

Village of Churchville Newsletter

Message from the Mayor...

It is time to celebrate the arrival of spring after a long, cold winter. We have endured the cold and higher than normal electric bills from this harsh winter and hopefully those bills will be coming back to normal. We can all be thankful that the cost of our electric is lower than outside the village.

During this winter, there were over 50 days of ice skating right here in our village at the County ice skating rink. We must send thanks to our County Legislator, Jeff Adair for his diligence in increasing the County's effort to keep our ice skating rink in the village open for as long as possible. We send our thanks to Legislator Adair and Parks Director, Larry Staub.

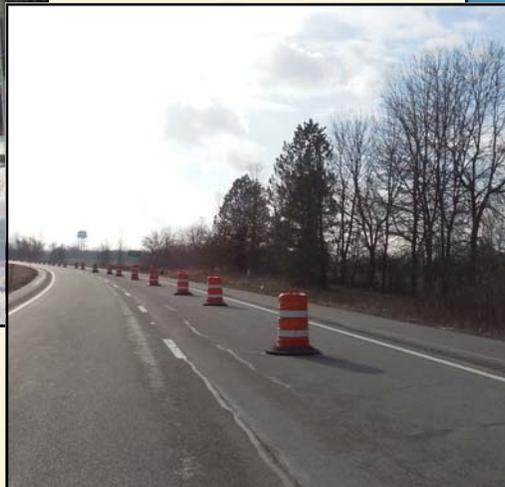
As we head towards spring, we have good news from Assemblyman Hawley that the westbound lane of I-490 will have a temporary blacktop applied to fix the potholes sometime in May. The final repairs will be made in August when the lane will be milled and repaved. We send our thanks to Assemblyman Hawley for his efforts on our behalf.

There will also be over 100 new LED light fixtures installed on our village streets thanks to Senator Mike Ranzenhofer. Senator Ranzenhofer has provided us with the funding to complete a capital project that will be beneficial to our residents for many years to come. The installation of LED street lighting will not only provide better lighting and lower maintenance costs; it will reduce the electric usage of the Village street lighting by over 60%, thus reducing our electric bill tremendously. And this will be ongoing, year after year. A savings such as this is one to truly celebrate. Our thanks to Senator Ranzenhofer for thinking of us and helping with a capital project that will benefit our residents for years to come.

As you read this newsletter, check out the articles about our volunteers who are helping beautify the village, our new businesses, our efforts to assist our residents to have natural gas as an option for heating their homes and much more. There will be many exciting happenings in Churchville this year.

We continue to listen to our residents and try to provide whatever is needed to make life in the village affordable and enjoyable. It has been a fiscally challenging year and there will be more challenges as we move forward. I continue to keep our best interests in the forefront when talking to other elected officials and serving on local and state committees. I hope you will always feel comfortable coming to the Village office to voice your concerns and suggestions. Together we will make sure that the Village of Churchville continues to be the best village for one and all.

Mayor Nancy L. Steedman





Volunteer Clean-up Week

During the week of May 19-23, 2014 (weather permitting) you will see many volunteers from Camping World and Tompkins Bank of Castile helping spruce up the Village of Churchville. These businesses are committed to giving back to the communities and have offered to help with a Clean-up week. The volunteers will be working with the Village DPW helping spread mulch, paint fences/guard rails and planting flowers during their working day. We thank them for all of their help.

2014 Summer Concerts at the Gazebo

Join us for a relaxing time and great music during the month of July. Once again, there have been concerts sponsored by Camping World, Waste Management and Wilkins RV. Thank you to Riga Recreation and all the sponsors for another great season!

July 9....."Cold Sweat"

July 16....." Big Mike & the Motivators"

July 23....."MusicMakers"

July 30....." Eastside Swingtet"

August 6...."Blue Sky"

August 13....."Just 4 Fun"



Spring & Summer Brush Pick up

The Village of Churchville will begin weekly brush pick up on Monday April 21, 2014 and continue every Monday through the month of May. Starting on Monday June 2nd, we will pick brush up on the first and third Monday of the month for the remainder of the season. Please have limbs neatly piled no sooner than 48 hours prior to pick up with limbs parallel to the curb. Nothing larger than 8 inches in diameter will be accepted. No tree contractor generated waste will be accepted. The village reserves the right to limit brush pile size. If you have large size brush piles please call the DPW in advance at (585) 293-3366 to arrange for other alternatives.

Heating Your Home with Natural Gas or Electricity?

Some residents of the village do not have this choice. We are in the process of trying to make this possible for all village residents one neighborhood at a time. Some residents do not have this choice because there is not a natural gas line in front of their homes. Hopefully, this will soon be a choice for all residents in Taylor Farms and Blackwatch Hill. The village has been working with RG&E and the residents since December of 2013 to determine if there is enough interest for this. The ultimate goal is to have RG&E install the natural gas line at 'no cost' in these neighborhoods. Taylor Farm residents have submitted their paperwork indicating their interest in using natural gas. Then an informational meeting was held with residents and RG&E. After that meeting, the residents then submitted more information to RG&E which would help determine if this could be done at 'no cost' to the residents. Our goal was reached!! There was enough interest to install this gas line at 'no cost' to the residents of Taylor Farms. We are now in the final stage of this process and Taylor Farms residents are submitting their final paperwork to RG&E to complete the project. If all goes as planned, natural gas will be installed this fall and the residents will have a choice in how they heat their homes. Blackwatch Hill residents have just begun the first stage of this process by submitting their interest forms to RG&E. It has been a group effort to try and make this a reality. If there is enough interest and the lines are installed, not only the residents of these neighborhoods will benefit, the whole community will benefit.

