slowly melting, Slosson creek has finally been semi cleared with our thanks to the state bridge crew from the Berkshire area. The constant warm days and cold nights with the rain added caused Rock St drain to freeze over which caused two days of thick ice on the road, after two days of digging and clearing the ditch we finally got the drain open and it is running fine. With the spring rains coming please remember to clear drains in front of your residents, the DPW will be clearing them and filling pot holes for a while.

The water department has been busy with frozen service lines, the frost level was the biggest cause of it, but it can be avoided in the future if water is left running so it can’t freeze. If you are a snowbird or if you plan to be away for a period of time in the winter the DPW can shut off the water from outside to prevent pipes breaking and destroying the residents. The DPW also had one main break on Smullen Ave. and a frozen small main on Rock St. The DPW will be listening for more leaks in the next two to three weeks as the ground moves and starts to settle.

The sanitation dept has added a few new residents to our service and have explained the recycling process. We are noticing more cans and cardboard in the trash so please keep track and recycle the items that are acceptable. If you see a new neighbor please explain to them that they need to contact the office to sign up for our service, the more residents on our service the longer we can continue the low cost service.

Brush and leak pick schedule for 2014

<u>Brush</u>	<u>Leaves</u>
April 15 <sup>th</sup>	April 16 <sup>th</sup>
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	May 14 <sup>th</sup>
June 17 <sup>th</sup>	June 18 <sup>th</sup>
July 15 <sup>th</sup>	July 16 <sup>th</sup>
August 19 <sup>th</sup>	August 20 <sup>th</sup>
September 23 <sup>rd</sup>	September 24 <sup>th</sup>
October 21 <sup>st</sup>	October 22 <sup>nd</sup>
November 4 <sup>th</sup>	November 5 <sup>th</sup>

Leaves and small brush (no rocks and dirt) needs to be in paper bags or cans that can be dumped into a truck. Larger brush and limbs need to be no thicker than 6 inches and less than 4 feet long.

*Thank You  
William Foster*

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Happy Spring Everyone:

I have just a couple of items I would like to bring up as everyone I am sure will be

starting their spring cleaning and other projects.

Swimming pools. If you or your family is intending on putting in or up a new swimming pool this spring or summer, make note a permit is required; this includes the rubber blow up inflatable pools. Please check in with the Office of Code and Safety here in the Village to get both local and state regulated regulations on pool installation permits and regulations. Please also make note that extension cords are **NOT** sufficient to run your swimming pool pumps, as it is a fire safety issue.

Spring projects. As I am sure you are all working on, or plan on working on projects in and out of your home. Please be sure to contact the Office before you start any work to see if in fact any permits are required, and to also see what types of inspections needed for the proposed project.

Open burning. It is against the law for you to open burn within the Village limits. However, there is nothing wrong with a **small recreational fire**, of which must be contained in some sort of fire ring or pit and should not exceed three (3) feet in diameter. Do not put the pit or ring near a house, car, tree, or any other combustible object. You shall not burn any objects with any paint, heavy amounts of brush, leaves, grass, or any kind of toxic materials. Please make note that if you have a fire and it should get out of hand, that the fire department will be called and the fire will be put out. Tickets may need to be issued. So please do not take advantage of this option.

I hope everyone enjoys the warmer weather ahead! Please remember that I am here to help keep the Village a safe and clean environment, and to not hesitate to call the Village office to ask any questions or to report a possible problem.. If you should ever have a question about anything, please call first. 607.642.8686

*Scott M. Kasmarcik  
Code Enforcement/Safety Officer*

### **NEWARK VALLEY EASTER EGG HUNT:**

Bring on Spring! The Newark Valley Celebrations Committee and the Newark Valley Historical Society are teaming up once again to present our 7<sup>th</sup> annual Easter Egg Hunt. Come and welcome Spring at the Newark Valley Village Green April 12th at 10 am for our Easter egg hunt. Countless eggs will be filled with candy and goodies for children to find. Enjoy donuts and drinks too!

