



# Town of Saratoga News

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Supervisor Thomas N. Wood, III Editor Telephone # 695-3644 X14

## Warm Greetings to Everyone!

The holidays of November remind us to be thankful for and appreciative of the good fortune and many blessings that each of us in our town has received over this past year. The next meeting of the Town Board is scheduled for Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. In addition to the regular items of business there will be a public hearing on the 2008 Town Budget.

The Town Board Agenda Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm. The town offices will be closed Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veterans' Day. In addition the Town offices will be closed November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The Public Hearing on the 2008 Town budget is scheduled for Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. The budget expenditures including ambulance and fire districts have increased \$157,939. Increases in town sales tax and mortgage tax revenue will substantially reduce the amount of this increase to be raised by property tax. The budget has increased slightly as a result of increases in salaries and wages, insurance, retirement, hazardous waste clean up, demolition projects, park projects, and fuel and heating costs. In addition both the ambulance district and fire protection costs have increased as a result of planned building projects, new equipment purchases, and the LOSAP program. Town taxes will remain constant at \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessment. Fire protection costs will increase from \$1.06 to \$1.17 in the Quaker Springs Fire District and will be \$1.06 in the Schuyler Hose and David Nevins Fire Protection Districts. Ambulance costs will increase from \$.57 to \$.75. The total tax rate will be \$3.42 per \$1,000 of assessment. Our total tax rate compares favorably to that of our neighboring towns.

## Old Saratoga Reformed Church Harvest Supper

On Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 4:30 and 6:00 pm the Old Saratoga Reformed Church will conduct their Annual Harvest Ham Dinner at the church located on Pearl Street. Tickets are \$9.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children ages 5 – 12, and children under 5 are free. The variety and quality of food cannot be beat. Take outs are available. Reservations may be made by calling 695-6187 or 695-3479.

## Shared Services Grant Proposal

The town board is working with the Villages of Schuylerville and Victory to investigate the feasibility of applying for a grant from New York State to investigate possible areas for shared services. If their is agreement between the town and the villages to go forward with the grant application, then the LA Group will complete the application which is due by December 14th. If we are successful in being awarded the grant, then a series of meetings will be scheduled to identify areas in which services may be shared.

## Assessor's News

Greetings from the Assessor's Office

This is just a quick note to introduce myself and let you know what is happening in the Assessor's Office. My name is Vicki Hayner and I am the new Sole Assessor for the Town of Saratoga. Danielle Haas continues as the Clerk for the Assessor. The Assessor's office is open weekdays from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM and Danielle will be here during that time. The Assessor will be in the office on Tuesdays from Noon until 5:00 PM, and on Wednesday and Fridays from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. If these times do not work for you, please call and schedule an appointment. I look forward to meeting you! If you have concerns regarding your property, please stop in and talk to us.

## NIMS Update

Jim Miers NIMS Coordinator reports that during the recent water main break in the Village of Schuylerville, the Reverse 911 system was activated. On three occasions, over 1,400 calls were made in less than 15 minutes to residents of the Village of Schuylerville, Village of Victory, and Town of Saratoga residents that live near the villages. The residents were notified of the break and warned to boil their water. Unfortunately, some residents did not receive a call. If you live in the area described above and did not receive a call, please contact either Tom Wood or Jim Miers and inform them so that this can be corrected.

## Town Highway Department News

The Highway Department has been busy preparing for the upcoming winter. Large quantities of sand and salt are stock piled and the snowplows are ready for action. New blacktop has been applied to Neilson Road and Mezera Road. The siding has been installed on the new highway department garage. New overhead doors will be installed shortly. Proposals are being obtained for a study and evaluation of the demolition of the old highway department garage.