

THE VILLAGE NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE VILLAGE OF NEWARK VALLEY

July 2020

Mayor's Message

Hello Everyone,

Your Village Green and Trout Ponds Park are some of the good stuff about living in Northern Tioga County. Our many local employers along with our proximity to Binghamton, Route 17 Corridor and Ithaca jobs create a stable place for families. This Summer means staycation for many of us due to communicable health concerns that may be with us for a bit longer. The Trout Ponds playground equipment was significantly damaged last August with one of our many storms. Playground replacement and repair is complete; so, “come on down” and enjoy. We all are aware of PHASE FOUR physical distancing and our Park Pavilions and Restrooms can accommodate and are open. Actually, Bridal Showers and other family gatherings are happening as of this writing. Question: What resides within our Village of Newark Valley borders? Answer: Locally Owned Supermarket, National: Pharmacy and a Discount Retailer, Physician, Places of Worship, Bowling Facility, Insurance Agency, Hair & Nail Salons, a wonderful Bed & Breakfast, General Country/Hardware Store, Two Machine Shops, Fitness Center, Bottle/Can Redemption Center, Restaurants and Catering Facility, Post Office, Head Start Facility, Elementary and MiddleSchool, TOPS Weight Loss Club,

Northern Tioga Chamber of Commerce, Tappan Spaulding Memorial Library, Newark Valley Historical Society Offices and Educational Depot, Tioga County Rural Ministry Satellite Office, Agriculture District with Working Farms, Food Pantry, Fantastic Contractors and Lawn Care Services, Long time Mechanics and Body Shops, Town of Newark Valley Public Works and Offices and lastly our Village of Newark Valley Public Works and Offices. At times, maybe during stressful times these life positives are forgotten and somewhat neglected. A great mantra to shop and buy locally. You will only miss them; when they are gone.

In late Summer and possibly early Fall; Your Deputy Mayor Cliff Alexander will Chair a Village Sub-Committee to review and analyze your Water Department. The current water use rates, capital reserve amounts and interest/debt dollars were established just after installation of Reservoir and Distribution System. Public Sector: Scott Evans, Matt Tomazin with one more to be determined; Village Board: Clifford Alexander, Jim Tornatore (ex-officio); Village Employees: Pamela Benthin and William Foster. This will impact users of our Water System with possible financial adjustments. Sub-Committee fact finding meetings will be open to our Public. Certain property owners have approached our Village Mayor and Trustees;

stating their fees require review and possible adjustment. As we draw closer to establishing meeting dates; we will post on our web www.villageofnewarkvalley.com and Facebook: Village of Newark Valley. Your attendance and participation is important; because, in this Village “you are, part of the answer”.

Municipal Building Window Renovation: Funding reminder: \$100K Grant Award from NYS Historic Preservation Park & Recreation/\$100K from Reserves/\$50K Grant Award from NYS Assembly. Status: Awaiting Signed Contract from NYS.

Long term Public Works employee Steve Pado retired in June. We do wish Steve and family many pleasant years of enjoyment. Village resident Matt Seamans has joined our Team and has begun his Water Training for eventual licensing. Good Fortune to Matt!

Your Trustees and Mayor; ever cognizant of budget are awaiting updates from our Congressman Tom Reed’s Office. We are awaiting federal and state funding decision, that will include our ‘local aid’. Twice monthly I participate in update Meetings with our Congressman and those are his messages at this time.

I asked our NV Fire Department to work with our Code Enforcement Officer concerning numerous vacant structures that may not be quickly up to NYS Code/Fire Standards. Your Fire Department and CEO are contacting the structure owners to begin the process.

Our Historical Society Depot has experienced some exterior vandalism from Spring going into Summer. Cameras are now everywhere so please caution those who wish to do harm. Broken windows, dinged doors and damaged electrical outlets are expensive repairs. Who knows why some people wish to do harm?

These Mayor comments do not include the most recent five months way of life. The Tornatore Family lost a loved one to COVID and so have many others. Even in hopefully temporary sadness such as Pandemic or traffic casualties; there is some hope for a good life.

The outpouring from our Community to the Class of 2020 exemplifies SPIRIT. Those parents, friends, educators, and students traveled far above expectations. We are so impressed!

Thank you for reading, Stay Safe and We Wish you Well,

Jim Tornatore
Mayor, Village of Newark Valley



CLERK’S REPORT:

Hello All, I hope everyone is enjoying the summer weather and outdoor summer activities.

