



## From the Desk of the Supervisor *Peter Ingalsbe*

I know we have a lot of information to give you since our spring newsletter. Our staff did prepare a summer newsletter but due to unforeseen circumstances our printing vendor could not complete our order, so we posted the June newsletter at the top right of the Town website.

**New projects in Farmington:** How about an ice cream shop or a hair salon? (Next to the Comfort Inn) Have you had a hard time crossing County Road 41 on the Auburn Trail? (New crossing signals now working) How about a new credit union bank (between Burger King and AutoZone) and a new industrial park? (On Loomis Road backing up to the NYS Thruway) You may have noticed the intersection of 96 and Mertensia road has more construction. The car wash has new owners currently upgrading the building and car wash equipment and Meyers RV is adding their new building and finishing the parking lots.

Many on social media have asked what is going in across the street from McDonald's? Well, the developer is moving forward with four lots for commercial type businesses adding an entrance off route 96 which will eventually connect with Mercier Boulevard and the TOPS property. The future calls for flexible space buildings to the south of the current area under construction.

The previously vacant warehouse at 5786 Collett Rd is now occupied by a medical supply company and just off County Road 41 at Quentonshire road we have another medical company proposed now going through the Planning Board process.

There are two large warehouse buildings before the Planning Board to be located at the corner of County Road 8 and County Road 41. Also, we are aware of two more commercial buildings coming along the route 332 corridor. We should have more information after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.

We also expect the developer of the Tops property to come before the Town and propose improvements such as having Canandaigua National Bank located closer to route 96, adding the long-awaited Tops gas station and possibly a Mavis Tire business. There will remain 2-3 more lots for businesses at this site.

More Good news!

The Town Board passed the 2022 budget on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Your Town General & Highway tax rate will be reduced by 7%. The fire district tax is reduced by 4.75% There is a new tax of \$.07 per thousand to give much needed support to the VFVAC. With all the new home sales and homes being resold, the Mortgage Tax Receipts were the highest the past 5 years for the period of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 – September 30, 2021, report period.

Examples of recent resales as noted in the November 28<sup>th</sup> edition of the Daily Messenger are as follows. 1556 Hayride Drive, Farmbrook assessed for \$152,000 sold for \$210,000. 1118 Harlow LN assessed for \$315,000 sold for \$400,000. 307 Stonefield LN sold in 2008 for \$283,500 and resold this year for \$380,000. Two homes in Sunny Acres on Gannett Road sold for \$210,000 and \$230,000. One commercial property at 6180 Collett rd. sold in 2018 for \$1,482,000 and now resold for \$2,680,000. The list goes on, definitely a sellers' market in Farmington as well as other areas in the region.

Sales tax reported through September has rebounded from 2020 showing gains of approximately 15%.

Beaver Creek Park is almost finished. New playground equipment is expected to be delivered in December. The basketball and tennis courts are complete as are the three parking lots. The pavilion and bathrooms are finished, and the soccer fields are in, and the baseball/softball field is complete. All fields require more grass seeding in the spring which will delay use of the fields to late summer of 2022.

Our Building Department has great information listed below and our Highway Superintendent has included a list of completed road improvement projects and winter safety recommendations.

The Town Comprehensive Plan is almost complete. Ron Brand has dedicated time below to explain the status.

As always, I have an open-door policy to discuss your concerns, or you can call me 315-986-8100 ext. 2 or email at [pingalsbe@farmingtonny.org](mailto:pingalsbe@farmingtonny.org).



## From the Desk of the Town Clerk *Michelle Finley*

### 2022 TAX COLLECTION

Town and County Taxes will be mailed out at the end of December and are due in full in January without penalty. Payments made in person by check, cash, or credit card (with convenience fees) can be made at the Town Clerk's Office, located at 1000 County Road 8, Farmington. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday until 6:00 p.m.

For your convenience, there is a drop box located to the left of the entrance. The drop box is checked daily by 8 a.m. on regular business days. Payments collected by 8 a.m. will be considered received on the prior business day.

Payments without penalty are due by January 31, 2022. This applies even if you choose the installment option which requires that the first payment is paid by January 31, 2022. Any checks incorrectly made out, have the wrong amount written, or postdated will be returned and subject to a

penalty if received by the Tax Receiver after the penalty free period.

