



From the Desk of the Supervisor *Peter Ingalsbe*

Hello Farmington, by the time you read this I hope the spring weather is upon us! Where do I start?

Ongoing issues include:

COVID-19, the Town Budget, the Governor trying to keep all our VLT money, progress on our new Beaver Creek Park, what new housing and commercial projects are coming to Farmington, is my assessment going up this year? What highway projects are slated for 2021? When is the spring cleanup scheduled? What is a Comprehensive Plan? Well, I will discuss some of these topics, but you will have to read each department comments to get all the answers to the questions that I have listed.

COVID-19, yes it has been a year now and some relief in sight with the number of vaccinations available increasing almost every week. We have been very lucky as our employees have tried very hard to keep the virus out of our departments. We have only had two positive employees and a few others that quarantined because loved ones had the virus.

By now you have received your Town & County tax bill. Your Town Board has been very conservative with our spending and the town tax rate is still the same \$1.10 per thousand of assessed value keeping it the same since 2015. We use the Video Lottery Terminal funds for our capital projects such as Beaver Creek Park, and we use over \$200,000 in VLT each year in the highway budget. So, in 2020 NYS **denied** the Town over \$300,000 in VLT money and approximately \$150,000 in highway funds.

The 2021 budget was approved last November and now the Governor wants to delete over \$1.7 million that we normally receive from NYS. If we no longer receive any VLT funds we will most definitely have to raise the town tax rate in future years. I have reached out to our State Senator Pam Helming and Assemblyman Jeff Gallahan to support the towns request to continue to receive VLT funds this year and in the future.

Beaver Creek Park is progressing along this winter, with electric, fiber, water & sewer now available. The contractors continue to work on the pavilion and the bathroom/maintenance building. This spring more work will be done on the fields. The roadway and parking lots will be paved, playgrounds will be installed, tennis and basketball courts will be added, and trees and shrubs will be planted throughout the park. The town will, over the next 3-5 years, add more trees, and shrubs. The park should be available in late summer 2021 for use.

If you have not tried to buy a home or sell one in the last 18 months then you might not know that the Farmington, Canandaigua & Victor area is seeing fast sales and selling prices never seen before. According to the Canandaigua Daily

Messenger article on February 26th, In Ontario County the number of new listings were down 35.9%. The number of closed sales were up 18% and the median sales price of homes in the county climbed to \$197,000 compared to last years \$167,500 a 17.6% increase. Here are a few examples in Farmington, assessed value verses recent sales. Running Brook, assessed at \$126,000 sold for \$135,000, Buckskin Drive, assessed at \$210,900, sold for \$265,000, Creek Point assessed at \$204,000 sold for \$265,000. Calm Lake assessed at \$146,000 sold for \$175,000, Coral Drive assessed at \$201,200, sold for \$265,000. Marion Way assessed at \$353,200, sold for \$375,000 and finally Allen-Padgham road assessed at \$183,300, sold for \$215,000. These sales were reported in the November 19, 2020 Daily Messenger. Recent listings have only been on the market a few days and people almost always paid the asking price or more.

Our assessor mentioned in the September 2020 newsletter that we will hold off one year on property revaluations. Properties are normally due revaluations every other year, but the Town Board agreed with Michelle to delay this one year because of the many COVID-19 hardships our residents are experiencing.

Well, you are going to have to read each department article to find out what else is going on in town. As always feel to reach out to my office with questions and concerns. Have a great 2021.

315-986-8100 ext. 2 or via email at pingalsbe@farmingtonny.org.



From the Desk of the Town Clerk *Michelle Finley*

DOG LICENSES - Article 7 of the New York State Agriculture and Market Law requires all dogs older than 4 months old to be licensed within the town they reside. Licensing ensures that all dogs have been properly vaccinated against rabies for the protection of both you and your neighbors. Any dog living with you for more than 30 days must be licensed.

Requirements:

1. Puppies by four (4) months of age, rabies shots must be administered by three (3) months of age
2. Older dogs within ten (10) days of adoption
3. Report status changes in writing within ten (10) days
4. Maximum of three (**3**) dogs per property in the Town of Farmington, without obtaining a variance.
5. Citizens over 65 years of age are eligible for a senior discount on the dog license.
6. Multiple year (1, 2, & 3 year) dog licensing is available; we cannot exceed the rabies vaccination expiration date.