We had a recent retirement from our DPW Department. Longtime employee Steve Pado retired June 19th. We would like to thank Steve for his 23+ years of service to the Village and wish he and his family

**Good
Luck**

many happy retirement years! With Steve's retirement, village resident, Matt Seamans has recently joined the Village DPW Department. We would like to welcome Matt and look forward to a long career with the Village!

The Village office still has some masks available. If you or your family are in need please feel free to stop by. We also have a few gallons of hand sanitizer available for local business. As a reminder, the Village office is open Monday thru Thursday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm and Friday 9:00 am – Noon.

The Trout Ponds playground equipment has been repaired/replaced after last year's microburst that caused so much damage. We have heard that several little ones are really enjoying the new slide. With all this nice weather take a little trip over to the park, but please remember to social distance and give everyone space so we all remain safe and healthy.



The Village Election that was originally scheduled for March then April is now rescheduled for



September 15th from Noon – 9:00 pm in the Noble Room of the Municipal Building. This year we have two trustee positions, each for a four-year term. Cliff Alexander and John Tomazin will both be

running for re-election. You must be a registered voter and Village resident to vote in this election.

Our AUD (Annual Update Document) is complete. For those of you who are not familiar with this, the AUD is the Village's equivalent of a tax return. Our CPA firm, *Insero & Co.* have just finished their annual audit.

Since many of us have been home these past few months and doing a lot of sorting and cleaning out, we'd like to remind residents that we do have 3yr dumpsters available for rent at the flat rate cost of \$100.00. Stop by the office or give us a call and we can get you scheduled to have a dumpster dropped off.

Our next water meter reading will be August 14th for the September 1st water/solid waste billing.



The billing will go out September 1st and due by September 30th without penalty. After September 30th penalties will be assessed. Remember you can have your Water/Solid Waste bills deducted directly from your checking or savings account every quarter free of charge. One less bill for you to remember to pay. If you are interested, please come in or contact the office at 642-8686. Forms are also available on our website at www.villagenv.com

As always, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the office as we are happy to help. I hope everyone has a fun, happy and safe rest of the summer!

Pam Benthin
Village Clerk



PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

The DPW has been busy catching up since the re-opening of the county.

We have turned on the water and opened the bathrooms at the Trout Pond Park for the season. We are disinfecting the park facilities twice a day during the week and ask everyone for help in keeping the park as clean and safe as possible.

The storm damaged areas of the playground have been repaired or replaced and are ready for the youngsters of the Village to enjoy in these summer months.

The repaving of a portion of Whig Street has been completed, including freshly



painted lines, R&R crossing, and school crossings. The water runoff drains on Maple Ave. have been raised to a better and safer grade. Stop signs at Water Street and Maple Ave. have been replaced along with others, safety of our streets is one of our top priorities. And as

always, the upkeep of the Village Green and Trout Ponds Park will be continuing throughout the summer so that our residents have ample outdoor spaces to enjoy.

The water department has been busy with a main line repair on Maple Ave., service line repairs on Rock Street and John Street along with reseed each of the areas after repair are complete. New DPW employee, Matt Seamans certainly is getting his fill of hands on training.

We have had to replace the well pump at Well 3 due to a malfunction in the pump, this also forced us to adjust the VFD (variable frequency drives) equipment. This was all completed with no worry of contamination or lack of water supply; we have a water system with many backups and failsafes to protect the village residents and to maintain a safe water supply.

The only thing to report from the sanitation department is that new residents and others are purchasing oversized garbage cans. The Village code states, the maximum size is 32 gallons, and this is first and foremost for the safety of our sanitation crew. So please, before you purchase a new garbage can verify the size to avoid any future issues.

Bill Foster
Village DPW Supervisor



all the building permits and the required inspection of these projects, thank you, its greatly appreciated.

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

With the re-opening of the state I have been able to resume fire safety inspections throughout the Village. I will be continuing with the multi-family property safety inspection which includes properties with 2 or more units, and I will be scheduling inspections with the business/commercial properties that I was unable to inspect pre-COVID.

The NVFD and the Village have requested to inspect vacant properties to ensure the safety of the First Responders that protect our community. All owners of properties in question have been notified with a letter explaining the NYS Fire Code, section 311.5-311.5.5 which explains the requirements and procedure for placards being placed on these



properties, if applicable, to assist first responders. Owners have been asked to schedule an inspection with myself and a NV Fire Department representative to determine if the property does indeed require placement of a placard.