Come usher in Spring with us, and get reacquainted with the neighbors you haven't seen since the cold and snow drove everyone inside. The event will be held rain, sleet, or (hopefully) shine.

*Thanks  
Leslie Inderwies*

### **TILLERS & TOILERS GARDEN CLUB:**

Even though the snow is falling, the wind is blowing and the temperature is 20 degrees, I know Spring is on the way! We are so anxious to get dirt under our finger nails again.

The Club has a few plans for the gardens around the Green. We will be re-landscaping the area around the clock and the "flutterby" garden on the corner needs a lot of work to make it even more colorful.

We would welcome new members. You don't have to have any skills, just a desire to help keep the Village looking nice [You don't need to be a Village resident!]

Congratulations to the newly elected Board of Trustees and to Mayor Tornatore for his re-election. We look forward to a good working relationship with them.

Mark your calendars for the annual PLANT SALE on the Village Green - May 10th and help support our projects. If you wish more information, please contact me at [jpeldridge@msn.com](mailto:jpeldridge@msn.com), or call 642-3414.

*Judy Eldridge*

### **JOINT SUMMER RECREATION:**

This program is open to students that have completed kindergarten and up. The program is an open recreation day camp, that means that once you enroll at no cost (donations, grants and tax dollars offset your cost) your camper can join us for half or full days at your convenience. Don't let the summer pass without allowing your child to engage with other campers his/her age in athletic games, arts – crafts or swimming. Look for a complete schedule and calendar at the end of June at the Newark Valley Village. If you need more information please also call the Camp Director, Jacia Donnelly, at 607-205-7548.

### **SIDEWALK COMMITTEE:**

Mayor James Tornatore created the current sidewalk committee in August 2013, with the first meeting of the committee September 2013. The Mayor's newsletter article in the October 2013 listed the names of the committee members, with the confirmed schedule of meetings (the third Wednesday of each month) noted in the Mayor's newsletter article in the January 2014 newsletter. The Sidewalk Ad-Hoc Committee members are Village residents Laurie Boldis , Sindy Morse, Robert Stevens, and Sharon Weed. There is also a liaison Village Board member that attends the meeting, with a secretary recording minutes. The Committee members did walk each street of the entire Village last year, noting status of each street. Sidewalk surveys were mailed March 2014 and the feedback is very important to the Committee; a March 19, 2014 due date was given in order for the bulk of the surveys to be returned for initial recording for the March 19, 2014 committee meeting. We have received a number of responses. If you have not sent in your survey yet and wish to do so, please have the survey to the Village office by April 7<sup>th</sup>. Further recording of responses will occur, with compiled results shared in future newsletters. The purpose of the Committee is to inform property owners of the existing code regarding sidewalks under Chapter 140 of the Village Code book, and to apply

such code in a feasible manner. Copies will be available at the Village office in the Municipal Building, 9 Park Street; office hours are Mondays 10 AM to 7 PM, and Tuesdays through Thursdays 10 AM to 3 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend meetings, which are at 7 PM, the third Wednesday of each month, in the Noble Room in the Municipal Building. The next scheduled meeting is April 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS AT THE TROUT PONDS:**

Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of entertainment in the Trout Ponds Park. These events are free.

Watts on Tap	June 14 <sup>th</sup> 6PM
Mark Rust	July 19 <sup>th</sup> 6PM
Kolby Oakley Band	August 2 <sup>nd</sup> 6PM
Horseshoe Lounge Playboys	Sept 6 <sup>th</sup> 6PM

This project is made possible, in part, with public funds from NYSICA's Decentralization Program, administered regionally by The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes.

### **NV HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR:**

\*April 10 **Annual Meeting & Dinner:** 6 PM @ Newark Valley Fire Station. Bring a dish to pass.

\*April 12 **Easter Egg Hunt**, 10 AM @ Village Green. (Pancake breakfast cancelled.)

