

ROCHESTER REPORTER



News & Facts about our Town

Published by the Rochester Town Board to keep residents informed and involved

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CONTACTS

Supervisor:

Pam Duke.....626-3043

Council Members:

Francis Gray.....626-4527

Alex Miller.....626-8144

Ron Santosky.....626-4314

Tony Spano.....626-4822

Town Offices:

Town Clerk.....626-7384

Fax: 626-3702

Building/Codes....626-2433

Planning/Zoning..626-2434

Highway.....626-7221

Transfer Station..626-5273

Tax Assessor.....626-0920

Dog Control.....626-5979

Town Court.....626-2522

Youth Dept.....626-2115

MEETINGS & EVENTS

1/07 (Tu) Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:30pm TH

1/11 (Th) Environmental Commission, 7pm TH

1/15 (M) Town Offices closed for Martin Luther King Day

1/16 (Tu) Planning Board, 7pm TH

1/17 (W) Youth Commission Board, 9:30am CC

1/17 (W) Code Task Force, 5pm TH

1/22 (M) Code Task Force, 6pm TH

1/24 (W) Town Board Audit & Year End Business meeting, 4:30pm TH

1/24 (W) Variance Hearing on Streamside Estates, 5:30pm TH

1/31 (W) Code Task Force, 6pm TH

2/01 (Th) Town Board, 7pm TH

2/07 (W) Code Task Force, 6pm TH

2/08 (Th) Environmental Commission, 7pm TH

TH=Town Hall
CC=Community Center
AcF=Accord Firehouse

Town Board Makes 2007 Appointments

At its combined Organizational and Town Board meeting on January 4, the Board decided on the following appointments and assignments for town employees, officials and volunteers:

Elected Officials

- Pam Duke: Budget Officer, Liaison to Code Enforcement Office
- Francis Gray: Deputy Supervisor, Liaison to Environmental Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, Tax Assessor's Office
- Veronica Sommer: Reg. of Vital Statistics, Tax Collector, Records Management Officer
- Tony Spano: Liaison to Youth Dept., Transfer Station, Parks & Recreation, Fire Commissioners Board
- Alex Miller: Liaison to Planning Board & Zoning Board of Appeals
- Ron Santosky: Liaison to Insurance Carriers, Cablevision Commission

Town Employees

- Shirley Lamon: Bookkeeper & Confidential Secretary
- Suzanne Alvarez: Bookeeper
- Rebecca Paddock-Stange: Secretary to the Planning Board & Zoning Board of Appeals
- Albert (Jerry) Davis: Code Enforce. Officer
- Brenda Striano: Secretary the Code Enforcement Office
- Kathleen Dennin: Deputy Town Clerk
- Eric Eck: Deputy Highway Superintendent
- Merci Sciarrino: Highway Dept. Secretary & Purchasing Agent
- Sonia Kortright: Clerk of the Court
- Karen Keator: Part-time Clerk to the Justices
- Gary Kurman: Court Officer
- Tom Ryan: Court Officer

(Continued on page 2)

STAR Rebate: Check your check!

Apply now for your 2007 exemption

STAR Rebates: Everyone eligible for STAR exemptions should have received a rebate check in October 2006. Property owners residing in Rondout Valley School District should have received \$178.92 for Basic STAR and \$298.80 for Enhanced STAR. Anyone who did not receive their check or received one they are having difficulty cashing has until January 20, 2007 to submit an application for a corrected check. Parts 1, 2 & 3 of the application are

completed by the property owner and part 4 is completed by the assessor.

Upcoming STAR exemptions: Property owners with exemptions that must be renewed must have their renewal applications filed with the Assessor's Office by March 1, 2007, Taxable Status Date. Senior and Enhanced STAR renewals were mailed early in December 2006. Questions on the above should be directed to Sharon Hornbeck, Town Assessor 626-0920.

Town Holidays for 2007

Town offices will be closed on the following days during 2007:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Jan 01 (M): New Years Day | Oct 8 (M): Columbus Day |
| Jan 15 (M): Martin L. King | Nov 6 (Tu): Election Day |
| Feb 19 (M): President's Day | Nov 12 (M): Veterans' Day |
| May 28 (M): Memorial Day | Nov 22 (Th): Thanksgiving |
| July 4 (W): Independ. Day | Nov 23 (F): "Black" Friday |
| Sept 3 (M): Labor Day | Dec 25 (Tu): Christmas |

2007 Transfer Station Permits on Sale

Town Transfer Station Use Permits for 2007 are now on sale. The cost of the permits has been raised to \$30.00 for Town residents (\$5.00 increase) and \$60.00 for non-residents (\$10.00 increase). The new permits can be purchased at the Transfer Station (by check only, from Tuesday to Saturday) and the Town Clerk's office (by check or cash, from Monday to Friday).

