

THE VILLAGE NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE VILLAGE OF NEWARK VALLEY

November 2019



Hello Everybody,

Recent Village Updates:

Slosson Creek/Brook Street Flooding Study: In December FEMA/Homeland Security will tell us if our 75%/25% Hydrology Funding request (\$43750.) is approved. At that time your Trustees and Mayor will inform Hunt Engineers to begin the method of Flood Mitigation. Last year we set aside the local share of \$10937.50 to not impact tax rate going forward. This mitigation is multi-jurisdictional including Town of Newark Valley and NYSDOT. We will update this winter on Facebook, our Webpage and our seasonal newsletter

Nine Brook Street Buyout Request: We reported to you in the May Newsletter that the Reynolds' Family requested Village purchase of their property to be ever green. This is another FEMA/Homeland Security funding request that is common in our Southern Tier unfortunately due to flooding. The Funding request is due December 4th of this year. Village will secure estimates: cost of asbestos and lead removal, negotiate price of the property including ancillary closing fees, possible bond interest cost (if necessary), demolition with debris removal and land restoration to forever green. This appears to be one hundred percent reimbursable to your Village. At this time; we do not know the timetable so we will update as we continue the process.

Storm and Vandalism Damage: Vandalism to your Village signage on North Main Street was partially insurance reimbursable. Eventual partial replacement and repair of sign will be complete. Our Sheriff Department was helpful in recovery and our thanks to the County. Sadly, wind damage to our friends and neighbors homes and property was significant. Our Village Public Works only have completed removal of downed trees and debris

Projects: Whig Street DPW complete roof replacement of our one hundred one year old building; striping for Whig, Water, Rock and Park Streets plus RR and School crossings; 17 Brook Street aqueduct repair for billing to homeowner due to lack of wall maintenance; other improvements are currently in consideration for this year and future budget planning.

Window Restoration: Your Village continues to provide information to Parks & Recreation/Historic Preservation for the previously awarded grant of \$100K. We did repurpose; seeking possible addition of Storms and that request may or may not be fiscally possible. A NYS SAM grant was awarded for \$30K toward this restoration. We are filing for an additional \$20K for hopefully \$50K through Assembly Friend's Office. Our eventual step will be a signed contract with the Funding agency.

Village Housing Study: We plan on working with homeowners, contractors and landlords for improvement to our Village with an emphasis on safe and affordable housing through rehabilitation of current properties and new builds. Tioga Opportunities hopes to partner with our Village to achieve this goal, which will hopefully attract young families and provide housing for additional residents.

Budget Process: Your Trustees begin to oversee the budget build process for eventual adoption in middle of January.

We hope for all; a safe uneventful remainder of autumn.

Best Wishes,
Jim Tornatore
Mayor



CLERK'S REPORT:

I hope everyone has enjoyed our beautiful fall weather and are ready for the next season. Did anyone else notice how brilliant yellow the trees lining Main St. have been these past few weeks? We have such a beautiful Village.

We received our Fiscal Stress score for the year 2018 provided by the State Comptroller Office. This score is to identify municipalities who are under fiscal stress. Scores are as followed: Significant - point range is 65-100, Moderate – 55-64.9, Susceptible – 45-54.9, and No designation – 0-44.9. We scored a 3.3 with No designation for the second year in a row.

Any unpaid Village taxes have been returned to the County, payments can no longer be accepted at the Village office. Unpaid taxes will be assessed to the Town tax bill in January.

We are diligently working on our 2020-21 budget for fiscal year March 1, 2020 – February 28, 2021. We will have work sessions and a public hearing before the

adoption of the budget, which will be sometime in January. Watch the website or the Tioga County Courier for dates.

Thank you to so many for completing our Master Plan Survey. Your participation is greatly appreciated and helps to plan for our future and better understand the wishes of many of our residents. We learned a lot from the surveys. I would like to provide some information clarifying what appears to be some misunderstandings.

Police Protection ~ Both the Tioga County Sheriff and the New York State Police provide regular coverage in the Village. The Village does budget for and hires the Tioga County Sheriff for additional coverage when the Boards deems it prudent.