The due date for bills is January 31st without penalty, beginning February 1st a 1% penalty will be assessed and beginning March 1st a 2% penalty will be assessed.

Taxes may be made in installments with half being accepted by January 31st and interest will be assessed monthly on the remaining balance. See Tax your bill for amounts.

For payments made by mail, the USPS postmark (not a postage meter mark) is used as the payment date. If there is no postmark, the date received will be used as the payment date.

For your convenience, you can pay your taxes online from January 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>. Visit [www.egov.basgov.com/farmington](http://www.egov.basgov.com/farmington). By law, the town is not allowed to pay the transaction processing fee collected by the web service provider, therefore, it must be paid by the user.

If you are spending the winter months out of town and would like your tax bill mailed to another address, you must contact the Tax Receiver in writing. Please include a phone number in case we need to contact you.

Payments made at the Ontario County Treasurer's Office will not be reflected on the website.

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

The Town Clerk's Office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and on Wednesday evenings until 6:00 p.m. providing a variety of services to our community. We issue marriage licenses, hunting and fishing licenses, dog licenses, and handicapped parking permits. We also collect water and sewer payments. To reach us by phone, our number is 315-986-8100 press option 1 for Town Clerk.

**\*\*TOWN PARKS AND LODGE RESERVATIONS START THE FIRST BUSINESS DAY IN JANUARY 2022 TO FARMINGTON RESIDENTS ONLY THEN STARTING IN FEBRUARY TO EVERYONE ELSE\*\***



**Planning & Development**  
*Ronald Brand, Director of Development*

## **2021 Edition Town of Farmington Comprehensive Plan**

### **Plan Contact Information...**

The draft of the 2021 Edition of the Town of Farmington Comprehensive Plan remains posted on the Town's website [www.townoffarmingtonny.org](http://www.townoffarmingtonny.org) for public review and comment. The first of three (3) public hearings on the Plan was held on Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup> and is available for viewing on the U-Tube link on the website. There will be two (2) more public hearings held by the Town Board which are yet to be scheduled but will be scheduled by the time this newsletter arrives at your home, or business.

To connect to the posted documents relating to the Plan Update please go to the Town's website, click on the Home Page and select Meetings/Agendas/Minutes. Next click on

Comprehensive Plan Update 2021. There you will see links to the following: 2021 Edition of the Town of Farmington Comprehensive Plan – DRAFT; The October 28, 2021 Public Hearing, presented by the Town of Farmington Comprehensive Plan Update Committee; and the 2021 Community Survey.

### **About the 2021 Edition...**

The Town Board, in November 2019, appointed a committee of town residents, town department heads and town staff, to work on the update to the 2011 Edition of the Town of Farmington Comprehensive Plan. There were four (4) public meetings and four audio-video meetings held on the chapters being updated. The Committee also conducted a survey of Town residents in early 2020 – just before covid- and the residents (approximately 500 persons) let us know their concerns. There are five (5) chapters in the Plan document which include Chapter 1 – Executive Summary; Chapter 2 – Background, Assets & Constraints; Chapter 3 – Goals, Objectives, and Recommended Actions; Chapter 4 – Future Land Use Plan Map and Plan Synthesis; and Chapter 5 – Sustaining and Implementing the Plan.

Here are some of the findings contained in the 2021 Edition:

- The first master plan document was prepared for the Town Planning Board in 1967 and was named "General Plan for the Town of Canandaigua, New York." The Plan identified two urbanized areas, the hamlet of Pumpkin Hook and the intersection of State Routes 96 & 332, extending west along Route 96 to Mertensia Road.
- Over the years there have been four (4) updates to the Plan in 1987, 1993, 2003 and 2011.
- The 2021 Edition contains approximately 200 pages of text, 18 maps, tables and charts, and the Community Survey along with related appendices.
- The 2020 U.S. Census (August 2021) revealed Farmington's population increased by a total of 2,345 persons during the last ten-year period, bringing the Town's total population to 14,170 people. This is an increase of 16.5% since the 2010 Census Report.
- The population increase for Farmington during the last ten years accounts for 51.8% of the total population increase within Ontario County during this census period.
- The Town of Farmington now ranks second to the Town of Victor's 2020 Population (15,860). There are now more people living in the Town of Farmington than in the City of Geneva.
- The total number of housing units (2010) was 4,664. In 2020, the total number of housing units was 5,814. This is an increase of 1,150 dwelling units during the past decade (a 20% increase since 2010).
- During the past ten-year census period there was a reported increase of 4,392 dwelling units in Ontario County. The Town of Farmington's total number of additional dwelling units during this period (1,150) is twenty-six percent (26%) of the County's 2020 dwelling unit total.