There is no application needed prior to licensing a dog, just bring proof of rabies and if the dog has been spayed or neutered to the Town Clerks Office.

Pricing:

- 1. Unaltered dogs: \$25.00 per year
 - a. Senior citizen (65 & over): \$18.00 per year
- 2. Spayed/neutered dogs: \$16.00 per year
 - a. Senior citizen (65 & over): \$9.00 per year

Ontario County Humane Society, 585-396-4590, handles stray dogs, dog bites, and inhumane animal treatment reports.

Nuisance problems with neighbor's dogs, which cannot be settled between the neighbors, are handled through the Town Court. Complete a deposition (available at the Town Hall).

ONTARIO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH 2021 RABIES PREVENTION CLINICS:

Location/Time	Date
Ontario County Safety 9:00 a.m. - Noon Training Facility 2914 County Road 48 Canandaigua	April 17 th
Ontario County Public Health 9:00 a.m. – Noon 3019 County Complex Drive Canandaigua	June 12 th
Ontario County Public Health 9:00 a.m. – Noon 3019 County Complex Drive Canandaigua	August 7 th
Ontario County Public Health 9:00 a.m. – Noon 3019 County Complex Drive Canandaigua	September 11 th
Location to be determined 9:00 a.m. – Noon	October 16 th

Clinics are Free but donations are appreciated. Animals must be healthy and at least 3 months old. Pets must be on a leash or in a carrier, one pet per carrier. Please bring your animals past rabies certificate, if any. Any questions should be directed to Ontario Count Public Health at 585-396-4343.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Calls regarding stray/lost dogs, suspected animal abuse and rabid wild animals should be directed to the Ontario County Human Society, 2976 County Road 48, Canandaigua, NY

14424. Phone: (585) 396-4590, Email: happytails@ontario-countyhumanesociety.org.

PARK RESERVATIONS

The Town of Farmington has four parks with pavilions and one with a lodge. Farmbrook Park is located within the Farmbrook Subdivision, Farmington Grove Park is located within the Mountain Ash Drive Subdivision, the Town Park is located at the corners of Collett Road and County Road 8, and Pumpkin Hook Park is located on Allen-Padgham Road. Mertensia Park is located on Mertensia Road. Reservations can be made starting the first business day in January for Farmington residents only, beginning the first business day in February all others can make reservations. The renter must be 21 years of age. The rental fee for the parks with just pavilions is \$25.00 resident, \$35.00 non-resident, business/company in town is \$35.00, out of town is \$80.00. The rental fee for the Mertensia Lodge is \$150.00 for Farmington residents and \$250.00 for all others. There is also a key/cleanup deposit that is refundable as long as all policies and procedures are followed. Cancellations must be put in writing stating the following: the current date, the date of the reservation, state the reason for the cancellation, and signed by the person who signed the contract. The Town retains a 20% cancellation fee. The lodge has a 98 person capacity. **DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS THE CURRENT CAPICITY IS 50 PEOPLE.** Whatever the Governor’s executive order is at the time of your event is the maximum number allowed. There is no alcohol or smoking permitted. Payment for Mertensia Park Lodge reservations must be paid within five (5) business days. All other parks payment is due two (2) weeks from the date the reservation was made.

Email: townclerk@farmingtonny.org
(315)986-8100 x4090



Planning & Development
Ronald Brand, Director of Development

Moratorium on Solar Collection Systems and Solar Farms

The Town Board has extended the current moratorium on new applications for solar collection systems and solar farms for another six-month period which will end on August 9, 2021. The need for this extension of time is to allow more input on potential amendments to our current code and to consider the decision of the Judge who is currently reviewing the latest Article 78 Proceeding that has been brought against the Town for the decisions made on the Delaware River Solar Project located on Yellow Mills and Fox Roads. Currently, town staff and their consultants along with the Town’s Special Legal Counsel are preparing responses clarifying the Town’s position on eighty some points contained in the filed action.