Building permits have been plentiful this spring season. I'd like to thank the homeowners and contractors, I have had great co-operation and communication with



NORTHERN TIOGA JOINT SUMMER REC PROGRAM:

It is with a heavy heart that we can finally announce that there will not be a traditional Summer Recreation Program for 2020. We waited as long as we could to make the final decision, hoping that there would be enough change to make the program possible. With all things considered, first and foremost was the health and wellbeing of our attendees and staff. That being said, we are waiting to hear if we can hold a virtual type experience, including web field trips,

calendars of events and resources for keeping the kiddos happy and healthy this summer. These times are unprecedented, and we greatly appreciate your patience and understanding!

On to the Good News! Working together with all the Towns and Villages our school district covers, we will continue with the free food program!

Curbside Pickup

Every Tuesday & Thursday

6/30-8/27

10am-12pm

Locations: Newark Valley Middle School

Berkshire Free Library

Richford Community Center

We will also have supplemental food passed out on Thursdays coordinated by the Tioga County Anti-Hunger Task Force.

Any questions or concerns please feel free to FB message or email:
NVSummerrec@gmail.com

*J.S.R Director
Heidi Cardone*



**TAPPAN SPAULDING MEMORIAL
LIBRARY:**

The Tappan-Spauldung Memorial Library is delighted to be providing services for the community once again!

Although we are not open to the public at this time, we are providing curbside pickup on Tuesdays from 4pm-8pm and Saturdays from 9am-1pm. In order to place holds on items to pick-up, you can access the online library catalog on our website, call the library at 607-642-9960 during open hours, or email director@tsmlibrary.org. Detailed tutorials on how to place holds can be found online at <http://www.flls.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/How-to-Place-Holds-During-Curbside-Services.pdf>. There are also copies of this tutorial available at Hollenbeck's Shurfine Grocery Store and in the lobby of the Municipal Building, as well as posted on the front doors of the library. You may begin placing holds on items from other libraries within the Finger Lakes Library System. Deliveries from other libraries will begin July 21st. When holds are ready for pick-up, you should receive an automated call or email. Upon arrival, call the library and your items will be brought out to you.

Once books are returned, they will be quarantined for 72 hours before being checked back into the system. Unfortunately, because of the quarantine period, our automated phone calls and emails might be pestering you to return items that are overdue. Please ignore these for the time being, you will NOT be charged late fees for items that have been returned on the correct date but have been quarantined.



If you're staying home as much as possible, self-quarantining, or would just rather read ebooks or listen to audiobooks,

you can download the Libby app (<https://www.overdrive.com/apps/libby/>) or Overdrive app (<https://app.overdrive.com/>).

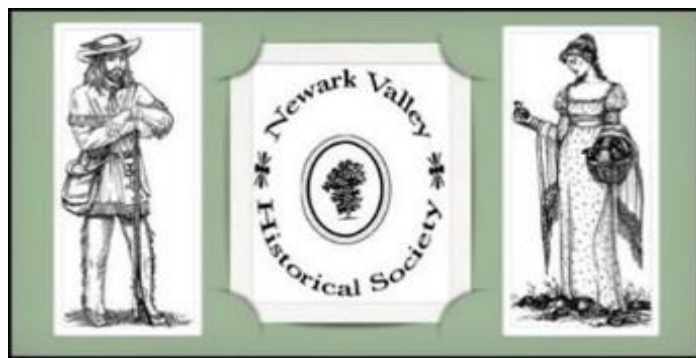
Our Summer Reading Program will be different than previous years because we cannot have in person events. We will be providing take-home crafts and activities for kids that go along with our theme 'Imagine Your Story'. Stay tuned for details!

We do not yet know when we will be open to the public but hope that it will be soon! As always, our wi-fi is available 24/7 for use outside the library. We are not currently accepting book donations. To stay updated on our changes, visit our website at <https://tsmlibrary.org/> or follow us on Facebook.

We would love to hear your feedback! If there is anything that could be improved with curbside pick-up, hours that would work better, or any other suggestions, please send an email, drop a note in the bookdrop, or give us a call!