- 2011, 52 businesses have either come to Farmington or have relocated to new sites within Farmington to meet their growing needs.
- Since January 1, 2021, the Town Building Department reports (as of August 31, 2021) a total of 54 additional single-family detached dwelling units under construction. In addition, a total of 63 single-family attached dwelling units (townhouses) are under construction. This is a total of 117 new single-family dwelling units.
- There are 21 new action items listed in the 2021 Edition of the Plan that are to be undertaken during the next ten (10) year planning period. Here are some of them...

***2021 Edition, a few of the new actions to be undertaken...***

- The “Community Center” is expanding to include the area south and west of the intersection of State Routes 96 & 332, bordering New Michigan Road on the west and the Canandaigua/Farmington Town Line on the south. It is in this area that the 2021 Plan calls for the preparation of a detail master plan showing new streets, mixed land use, new trails, and an expanded sidewalk network.
- Continue to support state funded farmland protection programs including the Purchase of Development Rights (Agricultural Conservation Easements).
- Update the 2018 Edition of the Town of Farmington Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- Complete development of the 40-acre Beaver Creek Park site and trail connections between the Park and the Auburn Trail.
- Complete the Main Street Corridor transformation along State Route 96.
- Evaluate the feasibility of creating a town-wide drainage district.
- Prepare a Transportation Master Plan that identifies priority areas for completing sidewalks, bike lanes and pedestrian hiking/biking trails that connect with the Auburn Trail.
- Support federal and state programs for sustaining renewable energy sources while protecting valuable non-renewable viable agricultural soils and sustaining farming operations.
- Continue to disseminate information through social media sources, Town Newsletters, Town Website, and publishing meeting agendas.

***Why do we plan for only ten-year increments and who uses the Plan???***

New York State Town Law (§272-a) finds that significant decisions and actions affecting the immediate and long-range protection, enhancement, growth and development of the state and its communities are made by local governments. Among the most important powers and duties granted by the state legislature to a town government is the authority and responsibility to undertake town comprehensive planning and to regulate land use for the purpose of protecting the public

health, safety, and general welfare of its citizens. As part of the above referenced State Law there is a requirement that the Town Board provides in the Plan, the maximum intervals at which the adopted plan shall be reviewed. The Town Board has decided upon the ten-year planning increment realizing the length of time involved with conducting feasibility studies, preparing engineering design solutions and public involvement all of which affect the ability of local governments and their limited resources for providing and implementing actions. It has also been decided that the ten-year planning period is to coincide with the ten-year U.S. Census Reporting period.

The Plan is to be used by all sectors of the community in making public and private decisions. Federal, State, County and adjacent municipalities are also influenced by the Plan’s philosophies and future land use and transportation decisions. Decisions for awarding grant funding assistance is greatly influenced by the presence of a recent updated plan document. Finally, the Courts rely upon the community’s documented planning program in making their determinations upon matters being appealed.

This is indeed an important time in the Town’s on-going planning program for the public to become informed and to participate in the road map being created to focus our community’s growth and development over the next planning period.

Email: [rbplans@gmail.com](mailto:rbplans@gmail.com)  
 (315) 986-8100 ext. 4010



**Building Department**

*Dan Delpriore, Code Enforcement Officer*

As winter arrives, and your projects are nearing completion, it is important to arrange for final inspections to close out any open building permits on your property to receive a Certificate of Compliance/Occupancy.

**CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY/COMPLIANCE:** Your project is not complete until a final inspection has been performed by our office and a Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Compliance has been issued. It is the homeowner’s legal responsibility to ensure a building permit has been issued, inspections have been performed, and Certificate of Occupancy/ Compliance are issued prior to the building permits expiration.

No structure/pool is to be used until a Certificate of Compliance/Occupancy is issued. If the project has been completed according to the approved permit plans, call the Building Department to arrange for a final inspection at 315-986-8100 ext. 3. Note: A 24-48-hour notice is required for all inspections. If you are unsure as to where in the inspection process your permit is, give us a call to check the status and allow us to assist you to close out any open items before the winter weather sets in.