Main Street Overlay District Regulations

The Town Board will be conducting a public hearing in late March on new zoning overlay district regulations to affect the

future development of the Town of Farmington's defined Main Street, State Route 96, from the Victor/Farmington Town Line on the west to Fairdale Glenn Townhomes on the east is the defined Main Street Corridor. The overlay district provides additional standards for the Planning Board's review and approvals of development of properties fronting along this portion of State Highway. The intent being to create a sense of destination with new pedestrian-oriented facilities, with buildings located closer to the highway (thereby creating traffic calming) and site improvements (i.e., street and site area lighting, building setbacks, landscaping standards, pedestrian/bike lane improvements, etc.). New requirements for commercial speech signage are being proposed and designed for two lanes of travel at a posted speed limit of 40 miles per hour, as opposed to four lanes of travel at 55 miles per hour. These standards will create new commercial speech sign messages to reduce the distraction time of motorist attention from along the highways.

New Townhouse Project

The Town Planning Board will be receiving a new application this spring for a 220-townhouse project to be located on land at the southwest corner of Collett Road and Mertensia Road. The land is divided by a State designated Freshwater Wetland area which is being incorporated into the open space design for the site and is proposing hiking trails outside the protected wetland areas. A homeowner's association is being proposed for maintaining lawns, driveways, and the common open space areas of the site. The developer would like to start construction of the first phase of this project this fall.

GLN Farmington Realty

The developer of the land located along the south side of State Route 96, between Mertensia Road and the intersection with State Route 332 is moving forward with final site design plans that will bring two new locations for a branch bank and a fast-food drive-through restaurant. As part of these two projects, there will be a new intersection created with State Route 96 which will provide the beginning of the northern portion of Mercier Boulevard and the future connection with the cul-de-sac on Mercier. When traffic warrants exist, this new location will become a future signalized intersection on State Route 96 which will be mid-block between existing signalized intersections. Completion of this segment of new town highway will enable town residents a by-pass solution from State Route 332 for meeting their local needs. The Planning Board will be considering these first applications later this spring.

Town Comprehensive Plan Update

Public Participation and input

The draft of the 2021 Edition of the Town of Farmington Comprehensive Plan will be posted beginning in March on the Town's website www.townoffarmingtonny.org. The Plan provides a historical overview of planning in the Town of Farmington, a "snap-shot" of changes that have occurred in the Town since the last Edition of the Plan was adopted in

2011, and identifies implementation actions as we move forward into the next Ten (10) year planning period.

There will be several choices to view next month on the Town's website which will include a three-page summary of the Plan's contents; the Community Residents Survey; the eighteen (18) maps created to help define the Plan's vision; and for those wanting to read the entire document that will also be posted. The draft Plan will remain posted until after the virtual public information meeting that is being planned for some time in April, by the Update Committee. The Committee is a group of volunteers and Town Staff who have been working for over the past year (mostly remotely) to put together the draft document for public review and input.

Following the public information meeting, the Committee will make necessary changes before submitting the final draft to the Town Board, in May, for their formal adoption process. This process includes referral to the Ontario County Planning Board and the Ontario County Agricultural Enhancement Board, in addition to a public hearing before acting upon the Plan later this year.

2021 Edition of the Plan

Why are we updating the Plan now

New York State Town Law requires the local legislative body to establish a planning period when adopting a comprehensive plan. This is done to ensure the document is maintained and to make the Town Board responsible for implementation of the plan's actions. In the instance of the Town of Farmington's Comprehensive Plan, a ten-year period was identified with a list of high and medium priority actions to be undertaken during the planning period. With the ten-year period coming to a close in 2020, the Town Board in November 2019 created a Plan Update Committee to work with Town Staff and consultants in analyzing the program made implementing the plan's recommendations and providing a road map for the next ten-year planning period (2030). Then the pandemic hit and a new format for updating the plan was enacted, using remote (virtual) meetings and reviews of the plan update documents.

Planning through the decades

The first planning program was prepared in 1967 which identified two urbanized areas, the hamlet of Pumpkin Hook in the north western section of town and the hamlet of Farmington located at the intersection of State Routes 96 and 332. These two areas were the identified focal points for continued growth and development for the next 18 years. In 1987, the plan document was amended and since then there have been updates in 1993, 2002 and 2011.

The previous five years of the latest planning period (2016 - 2020) saw the most rapid rate of growth in residential, industrial, and commercial land use. Within the nine county Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Area, outside of Monroe County, the Towns of Farmington, Canandaigua, and

Victor issued the largest number of residential units over the previous ten-year time frame (2011-2020).

