



Town of Saratoga News

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Supervisor Thomas N. Wood, III Editor Telephone # 695-3644 X314

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 November meeting of the Town Board was conducted on Thursday, November 5th at 7:00 p.m. A public hearing on the 2010 budget was conducted and the budget was adopted. The budget is lean and responsible. Our budget goal was to have no tax increase and maintain the level of services to residents. To accomplish this there will be no pay increases for town employees during 2010. The only exception will be highway employees that as per contractual agreement will receive \$.05 per hour increase in their pay. Cuts were made in many departments including insurance, data processing, supervisors, town clerk, justices, assessors, interest on debt payment and historian. There were a few areas of increase to cover higher expenses in areas such as tax collector, dog control officer, municipal association dues, employee benefits, and taxes and assessments. We will still have funds for the purchase of a new highway department truck. Using additional revenues and available fund balance we will decrease the town tax rate by \$.10 per 1000 assessment to \$1.64. The town tax rate will be decreased by 5.7% The Town of Saratoga tax rate is lower than that of our neighboring towns.

The town offices will be closed Tuesday, November 11th in observance of Veterans' Day. In addition the Town offices will be closed November 26th and 27th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Quaker Springs Fire Department News

Work has progressed nicely over the construction of the new satellite firehouse. They are now in the process of finishing the punch list of items that need to be completed. It is anticipated that by mid December the station will be complete and fire equipment will be housed in the station. The operation of this station will surely provide faster fire response to fires in the Saratoga Lake Area.

Town Hall Update

Our newest tenants, Burlington Laboratories of Saratoga have been in the building for over three months. The facilities are working out good for them. The Greater Schuylerville Community Food Pantry is completing the move to the former bus garage adjacent to the town hall. The facilities will provide the food pantry with much needed space and are expected to be open before Thanksgiving on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 am to noon.

Wilbur Road Towpath Trail News

Considerable progress has been made on the Wilbur Road Towpath Trail and it should be completed by the end of November. The trail is nearly a ½ mile long and offers views of the old Champlain Canal as well as the opportunity to view a variety of wildlife in their natural habitat. When completed a special opening ceremony will be conducted.

St. Nicholas Weekend Events

Numerous events are scheduled for December 5th and 6th in downtown Schuylerville. St. Nicolaas will arrive at the corner of Spring St. and Broad St. at 4:15 pm on Saturday followed by a lantern walk and caroling to the village park for a tree lighting ceremony. Area businesses will be open late and refreshments will be available from numerous merchants in the village.

Ground Breaking at General Schuyler Emergency Squad Building Site.

On Saturday, November 7th Ground Breaking ceremonies were conducted at the site of the new General Schuyler Emergency Squad Building at 901 Rt. 29. Construction on the new 1.2 million dollar building will begin this fall with an expected completion by Spring of 2010. The squad has already saved up approximately 500,000 dollars and will borrow approximately \$700,000. To finish the project. The building will be built by the Morton Building Corporation. The new building will provide facilities from which the squad will be able to respond faster to the more western areas of the town. In addition to housing the ambulances the building will have training rooms and overnight sleeping facilities to accommodate squad members.