Upgrades to Alexander Pond ~ Alexander Pond is a beautiful area just outside the Village which is owned and maintained by the Newark Valley Central School district. The Village does not have authority to make any upgrades or changes to that recreational area.

Senior Pricing for Solid Waste and Water ~ The Village does offer a Senior Rate for Solid Waste. Non-Seniors pay \$63.50/quarter and seniors pay \$53.50/quarter. If you are senior citizen and would like the senior rate please contact the Village office. Our water rates are based on water usage and not a flat rate. A household of one or two is generally going to use less water than a family of five or six.

Annual Clean-up and Garage sales ~ The annual clean-up is scheduled by the Town of Newark Valley not the Village. The Village does participate however, scheduling is done by the Town. Likewise, the annual Garage Sales are not a Village run event. Scheduling of garage sales is handled by the residents of the Village.

Cable Service ~ Comments were made requesting to allow another cable company into the Village. At this time Spectrum is the only cable company available. If another company were to become available the Village would welcome them.

Home Repair/Improvement Loans & Grants ~ A few people mentioned assistance to repair/improve their homes. There is from time to time assistance available by either low interest loans and/or grants. The Village posts information when it becomes available on both our website and Facebook. If you would like to be notified when we become aware of these please leave your contact information with the Village office.

It is unbelievable to me that we are knocking on the door of the holiday season again. Here is a listing of the upcoming office closings; Veterans Day - November 11th, Thanksgiving – November 28th and 29th, Christmas - December 25th, and New Year's Day - January 1st.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season!

*Pam Benthin
Village Clerk*



PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

The Village DPW has had a busy summer with storm damage cleanup and park restoration from the August storm. That was a sizable storm and we are thankful no one was injured. As you have probably noticed we lost a number of trees at the Trout Ponds Park. After many man hours all the trees were cleared from the park and the walking path reopened. As time became available over the weeks following the storm, we

cleared resident brush piles from our Village street sides. We would like to thank the Town of Newark Valley and the Village of Owego for their assistance in clearing our roadways and park after the storm.

Other damage from the August storm also included two pieces of playground equipment. The old free standing slide was damaged and also the new climbing toy in the center of the main play area, we are at work with our insurance company and the vendors to get these pieces replaced and repaired.

At this time repair/replacement of a section of the Slosson Creek retaining wall has been completed on Brook Street and a second section is being looked into for future replacement.

The paving on Water Street was done early this summer and now has been restriped along with Rock Street, Park Street and Whig Street. New R&R markings and stop lines were painted on Park Street, Water Street, Whig Street, Watson Ave and Franklin Ave, along with cross walks for the school and restriping of the parking spots on Park Street. NY State also had fresh lines done on Main Street/State Rt. 38.

Winter is on the way and we will begin to change over the trucks and install the sanders and plows along with stocking up with sand and salt. We've reached the time of year where the trees have lost most if not all of their leaves, please try to keep all drains around your house clear and don't blow grass and leaves into the road. Clogged drains can amplify flooding during fall/early winter storms. We will also be working around the Village trimming trees to meet code requirements of 10 feet of clearance over sidewalks.

The sanitation department is getting more recycles in the garbage again and is having to leave the cans for the owner to sort out. Remember that we all pay the county for recycling so if it's in the garbage it costs double.

*Bill Foster
Village DPW Supervisor*



CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Your Village code officer has been busy this quarter doing Fire Safety Inspections along with following up on open building permits.

We have received complaints about the sidewalks not being clear of low hanging branches, the Village code states that all branches must be trimmed 10 feet above the walk. I started accessing the situation with the Main St, Rock St, Park St and Brook St area. When that section is complete I will start over on Maple Ave, Elm St, Whig St and Marble St. and continue until the whole village has been accessed. For residents who receive a complaint notice, if the problem branches are not corrected within 30 days of receiving the complaint in the mail the Village DPW will be directed to trim the trees and a bill for their time and equipment will be forwarded to the property owner. So please, if you know that you have a branch/s that hangs to low trim them before I have to send a violation and have the Village DPW complete the trimming.