The Town's estimated population in 2019 was 13,407 persons which is a 25% increase over the 2000 population. According to Cornell University's Program on Applied Demographics, the 2024 projected population for the Town will be 14,509. In 2003, the Town's total Assessed Value for 3944 parcels was \$482,058,896.00. In 2020, the Town's total Assessed Value for 4828 parcels of land was \$1,075,569.995.00 (an increase of 123%).

What has been accomplished during the past plan period

The Town Highway Campus and Town Court facilities were constructed. Renovations were made to the Town Hall and the Town Parks Maintenance Building and sites. The Auburn Trail Project was extended to the town line with the Town of Canandaigua. A Farmland Protection Plan was adopted. An update was adopted to the Town's Open Space Inventory. An update to the Towns Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted. A Master Plan for Beaver Creek Park was adopted. Bridge connections were provided from Lillybrook Court and Monarch Manor to the Beaver Creek Park Site. Construction got underway for site development of the Beaver Creek Park Site which will be completed this summer. The Town's first Conservation Area and nature trail project was completed. Improvements were made to several town park facilities, including handicapped accessible improvements. Finally, we have just learned that the first Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Farmland Protection Plan that was put on hold during 2020 has been awarded to an established agricultural operation located in the southeast portion of the Town.

Here's what we're thinking about the next 10-year period

Redefining the "Community Center" as required by the New York State Public Infrastructure Policy Act. Continue support for additional state funded Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Projects. Prepare a Sidewalk, Bike Lane and Trail Master Plan necessary to document the need for State Transportation Alternative Funding Grants. Create an Open Space Plan. Amend land use regulations to further protect our community's unique and valuable natural resources. Complete connections of town roads, bike lanes, sidewalks, and hiking trails with the "Community Center." Promote the expansion of Finger Lakes Gaming and Racing Casino operations and site improvements. Complete implementation of the Route 96 Main Street Corridor. Update the Town's Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Continue to support volunteer services within the community and seek ways to help sustain membership in these organizations. Continue to and improve upon the use social media sources, Town Newsletters, Town Website and meetings to sustain public awareness within the community. Evaluate the feasibility of creating a town-wide drainage district. Evaluate the impacts associated with the introduction of public sewer service into other subareas of the community. Support federal and state

programs for sustaining renewable energy sources while protecting valuable non-renewal agricultural soils and farming operations.

How you can contribute

Take some time during the next two (2) months to become informed about your community, its' goals and where it would like to continue during the next ten-year planning period. Then participate by letting the Update Committee know of your concerns.



Building Department

Dan Delpriore, Code Enforcement Officer

The Building Department would like to welcome new staff members to our team. Leland Cody was recently brought on board as an Assistant Code Enforcement Officer and will handle our residential inspections. Wendy Helbig has also joined our Department as a Part-Time Clerk and will be shared with our Water & Sewer Department. Additional staff means new job responsibilities for our existing staff. August Gordner is the new Fire Marshal for the Town of Farmington and has already begun implementing changes and updates to our fire procedures. John Weidenborner, Zoning Officer, has also taken on some of our Stormwater Management Inspections and is currently training one day a week in our Highway Department. Now that we are fully staffed, with Spring and Summer approaching, let us help you bring your winter dreams a reality. The most popular summer projects are:

1. Pools & Pool Decks
2. Storage Sheds
3. Building a new deck or enclosing an existing deck
4. Additions & Sunrooms
5. Fences

Before starting ANY project, call The Building Department at (315-986-8100 ext. 3) to find out what permits are required.

DO I NEED A CONTRACTOR?

- The use of a contractor depends on the scope of the project and your skill level. If the scope of work surpasses your skill level, it might be worthwhile to hire a contractor.

CAN THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT RECOMMEND A CONTRACTOR?

- We refrain from making specific recommendations on contractors but there are some basic guidelines to follow:
- Check for the contractor's experience in the type of construction proposed.
- Interview the contractor and check the contractor's references.
- Check the reliability of your chosen contractor with the State Attorney General's Office and the Better Business Bureau.
- Utilize a contract and ensure the contract covers all the work, including who prepares drawings and who arranges inspections.
- Before signing the contract, check the drawings to ensure they comply with what you want. In addition, check specifications and materials proposed.

