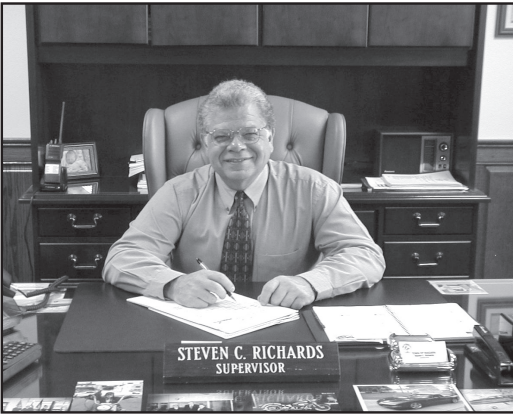


TOWN OF NIAGARA

Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 2 • November 2011

SUPERVISOR'S MESSAGE



This year's town budget has created a real challenge to the town board due to the mandated New York state property tax cap and our loss of population. Sales tax revenue is distributed by the county of Niagara based on population and not by where it's generated. The city of Niagara Falls which has a population of around 50,000 residents receives more sales tax money from the Fashion Outlets than the Town of Niagara because our share of the sales tax money is based on our much

lower population of around 8,500 residents.

I know most people think the NYS mandated tax cap is a cap on the tax rate. It is not. The property tax cap is a cap on spending, so it is very possible to see your tax rate go up under the equalization rate set by the state while spending is under the cap. An example of this is the town's budget came in just under the state's spending cap of approximately \$40,000 and tentatively the homestead rate will decrease by 9 cents and the commercial rate will increase by 31 cents based on New York's equalization rate set for our town. One point of interest however is that New York City is exempt from the cap.

While all of us paying property taxes can attest to the high taxes in New York state, no real change will come about until we receive relief from state mandates. I urge everyone to contact your state officials and demand relief from unfunded mandates.

As we approach the holiday season, I would like to take this opportunity to wish one and all a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a joyous New Year!

It has been my pleasure to serve as your town supervisor.

— *Town Supervisor Steven Richards*

TOWN BOARD

Supervisor

Steven C. Richards

Deputy Supervisor

Marc M. Carpenter

Councilman

Robert A. Clark

Councilman

Danny W. Sklarski

Councilman

Charles F. Teixeira

Town Clerk

Sylvia Virtuoso

Check out the Town Police on Facebook.

Follow current events and get information regarding our police department.

Go to www.facebook.com, search for "Town of Niagara Police Department" and click "like."



RECYCLING

NEED AN EXTRA RECYCLE BIN??

Additional recycle bins are available for purchase at the Town Clerk's office for \$10 each.

EMERGENCIES
DIAL 911

Police and Courts
(716) 215-1480

H. James Sutor
Police Chief



SAVE THE DATE JUNE 30, 2012 – JULY 1, 2012

- Town of Niagara Bicentennial Celebration Veterans' Memorial Park
- Entertainment for people of all ages
- Parade, Music, Fireworks, Classic Car and Bike Show
- Chiavetta's Chicken Barbecue
- Tour of Homes Shuttle

VISIT THE WEB SITE FOR
COMPLETE SCHEDULE

MARRIAGE LICENSES ISSUED AT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Appointments available for after
office hours

\$40 Check or Cash

Photo ID Required

ATTENTION DOG OWNERS

IMPORTANT NOTICE



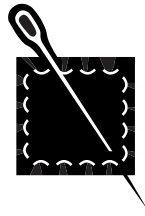
ALL DOGS MUST BE
LICENSED AND ON A
LEASH AT ALL TIMES

To view the complete law and
penalties go to
www.townofniagara.com

Unlicensed dog owners may pay fines
of \$250.

NEW LATE FEES WILL BE
CHARGED ON DELINQUENT
DOG LICENSES

FIRST SHOWING OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S BICENTENNIAL QUILT

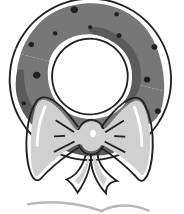


The Town of Niagara Historical Society will have the first showing of the Bicentennial Quilt during the Town Bicentennial Celebration on June 30, 2012 and July 1, 2012.

Also on display will be the 1940's quilt honoring town residents who served in the military during World War II as well as old photographs, vintage clothing, and memorabilia relating to life at home and on the farm in the early years of the town.



READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS!!! LET'S DECORATE!!!



If you or someone you know deserves recognition for holiday decorating skills, please submit a nomination in this year's **Niagara Beautification Commission's Contest**.