With winter on its way remember the Village has a NO PARKING code throughout the whole Village and it starts November 1. The code reads as follows:

§ 157-43 Schedule XV: Parking Prohibited Certain Hours.

- *No parking on any highway or private road, either side, within the corporate limits of the Village of Newark Valley from 12:00 midnight to 6:00 a.m. from November 1 to April 1*
- *No parking in parking lots contiguous to the municipal building on 9 Park Street in the*

Village of Newark Valley (except for designated areas for emergency personnel) from 12:00 midnight to 6:00 a.m. from November 1 to April 1.

Winter also brings us snow and at times that wonderful 'wintery mix' making it necessary to clear sidewalks and parking lots. As a reminder the Village code states:

§ 140-32 Time limit for removal of snow and ice.

- *A. The Village Board deems it to be a matter of public safety and that from October 1 of each year until April 15 of the following year the following time limits for removal of snow and ice shall be in effect, and the property owner shall be responsible for the removal of ice and snow within the time limits prescribed below without any further notice by the Village: Snow and ice shall be removed within 24 hours after the end of a snowfall on noncommercial establishments. Sidewalks in front of commercial establishments and commercial parking lots shall be kept free of snow and ice at all times between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.*
- *B. The failure to remove ice and snow in the time period set forth above shall be deemed to be a public emergency, thus allowing the Village to have such ice and snow removed, pursuant to § 140-29I(3)(a) without any further notice to the property owner.*

Please clear your sidewalks so everyone can have a safe winter and safe holiday season.

As always you can read all of our local village codes via the link on our website or directly at <https://ecode360.com/NE1405>

Bill Foster
Code Enforcement Officer



TAPPAN SPAULDING MEMORIAL LIBRARY:

Here at the library we are enjoying the fall weather and looking forward to the holidays. Autumn brings the most new releases so we are busy purchasing the best for you to borrow. We have new books by **John Grisham, Nelson DeMille, Michael Connelly, JoJo Moyes, Elizabeth Strout and more.** New movies include **Spider-Man Far From Home** and **Toy Story 4.** We continue to have a steady supply of popular new children's books such as **Guts** and **The Tyrant's Tomb**, thanks to the Rosen Fund. You can place holds on titles by going to <https://tsmlibrary.org/> and entering the title or clicking go under catalog search. We can also place holds for you from the library.

We are holding a **Paint & Sip** Saturday **November 9th at 6:30pm.** We will be painting "A Tree For All Seasons" at the **Newark Valley Fire Station.** You can see the painting and register at <https://theinstantartist.com/event-registration/?ee=1450>. It's a fun evening and a great way to support your library.

The library will be participating in the **Holiday Magic Celebration** on **Saturday December 14th.** We will have a book to give to each child who visits. The LEGO Christmas train will be chugging around its track and you will be able to admire the builds the LEGO Club has made.



We continue to hold **LEGO Club** the **first Wednesday of the month** and **S.T.E.A.M. NIGHT** the **third Wednesday.** Both are in the Noble Room at 6:30 PM. Tioga County 4-H brings us S.T.E.A.M. related activities and we have a fun time learning about science, technology, engineering, arts and math. We have lots and lots of LEGOs for our participants to choose from as they build theme related creations to display in the library.



The **Stitch In Time Club** has been working on their beautiful Regency Period outfits. Their next work shop is **November 16th** in the Noble Room.

The library is open Tuesdays 10:00 AM-8:00 PM, Wednesdays 2:00 PM-8:00 PM, Thursdays 3:00 PM-8:00 PM and Saturdays 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM.

Through our being a part of the *Finger Lakes Library System* you have access to numerous databases such as JobNow, genealogy and family research and Tumble Books for kids. These can be used at home or on the Library's public computers. You can download e-books and e-audiobooks through the *Libby at the Library App* or *OverDrive* at www.flls.org. You can borrow materials from the 33 libraries that make up the system. Best of all, all of these services are **free!** So stop by some time and visit us we have something for everyone to enjoy!