Eagle Scout Project Complete

Connor Bucci finished his Eagle project photographing headstones in the village Creekside cemetery for our web search.



Churchville-Riga Chamber of Commerce News

Welcome Spring! This has been such a long, harsh winter – I'm sure we're all ready to celebrate spring.

The Chamber Annual Banquet was held on March 13, 2014. Join me in congratulating our award winners.

- **Business Person(s) of the Year – Wendy and Andy Catalina - Babe's Unisex Hair Salon**
- **Citizen of the Year – Linda Burlingame**
- **Civic Beautification Award – United Congregational Church**
- **Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year - Mary Torcello**

The last meeting before summer will be held on **May 8, 2014** at noon at the Johnson House. The CCCSD will present its budget. Call for reservations – 293-1111. Keith Ryan, our Program Chairperson, is already scheduling our programs beginning in September. Remember - you do not have to be a member of the Chamber to attend these lunchtime programs. If you see something of interest, call for reservations. We hope you can join us.

The **Annual Youth Hall of Fame Award Ceremony** will be held on **May 19, 2014** at the Village Hall. The committee is currently reviewing the applications and award winners will be notified soon. The Hall of Fame recognizes 11th or 12th grade students who have demonstrated leadership and community spirit through volunteer contributions and exceptional personal achievement while facing challenges. Join us in recognizing these outstanding students.

The **Annual Walk About** will be held on **June 12, 2014**. The goal is to promote our local businesses by encouraging the public to walk about and see for themselves what Churchville businesses have to offer. There will be a few changes with the shuttle service, music and hours of operation based on input received after the walkabout last year. Save the date and watch for more information to follow.

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES

- Churchville Commons
 - A-L Nails - new owner, Lai Nguyen
 - Creekside Diner – new owner, Stanley Styliades
- EastPoint Business Park
 - Allstate Insurance – William Perkins and Glenn Krause
- #70 Baker Street
 - Cedar Creek Lawn Care – Andy Vargo

Submitted by: Sue Davis, Chamber President



Creekside Diner



Allstate

Mayor Nancy Steedman and Chamber President Sue Davis welcome new businesses, Creekside Diner and Allstate, into the Village.

Flushable Wipes Blamed for Sewer Woes

“Increasingly popular bathroom wipes---pre-moistened towelettes that are often advertised as flushable---are being blamed for creating clogs and backups in sewer systems around the US” reads a recent headline in USA Today. Churchville’s sewer system is no exception. As these products have become more popular so have breakdown issues at pumping stations and clogged sewer pipes throughout the village. Even products labeled as “flushable” that go down the toilet aren’t breaking down as they course through the sewer system. In some cases, they create a blockage in the homeowner’s lateral---the section of pipe that connects the home to the main line. The homeowner is responsible for maintaining the lateral including any blockages. In other cases they are clogging up suction lines at pumping stations and damaging the pump itself that requires village personnel to shut down the pumping stations and change worn out parts that normally last years in just a few months time. These clogs and pump rebuilds can get expensive putting a strain on the sewer budget. We ask that if you are using bathroom wipes or any other disposable wipes and would like to continue to use them that you discard them along with your regular trash regardless of labeling that may claim they are “flushable”.

Rustling in the Village

During the 1800's and even into the early 1900's, the most important means of transportation was provided by horse power. Yes, those four legged animals whose great strength moved goods and people in and about the Village of Churchville.

While the newspapers of this time period had no shortages of reporting horse and buggy accidents, runaway horses, railroad trains and horse accidents, individuals being on the wrong side of a kicking horse and even horses getting stuck in the mud in Black Creek, I have found the most interesting articles are those that dealt with the act of horse stealing. Due to the limited space available, I will present several of those articles, but believe me, horse stealing was certainly not uncommon for the village of Churchville.

Reported in the Rochester Union & Advertiser newspaper on August 16th, 1860, just months before Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States, is the following article detailing how the village residents handled the issue of horse stealing in the Village of Churchville. "A Vigilance Committee In Churchville – Of late there has been considerable horse stealing in the Town of Riga, in this county, and the citizens have lately been much exercised thereat. They have determined to form a vigilance committee and for that purpose a meeting was called at Churchville this week. A corps of ten men was selected, who are to keep themselves in constant readiness to mount and pursue the authors of further depredations if any are committed. There will also be an outrider stationed somewhere in the Southern Tier of counties, and the inhabitants now hope to be able to catch the horse thieves who are prowling about the country. A permanent organization was perfected, and the meeting passed resolutions to furnish means to the riders who shall search for stolen property."

