



Town of Saratoga News

12 Spring Street, Schuylerville, NY 12871 Volume 11 Number 4 April 2014

Warm Greetings

The month of April brings us even longer days, warmer temperatures, and the return of residents and birds that have spent the winter in warmer climates. The next meeting of the Town Board is scheduled for Monday, April 14th at 7:00 p.m. Some of the items that will be covered at this meeting include: zoning officer's report, town clerk's report, supervisor's report, committee reports, a public hearing on Mass Gathering Permits #1, #2, & #3 for regattas on April 25th-27th, May 9th - 11th, and June 6th - 8th by the Saratoga Rowing Association. On Thursday, April 10th the Town Board will conduct their monthly agenda meeting at which they will review agenda items scheduled for the April 14th meeting.

Schuyler Park Update

The residents of Northumberland and Saratoga should be very proud of Schuyler Park – an idea that has become a shining example of cooperative spirit, enterprise, hard work, creativity and success!

The Schuyler Park Committee is pleased to report that 2013 was another successful year, building on the progress of the previous years. We continue to work closely with FRIENDS OF SCHUYLER PARK, The Towns of Saratoga and Northumberland, the Schuylerville Central School, the OSAA and Schuylerville Youth Lacrosse, for the benefit of all.

The FRIENDS OF SCHUYLER PARK is our 501-c3 not-for-profit arm for fundraising and capital projects. They have an excellent Board of Directors that is forward thinking and excited about their fundraising efforts. 2013 fundraising included a very successful "Blue Jean Ball" in March at Longfellows with over 150 people in attendance that raised over \$10,000 for the park. FRIENDS also spent a summer night parking cars in Saratoga and held a community outdoor movie night at the park in the fall, raising a few more thousand dollars. We continue our strong working relationship with the school in terms of field usage and maintenance for both spring and fall sports. In 2013 we entered into another five year agreement with the school district.

Both OSAA and Youth Lacrosse continue to expand their programs and use of Schuyler Park with hundreds of kids participating in spring and fall soccer, spring and fall softball and baseball and spring lacrosse. Practices, games and tournaments are held daily and most weekends throughout the spring and fall, with more limited use during the summer months with soccer camps.

Schuyler Park ctd.

We continue to outsource the vast majority of our field maintenance, including weekly/bi-weekly mowing, trimming, fertilization, weed applications if needed, aerating, over seeding, etc. For 2013, Collins Turf Services was awarded the contract and did a great job. The fields are in excellent condition. Another important contributing component to the condition of the fields is the irrigation system. We did have trouble with the pump during the summer and had to have repairs done to that. Otherwise, the irrigation system is working well and we are generally able to maintain healthy turf throughout the hot weather.

The Pavilion and playground areas continue to be enjoyed by families during sibling practices, as well as for general play and stand-alone events. We had several scheduled pavilion uses during the year, primarily for birthday parties and reunions. These scheduled events are posted on line on our web site use schedule. We added additional picnic tables for the pavilion and park benches at the playground. The benches were purchased with Memorial Funds in memory of Carol Cummings and Linwood Thomas. Plaques have been made and will be added to the benches.

We are excited by the progress we have made, the recreational opportunities we are providing for our residents and opportunities that lie ahead. 2014 is looking to be another busy and productive year, with more use and some additional projects and activities planned. The Committee looks forward to continuing our vigilant work regarding short term and ongoing operations, as well as long term planning.

NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

The Assessor's Office has been working on finalizing the Tentative Roll for 2014. It will be available for public viewing after May 1st and can be viewed at the Town Hall or online at the link provided on the Town's website. The Assessor's Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM. The Assessor, Vicki Hayner will be in the office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. The Assessor will also be "sitting with the roll" on Monday, May 12 from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM and Saturday, May 10th from 12:30 – 4:00 PM. Grievance Day is scheduled May 27th and the Board of Assessment Review will be available for hearings from 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM in the Town Hall. Grievance forms may be obtained at the Assessor's Office or on the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance website and must be filled out prior to being seen by the Grievance Board. Property owners wishing to grieve their assessment will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis between the above stated hours. If you have questions or concerns about your property assessment or the procedures for Grievance Day, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 695-3644, ext.312 or ext. 321.