The Building Department recommends that prior to final payment to a contractor, the homeowner/property owner verifies that all permits and Certificates of Compliance have been issued. On many occasions, inspections are not

completed, and permits are not closed out by the contractor. This generally comes as a surprise to the homeowner/property owner. Typically, by then, it is too late to get the contractor to return to resolve any issues needed to achieve compliance as they have received final payment. At that point, fulfilling any contractual obligation is not the priority of the contractor. In that case, unfortunately, the responsibility of completing the final inspection and attaining the Certificate of Compliance becomes that of the homeowner/property owner.

**IS A BUILDING PERMIT REQUIRED?** Building Permits are required for most projects including but not limited to: • Pools – above ground & in-ground • Sheds • Decks – attached & free standing • Whole house generators • Finishing a basement • Roofs • Additions • Demolition of an existing structure.

Please call the Building Department at 315-986-8100 ext. 3 to verify if a building permit is required for any project under consideration.

**PROPERTY MAINTENANCE COMPLAINTS:** Unkempt properties promote resentment between neighbors and/or property owners and contribute to the blight of otherwise well-kept neighborhoods. The following is the criteria Code Enforcement utilizes to begin the assessment and enforcement process.

1. The Town can only cite violations visible from the public realm. The Town does not enter private property. Alleged violations seen from neighboring properties are possible with the written consent of the neighboring property owner. Note: once entering a property, Code Enforcement can cite the accessed property as well as the property in question.
2. The Town will not accept nor respond to anonymous complaints. Complaints must be in writing, signed by the complainant and submitted to the Building Department.
3. Once a violation has been assessed/confirmed, a Code Enforcement official will contact the property owner in writing by issuing an Order to Remedy. This will inform the property owner of the violation and prescribe a time for compliance. If compliance is not achieved a second written Order to Remedy will be issued. If compliance is still not reached legal enforcement can commence.

**Remember to change the batteries inside of your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors as Daylight-saving time has ended!**

### **Ontario-Wayne Stormwater Coalition**

The OWSC is working on coordinating future events with different groups to mark storm drains in neighborhoods throughout Ontario County and Wayne County. Markers next to storm drains help raise awareness about the link between the storm drain system and water quality. Pesticides, garden

chemicals, soap from car washing, pet waste, and oil from automobiles all get washed off lawns, driveways, and streets and into our storm drains and eventually into our waterways. If you know a group that would be interested in helping mark storm drains, such as a local scout troop or club, email [alaina.robarge@ontswcd.com](mailto:alaina.robarge@ontswcd.com) or call (585)396-1450.



## **From the Assessor's Office** *Michelle Nicodemus*

It pains me to say that after five years of serving this community, I will be moving onto another opportunity in Monroe County. I sincerely appreciate the chance to serve you and all you have shared with me along the way. I have thoroughly enjoyed welcoming our new homeowners, as well as, getting to know our seniors and farmers that have been in Farmington for a long time. Such a wonderful variety of folks here to get to know. It has been an absolute pleasure.

As most of you know, we are gearing up for exemption season so please, do not forget to get those **tax exemptions filed by March 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please be proactive and follow up with the Assessor, Supervisor office or the County to make sure you have all that you need.

These are some common exemptions that we take in:

Application for Enhanced STAR Exemption RP 425-E and Supplement to Form RP-425-E  
[although, I recommend switching to the credit from the exemption]

Disabled Folks: Renewal Application for Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property of Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes

Seniors: Renewal Application for Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property of Senior Citizens

Farmers: Agricultural Assessment Application [farming your land or leasing your land out to be farmed]

Farmers: Agricultural Assessment - Renewal Application and Program Update [farming your land or leasing your land out to be farmed]

Application for Tax Exemption of Agricultural and Horticultural Buildings and Structures

Application for Tax Exemption of Farm Silos, Farm Feed Grain Storage Bins, Commodity Sheds, Bulk Milk Tanks and Coolers, and Manure Storage and Handling Facilities

Application for Tax Exemption for Reconstructed or Rehabilitated Historic Barn

Application for Alternative Veterans Exemption from Real Property Taxation

Application for Cold War Veterans Exemption from Real Property Taxation

Application for Partial Exemption for Real Property of Members of the Clergy [new app every yr]