Thank you for your patience as we navigate through this unprecedented time,

Erin Chapman
Library Director



NV HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

All Newark Valley Historical Society's public events for 2020 have been **canceled**, including:

- Annual Dinner
- Folk Arts Series
- Depot Friday Nights
- Apple Festival

Thanks for your continued support.
See you in 2021! Stay safe!



Sycamore Trails remain open for hiking.

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



NORTHERN TIOGA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

The Northern Tioga Chamber is proud to be a part of the Northern Tioga community and continues to look for ways to help our business members during this time of closure and/or limited capacity for customers, due to the corona virus pandemic. We encourage your support of our local businesses through this unprecedented time.

While many events throughout NY State and Tioga County have been canceled, the Northern Tioga Chamber has continued to stay busy in providing support, wherever possible, to our community. Here are a few of the things the chamber has been working on:

E-Blast

Since 2017 the chamber has been publishing a weekly E-Blast on every Friday morning at 9 AM to all those who subscribe. What is an E-Blast? The E-Blast is an email that is sent out containing events that are happening in our general area of Northern Tioga County and surrounding communities. We also alternate ads for our business members to support and keep our local businesses in the forefront of our minds when thinking about shopping or dining in the area. We ask our members and local organizations to send us their upcoming events so that we can post them in our E-Blast.

We currently have over 170 subscribers! The subscription is free and you can subscribe by going to our website at

<https://www.northerntiogachamber.org/> and clicking on the "Subscribe to Our Weekly Eblast" button. You can unsubscribe at any time in the event you no longer wish to receive the email. To send us information about an upcoming event, please send the information in the form of a pdf or jpg file to: ntcceblast@gmail.com. We request that you send the information at least 1 week before the event, remembering that the E-Blast is sent out on Friday mornings.

Welcome Wagon

So far in 2020, eleven new residents have received baskets (eight in Newark Valley and three in Berkshire), with three more being scheduled for delivery. 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.

Northern Tioga Business Directory

The Chamber is busily compiling a directory of all area businesses, churches, and organizations. This is a huge undertaking and has been delayed due to the pandemic. When it is complete it will be a handy source to locate and contact these entities. Distribution of the directory TBD. We will keep you posted as we proceed.

Doug's Fish Fry Fundraiser for NV Fireworks

We wish to say a Big THANK YOU to all who came out to support our efforts to raise money for this year's fireworks display, which will be held at dusk on Saturday, July 25th.



Because of your participation the chamber was able to raise \$630. Thank you!

Scholarship for NVHS Seniors

The Northern Tioga Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the recipient of this year's \$400 NTCC Scholarship is **Kayla Malarkey** of Newark Valley High School. She has distinguished herself in many areas - scholastically, athletically, and in her community involvement.



In her own words..."I have been the president of the Newark Valley Interact club for 3 years, student council treasurer for the last 2 years, a member of the National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, and I was previously involved with the Varsity Club. I am a

three-season athlete, captain of the varsity volleyball and cheerleading teams and was able to compete at the NYSPHAA State Championships for track and field last year. This year I attended the New Visions Health program,

through which I was able to explore various health careers. I will be attending Florida Southern College in the fall with a major in marine biology and a minor in Spanish on a pre-med track."

Kayla competed in the Pentathlon at States. She was also chosen to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership conference last year. She is the NV Class of 2020 Salutatorian.

The NTCC is proud and honored to award this annual scholarship to this very deserving student. Congratulations Kayla!

Future Events Planned...



Fireworks – July 25th at 9 PM

This year's fireworks will be set off on Cook Hill in Newark Valley. We wish to express our Thanks to Ed & Holly Hollenbeck for allowing us to have the display launched on the hill behind their home. From this location people can see for miles around, watching from their porches or yards. We encourage out-of-towners to come to the village and watch from their cars or lawn chairs at the Trout Ponds, High School, NBT parking lot, keeping in mind the social distancing regulations.

WEBO radio, 1330 AM out of Owego "Your Hometown Station" will accompany the fireworks with patriotic music, so bring your radio or tune in to WEBO and listen during the fireworks display.

The NV Fire Department will be on hand to ensure fireworks safety.

Come out on July 25th and enjoy the show!

Scholarship Dinner – Fundraiser

The board of directors is planning to hold a fundraising dinner to benefit the Northern Tioga chamber Scholarship Fund in the fall. This is tentative right now as we wait to see if the regulations regarding covid-19 are lifted, allowing gatherings such as this. We look forward to the community's support for this fund to help our deserving high school seniors as they graduate and go off to a school of higher learning.

