



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

***NEWSLETTER OF THE VILLAGE OF NEWARK VALLEY***

**July 2017**

**MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR:**

Hello everyone,

Our early summer has been great weather and the west side of Whig Street new sidewalks make the trip north much safer. That Federal and State funding opportunity was long time coming but; now we are all seeing and walking the results. The future will determine if grants are available as many of our walkways require replacement. A number of landowners on Whig Street are contracting with the installers for walkways from the sidewalks to their homes. Your Village does not pay for those individual orders. We are stating that so there is no confusion to those who may see this work in progress.

Your Trustees, Rate Committee and Mayor await the audit results from SmartWatt Energy to continue research toward LED lamping of our Village street lights. We will soon receive the return on investment calculations and determine our steps forward. SmartWatt Energy is a New York operation specializing in energy efficiency solutions. NYSEG owns electric lines, poles the arms and lamps along the streets. Municipalities may purchase the arms and lamps along with

maintenance agreements for lamp replacement. Our Village is not on the cutting edge as the cities of Binghamton and Endicott are pleased with the results. We will report to you when more information is available.

Last summer your Village was awarded a bit over forty thousand dollars by the Floyd Hooker Foundation, for Trout Ponds playground equipment accommodating children five years and under. This current year your Village submitted a one hundred thousand dollar grant request to the Floyd Hooker Foundation for playground equipment for children above five years of age. We wish to recognize the great work of residents Rachel and David Smith along with Village employees Bill Foster and Pam Benthin in making this request possible. The Floyd Hooker Foundation Board has our many thanks for their attention to this matter. We will report to you when we know more data.

We have reached out to Hunt Engineering concerning demolition and removal of the Five Clinton Street early 1990's closed Ladder Factory. The engineers believe our April 2017 grant award of one half million dollars may be sufficient to complete the project. Asbestos updates are necessary before we 'go to bid'. At that time, we will

have accurate data and know in what manner to proceed.

Tioga County Village Mayors and Town Supervisors are considering Sharing of Services methods. County Chair Sauerbrey heads this contingency to investigate uncharted ways municipalities may control costs. Our municipalities all assist others with paving and sharing equipment. Ideas abound so we will report local improvements when possible. Your Village Trustees and Mayor are working with Town Supervisor Yetter and the Councilman toward plowing/salt/sanding of Village Streets. Your Village and Town are drawing closer to an equitable agreement.

This summer your Village may seek a Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) for Municipal Building window treatment renovation. The inside and exterior sills, caulk and frames require asbestos removal along with painting and some glass replacement. This grant application is a 75% funded if your Village receives the award this coming December.

So much of the office function over the most recent decade is funding acquisition which includes expense and reimbursement administration process once the award announcement occurs. This is rewarding to our taxpayers and residents; however, not easy to accomplish. That is why we are here. Mertie Pozzi, Village Clerk/Treasurer administrates along with Pam Benthin Deputy Clerk/Treasurer and Kathy McCall Account Clerk/Front Desk

The operations of Public Works, Water Department, Solid Waste and Code Enforcement is under the administration of Bill Foster. Our roadways: Spring and John Streets along with Wards Lane are milled and paving may be complete as we go to print. Bill Foster, Supervisor of Public Works/Code Enforcement Officer along with Scot Coombs and Steve Pado do a fine job keeping our Parks and Roadways in good shape.

We will soon communicate with owners of unoccupied structures in the Village. Code updates suggest periodic internal building review by local fire inspectors. One vacant building on Watson has placards identifying unsafe for entry by firefighters or anyone. Safety is tantamount and that is the purpose of identification by Fire Departments. Once the owners receive the letter (see attached) our Fire Safety and Code personnel along with the owner will enter and review the building.

We do wish to recognize multiple very significant home improvements over the most recent year! We choose not to list those addresses; however, our appreciation to those landlords and residents improving their properties and our Village.

Summer is upon us; Summer Youth Program host is Director Heidi Cardone. The fun will began Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. Breakfast at no charge, Field Trips, Swim Lessons and free swim at Greenwood, Games, Contests, Arts and Crafts and outside games round out the day. Donations are something we appreciate. Secondly, Friday night

dinners prepared and served by the Depot Diva's. Wonderful entertainment with friends along with historic displays by our Town Historian Group. Saturday night entertainment at the Village Trout Ponds Park is July 22<sup>nd</sup> (alternative folk music), August 19<sup>th</sup> (bluegrass) and September 9<sup>th</sup> (60's to current). A new request, please observe the new 'Tobacco Free' signs at the Trout Ponds due to the expanding playground area and many youth at these musical evenings.