TAPPAN-SPAULDING MEMORIAL LIBRARY
6 Rock Street, Newark Valley NY 13811
607-642-9960
<https://tsmlibrary.org/>

NORTHERN TIOGA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:



Helping Business
Take Flight

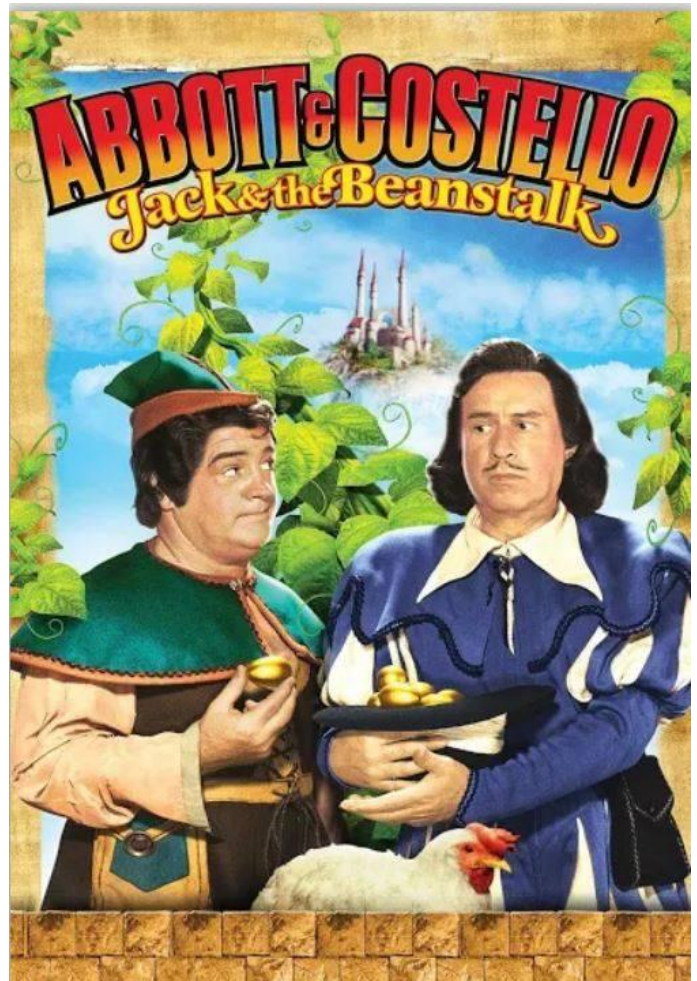
Happy Holidays to all! The Northern Tioga Chamber wishes everyone the joy of family togetherness, love, and peace at this holiday time. We have the following to report:

Welcome Wagon - to date, 5 people have received baskets in 2019 (4 in Newark Valley, 1 in Berkshire). The purpose of our Welcome Wagon program is to gift new home buyers in the Northern Tioga communities of Newark Valley, Berkshire and Richford with a basket of items provided by local merchants, to welcome them to the area and introduce

them to local businesses. Community supervisors are encouraged to submit the names of new homeowners to the chamber so we can provide them with this 'welcome' basket. And area businesses are encouraged to provide a supply of 'gift' items (pens, notebooks, discount coupons. etc.) to be included in the baskets. Check with the chamber for more info on this program.

Memory Lane Movie Night!

Saturday, October 26 - The Chamber held the first of (hopefully!) monthly movie nights at the Noble Room in the NV Municipal Bldg. Abbott & Costello's *Jack and the Beanstalk*, a 1952 musical comedy was attended by several people. The movie was preceded by a *Mighty Mouse* cartoon, and popcorn, cider and donuts were available.



BINGO Update

This highly-anticipated activity has been on the Chamber 'to do list' over many months. We were hoping to conduct weekly 'Throwback Bingo' games, both as a Chamber fund raiser and to provide an opportunity for our area to enjoy an inexpensive fun evening out. After endless hours of investigation into the regulations involved in running Bingo, and a training trip to Schenectady at the NY State Gaming Commission, it was determined that it was not feasible for the Chamber to undertake this project. Time, expense and logistics are not in our favor. This activity has therefore been discontinued as a consideration.

Future Events Planned...