Holiday Magic – December 12th, 2020

We continue to plan for this year's Holiday Magic event, scheduled for December. We are looking into some new ideas and possibly a new location for this year's event. Stay tuned as we continue our planning and upcoming announcements.

Your Invited

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



TILLERS & TOILERS GARDEN

CLUB:

We hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful summer we are being blessed with and taking a moment periodically to stop and smell the flowers.

The Tillers & Toilers garden club of Newark Valley will be holding a Garden Tour of several beautiful gardens in Northern Tioga on Saturday, August 1st, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tickets at the cost of \$10 each will be sold on the Village Green from 10:00 until 1:00 p.m. at which time tour info will be given to guests.

There will also be a Bake Sale (delicious treats available till gone) & Raffle prize tickets sold starting at 10:00-3:00 on the Village Green. Raffle prizes will consist of Gift certificates from area businesses & Baskets filled with a variety of items. You need not be present to win but guests are welcome to join us back at the Green for the drawings which will start shortly after 3:00.

Many hours of hard work go into maintaining & beautifying these wonderful gardens. We hope you can stop by & support our efforts. Proceeds will be used for the continuing upkeep of our Village Green. We appreciate your support & hope to see you there.

*Sincerely,
The Tillers & Toilers*



TIOGA COUNTY RURAL MINISTRY:

We hope that office hours can resume soon for Tioga County Rural Ministry's Northern Tioga satellite offices. We will post news on Facebook and through local news channels when Paul Kunik is able to return.

In the meantime, please contact our main office for any financial assistance needs for low to moderate income families and individuals. If any family/individual, regardless of income, has been laid off or lost employment due to COVID-19, we can help. Please call **Alycia** at our Main Office in Owego at **687-3021** between the hours of **9am – 2 pm**.

August Free Food Giveaway

Saturday, August 1st 2020 10:00-11:00am

At Tioga County Rural Ministry Main Office

143 North Ave, Owego

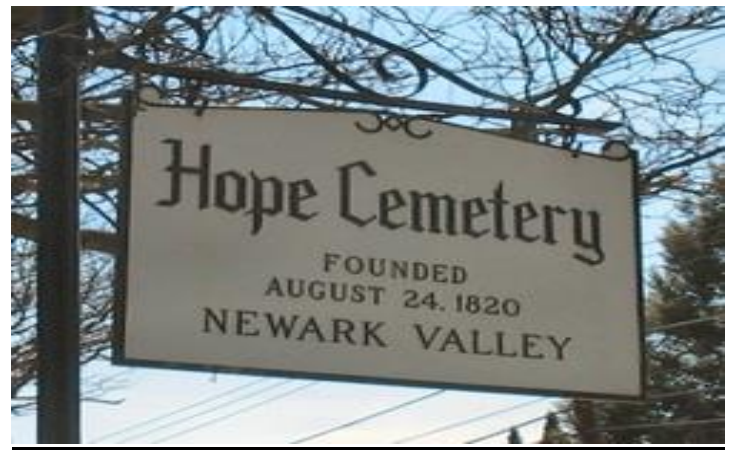
(Around the corner from Home Central)

The first **125 Families** will be served.

Please Register by Monday, July 27th

By calling **687-3031**

Tioga County Rural Ministry
Web Site: tcrm.org/



HOPE CEMETERY:

Good day all! Hope Cemetery has a new grounds keeper! As this can be a very challenging position for any individual, we ask for your cooperation in making maintenance of the grounds as accessible as possible.

Please replace any faded and tattered decorations, and summer weary plants or they will be removed. Remember to keep surrounding areas clear so they can be mowed, no fences large or small. Please refrain from placing loose stones or any other small objects around markers as they tend to drift into the lawn and can become dangerous projectiles when hit by the mower, possibly chipping a nearby headstone or worse yet hitting a visitor. Thank you all for your assistance with these requests, we have one of the best kept cemeteries in the area and would like to keep it that way.

Hope Cemetery Board of Trustees



In observance of Labor Day, the Village Office will be closed
Monday September 7th, 2020

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

2020 certainly started off more unusual than most years, even with all the differences and new restrictions we hope you all are trying to make the best of it and are finding ways to enjoy this beautiful summer we are having.

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 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

