



TOWN OF STAFFORD NEWSLETTER SPRING/SUMMER 2011

May 2011

Editor: Walt Kershenski
Deputy Editor: Pat Muehlbauer

www.townofstafford.com



STAFFORD TOWN HALL



STAFFORD HIGHWAY DEPT.



Message from Walt, Stafford Town Clerk

Greetings From the Office of the Town Clerk!

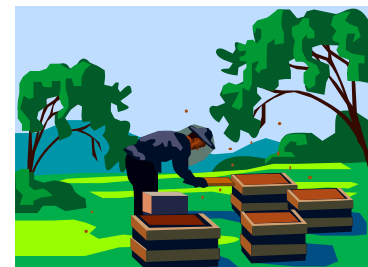
Well the long winter is finally over and spring appears to be here at last. Tax collection season went well this year and despite the poor economy and the loss of jobs most everyone was able to get in to see me and pay their taxes, so that is done now for another year. You really are reminded of the rural atmosphere which exists here in Stafford when I look out my window and someone comes to my office on a Tractor to pay their taxes. Only in rural America.

By now you are probably aware that the cost to license your dogs has increased (see page 8 for the complete schedule of fees). As of Jan 1, 2011, the Town Clerk has the sole responsibility for licensing dogs. The State is no longer involved with dog licensing. Initially, I thought this was great because we would no longer have to send part of the dog license fees to the state and that we could keep it all for the Town. WRONG!! Instead the State has implemented a surcharge fee schedule so we still have to send them some money for every dog licensed. They in effect do nothing for Dog Licensing but still charge the dog owners a surcharge fee to fund rabies clinics around the State.

The interior of the Town Hall got a fresh new coat of paint over the Winter and the Gazebo in Illette park is scheduled to be painted this spring, so it should look really nice for the summer. Also, you may notice some work being done at Emery Park. Improvements and updates are planned and a new multi-use facilities / bathroom building is scheduled to be built. These improvements will enhance an already popular park in the Town and the best part is that the use of the park is free to Stafford residents. There is also an athletic field planned for 2012 that will be part of the expanded park.

I try to keep up to date with state of the art issues regarding the Town Clerk's Office so I recently attend the NYS Town Clerk's conference in Buffalo. This is a great way to attend classes regarding the various responsibilities of the Town Clerk's office as well as interact with fellow Town Clerks and support groups from around NYS including the Association of Towns and the NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation.

That's it for now. I am running out of space. Don't forget to visit our web site at townofstafford.com or send me an email at tcstaf@rochester.rr.com if you need anything. Hang in there and enjoy the Summer.



Walt Kershenski, Stafford Town Clerk



STAFFORD RECREATION PROGRAM 2011



Spring has sprung and summer is just around the corner! That's right, our summer recreation program at Emery Park will begin on July 5th and run thru August 12th. The park hours will remain the same, 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm. The lunch program will still be available for those who need to stay from 12pm-1pm. I believe that this summer is going to be better than last. We have many new field trips and activities planned for this year.

Registration for this program will be different than in years past. We ask that you register at Stafford Town Hall or online at www.townofstafford.com. We advise you to **register before June 30th**. We will be using the registration numbers as of June 30th to plan for the upcoming summer activities.

We are very fortunate to have four out of the six staff members returning this year. Raylyn has found a position in her field of study and Beth will be doing an internship in Syracuse. We wish the best of luck to these talented young ladies.

PARK STAFF

Supervisor.....Scott Laird

Devon Sczudlo

Jamie Turman

Taylor Chmielowiec

All of our staff is CPR certified for the safety of our children

The summer packets containing the calendars and field trip information will be given out on July 5th, the first day of recreation. (or they can be picked up at the Town Hall) Also on this day you will get to meet the 2011 Stafford Recreation Staff. If you have any questions or concerns you can contact me at Akasmarek@rochester.rr.com or 585-732-4802. Looking forward to a wonderful summer!!!

Melissa Kasmarek, Recreation Director

Parent Committee

Stephanie D'Alba, Katie Schrider, Michele Sczudlo and Amy Chmielowiec



LeRoy-Stafford Senior News

Golf will be available starting June 1, 2011 thru Sept. 30, 2011 at Sweetland Pines. LeRoy-Stafford Seniors will pay the first \$3.00 with the player paying the balance for a limit of 9 holes per week. Sign ups continue for the Mystery Trip. The Trip will take place on Wednesday, July 20, 2011. We will be leaving from the Tops Parking lot at 7:30 a.m. and returning home at 6:30 p.m. Cost for this day is \$40.00 and will need at least 30 people to sign up in order to take this trip. Payment must be made at the June Meeting or make arrangements with Catherine Stone for later payment.

