

NEW BALTIMORE NEWS

January—March 2010

New Board for the New Year

Swearing-In ceremonies were held on January 1 for Supervisor Susan O'Rorke, Council members Barbara Finke and Michael T. Meredith, Town Clerk Janet Brooks, Tax Collector Lynn Taylor, and Justice Joe Cosenza. The three new Board members join incumbents Art Byas and Chris Norris. A standing-room-only crowd welcomed the elected officials and their families.



Photo by Hilary Hawke

Special Interest

- Free Rabies Clinic on March 24 at Medway-Grapeville Firehouse from 6-8 PM
- Emergency Services Information and Form for Residents Requiring Special Assistance
- New Senior Citizen Page
- Sheriff's Corner

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Free Rabies Clinic

Greene County Public Health will be holding a FREE Rabies Clinic on March 24 at the Medway- Grapeville Firehouse from 6-8 PM. Volunteers are needed. For more information contact the Greene County Public Health at 719-3600

Parks Program

The Town will be hiring a Director and youth counselors for this year's summer parks program. This four week program begins on July 19 and ends on August 13. Applications will be available at Town Hall and at www.townofnewbaltimore.org

Open Burning

Residents are reminded that burning of brush is prohibited between March 15-May 15. Burn barrels and burning of trash is also banned. Additional information is available at www.dec.ny.gov

HISTORICAL NOTES

History Jottings—Another One Lost

I always am sad to see an old building disappear. I understand that fires and floods are unavoidable, that financial and legal issues can happen, that people lose interest. But I still regret the loss. If I hear that an old place is going to be demolished, I try to get permission to go and take some pictures for the record.

A month or so ago, someone told me that the old Martin place in Medway was gone, tore down. Elizabeth Ackerman in "The Heritage of New Baltimore" book tells us that Harry Wheeler ran a hotel there after it was built around 1830. Harry was the son of Noah Wheeler who built and ran the first hotel in the Grapeville area. That building also was torn down in fairly recent years.

Harry sold the property to Townsend Losee who ran a farm there for awhile. Mrs. Ackerman then says that "The next owner was a Mr. Gedney, and the place became known as Gedney's Tavern. It played an important part in the cattle drives from the mountains down to Cocksackie, where the cattle were loaded on barges for New York City. Gedney Tavern, on Route 26 a mile east of Medway, was the last stop on a long drive to Cocksackie. There was plenty of water for the cattle and stronger drinks for the cattle drivers, so it was a popular place."

One can imagine a variety of other passerby taking advantage of the liquid refreshment. Route 26

was the Cocksackie Turnpike. That road was built in the middle of the great turnpike boom of the turn of the 19th century and provided an important link to the west. The New York State Legislature approved incorporation of the Cocksackie Turnpike Company on March 2, 1805. The principal officers of the company included notable residents and businessmen Robert H. Vanden Bergh, Leonard Brock, Peter C. Adams, Dorrance Kirtland, Roswell Reed, and Archibald McVickar. The road went from Cocksackie, at the east end of Cocksackie Bridge (probably over the creek by Bethany Village), toward the Susquehanna Turnpike in the Town of Freehold (now Greenville).

I checked the Federal censuses to try and identify Mr. Gedney. There was only one that seemed to be in the neighborhood. Bartholomew was a 63-year-old farmer living with Fanny, age 42 (his wife?), and youngsters Mary E., Columbus, another Fanny, Lamy (hard to read that one), Mary F., Delila, Augusta, and apparent twins Adalaid and Adaline. It seems quite possible that Gedney was operating a tavern along with the farm.

After Gedney, the property went through a handful of owners until Carrie and Joe Martin bought the place in 1942. The Martins were there to their great old age, popular members of the community and the Medway Congregational Christian Church. Now the place regrettably is just another empty space.

Clesson Bush, Town Historian

Bicentennial News

I would like to have a meeting at my home on Sunday, March 21 at 2 PM. Please call 756-7032 or email entwjoy@aol.com. We are looking for a new Chair or Co-Chair to help with the NBBC due to my new job. Jeff will continue as Secretary and Treasurer. We continue to be excited about this project.

Joyce Schoenig, Chair

CENSUS ASSISTANCE

The United States Census Bureau is operating local Questionnaire Assistance Centers to answer questions and provide help in filling out the 2010 Census Forms. These Greene County Centers will be in operation until April 19, 2010.