Your Trustees and Mayor have had preliminary discussion with MEGA (Municipal Electric and Gas Alliance) who offer a Community Choice Aggregation as a method to reduce our Villager's and Village electric cost. MEGA negotiates and bids low fixed rates for electric. MEGA will provide sixty days of resident insight and education. If taxpayers do not agree with this process; they may opt out if they choose. More to follow.

Newark Valley Days the weekend August 11<sup>th</sup> to August 13<sup>th</sup>. I will not steal the thunder for this event expansion. Watch Newark Valley Historical Society and Village Facebook for updates. Our thanks to the Newark Valley Historical Society and friends of the Society who are taking this to a new level of family fun!

We wish a safe summer for all,

*Jim Tornatore  
Mayor*

**VILLAGE BOARD –2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday  
monthly @ 7 PM Noble Room  
in Municipal Building 9 Park Street**

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

Summer is finally here! Enjoy while you can!

Some are surprised to find some additional services we offer. Over the last few years we have added services for the community. They include making **copies** (B & W or colored); sending **faxes** (send only); **Notary Public** – office has two notaries; providing **hunting and fishing licenses**; and for **village residents only** we provide **Handicap tags**. Other services as required; bookkeeping, accounting and grant writing, among other additional requirements.

Other services from Department of Public Works are **brush & leaf pick-up; dumpster service; water and solid waste (garbage) service; mowing parks & code violation mowing; snow removal & code violation snow removal**; and other services required.

We now have a new Code Enforcement Officer – William (Bill) Foster. You may contact him at 642-8686 or by email [vonvcode@stny.rr.com](mailto:vonvcode@stny.rr.com) with any questions or concerns.

Be safe,  
*Mertie Pozzi*

<p><b><u>VILLAGE OFFICE HOURS:</u></b> MONDAY–THURSDAY 9 AM – 5 PM FRIDAY 9 AM – NOON; also DROP BOX outside at Village Office Door</p>
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Village Holidays: *New Year's Day; Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day (Thursday & Friday); Christmas Day*

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:**

The summer is here. I hope it is not as wet as the spring, the DPW would appreciate if you have a drain in front of your house to try to keep it clean of grass clippings and tree seeds to prevent flooding of the road. The DPW has been able to keep up with the mowing and the clean up after the winter. A lot of trees came down during the winter, on Marble St. and in the Trout Pond which we were able to remove and clean up. We are now starting the road work for this year, we have milled Spring St, John St, and Wards Lane. We will be paving as early as possible, we were hoping to do Water St. this year but the DOT will be changing the intersection of Main St. and Water St., and we do not want to get it done and have the state dig it up.

The sanitation department has noticed that recyclables have been going down but we still have more cans and bottles that can be recycled, the county picks up the recyclables on Friday and it is part of your county tax so please recycle and the village can save on tipping fees. We also have an increase in the weight of cans--remember if you have kitty litter put it in a separate bag or container and set it next to the cans.

The water department has had a couple of minor water leaks that we have taken care of; we are also checking the hydrants to locate new leaks. We have cut the water loss each year and are now down to 10 %. The DPW will be having Well 4 rehabbed during the summer--this will not affect your water as we have Well 3 to maintain our

system, and this is part of our long term goals for the village.

*Thank You  
Village DPW Supervisor  
Bill Foster*

**CLEANUP & BRUSH AND LEAVES**

<b><u>Brush</u></b>	<b><u>Leaves</u></b>
July 11th	July 12th
August 15th	August 16th
September 12th	September 13th
October 17th	October 18th
November 7th	November 8th

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

As you have read I have taken over the Code enforcement responsibilities of the village. The reason for codes in our village and other governments is to provide all residents a basic minimum level of protection from the hazards of fire and inadequate building construction; enforcement helps protect residents but will also help protect your property value. Property value is adjusted not only by your property but the houses and buildings around you. The previous code officer was instrumental in, what I hope will be, the removal of the old ladder factory, and I thank him for that. We have several unregistered vehicles popping up in the village and notice of violations are sent as need permit; if the violation remains after resolve date, tickets will be issued for court where a fine will be sought and the vehicle will still need registration or removal. Note - if vehicle belongs to a tenant, the violation goes to the land owner and owner will be the one summoned for court and fined. The other violation I have noticed and

ticketed residents for is the amount of garbage, old construction material and old household furnishings sitting in yards. Yes, there are more violations I could list...I will work with anybody to eliminate violations without having to go to court, but left with no cooperation or options then court will go forward. Lastly, if a street light is out, flickering, or dull NYSEG can be called at 1.800.572.1131; they will want location, nearest cross street and pole # (usually found on metal strip attached to pole).