Application for Real Property Tax Exemption for Commercial, Business or Industrial Property

**Out of all of these exemptions, the most we collect are for Seniors and Farmers. Probably close to 500 exemption renewals and original applications are collected annually.**

There has been a lot of talk lately about an upcoming revaluation and how it could significantly impact Farmington assessments and taxes. I understand that assessments are a big deal. I also understand that the possibility of rising tax rates is a big deal. However, when the School, County and Town budgets are approved, they must be covered by a combination of assessment [taxable value] and tax rate. As you probably already know, if the amount of assessed value, at the current tax rate, is not enough to cover the School, County or Town budgets, there is a possibility of an increased tax rate. Conversely, if assessments are kept up with the market value, then the tax rates are likely to stay flat and not increase. That is one of the goals of regular revaluations here in Farmington. We agreed to skip 2020-2021 because of COVID and so the Town is in the process of a complete revaluation now through March of 2022.

Sincere Regards and Well Wishes to All, Michelle.



## Highway Department

*Don Giroux, Highway Superintendent*

This Summer has been very busy in the Highway Department with road projects as well as maintenance on several Water Retention Facilities. Some of the Road Projects include a two-part treatment of Fibermat and Cape seal which were completed on Barberry Lane, Huckleberry Road, Heather Lane, Bittersweet Drive, Honeysuckle Lane and Old Mill Road. Other areas of road work include approximately 5.5 miles of Chip Sealing which included Herendeen Road (Yellow Mills and County Road 28) and Collett Road (between County Road 8 and County Road 28), Payne Road and Dalton Drive. Additional paving has been completed with 1 1/2 inch overlay on Collett Road (County Road #8 to Hook Road). Wedging on Loomis Road, Green Road, Yahn Road and Brownsville Road were done in preparation for 2022 surface treatments. The Canandaigua Farmington Town Line Road Project continued with Phase three drainage being installed along with paving that has been completed with curbing and sidewalk as well as binder asphalt.

**Winter preparations** – Salt has been delivered bringing our salt barn to full status, speaking of snow please remember these helpful hints we publish each year.

Motorists are encouraged to operate their vehicles at reduced speed considering road conditions and poor visibility due to blowing and drifting snow. Be aware snowplows are usually moving at reduced speeds and when at intersections they often need to dump a plow and then back across the intersection to return plowing the other side of the road. When plowing your driveway, it is recommended that the snow be plowed from the road to the sides of the driveway.

It is best to pile the snow on the right side of your driveway as you face the highway. Snow should NOT BE plowed from driveways and across a highway. Not only is this type of snow removal illegal, but the snow that is left behind in the highway presents a hazard to the motoring public.

The highway Superintendent and staff also encourage parents to make certain their children are not playing on or in the snowbanks adjacent to the highway.

Homeowners should shovel away the snow from around their mailbox. Not only does this allow mail to be delivered but provides the opportunity for the plow operators to see the mailbox. The Highway Superintendent reminds motorists that parking along the highway, also in snowplow turnarounds and school bus turnarounds can be hazardous and prevent highway crews from removing snow properly. If your vehicle becomes disabled, first notify the Sheriff's Office, then try to remove the vehicle as soon as possible. If the operator fails to follow these mentioned steps, the vehicle may get towed at the owner's expense.

### PARK'S DEPARTMENT

In our Parks Department you have noticed some construction taking place at the Pumpkin Hook bathroom and pavilion over the past summer this construction was a new roof to both the pavilion and bathroom buildings. It is our intent to continue this process with additional park bathrooms. An ongoing effort continues with the replacement of playground equipment as safety inspections dictate the necessity along with cushion wood being replaced with ground rubber. We are also excited that construction on our newest park, Beaver Creek Park, in Auburn Meadows, is nearing completion and look forward to it being available to our residents in the upcoming year.

#### **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](http://www.townoffarmingtonny.com/highway_parks) for more information.

Email: [dgiroux@farmingtonny.org](mailto:dgiroux@farmingtonny.org)



## Water & Sewer

*Robin MacDonald, Acting Superintendent*

Building construction at Hathaway Corners and Auburn Meadows subdivisions have been very busy this year. The development at Hathaway Corners will include townhomes, single family residences, and eventually commercial businesses. The names of the new roads are Savalla

Boulevard, Osborn Lane, Barry Place, Eddy Gate, and Holmes Place. Welcome new neighbors to Farmington!