Homes that are nominated will be judged on creativity and **originality, execution of design and a bonus section for animation and/or music**. Nominations for the Town of Niagara can be submitted by any of the following ways:

- Calling the Niagara Beautification office at 285-5030 and leave a message
- Email to Niagara.Beautification@verizon.net
- Mail your nomination to: Niagara Beautification Commission, PO Box 1945, Niagara Falls, NY 14302

A team of judges will be selected by the **Niagara Beautification Commission**. If you are interested in judging, please call MaryJo Zacher at 870-7994, email mjzacher@aol.com or Gene Colucci, **TNBPA** President at 297-5624.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: December 1, 2011

JUDGING: December 4-11, 2011

TOUR OF HOMES PLAQUES RESTORED

The 27 historical homes in the Town of Niagara have had their historical plaques completely restored. Cooper Sign was contracted to sandblast and repaint the plaques in the New York state/town colors of blue and gold.

Thanks to Water and Sewer Superintendent Ed Adamczyk and his department for taking the plaques down and reinstalling them with anti-theft devices.

Also, thanks to Mr. Lester Wagner for his generous donation towards the refurbishing of the historical plaques in honor of his family Lester and Sally Wagner their children Lester, Peter, Amy Wendy as well as Glee Wagner Treichler and her children Joann, Gail, Nancy and Jane. Brochures detailing the location and history of each historical home are available at Town Hall.

TOWN BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS CAN GET INVOLVED IN BICENTENNIAL

The Historical Society offers the following suggestions for town businesses and organizations to participate and enhance the bicentennial celebration for the town.

1. Decorate and beautify by using red, white, and blue flowers in conjunction with the town Historical Society's Snapdragon Sunday/Beautiful Front Yard contest in July.
2. Spruce up your signage (possible with red, white and blue banners) to congratulate the town on its bicentennial.
3. Give out small items (rulers, pencils, etc.) for a bicentennial souvenir.
4. Donate an item to be raffled (or combine with other businesses to share the cost of an item to be raffled).
5. Give limited-use discounts for your business.
6. Contribute to the cost of activities on June 30, 2012, and July 1, 2012.
7. Contribute for a mark/statue/etc. to commemorate the bicentennial.

USE ONLY HOME IMPROVEMENT COMPANIES REGISTERED IN THE TOWN

The Town of Niagara requires all contractors doing business in our town to be registered with the building department. This is for your protection and you should always contact the building department at 297-2150, ext. 125 to check if the contractor is registered with the town before you sign any contract. This assures the contractor is insured, bonded and has the proper workman's compensation policies in effect.

Remember by dealing with a properly registered contractor you will be protected against unethical business practices.

Call before you sign!

TOWN OF NIAGARA RESIDENTS

Notice of holiday schedule for Allied Waste Services Sanitation Pickup. Holidays may not always be the same as Town of Niagara Holidays.



ALLIED HOLIDAYS:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| New Year's Day | Labor Day |
| Memorial Day | Thanksgiving Day |
| Independence Day | Christmas Day |

When one of these holidays falls on a weekday, all pickups including the holiday and all pickups after the holiday, will be moved ahead one day. If the holiday is Monday, your Monday pickup will be Tuesday; Tuesday will be Wednesday and every other day will be moved forward. Fridays move ahead to Saturday.

Please remember to have trash at the curb by 6 a.m. the day of pickup. Those businesses that are affected and not open on Saturdays should make every attempt to have pickup in a location accessible to Allied for pickup.

MINIMUM WATER RATE TO RISE SLIGHTLY

The town has been able to hold our low minimum water rate at \$15 for 12 years and now due to increases beyond our control the minimum bill will increase to \$20 for the first 10,000 gallons of water and sewer. However, Town of Niagara residents still enjoy the lowest rate around. For example, the Town of Lockport's rate is \$40 for up to 5,000 gallons, and the Town of Porter is \$44 for up to 7,000 gallons. The Town of Niagara is still the best deal around.

Town Residents

Let the Town Clerk's Office help you ...

- Register your dog
- Issue Handicapped Parking Tags
- Register to Vote
- Marriage Licenses
- Certified Copies
- Notary Public
- FOIL requests
- Fishing/Hunting Licenses
- Buy extra Recycle Bins
- Meeting Information
- Community Center Applications

For more information, contact:

Sylvia Virtuoso, Town Clerk
Patti Allan, Deputy Town Clerk
716-297-2150 ext. 131

*most forms available at
www.townofniagara.com*

TAX COLLECTION CHANGES

Taxes will be collected in the
Town Clerk's Office

NEW*NEW*NEW

PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ONLINE
www.townofniagara.com

See your tax bill for hours,
payment information, etc.