Catskill

Catskill Community Center

March 15-April 19
Monday-Thursday 4-6 PM

Community Action Agency

Monday 1-3 PM
Friday 2-4 PM

Cocksackie

Cocksackie Village Hall

Tuesday-Friday 11 AM-3 PM

Greenville

Bryant's

Monday-Friday 12 Noon-2 PM



FARMERS' MARKET

This year the Farmers' Market will be held at **District 2, Cecil Hallock Park** beginning on **Saturday, June 12th** until **September 25th**. The new hours will be from **9 AM to 12 noon**. The Committee is looking for a Market Manager, Citizens Committee Chair, and new members are always welcome. Contact Chris Kemnah at ckemnah@yahoo.com for more information.

Congratulations to Lynn Taylor who was elected Secretary of the Farmers' Market.

FARMING SPEAKER SERIES

March 21st—Farming Heritage, A Woman's Perspective. Featuring a conversation between town residents sharing memories of woman's work on farms in the 20th century.

April 18th—Town Resident Ted Hilscher will Discuss Estate Planning and the Family Farm.

These events will begin at 2 PM at Town Hall and are free of charge.

The next meeting of the Agricultural Committee is 7 PM on April 1 and May 6 at Pete and Maggie Zacek's, 938 River Road. Anyone interested is invited to attend.



New Baltimore Antique Machinery & Agricultural Festival

This year's Ag Fest will be held at the VanEtten Farm on Saw Mill Road on June 5-6 and promises to have something for everyone. This is an event for the whole family and includes a silent auction of items donated by sponsors and local businesses; breakfast and lunch prepared by Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company; frozen desserts and lemonade by Guido; Music Magic by Kevin Hotaling, Squeeze Play, Steve Schwebler's One-Man Band, Ralph Barger and Peaceful Country; and the Rock Solid Church will be providing many activities for the children including pie eating and pudding drop contests, painting, and Bouncy Bounce. This is a fun-filled event for our community and is free to the public. Some of the agricultural and vendor displays include;

Antique and Garden Tractor Pulling

Hit & Miss Engines by Bill Burns

Portable Saw Mill by John Scott

Blacksmithing by John Earl

Full-Sized and Model Airplanes 'Touch-&-Go'

1920 Case Steam Tractor

New Baltimore Farmers' Market

Naturalist Dean Davis

For more information, please call 756-2793 or 756-3517

Town Board Report

The Town Board met for its Annual Organizational Meeting on January 1 and regular monthly meetings on January 11, February 8, and March 8.

JANUARY 1

- General Appointments and Salaries of Town Employees
- Schedule of Meetings for Town Board , Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals
- Committee Appointments for Board Members
- Chris Norris Named Deputy Supervisor

JANUARY 11

- Justices Cosenza and Farrell recommend the appointment of Patricia Monks for Part Time Deputy Court Clerk
- Letters of resignation were read from Roger Wilson and Tony Rago from the ZBA and John Gaspar from the BAR.
- Highway Superintendent and Deputy Highway Superintendent briefed the Board and the public on the condition of the Highway Loader

- Vote of 4-1 was recorded to purchase a John Deere 4WD 544K loader as an emergency purchase.
- Emergency purchase is defined in provisions of General Municipal Law, Section 103, subdivision 4.
- Budget resolutions were adopted for \$70,000 from the Highway Fund and \$28,000 from the Highway Equipment Fund subject to a permissive referendum.

FEBRUARY 8

- Corrected the meeting dates of the Planning Board and holiday schedule for town employees.
- Approved the attendance of Art Byas and Barb Finke to the Association of Towns Annual Convention
- Approved Janet Brooks to attend the Town Clerks Training School
- Adopted the contract for basic ambulance service with Ravena Rescue Squad, Inc. at the same rate as last year
- Biannual Reports were given for by Planning and ZBA Board
- Town resident Pamela Trombley was recommended by Justices Cosenza and Farrell for appointment as a part time Deputy Court Clerk.