Saturday, December 14 - Newark Valley **Holiday Magic** - The Chamber has assumed sponsorship of this annual event, formerly hosted by the Newark Valley Historical Society. As in previous years, Holiday Magic will take place at the Village Green and in the Noble Room of the N.V. Municipal Bldg. Plans are ongoing, but look forward to some old favorites...



Inside - check out the gingerbread house display, basket raffles, music and goodies in the Noble Room, and a Holiday Fair in the ambulance bays in the rear of the Municipal

Building, where you can do some holiday shopping and the kids can visit with **Santa**.

Outside - enjoy caroling, an outdoor fire pit, decorated and brightly lit Christmas trees on the Green, and a live Nativity. The Tappan Spaulding Library will host an Open House, with a free book giveaway for the kids.

NORTHERN TIOGA DIRECTORY - The Chamber is considering compiling a directory of all area businesses, churches and organizations. This will be a huge undertaking, but when it's complete it will be a handy source to locate and contact these entities. Distribution of the directory TBD. We'll keep you posted as we proceed.

The Northern Tioga Chamber meets the 2nd Thursday of each month. We invite you to attend our meetings, and welcome your participation and input.

You can contact the chamber office at northerntiogachamber@gmail.com

Thank you for supporting the Northern Tioga Chamber!

Respectfully,
Mer

Mer Barrett, President
Mer.northerntiogachamber@gmail.com
(607) 778-9239



NV HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

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

See everyone in the spring!

Newark Valley Historical Society
nvhistory@stny.rr.com
(607) 642-9516

nvhistory.org

Richford, Hubbard Resource Center:

Wednesday 9am - 2

Tioga County Rural Ministry is pleased to announce all **3** of their **Northern Tioga County offices** are now open for Financial Assistance needs. Financial assistance services will be exclusively dedicated to addressing one-time emergency assistance needs for individuals or families in crisis. Examples of such needs include assistance to cover utility costs, prescriptions, car repairs, or rent. Although walk-ins are welcome, you can set up an appointment with **Paul Kunik**, Northern Tioga Outreach Worker, by calling **607-972-9089**.

Paul M. Kunik
Northern Tioga Outreach Worker
Tioga County Rural Ministry
Phone: 607-972-9089
Web Site: tcrm.org/

TIOGA COUNTY RURAL MINISTRY:



Tioga County Rural Ministry New Offices for Northern Tioga –

Office Hours

Berkshire Community Hall:

Monday 3:30 - 7:30, Thursday 2 – 4

Newark Valley Municipal Building:

Monday 9am -2, Tuesday 9am – 1

HOPE CEMETERY:



In an effort to keep the cemetery well-kept and inviting for visitors to spend time with their loved ones, the Trustees of the Hope Cemetery encourage family, friends, and lot owners to remove the summer weary decorations from their loved ones graves sites by November 15th 2019, otherwise they may be discard.

Hope Cemetery Board of Trustees

Village of NV:



South Dakota in such a manner and on such terms as he thought best.

January 1909 – The Village sold 160 acres in South Dakota for \$1,450

The Village had a President until mid-1927 when it was changed to Mayor.

April 20, 1908 – Village President authorized to sell real estate owned by the Village of Newark Valley in Kansas, North Dakota and



To all that have served, this day and every day we thank you for your service and sacrifice.

**FROM THE MAYOR, VILLAGE TRUSTEES, CLERK'S OFFICE and the
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**

We would like to wish everyone an enjoyable end to the summer season as we make our way into the fall and the busyness of the back to school season, the fun of Halloween and the chaos of the holidays to come.

Official Village Newspaper: Tioga County Courier www.tiogaweb.com/courier

Official Village Radio Station: WEBO on 1330AM, 107.9 out of Owego, 101.3 out of Richford

Village Holidays: New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day (Thursday & Friday), Christmas Day.

Village Board Meetings: 2nd Tuesday and 4th Monday of every month at 6:30 PM in the Noble Room, 9 Park Street, Newark Valley.

Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9 AM to 5 PM and Friday 9 AM to 12 PM



The Village office will be closed Thursday November 28th and Friday November 29th for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday with your family and friends.