The new water tank on Brickyard Road will be put out for bid by early December. The project is anticipated to begin by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. The replacement of a new and larger water tank will help maintain consistent water pressure and provide water for the growing population in the area.

We purchase our water from the City of Canandaigua. They have notified us that there will be a rate increase of over 10% for 2022 which we have to pass on to our customers. The CFWD water tax rate will also increase 6% to help pay for the new water tank and water line.

At the wastewater treatment plant, we will be installing two new pumps in the Sand Filter Building. The last steps of treating influent water require it to pass through the sand filtering process before reaching the aeration vault and then on to the UV Building before being discharged into Beaver creek.

The fourth quarter CFWD water and sewer bills will be mailed out on or before December 22nd, 2021, with a due date of January 31<sup>st</sup>. A 20% penalty will be applied to outstanding sewer charges if not received by 8am Tuesday February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Online payments are a quick and easy way to pay your bill. There is a small fee associated with this payment method. For those of you who like to save a stamp and prefer writing a check or money order, there is a night drop box at the Farmington Town Hall located at 1000 County Road 8. For our Victor customers we have the Direct Debit Payment Plan available. Contact our office at 585-924-3158 to request an application.



The above picture is of a sewer manhole and what young adults threw into the sewer. (yes a bowling ball amongst other debris) Please call our office if you see people opening the covers of manholes, especially if they do not look like our employees. After hours call 911, they will contact us. I hope that you can enjoy your winter and the holidays! Robin

## Recreation News

*Mark Cain, Recreation Director*

*Julie LaRue, Recreation Advisory Board Chairperson*

Everyone on the recreation staff wishes our residents a very Happy Holiday and a great New Year. Watch out for our Easter Egg hunt and summer recreation notifications.

Please see the Farmington Recreation page on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FarmingtonNY/> and our website [www.townoffarmingtonny.com/recreation\\_department](http://www.townoffarmingtonny.com/recreation_department) for updates.

## Farmington's Rich History



*Donna Herendeen, Town Historian*

Office hours Tuesday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Well, we have gotten through another year of boosters, face masks and social distancing (okay, so almost!). In September, I attended the public historians annual conference held in Oswego via virtual. Let me say this just once technology is wonderful but I still like the human interaction at the conferences! There is a lot to be said about body language and two-way conversations!

Our work in the historic Power cemetery continues. Most of the headstones have been repaired and reinstalled thanks to volunteer Dave Bloom! By the way *Mr. Bloom has agreed to mentor anyone who would be interested in learning about this process! (Email me at [farmhistorian@yahoo.com](mailto:farmhistorian@yahoo.com). We have two more cemeteries to work so you would be busy honing your new skills.)* A few unmarked graves may have been identified but further investigative work will wait until next spring! The historian is sending a grateful shout out to the people who helped with the grounds work this year. Kevin Holtz and his workers, Don Giroux and the Parks employees and of course the Historic Preservation Commission members who "rolled up their sleeves" to rake away debris and carry rocks. Ladies...you are the best! Some of the work was made possible by donors and a big thank you goes out to them!

Next spring, work restarts in the Hathaway cemetery to straighten and clean the existing headstones. If anyone who wishes to help, please email the town historian.

You may be wondering why is this type of cemetery work important? The answer resides in the fact that each cemetery is the resting place of many of Ontario County's first settlers.....they were the "movers and shakers" who, until early 1822, followed the State plan to lay down public roads, assign school districts, elect State officials and develop the individual townships within Farmington of the Phelps Gorham territory. (More information about the years between 1790 to 1822 will be found in the next newsletter!)

So, when you see someone working in one of Farmington's cemeteries, please know we are not vandals digging up graves or defacing the headstones. But we are doing this work so you and future generations can enjoy the "park like" cemeteries and recall the people who set the foundation of Farmington in motion.

Restoration of the South Farmington chapel continues. I am told that new insulation and drywall were added this summer. In addition, the interior painting of walls and windows was completed. When the chapel is completely

restored, the organization goal is to offer the building to the community for events. Good job people! (You can follow the updates about the restoration work of the South Farmington Chapel on Facebook and the 1816 Meetinghouse on their website.)