\*April 19 **Cooking/Guides Guild:** 10-2, set up Bement House for 2014; Guides Training; open hearth cooking.

\*April 19 **Blacksmith Guild:** 10-3 @ Bement-Billings Farmstead's Blacksmith Shop. (3rd Sat. of each month through Oct.) Doug 669-4489.

\*April 26 **Benefit Auction:** 6-9 PM @ NV Fire Station. Preview & desserts 5 PM. 642-9516.

\*May 3 **Black Powder Guild:** public Muzzleloading Shoot, 10-12 @ Bement-Billings Farmstead's Black Powder Range. Call Joe: 723-8405.

\*May 7 **Black Powder Guild:** League Shoot, 3PM-Dark; *continues each Wed. until Oct.* @ Bement-Billings Farmstead's Black Powder Range. Call Bob (215) 688-0614.

\*May 9 **Kids' Night** @ Bement-Billings Farmstead, details TBA.

\*May 10 **Shuttles & Spindles Guild:** 10-2 @ Bement-Billings Farmstead. Set up "Clare de Loom" barn loom; program on twining. BYO lunch & beverage. New members welcome! Call Denise 642-5568.

\*May 17 **Cooking/Guides Guild:** 10-2, Open hearth cooking; Beehive Oven with Lynn Belucio..

\*May 17 **Blacksmith Guild:** 10-3 @ Bement-Billings Farmstead's Blacksmith Shop. (3rd Sat. of each month through Oct.) Doug 669-4489.

\*May 23 **Kids' Night** @ Bement-Billings Farmstead, details TBA.

\*May 23-26 **Black Powder Guild:** Spring Shoot, in Oxford. Call Joe: 723-8405.

\*June 6 **Depot Friday Nights:** *The Tarps*, 7-9 PM @ NV Depot. Free. Doors open 6 PM. Refreshments available. See schedule at [nvhistory.org](http://nvhistory.org). 642-9516.

\*June 6 **Kids' Night** @ Bement-Billings Farmstead, details TBA.

\*June 7 **Black Powder Guild:** Public Muzzleloading Shoot, 10-12 @ Bement-Billings Farmstead's Black Powder Range. Call Joe: 723-8405.

\*June 7 **Cruise-In:** 5-7 PM @ NV Depot. All vehicles welcome;

refreshments available. Ray (607) 642-3627.

\*June 13 **Depot Friday Nights:** *Rick Marsi*, 7-9 PM @ NV Depot. Free. Doors open 6 PM. Refreshments available. See schedule at [nvhistory.org](http://nvhistory.org). 642-9516.

\*June 14-15 **Shuttles & Spindles Guild:** CNY Fiber Festival @ Bouckville. Call Denise 642-5568.

\*June 20 **Depot Friday Nights:** *Cobblestone Crossing*, 7-9 PM @ NV Depot. Free. Doors open 6 PM. Refreshments available. See schedule at [nvhistory.org](http://nvhistory.org). 642-9516.

\*June 20 **Kids' Night** @ Bement-Billings Farmstead, details TBA.

\*June 21 **Cooking/Guides Guild:** trip to Geneva's *Rose Hill Mansion*..

\*June 21 **Blacksmith Guild:** 10-3 @ Bement-Billings Farmstead's Blacksmith Shop. (3rd Sat. of each month through Oct.) Doug 669-4489.

\*June 27 **Depot Friday Nights:** *Grassanova*, 7-9 PM @ NV Depot. Free. Doors open 6 PM. Refreshments available. See schedule at [nvhistory.org](http://nvhistory.org). 642-9516.

\*July 4 **Depot Friday Nights:** *Rich Wilson*, 7-9 PM @ NV Depot. Free. Doors open 6 PM. Refreshments available. See schedule at [nvhistory.org](http://nvhistory.org). 642-9516.

### **NEW BUSINESSES:**

**Studio 34 – 9 North Main Street**