*Bill Foster  
Code Enforcement Officer*

### **TAPPAN SPAULDING MEMORIAL LIBRARY:**

Help us Build a Better World at the Library! The Tappan-Spaulling Memorial library summer reading program begins on July 12th. Play the summer reading bingo game each week for a chance to win prizes, and attend the ice cream social for a book giveaway. Students of Nathan T. Hall Elementary can enter reading minutes on our libraries computers.

July 12th at 6:30pm - Take a Tromp Through the Swamp  
July 19th at 3:00pm - Drone Discovery  
July 26th at 6:30pm - Jedi Academy  
August 9th at 3:00pm - Magic Moreland  
August 16th at 6pm - Ice Cream Social at Nathan T. Hall Elementary  
August 23rd at 6pm - Poetry and Sing-a-Long  
August 30th at 6pm - Birds, Bees, and Burrows

LEGO club will meet at 6:30 on July 5th and August 2nd.

All of our programs are free and open to the public!

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

Bring your family, friends and lawn chairs to relax and enjoy our FREE concerts. Enjoy lite snacks available for purchase provided by local not for profit organizations. Some bands MAY even bring special guests.

July 22 – Next To Kin  
August 19 – Terry Patrick & The Busy Birds  
September 9 – Watts on Tap

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

### **HISTORICAL SOCIETY:**

Here are events for July, August, and September.

July 1- Oct. 8 **Bement-Billings House** OPEN FOR TOURS each Saturday and Sunday, 12-4 PM.

July 7 **Depot Friday Nights:** Little Big Band with Bruce Dedrick: swing, doo wop, rock & roll; 7-9 PM @ NV Depot. Free. Doors open 6 PM. Refreshments available. See schedule at [nvhistory.org](http://nvhistory.org). (607) 642-9516.

July 8 **Cruise-In:** 5-8 PM @ Depot. All vehicles welcome. 2nd and 4th Saturdays through 9/23/17.

July 14           **Depot Friday Nights:**  
Horseshoe Lounge Playboys: acoustic  
backwoods Americana roots music; 7-9  
PM @ NV Depot. Free. Doors open 6  
PM. Refreshments available. Schedule:  
nvhistory.org. (607) 642-9516.

July 15           **All Guilds' Picnic:** Noon  
@ Bement-Billings Farmstead's  
Pavilion. Bring a dish to pass. 727-8214.

July 15           **Blacksmith Guild:** 10-3 @  
Bement-Billings Farmstead's Blacksmith  
Shop. Doug: (607) 669-4489.

July 15 **Beaded Christmas Ornament:**  
9-5 @ Farmstead. Victorian weblike  
beading covers iridescent 2 1/2" ball,  
with SuZ McManus. \$30/25 NVHS  
members, materials provided. Register  
by 6/28: 642-5412.

July 21           **Depot Friday Nights: The**  
**JazzHappensBand:** Dixieland, blues, &  
quick stepping jazz; 7-9 PM @ NV  
Depot. Free. Doors open 6 PM.  
CHICKEN BBQ—tickets available at  
previous Depot Friday Nights. See  
schedule at nvhistory.org. (607) 642-  
9516.

July 22           **Flintknapping II:** 9-1 @  
Bement-Billings Farmstead. Pressure  
flaking large stone tools with  
Mike McGrath. \$70/\$65 NVHS  
members, for all materials & tools.  
Register by 7/5: (607) 642-5412.

July 22           **Cruise-In:** 5-8 PM @  
Depot. All vehicles welcome. 2nd and  
4th Saturdays through 9/23/17.

July 28           **Depot Friday Nights:**  
**Donna & the Country Mystics:** classic  
country songs; 7-9 PM @ NV Depot.

Free. Doors open 6 PM. Refreshments  
available. See schedule at  
nvhistory.org. (607) 642-9516.

July 29           **Silk Ribbon Embroidery:**  
10-5 @ Farmstead. Floral motif with  
Mercia Stocking. \$30/\$25 NVHS  
Members. BYO embroidery hoop &  
scissors; other materials provided.  
Register by 7/14: 642-5412.