The next meeting will be June 15th at the K of C Hall. Dinner as usual and the program will be vocalist Cyndy Kingsley. There will be no meetings in July and August, but will resume on September 21st (and take place every third Wednesday of the month). The entertainment on Sept. 21st will be the LeRoy Town Band. For any information, please contact Catherine Stone at P.O. Box 344, LeRoy, NY 14482 or call at 768-2055.



SLEDS OF STAFFORD **SNOWMOBILE CLUB**



News from the Sleds of Stafford

May is a time for appreciation. Our worker appreciation dinner was held on Saturday May 14th at the SOS groomer barn. Thank you to all of our landowners – without each and every one of you our trails would not be possible!

Summer is a time to focus on fund raisers to support the maintenance and trail improvements on our system. On July 23rd our annual golf tournament will be held at Terry Hills Golf Course. Note; this is a new venue for this year's event. For details contact **TERRY HILLS (585) 343-0860** or **Todd Sloat at (585) 721-7148**. Pull together your own foursome and join us!

The Sleds of Stafford is also a 501c3 non-profit organization and your donation can be tax deductible. If you wish to make a monetary donation to help support the maintenance and improvement of trails, and equipment you can mail a check to:

Sleds of Stafford
PO Box 709
Stafford, NY 14143-0709

Are You Still Burning? Know the Law

There are still people in the town that are burning illegally. To reduce the impacts on pollutants and limit the risk of wildfires, effective October 14, 2009, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) extended the regulations for open burning.

There is **NO** burning at all from March 16th through May 14th each year due to the increased risk of wild fires. The new regulations prohibit the burning of household trash in burn barrels or piles and the burning of leaves. From May 15th to March 15th exceptions to the regulations allow campfires less than 3 feet in height and 4 feet in length, width or diameter. Brush piles can be burned. Limbs must be less than 6 inches in diameter and 8 feet in length. For other exceptions on what you can burn and a list of what you can't burn, go to the DEC web page at www.dec.ny.gov and search the regulations under 215.3 or call your local regional DEC office. This regulation is enforced by the DEC and can result in a fine. If you have any questions or would like a brochure please contact the fire department.



Assessor's News

The 2011 Tentative Roll has been filed with the Town Clerk. Anyone who had a change in assessment, either up or down, should have received a letter. Adjustments were made this year for new construction, demolition and soil type for the agricultural exemption. The Tentative Roll can be found on line at <http://www.oarsystem.com/ny/genesecounty/default.asp>. This site is very helpful in researching sales in the town and county and also in viewing other assessments. You can also look through the Tentative Roll at the Town Clerk's office. If anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

I am going to be changing my work days here in Stafford for a few different reasons. I will be here on Wednesday's instead of Friday's. This will begin as of July 1, 2011. So you can find me on Tuesday's from 4:30pm to 7:30pm and on Wednesday's 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Believe it or not I have begun work on the 2012 assessment roll in preparation for an update. I will be analyzing sales from July 1, 2009 through July 1, 2011. The Town Board and I would like to keep our assessments at 100% of market value. I will keep you posted through the newsletter of what is going on and you are always welcome to come in and chat with me about the values.

I would like to wish everyone a wonderful summer, because I believe we missed spring. Can't wait for the warm DRY days.

Anne M. Sapienza
Town of Stafford Assessor

Stafford Highway Department News

The spring clean up is finally underway. A slow, cold start to spring has put us behind in a few projects. We will soon be doing some basic road work on the Roanoke and Fotch Roads. We will be fixing all the rough spots from last years pipe replacements. With the State passing the budget on time this year, work can start soon. However, increases in the oil price and other products are unpredictable and can change on a daily basis. The prices may dictate which projects can be completed this year.

The Highway Garage on Sanders Road has an ample supply of wood chips for residents to use, places for residents to leave unwanted brush, and a municipal water meter where residents can purchase large quantities of water (for filling pools, etc.). If you have any questions regarding installing new driveways or drainage issues, please call the office at 343-2907.