- Define any type of warranty that is being given, you may wish to obtain legal counsel before signing.
- Determine who is obtaining the building permit, contractor, or homeowner. No matter who applies for the permit, a permit card should be prominently displayed, PRIOR to any work being started.
- Ensure you have been informed of any additional requirements by the Building Department that have been included as part of the permit.

WHAT AM I DOING THE PROJECT MYSELF; DO I NEED INSURANCE?

- As a homeowner you may choose to do the project yourself. To apply and receive a permit you will need to go online and register for a Workman’s Comp Insurance exemption (CE200) from NYS. There are complete instructions and a computer available at the Town of Farmington Building Department Office.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR APPLYING FOR THE BUILDING PERMIT – THE HOMEOWNER OR THE CONTRACTOR?

- Your contractor may apply for the permit. However, as the property owner, you are legally responsible to ensure that a building permit has been obtained.

WE ENCOURAGE ALL RESIDENTS TO CONTACT THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT AT (315) 986-8100 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING POTENTIAL PROJECTS OR CODE ENFORCEMENT.

A friendly reminder to Farmington residents from the Fire Marshal: Be sure to test and inspect all your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors on a yearly basis. If you do not have these safety devices, they are a cost-effective way to ensure your family’s safety and should be added to all occupied structures. Inspect for damage, press the test buttons to test the alarm, and replace batteries if needed.

It is good practice to replace batteries annually. CONTACT THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT AT (315) 986-8100 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING POTENTIAL PROJECTS OR CODE ENFORCEMENT.

Ontario-Wayne Stormwater Coalition

With spring here and summer around the corner please help us keep local waterways clean and clear so we may all enjoy them for years to come. A few simple tasks to help are: If using lawn and garden chemicals, use them sparingly or you can try using organic alternatives. Clean up after your pet(s) and dispose of the waste in the garbage or flush it down the toilet. Wash your car on the lawn or gravel instead of your driveway, this can help filter the dirt and soap out of the water. Sweep your driveways and sidewalks instead of hosing them off. Regularly inspect and maintain your septic system to prevent any leaks. Just remember whatever you put on your lawn or down the storm drains will find its way to a stream or waterway.

Stormwater: Why it Matters:

Stormwater is precipitation – rain or snowmelt – that falls on a land area and flows to a water body. As it flows, it picks up material from the land surface and carries it to the lake or stream.

Litter, large debris, and sediment are readily visible. Other contaminants are present, but not as easily seen lawn and agricultural chemicals, fertilizers, pathogens, feces, petroleum products and other undesirable materials can be carried in stormwater.

Every stream, storm drain and road ditch within the watershed area carries stormwater and its contents. Polluted stormwater causes significant problems such as:

- The cost of treating drinking water rises.
- Bacteria and pathogens cause beach closures.
- Excess nutrients spur aquatic weed growth. Aquatic weed harvesting costs rise.
- Excess nutrients spur algae growth. Oxygen depletion results when algae die and decomposes, harming fish and other aquatic life.
- Household hazardous wastes poison aquatic life.
- Sediment covers fish spawning areas.
- Debris washed into the water can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life – fish, invertebrates, turtles, birds, amphibians

For more information on how you can help protect Farmington’s watershed and keep our water clean, feel free to visit or contact us.

CONTACT THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT AT (315) 986-8100 x4093 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING POTENTIAL PROJECTS OR CODE ENFORCEMENT



From the Assessor’s Office
Michelle Nicodemus

Hello Farmington Property Owners! I hope this newsletter finds you healthy and happy. In this 2021 Spring newsletter, I would like to talk a little bit about the Assessor’s calendar and the STAR exemption vs the STAR credit.

The Assessor’s calendar year is different from a regular calendar year. Our calendar begins in July with a Valuation Date [What is market value as of this date?] The next major date on the Assessment calendar is March 1st. Tax exemption paperwork is due at this time and it is also called Taxable Status Date [What is the status of a property as of this date?] Also, this time of year, we are making changes to the tax roll including processing exemptions, adding equalization and/or physical changes, among other inventory maintenance-type items. Being as this is a non-reval year, we are only adding value to the tax roll to reflect any changes from physical improvements to the properties in Farmington.