More written histories have been added to our Family History collection. (Great news for you researchers!) As a reminder to our readers and researchers, please remember the Historian's office is open on Tuesdays from 10 am to 2 pm. Other times by appointment.

May everyone have a wonderful and safe holiday season. See you in the spring!

Your historian,

Donna Herendeen

[farmhistorian@yahoo.com](mailto:farmhistorian@yahoo.com)

## Storm Water Information

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow that "runs off" across land instead of seeping into the ground. This runoff usually flows into the nearest stream, creek, river, lake, or ocean. The runoff is not treated in any way, thereby polluting our waterways, and affecting everything from wildlife to native plants.

The federal Clean Water Act requires towns to take necessary steps to reduce stormwater runoff. Towns are required to do the following:

- 1. Conduct outreach and education about stormwater runoff.**
- 2. Provide opportunities for residents to participate in conversations and activities related to reducing polluted stormwater runoff.**
- 3. Detect illicit discharges.**
- 4. Control construction site runoff.**
- 5. Control post-construction site runoff.**
- 6. Perform municipal housekeeping to take steps to prevent runoff from town buildings and activities.**

But the responsibility doesn't stop with the Town. We all have a responsibility to understand how our everyday activities affect stormwater and stormwater quality.

When contemplating a project that involves any type of land development, whether building an addition on your home, installing an in-ground swimming pool or removing a deck and replacing it with a patio, it is important to consider ways to manage the flow and quality of stormwater.

### **STORMWATER FAQ's**

#### **WHAT IS POLLUTED RUNOFF?**

As stormwater makes it way to the nearest body of water, it can pick up and carry pollutants, such as pesticides, fertilizers, oil, and soap, which can harm water when present in sufficient quantities.

#### **WHAT CAUSES POLLUTED STORMWATER RUNOFF?**

People going about their daily lives are the number one source of stormwater pollution. Most people are unaware of how they impact water quality. Some common examples include over fertilizing lawns, excessive pesticide use, not picking up pet waste, using salt to de-ice driveways and littering.

#### **WHY DO WE NEED TO MANAGE STORMWATER AND POLLUTED RUNOFF?**

Polluted water creates numerous costs to the public and to wildlife. It costs more to clean up polluted water than to protect water from being polluted. Sediment damages wildlife habitats, chemicals damage plants and animals as they enter the water and fertilizers use up oxygen affecting the ability of wildlife to survive.

#### **WHAT CAN I DO TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF STORMWATER POLLUTION I CONTRIBUTE?**

If you own a car, maintain it so it does not leak oil or other fluids. Be sure to wash it on the grass or at a car wash so the dirt and soap do not flow down the driveway and into the nearest storm drain.

If you own a yard, do not over fertilize your grass. Never apply fertilizers or pesticides before heavy rain. If fertilizer falls onto driveways or sidewalks, sweep it up instead of hosing it away. Mulch leaves and grass clippings and place leaves in the yard at the curb, not in the street. Doing this keeps leaves out of the gutter, where they can wash into the nearest storm drain. Turn your gutter downspouts away from hard surfaces, seed bare spots in your yard to avoid erosion and consider building a rain garden in low lying areas of your lawn.

If you have a septic system, maintain it properly by having it pumped every three to five years. If it is an older system, be sure it can still handle the volume placed on it today. Never put chemicals down septic systems, they can harm the system and seep into the groundwater.

Pet owners should pick up after their pets and dispose of pet waste in the garbage. Keep lawn and household chemicals tightly sealed and, in a place, where rain cannot reach them.

Dispose of old or unwanted chemicals at household hazardous waste collections sites or events. Never put anything in a storm drain. Don't litter.

## 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 Agricultural 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](mailto:mdaniels@farmingtonny.org)

Town of Farmington  
1000 County Road #8  
Farmington, NY 14425

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

## Town of Farmington Boards & Committees

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

**Planning Board:** Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. Chairperson: Ed Hemminger

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

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

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

**Historical Preservation:** Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. Chairperson: Jessica King

**Recreation Advisory Board:** Meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



Veterans Memorial at Town Park



White deer at the Highway Complex



Overhead pictures of Beaver Creek Park taken in October 2021 by Jon Streber.



Bluebells at Mertensia Park