Steve Boldt
Stafford Highway Superintendent



TOWN CLERK INFORMATION

Stafford Town Clerk & Notary Public Your Local Information Center

Hunting & Fishing Licenses	Freedom of Information
Handicap Parking Permits	Administrator
Dog Licenses	Tax Collection
Aged Exemption forms	Tax Information
Recycling Information	Park Reservations
Voter Registration forms	Marriage Licenses
Election Coordinator	
Custodian OF Town Records	
Registrar of Vital Statistics —	
Birth, Death, & Marriages	
Zoning & Building Permit Applications	
STAR Exemption forms	

Town Clerk Hours

Monday: 9:30 to 5:00
Tuesday: 9:30 to 1:00 & 4:30 to 8:00
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: 9:30 to 5:00
Friday: 9:30 to 5:00
Saturday: 9:00 to 12:00 noon (September –May)
Closed Saturdays during June, July & August



Stafford Zoning and Building Code Information

Summer is almost here with the return of the birds and the nesting is a good sign of the building season. Based on the recent increase in calls and inquiries it is evident that many residents in the town are planning or have started a home or business building project. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for being proactive in acquiring accurate information about the zoning and building requirements in the town.

One particular type of project that always brings up questions this time of year is swimming pool installations. If you are considering a pool for your yard please review the following basic requirements of the Residential Code of New York State, **before making your purchase decision.**

1. A swimming pool is defined as any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 24 inches deep. This includes in-ground and aboveground swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas.
2. An outdoor swimming pool, including in-ground and aboveground, hot tub, or spa shall be provided with a barrier that is intended to provide protection against potential drownings and near-drownings by restricting access to swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas.
3. There are many specific requirements concerning the construction of the barrier (please consult the building code or myself if you need more information on these requirements). One particularly important requirement is that the barrier around an in-ground or aboveground, hot tub or spa must be at least 48" in height. In the case of an aboveground pool, the pool wall may serve as the barrier. In cases where the pool wall does not meet this height requirement an appropriate barrier must be constructed around the swimming pool, hot tub, or spa.
4. The electrical requirements for pools are also very specific and many commercially available products sold with swimming pool packages **may not meet** the requirements of the current electrical or building code.

So, if you want to provide a summer of swimming fun at your house, please remember the following quick tips:

Decide on the type of pool you would like to construct.

Check the Codes of New York State(www.dos.state.ny.us) for the specific requirements for your design.

Consider all the required components for designing a safe swimming pool installation.

Carefully choose the products that will complete your project.

If you have any questions regarding any this information about swimming pools or any other type of building project, please contact me at your convenience at 344-1554 ext. 7. If I am not available please leave a message and I will get back to you as quickly as possible.

In regards to all permits, the Building Codes of NYS are revised every three years. This makes it important to check with your local code enforcement officers before starting a project. One of the most overlooked changes is permits are needed for roofing projects.

I would take this opportunity to welcome Kevin Wolff who will be sharing responsibility of Code and Zoning enforcement with me.

Lester Mullen

Building Code And Zoning Officer

Kevin Wolff can be contacted @585-344-1554 ext 7



STAFFORD PLANNING BOARD NEWS N' NOTES Spring-Summer, 2011

So what is this Planning Board and what do they do?

Well, let's start with planning – a continuing process where the goals and objectives for the future of a community are developed and evaluated. The American tradition of municipal planning is rooted in the concept of a non-political, citizen advisory planning board. The ultimate goal of this planning board is to ensure that the long-range planning and land use objectives of the community are achieved.

A community's physical, social and economic characteristics are the foundation for defining these goals and objectives, and they serve as a guide to formulate plans and policies for long-term development. The formal setting of these plans and policies is called the Comprehensive Plan. The Zoning Law and land subdivision regulations, among other planning tools, are used to implement the development policies stated in the Comprehensive Plan.

In New York State, through the state enabling legislation, municipal planning and land use controls are delegated to the Town Board. They, in turn, create the planning board and authorize it to undertake planning activities in accordance with General Town Law. Even with the establishment of a planning board, the Town Board retains several powers for direct involvement in municipal planning.

The planning board is an administrative body of the local government. It does not have legislative powers. The primary responsibilities of the planning board are to:

- Review and approve Land Separations

- Review and approve subdivision plans

- Review and approve site plans.

- Review and approve special use permits, except for those that are retained for issuance by the Town Board.

- Prepare land subdivision regulations and recommend their adoption to the Town

- Participate in the preparation and update of The Town Comprehensive Plan.

- Report on matters referred to it by the local legislature, including amendments to the zoning ordinance, the adoption of official maps, etc.

- Advise the Town Board and other boards on matters affecting a community's development, and

- Prepare other regulations relating to subject matter over which the planning board has jurisdiction and recommend their adoption to the local legislature.

The duties of a planning board member require dedication and tenacity as the work frequently involves a substantial time commitment and dealing with controversy. Board members are expected to attend one regular meeting per month and several visits over the course of a year to the sites of development applications. Meeting preparation may require substantial time in reading and reviewing materials submitted to the board, reviewing plans, etc.