For those of you who haven’t heard the term, ‘reval year’, it is the term used to describe a tax roll year that will include changes reflecting sales in your area [increased or decreased market value of properties]. This is otherwise known as real estate market value in your area. If this were a year that we were doing a reval, we would be adding equalization changes to reflect current market values as well as changes from physical improvements. When an assessment changes, many people assume it is because the Assessor’s office thinks you improved your property, but that is not always the case. Most assessment changes reflect the changing market value of

property in your area which is a direct reflection of what homes are selling for in your neighborhoods.

As discussed in a previous newsletter, Farmington opted to skip the scheduled 2021 reval amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. We did this to save some expense as well as give our property owners a well-needed break due to income loss suffered during a difficult time. Farmington normally does revals every other year and the last one was 2019. We are planning to get back on that schedule beginning with 2022. Two reasons that Farmington does revals so often is to keep up with the fast-paced Farmington real estate market and to help keep the tax rates steady. If there would not be enough taxable value on the tax roll to cover school, town, and county budgets, then it may mean those entities would have to raise their tax rate to get the budgets covered.

This brings me to the topic of tax exemptions, which also affects the amount of taxable value on the tax roll. There has been recent talk from the State regarding the STAR exemption. Now, many people get the STAR confused with the Partial Tax Exemption for Seniors. They are two separate tax breaks, and many people qualify for both. The one main difference between the two is that the Partial Tax Exemption for Seniors has a lower income threshold for eligibility. The amount of maximum gross income to qualify ranges from \$19,000 to about \$38,000. The Enhanced STAR, on the other hand, has an income limit more than two times that and an even higher income limit to qualify for the Basic STAR. Now that we have that straight, let me tell you that the State may make it a requirement for people [turning 65 and older] to apply for the Enhanced STAR with the State and receive a STAR credit instead of a STAR exemption. As it stands now, those who have the Basic STAR exemption and are getting ready to turn 65 can apply for the Enhanced STAR exemption at the local Assessor's office. Again, the State may change this and have you apply through them. The main difference between a STAR exemption [local Assessor's office] and a STAR credit [the State] is that the exemption comes off your tax bill and the credit comes in the form of a check. So, if the State moves forward with taking over the Enhanced STAR, homeowners who purchased prior to 2015, have the Basic STAR, and are turning 65 or older, will apply for the Enhanced STAR credit through the State. Otherwise, if nothing changes, homeowners will continue to get the Enhanced STAR exemption [when turning 65 and older] by going to the local Assessor's office. The only exception to this is our newest homeowners. Meaning, those that purchased during or after 2015. Property owners that purchased during this time, must go through the State to get the STAR credit [Enhanced or Basic STAR] and it comes in the form of a check and not off your tax bill.

In closing, I should add that you can always switch to the STAR credit [go through the State] at any time. Some folks say they even get more of a tax break that way. If interested, you can always call the State [518-457-2036] or go to the tax.ny.gov website to inquire. Just be sure to inform the Assessor of any changes that you make and, as always, please contact our office if you have any questions. We will continue to keep you as informed as we can.

Email: mnico-demus@farmingtonny.org

(315) 986-8100 ext. 4092



Highway Department

Don Giroux, Highway Superintendent

The highway department is presently gearing up for a busy summer with several road projects including a portion of Canandaigua Farmington Townline Road between Birchwood Drive and State Route 332 which will include complete drainage improvements.

The fiber mat with a cape seal topcoat in our subdivisions is a two-part resurfacing technique that will continue this year **(date to be announced on website when secured with vendors)**. This process will include Barberry Lane, Huckleberry Road, Heather Lane, Bittersweet Drive, Honeysuckle Lane, Old Mill Road and Creekside.

Other projects include Collett road between Payne Road to County Road 8 which will be a road recycle process. Other surface treatments planned, include 5 miles of chip sealing. A 1½ inch overlay of asphalt on Shortsville Road between County Road 28 and County Road 8.

Normal crack filling on various roads throughout our town will also be done in an effort to maintain surfaces not yet in need of more costly surface treatments.

We will publish time frames on the town website for each of the scheduled projects as close as we can with the understanding some scheduling depends on specialized contractors and equipment, as well as the weather. As always, we will try to minimize any inconvenience in your commute. Please be mindful of your speeds when driving with spring and summer approaching, as it brings out walkers and children playing in our neighborhoods.