Aug. 4           **Depot Friday Nights:**  
**Rick Pedro:** astonishing ragtime piano;  
7-9 PM @ NV Depot. Free. Doors open  
6 PM. Refreshments available. See  
schedule at nvhistory.org. (607) 642-  
9516.

Aug.11           **Depot Friday Nights:**  
**DixieKats:** Dixieland music; 7-9 PM @  
NV Depot. Free. Doors open 6  
PM. Refreshments available. See  
schedule at nvhistory.org. (607) 642-  
9516.

Aug. 11-12      **Newark Valley Days:**  
Friday 4-7; Saturday 9-4 @ NV village  
green: vendors, food, art show, library  
book sale, crafts, spinning/weaving  
demo, BBQ. parade 11 AM (no travel on  
Main St.). Public Black Powder shoot 11  
AM @ Farmstead's Maple Grove.

Aug. 12           **Cruise-In:** 5-8 PM  
@ Depot. All vehicles welcome. 2nd  
and 4th Saturdays through 9/23/17.

Aug. 18           **Depot Friday**  
**Nights: Irish Stoutmen:** Irish folk  
quartet; 7-9 PM @ NV Depot. Free.  
Doors open 6 PM. Refreshments  
available. See schedule at  
nvhistory.org. (607) 642-9516.

Aug. 19                   **Blacksmith Guild:**  
10-3 @ Bement-Billings Farmstead's  
Blacksmith Shop. Doug: (607) 669-4489.

Aug. 19                   **Cooking/Guides Guild:**  
10-2 @ Bement-Billings Farmstead.  
Details TBA. Jane (607) 727-8214.

Aug. 25                   **Depot Friday**  
**Nights: Reprise:** classic rock from the  
'60's to the 80's; 7-9 PM @ NV Depot.  
Free. Doors open 6 PM. Refreshments  
available. See schedule at  
nvhistory.org. (607) 642-9516.

Aug. 26                   **Colby Cheese**  
**Making 210:** 9-4 @ Farmstead's  
Welcome Center. Colby cheese, using  
cheese press, Q & A: with Laryssa  
Zahajkewycz. \$40/\$35 NVHS members.  
Register by 8/11: (607) 642-5412.

Aug. 26                   **Cruise-In:** 5-8 PM  
@ Depot. All vehicles welcome. 2nd  
and 4th Saturdays through 9/23/17.

Sept. 1                   Depot Friday Nights:  
Jude's Polka Jets: toe-tapping polka  
music; 7-9 PM @ NV Depot. Free.  
Doors open 6 PM. Refreshments  
available. See schedule at  
nvhistory.org. (607) 642-9516.

Sept. 8                   **Depot Friday Nights:**  
**Greg Neff:** music of the '60's & '70's; 7-9  
PM @ NV Depot. Free. Doors open 6  
PM. Refreshments available. Schedule  
at nvhistory.org. (607) 642-9516.

Sept. 9                   **Radio Play:** 7 PM @  
Depot. "The Duck Call" --a comedy,  
performed by the Ti-Ahwaga  
Community Players. Tickets \$10,  
available at Depot Friday Nights or from  
the NVHS office: 642-9516.

Sept. 9                   **Open Hearth Cooking**  
**Workshop:** 10-4 @ Bement-Billings  
House. Cook historic recipes, create a  
meal, with Leslie Kiersted & Deb Lum.  
\$50/\$45 NVHS members. Register by  
8/25: 642-5412.

Sept. 10                   **Radio Play:** 2 PM  
@ Depot. "The Duck Call" --a comedy,  
performed by the Ti-Ahwaga  
Community Players. Tickets \$10,  
available at Depot Friday Nights or from  
the NVHS office: 642-9516.

Sept. 16                   **Blacksmith Guild:**  
10-3 @ Bement-Billings Farmstead's  
Blacksmith Shop. Doug: (607) 669-4489.

Sept. 16                   **Cooking/Guide Guild:**  
10-2 @ Bement-Billings Farmstead.  
Prepare for Apple Fest, cook soup  
on open hearth. BYO bowl and soup  
ingredient. RSVP Jane (607) 727-8214.

Sept. 23                   **Cruise-In:** 5-8 PM  
@ Depot. All vehicles welcome. 2nd  
and 4th Saturdays through 9/23/17.

**Happy & Safe Summer from all at the Village Office, Board of Trustees  
and Public Works Department**