On occasion, meetings can become difficult, particularly at public hearings on large projects. A board member must remember the limits of his role as an administrator bound to process applications within the framework of adopted laws and regulations. He or she must be able to work with the other board members in reaching fair and rational decisions that may differ from personal desires.

Obviously, to handle this role, a planning board member must have a sincere interest in his or her community's future and be willing to give time to the board's work. A member must be familiar with the community's social structure, economic base, political framework, land use and zoning. And I'm happy to say, as Chairman of the current Planning Board, we have a group of people that not only meet but exceed all of these standards!

Bill VanAlst, Chairman

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE SUMMER!!!



STAFFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by Linda Call



I can't help but wonder what Mr. Fred Miller, caretaker of Seven Springs from 1929 to 1959 (not to be confused with Freddie Miller, the bean farmer at the top of Temperance Hill, now Extreme Streetwear site) would say about our wet spring this year. He was known as the "Sage of Seven Springs". He had a wide reputation as a weather prophet, basing his prognostications on the bark of the buttonwood tree, the woolly bear caterpillars and the squirrel's cache. (note below)

This April has been unusually cold and wet, causing notable swelling of Black Creek over the banks as seen at the bridge over Route 5 and flooding along Route 237 in the Stafford Country Club.

Tom Burns, pastor of the Morganville United Church of Christ, recalls purchasing his home on Clipnock Road in August of 1987 and come the spring of 1988, he stood in thirty (30) inches of water in his garage. Black Creek had over flowed its banks.

It's definitely a late spring for getting on the land but yesterday (April 30th), I saw the first field plowed and fitted and early cabbage being planted.

What would the woolly bear caterpillars have told us?

Note: Quote from Stafford 1820-1970 by Grace Simmons Woodworth, Town Historian, June 1970, page 62.

Taste of Stafford

The Seventh Annual Taste of Stafford will be held on Thursday, July 14, 2011 in Illette Park at the intersection of Route 5 and Route 237. The men and women who have dedicated or are dedicating their time, talent and service to the Stafford Fire Department will be honored this year.

The growing Taste of Stafford is a great old-tyme community event, a chance to chat with neighbors and friends, to eat good food and enjoy an evening of music and fun. A vocal group of local residents will be formed to perform Civil War songs to commemorate its 150th Anniversary. If you sing, please contact Karen Clement at 344-0672, Jean at 343-9232 or Linda at 344-0026.



Stafford Town Government Member Directory



Your are invited and encouraged to attend the Stafford Town Board meetings.
2nd Monday of every month., 7:30 PM at the Town Hall.

Supervisor:

Robert Clement
Home 344-0672
Office 344-1554 Ext. 5

Town Justices:

W.Douglas Call — 344-4020
Brenda J. Mancuso- 344-4020
Office—344-1554 Ext. 3

Code & Zoning Enforcement Officers

Office — 344-1554 Ext. 7
Lester Mullen Cell 329-6297
Kevin Wolff Cell 739-0673

Councilman:

Robert F. Pacer— 343-0282
David G. Vicary—343-0662
Don Mullen —343-9277
Ronald Panek —343-2782

Highway Superintendent:

Stephen Boldt — 343-2907

Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar

Walt Kershenski — 344-1554 Ext. 4

Deputy Clerks — Betty Loncz
Patricia Muehlbauer

Assessor:

Anne M. Sapienza -
344-1554 Ext. 6

DOG LICENSE AND CONTROL FEES



Effective January 1, 2011 the fees for dog licensing and control are:

Spayed/Neutered:	\$6.00/dog/year (\$5.00 Town/\$1.00 animal Population Fund (APF) Surcharge)
Unspayed/Unneutered:	\$18.00/dog/year (15.00 Town/\$3.00 APF Surcharge)
Purebred:	\$30.00—up to ten (10) registered purebred dogs/year Plus the applicable APF surcharges
	\$60.00—11 to 25 registered purebred dogs/year Plus the applicable APF surcharges
	\$100.00—26 to 100 registered purebred dogs/year Plus the applicable APF surcharges
Replacement License Tag:	\$3.00
Impoundment/Seizure:	As set forth in Section 117 in NYS Ag & Market Law

STAFFORD TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Spring/Summer 2011 Closings

May 28th & 30th **Memorial Day Holiday**

July 4 **4th of July Holiday**

Sept 3rd & 5th **Labor Day Holiday**

TOWN OF STAFFORD
8903 Route 237, P.O. Box 52
Stafford, New York 14143



Summer in the Country 2011