(Appointments. Cont'd from page 1)

- Jill Shufeldt: Dog Control Officer
- Carol Dennin: Recreation Director
- Valerie Weaver: Assist. Recreation Director
- Susan Mitchell: Social Services Officer
- JoAnn Lee: Aide to the Assessor
- Edward Hornbeck: Solid Waste Attendant

- Wayne Kershaw: Solid Waste Attendant
- John Tackett: Municipal Worker, Laborer
- Howard Cole: Municipal Worker, Laborer

Volunteers to Town Organizations

Planning Board

- Steve Fornal, Chair
- Nadine Carny, Vice Chair
- Anthony Ullman, 7-year term

- Robert Godwin, 2-year term (Alternate)

Zoning Board of Appeals

- Mary Jane Knudsen, Chair
- Beatrice Haugen DePuy, Vice Chair
- James Kinston, 5-year term
- Jennifer MacKenzie, 2-year term (Alternate)

Environmental Commission

- Kristen Marcell, Chair
- Mark Girard, 3-year term
- Alice Suhl, 3-year term

Ethics Board

- Dana Rudikoff, 3-year term
- Alan Bendelius, 2-year term

Historic Preservation Commission

- Ruth Bendelius, 3-year term
- Alice Schoonmaker, 3-year term
- Ward Mintz, 3-year term

Town Historian

- Alice Schoonmaker
- **Business Dev't. Committee**
- Robert Barringer

3-Month Extension to Subdivision Moratorium Considered *Town Board Expected to Act following January 4 Public Hearing*

A three month extension of the current moratorium on subdivisions has been proposed and was the subject of a public hearing held on Jan. 4, 2007. Supervisor Duke explained that the extension is needed in order for the Code Task Force to complete its work on the evaluation of the Town Code based on the recently approved Comprehensive Plan Update.

The Task Force is expected

to complete its work by May 2007. Members are determining if the current Code is in any way inconsistent with the principles of the Update. Where such inconsistencies exist, the Task Force is to recommend to the Town Board proposed changes to ensure consistency. They have already prepared a draft revision to the Town's Subdivision Law, which is available for review on the Town website.

In January 2006, the Town Board approved a town-wide Moratorium Law for a period of one year with the option of two three-month extensions to ensure that principles of the Town's Comprehensive Plan are incorporated into the Town Code. The period for the current moratorium runs from Feb. 2, 2006 to Feb. 2, 2007. The proposed change would extend this date to May 2, 2007.

The purpose of the moratorium is to ensure that no building permits for any non-residential building greater than 20,000 square feet or subdivisions that are larger than four parcels be approved by the Town during the moratorium period because any such development could irreparably and irrevocably alter the landscape of the Town in a manner that is or might be inconsistent with the Plan Update.

Youth Commission Members Sought

The Youth Commission is seeking new members. The Town Board requests that Letters of Intent for Youth Commission members be submitted to the Town Supervisor through Jan. 22, 2007. Interviews will be conducted on Jan. 24, 2007 at 4:45 pm at the Town Hall.

Information on the Youth Commission is on the Town website: click on the Boards & Commissions button on the Home Page, and then on the Youth Commission link. The Commission meets every month, 3rd Wed. at 9:30am in the Community Center. Application procedures can be found by clicking the link in the Youth Commission notice on the Home page. Information is also available from the Town Clerk.

Data Needed for Town Veterans Memorial

The Town is establishing a Veterans Park on Town property in the Hamlet of Accord. The park will have monuments to American conflicts as far back as the Revolutionary War.

In connection with the Park, the Town will establish a database of all military veterans who were town residents at the time they served in the military. As a start to the database, all of the names from the honor roll that listed WWI and WWII veterans were copied and printed on a form for review/update. (The original Honor Roll, as recovered, will be incorporated into the park's

design.)

Councilman Francis Gray is organizing this endeavor and is seeking assistance from veterans or family members to establish the database. If you have information on local veterans, your help is needed.

The first step is to get the veteran's name, organization (branch), the war (conflict), years (dates) of service, copy of service record or DD214 and any service photos you care to share. A 3-ring binder is located in the Town Clerk's Office to collect the information. Stop by to update the information that was taken from the original TOR Honor Roll for World Wars I and II or add additional names from other conflicts. Since the veteran's first name initial was used on the honor roll please

add the full first name if known. Instructions are included in the binder. If you have photos/articles of interest to the veteran which you are willing to share, Councilman Gray has volunteered to scan them into a database and return them to you unchanged. Please call him at 626-4527 to make arrangements for borrowing the photos.

After development, the database will be available at the Friends of Historic Rochester Museum for review and research.

Remember, the veteran's park can only be successful if our community participates. We only have information on veterans from WWI and WWII, so any additional information is critical.

List Your Business (It's Free!) Place information about your local business on the Town's website. If you have your own website, a direct link to it will be offered. Go to www.townofrochester.net and click on the **Business Directory** link for more information and to sign up.