PARKS

During the winter months, the Parks Department has been busy maintaining Residential sidewalks and keeping all town parking lots and Town Building Sidewalks safe and cleared. The other project the parks has been working on is the removal and replacement of swings in both Farmbrook and Pumpkin Hook Parks.

Preparations are under way for the upcoming spring. We have been installing new pathways in Pumpkin Hook Park and improving access to playground equipment. The normal maintenance and repairs to mowing equipment, picnic tables and park benches have also been under way. Baseball and soccer fields are scheduled to be prepared for the 2021 season, once the weather permits.

Park neighbors are encouraged to call The Sheriff's Office at the non-emergency number 585-394-4560 when any suspicious conditions are noticed in any of the town parks.

Help Keep Our Town Parks Enjoyable for Everyone

We're proud to make our parks available for all to enjoy. Our Town employees work hard to maintain these spaces for sports, activities, play and gatherings. We appreciate your help in keeping parks clean and safe – please remember to carry out or properly dispose of waste. Thank you for helping us keep our parks ready and welcoming for our whole community!

For more information call the Town of Farmington Highway Department at (315) 986-5540 or visit our website at http://www.townoffarmingtonny.com/highway_parks for more information.

Email: dgiroux@farmingtonny.org



Water & Sewer

Robin MacDonald, Acting Superintendent

The water and sewer department remains very busy as we emerge from the Covid 19 shutdowns and closures. Our department and town staff have been fully staffed and onsite.

The Town of Farmington and the Town of Canandaigua are in the last stage of planning for the new water tank on Brickyard Rd. This tank will replace the 56-year-old existing tank. Our goal is to help maintain water pressures in our system and prepare for the growing demand in the Farmington and Canandaigua area. The project is anticipated to start this summer.

The remainder of the 12" water main on Canandaigua-Farmington Town Line Rd, from Stable Gate to Rt 332 will be installed as part of the Brickyard water tank project.

Recently, the Farmington Town Board adopted the new Sewer Transmission Development Capacity Study that was completed by our engineers, the MRB Group. The capacity study identified current and proposed development projects, estimated sewer loadings, development buildout and sewer increase, as well as critical sewer segments. The study also addressed peak hour flows based on information provided by our sewer flow meters, especially along the New York State Route 332 and Route 96 areas.

The second quarter CFWD water and sewer bills are being prepared and mailed the 1st week of April with a due date of **July 31**. As a reminder, the sewer portion of your bill must be paid before the due date to avoid a 20% penalty that will be applied on August 2 of 2021. This bill covers the months of March, April, and May of 2021.

As a reminder, the Town of Farmington offers an on-line payment option for you to pay your quarterly water and sewer bills. If you have any questions, please contact the Water and Sewer Office at **(585) 924-3158**.

Enjoy your spring!

Recreation News

Mark Cain, Recreation Director

Julie LaRue, Recreation Advisory Board Chairperson

WERQ (cardio dance workout) will be starting up again beginning April 7 at the Mertensia Lodge Wednesdays, 7-8pm, Cost is \$5

Easter Egg Hunt

March 27 11:00 AM Sharp at the Farmington Town Hall

Summer Recreation

June 28-August 6, 2021

Registration Dates at Mertensia Road Lodge

May 10 and 12, 5:30-7:00 PM Farmington Residents

May 17 and May 19, 5:30-7:00 PM Open Registration

If you are interested in working for Farmington Recreation, please go to https://townoffarmingtonny.com/recreation_department/ for an application.

Please see the Farmington Recreation page on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FarmingtonNY/> and our website www.townoffarmingtonny.com/recreation_department/ for updates.

Farmington's Rich History



Donna Herendeen, Town Historian

Office hours Tuesday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Hello Readers!

One of my favorite sayings is "you are living your history today". This past year has undoubtedly demonstrated the truth of that statement.

March 12, 2021 will mark the one-year anniversary of our struggling with social distancing from our family and friends, wearing face masks in public, virtual meetings and cancelled events. One thing I have learned in the last year is how resilient, creative, and adaptable human nature is in the face of adversity.