MARCH 8

- Approved Kendall Rebusmen's Eagle Scout Project to upgrade the baseball field at Cecil Hallock Park
- Update by Art Byas and Barb Finke on Association of Towns Annual Conference
- Renewal of Property/ Casualty Insurance
- Appointed Dan Kelly to the Planning Board and Donna Carlson and Shelly VanEtten to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Planning Board

FEBRUARY 8

- Met with representative for Jyoti SAI Hospitality (Holiday Inn Express) regarding the number and size of signs, new Department of Health regulation to cover pump areas with a structure, and landscaping
- Approved minor subdivision application for Laurie McDonald and Dennis DiDonato

Building Inspector

JANUARY

Activities for December Include:

- Building Inspections 11
- Building Permits Issued 1
- Building Permits Renewed 1
- Certificates of Compliance Issued 3
- Certificates of Occupancy Issued 2
- Commercial Site Fire Inspections 1
- Court Appearances 2
- Junk Vehicle Complaints 2
- Sign Permit Applications 1
- Code Violation Investigations 3
- Zoning Violation Investigations 1

Application Fees for December 2009.....\$ 685.00

Total Fees for Year to Date.....\$24,551.80

FEBRUARY

- Building Inspections 9
- Building Permits Issued 1
- Certificates of Compliance Issued 3
- Certificates of Occupancy Issued 1
- Court Appearances 1
- Junk Vehicle Complaints 2
- New Building Permit Applications Received 1
- Sign Permit Applications 4
- Sign Permit Issued 4
- Code Violation Investigations 6
- Zoning Violation Investigations 1

Application Fees for January 2010.....\$636.80

- Granted conditional approval of a Special Use Permit for James Brockett, J. B. Car Services
- Discussed Semi-Annual report to the Town Board regarding the Zoning and Subdivision Laws
- Appointed Dave Wukitsch as Planning Board Attorney
- Appointed Alta Turner as Vice Chair and John Murray as Secretary of the Planning Board.

MARCH

- Continued discussion on minor subdivision for Paul Schiller
- Submission of Diane and Robert Scott's minor subdivision application
- Further discussions with Jyoti SAI Hospitality
- Update from Building Inspector on J.B. Car Services
- Correction of non-conforming subdivision for lands of Amatulli and Molluzzo

Zoning Board of Appeals

FEBRUARY 3

- Public Hearing was held on the Stacey Miller Use Variance
- The Board granted the Use Variance for Stacey Miller
- Appointed David Wukitsch as Attorney for the ZBA
- Reported there have been no actions by the ZBA that have been impacting by new zoning code July through December 2009

Assessor's Report

Property owners are returning their completed forms mailed out in December. Follow up contact is being made for any incomplete applications.

Field review has been prioritized and the collection of new home data is in progress.

Senior Moments

"FOOD AND FUN" LUNCHEON

The New Baltimore Reformed Church, corner of Church Street and Route 144, holds a monthly "Food and Fun" luncheon the second Wednesday of each month.

Lunch is served at 12 noon, followed by a short presentation, and concludes at 2 PM. Advanced reservation by the Sunday before the event are appreciated by calling 756-8764.

THE WHEELS ON THE BUS

New Baltimore resident Ellie Alfeld is asking seniors in our community if there is any interest in a bus service for day trips on Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday from 9 AM to 2 PM. The bus could pick up passengers at their home or in one central location and can accommodate 15 people.

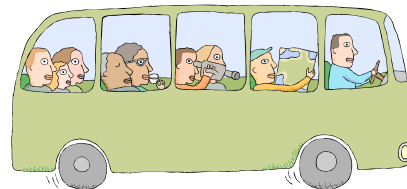
Destinations could include stores and shops in Catskill, banks, health services, and lunch before returning home.

There is no set fee and donations would be accepted.

Reservations would be confirmed

the night before the trip.

Please call Ellie at 756-2452 to let her know if there is interest in this program.



NOMINATIONS FOR SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR



Nominations are being accepted for Greene County Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year Awards. This award recognizes the achievements of older volunteers who have contributed their time and energy to help others, their communities, or special projects.

Any Green County resident over age 60 can be nominated for this award by describing their accomplishments and contributions concisely on one page or less, including nominee's address and phone, and mailing to:

Greene County
Department for the
Aging
Greene County Office
Building
411 Main Street
Catskill, NY 12414
Deadline 4/2/10

UPCOMING EVENTS

AARP Drivers Safety

April 7 & 8 943-3291

Coxsackie Senior Center

May 26 & 27 943-3291

Rivertown Senior Center

Classes are 1-5 PM

\$12 for AARP Members

\$14 for NonMembers



2-1-1

United Way 2-1-1 is a free and confidential number to call for nonemergency health and human services questions. Callers can ask for assistance with paying their bills, questions about legal issues, employment concerns, crisis counseling, transportation to doctors appointments, and virtually any area for which help is needed. The program is open Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM.