On that day, I was visiting my father at the assisted care facility that he still resides at. When the administrator asked me to leave because the State was going into a "shut down", due to the quick spreading of the Covid virus, I knew we were facing a historical event. As a historian, I immediately began to document the pandemic events as each day unfolded. For a year I have maintained a written journal and pictorial history of how we and Farmington's businesses were impacted by the virus guidelines and how deserted our roads and streets were in the beginning of the "shut down". Someday my written daily journal will be read by someone who will learn about this time in history.

Much of my historian work has been limited to my office at the town hall behind a closed door. It's been "lonely" for a social person, but I have begun transcribing some of the old documents. Since we no longer teach cursive writing, there

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[code]

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

will come a day no one will be able to decipher the documents written in old text, so this is important work.

The Town received a grant from the William Pomeroy Foundation for a new roadside marker. In the spring, the sign will be placed near the cobblestone house located on Shortsville Road. The home was built for the original settler Welcome Herendeen, son of pioneer Nathan Herendeen. Research of deeds for Lot 21 discovered that the homestead not only included the cobblestone structure but land that was donated for the South Farmington Cemetery, chapel, and small park. We identified a codicil in the deeds that states that the donated land was to be used for its intended purpose only (which was for community use) and if it were no longer found to be used for that purpose the land would revert back to the Herendeen/Mason families. The discovery was a historical find since it is thought to be the only original lot of land in Farmington. purchased from the Phelps Gorham Purchase, that was not sold for profit! How cool is that?

Speaking of cobblestone structures... did you know there are NINE cobblestone homes dating from 1832 to 1852 located in Farmington? Each house is built with similar materials but their style ranges from Greek Revival to Federal. Ninety percent of all cobblestone buildings reside in western New York. In 2007, the town recognized each Farmington cobblestone with a bronze plaque engraved with its construction year. The National Registry of Historic Places actually has a separate category for cobblestone buildings. Any homeowner may apply for an "honoree" recognition of their home without worry of restrictions for repairs/renovations. Anyone interested in this program can find more information on the National Registry webpage or call me. The Historic Preservation Commission members will be happy to help you.

In closing, I wish you all a happy spring! A special thank you to everyone who has made this past year tolerable!

Your historian,

Donna Herendeen

Get Involved in Our Town

All Town of Farmington board and committee meetings are posted on the Town website's calendar. You can sign up on the website to receive email notices, as well.

We currently have vacancies on the Conservation Board and Recreation Advisory Board.

If you are interested in becoming a committee or board member, please send your resume and letter of interest to:

Marcy Daniels
1000 County Road 8
Farmington, NY 14425

Or via email: mdaniels@farmingtonny.org

Town of Farmington Boards & Committees

Town Board: Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Supervisor: Peter Ingalsbe

Planning Board: Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. Chairperson: Ed Hemming

Zoning Board of Appeals: Meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7 p.m. Chairperson: Jeremy Marshall

Conservation Board: Meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Chairperson: Sue Hilton

Agricultural Advisory Committee: Meeting the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Chairperson: Henry Adams III

Historical Preservation: Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. Chairperson: Donna Herendeen

Recreation Advisory Board: Meeting the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Mertensia Lodge Chairperson: Julie LaRue; Recreation Director: Mark Cain

Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. Please check with the Town Clerk's office to confirm.

SAVE THE DATES

2021 FARMINGTON TOWN SPRING CLEANUP **MAY 6th, 7th & 8th**

TOWN OF FARMINGTON RESIDENTS ONLY

HOURS:

Thursday - 7:00 AM TO 7:00 PM
Station

Friday - 7:00 AM TO 7:00 PM

Saturday - 7:00 AM TO 3:00 PM
Road and Green Road

LOCATION:

Town Transfer

420 Hook Road

Between Martz

IDENTIFICATION: *ALL PERSONS WILL BE REQUIRED TO VERIFY THEY ARE A FARMINGTON TOWN RESIDENT*

Residential Waste Only - **NO Commercial or Industrial Materials**

2021 FARMINGTON TOWN FALL CLEANUP **OCTOBER 15TH & 16TH**

TOWN OF FARMINGTON RESIDENTS ONLY

HOURS:

Friday - 8:00 AM TO 6:00 PM

Saturday - 8:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

Road and Green Road

LOCATION:

420 Hook Road

Between Martz