3rd Annual Senior Corps MLK Health Fair

Sponsored by Greene County
Department for the Aging
Retired and Senior
Volunteer Program

March 25, 9 AM-3 PM
Washington Irving Senior
Center
Academy Street, Catskill
719-3555

Bellevue Women's Care
Mobile Mammogram Attending
and Free Hearing Screenings

Helping Your Neighbor

911 Signs

All town residents are encouraged to order their **free** 911 home identification signs if they have not already done so. They assist our emergency responders in locating residents in their time of need. To order your sign, please call the Town Clerk at 756-6671. It will be delivered to your home when it is received. There may be some residents who have already ordered their signs but have not yet received them. Please call 756-7685 or nbfdprez@yahoo.



Emergency Information

The town has an **Emergency Information Line** to provide information to our residents. The prerecorded message will advise the extent of the emergency and any other information by calling 756-6600.

**Emergency
Information
Line
756-6600**

Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Beginning February 22, 2010, the installation of carbon monoxide detectors is required in every home on the lowest level that has bedrooms. It is also advised to have at least one detector on every floor with bedrooms and one in the basement. These alarms may be powered by battery or electrical outlet and cost between \$15-50. They should be replaced every 5 years due to a limited life span of the sensor. Carbon monoxide, also known as the silent killer, is the number one cause of poisoning deaths in the United States. More info at www.aboutcarbonmonoxide.com

**Greene
County
Sheriff's
Department
756-3300**

Sheriff's Corner



The New Baltimore Satellite opened last year and has made an immediate impact on our community. The office is staffed with a Deputy on a 24 hour basis and has enabled a quick response to emergency situations. In 2009, the substation responded to 905 calls.

The office is also manned by a Deputy certified in the proper installation of child safety seats and appointments can be scheduled by calling 756-3300.

TOWN OFFICIALS

Supervisor

Susan O'Rorke

Board Members

Art Byas

Barbara Finke

Michael T. Meredith

Christopher Norris

Town Clerk

Janet Brooks

Planning Board

Lee Davis, Chair

Joseph Caputo

Dan Kelly

Kenneth Kuder

Eric Hoglund

John Murray

Alta Turner

Tax Collector

Lynn Taylor

Town Justice

Joseph Farrell

Joseph Cosenza

**Superintendent of
Highways**

Denis Jordan

Assessor

Gordon Bennett

Zoning Board of Appeals

Meave Tooher, Chair

Donna Carlson

Marie Corrado

Jack Covey

Shelly VanEtten

Calendar

Town Board Meetings

2nd and 4th Mondays

Planning Board Meetings

2nd Thursday*

Zoning Board Meetings

1st Wednesday*

*If no agenda, no meeting

For agendas and other Town
information, please call Town
Offices or visit our website.

www.townofnewbaltimore.org

756-6671

PRSRSTD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
C R S T . NET
12550

New Baltimore Town Hall
3809 Route 51
Hannacroix, NY 12087

The Town of New Baltimore's Emergency Management
Committee is Working Toward Collecting
Information to Better Help Town Residents
In the Event of a Major Emergency.

If you have a medical need that requires electrical power, the
Committee would like to know so that someone can check on you.

NAME_____

911 STREET ADDRESS_____

CAN YOUR 911 ADDRESS BE SEEN FROM THE ROAD?_____

YOUR HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER_____

DO YOU HAVE A CELL PHONE?_____

CELL PHONE NUMBER_____

MAILING ADDRESS (if different)_____

WHAT IS YOUR MEDICAL CHALLENGE THAT REQUIRES ELECTRICITY
(for example an oxygen machine)?

IS THERE ANOTHER MEDICAL CHALLENGE THAT YOU WOULD NEED
ASSISTANCE FOR (for example wheelchair, bedridden, etc.)?

**This information will be collected by Town Clerk Janet Brooks, who assists the
Committee, and shared only with the fire companies serving the Town of
New Baltimore. You may call the Town Clerk at 756-6671 and give this
information by telephone or mail to
New Baltimore Town Clerk, 3809 CR 51, Hannacroix, NY 12087**