As far as a police presence in the village, it was not until 1871 that the Village board created the elected position of Police Constable and according to records the last position of police authority for the village was dissolved in 1969 when Gerald Huff resigned as acting Churchville Chief of Police. In comparison, the Town of Riga had an elected constable as early as 1809, a position that was eliminated in 1997 with Kenneth Robinson serving as the last appointed Town Constable.

This last article, appearing in the April 3, 1871 issue of the Rochester Daily Union and Advertiser newspaper, is very interesting because it illustrates some unusual detective work being possibly initiated by the newly elected village constable. "Fire in Churchville - The barn and out buildings of F. J. Ayers (formerly of this city Rochester) in the village of Churchville was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. Two horses were burned to death. The loss is estimated at \$4,000.00, and insured for \$2,000.00. It was with difficulty that other buildings in the immediate neighborhood were saved from destruction.

An investigation as to the origin of the fire has given rise to some suspicions. A few days since Mr. Ayer's horses were shod by the village blacksmith - shod in a special manner as directed by Mr. Ayers. An examination of the shoes on the burned horse's feet has convinced the blacksmith that they were not the shoes he made. A clergyman who was driving on the road near Churchville when the fire broke out reports that he met a man driving very fast from the village and at the time thought there was something wrong. He did not overhaul the stranger. Upon these facts is based the opinion that Mr. Ayers horses were stolen from the stables and worthless animals substituted for them - so as to the more readily throw aside any suspicion of wrong doing." *Submitted by: Ron Belczak, Historian*



Save the Date!

Have some fun and learn about our local businesses at the Chamber's Walk About on June 12th. The venue is expanding with new and exciting activities. See you there!!



You're Invited - Arbor Day 2014

Come join us and help celebrate Arbor Day on April 25, 2014. We will be planting a blue spruce tree donated by Villas at Churchville developer Joe Sortino. The planting will take place at 4:00pm at the Village Office located at 23 E. Buffalo Street Churchville, NY 14428.

This pine tree will be used in the annual Village holiday tree lighting ceremony. Many thanks to Joe Sortino for his generous donation!!!



Winterfest 2014

Riga Recreation and the Lions Club offered an enjoyable way to deal with the cold weather.



Deck Safety

As warmer temperatures finally arrive many of us will enjoy more time outside. Many of us will spend time cooking, playing or just relaxing on and around decks constructed of wood. The North American Deck and Railing Association (NADRA) has proclaimed the month of May "deck safety awareness month". With just a few simple inspections and tests you can help prevent injuries and accidents associated with unsafe conditions that aging decks can create.

1. Check the ledger board (where the deck attaches to the house) to make sure it is sound and securely in place. Look for separation and twisting. This should be firmly secured with lag screws or bolts.
2. Check the flashing. This is either metal or plastic that directs water away from sensitive areas of the deck and house near the ledger board. Look for cracking or standing water.
3. Check support posts and joists for structural soundness and decay. Use an ice pick to press in to the wood. If it presses in easily without splintering more than a quarter of an inch chances are it's starting to decay and should be replaced.
4. Check decking and stair treads for swaying or sagging. There should be no swaying or movement with normal walking.
5. Check that railings are secure by lightly pushing against them. Replace any missing or loose spindles.
6. Check that risers and stingers (the framing under stairs) are securely fastened.
7. Check for rusting fasteners. Replace any that show signs of severe decay. Drive in any loose decking nails and tighten any loose screws or bolts. Replace fasteners with the proper type for your deck.
8. Keep your deck clean. Sweep off any dirt and leaves. Clean off any moss with soap and water. Consider reapplying water repellent to extend the life of the wood.

Performing these quick and easy tests and inspections will help ensure you and your family will remain safe while enjoying your outside activities.

Newman Riga Library News

Truth is often stranger than fiction. Have you ever found yourself reading a book about an event in history, or a person, perhaps, that you have never heard of? It makes you wonder how you could possibly have gotten through that many years of school, without even “an inkling.”

I've gathered some titles together that elicit precisely such a response. We own all but one of them. Some are old, some are new. But they deserve your attention if you wish to be amazed.

In Cold Blood by Truman Capote

Until this book was published, no one had ever heard of the Clutter family in Kansas. But Capote chronicled their murders on a cold November day in 1959 in a style that had never been seen before. He “fictionalized” a nonfiction event in the most compelling manner. It became “journalistic literature.” Not only did you get to know the killers, but you came to know the victims. And it made you wonder why such an event had gone unnoticed by you, an avid newspaper reader.

Zeitoun by Dave Eggers

The Katrina debacle was well publicized in and out of New Orleans. But Eggers shares a particularly scary event of the aftermath that involved a house painter, accused of being a member of Al- Qaeda, in a world in which more than water and wind was being battled. Indeed, there were established prisons in the city and murky events unfolding. If you google Mr. Zeitoun today, you will find that he has a very dubious character. But with that in mind, events of that time will astound you.

Vanished by Will Hylton

More interesting than pure military history for some readers, is this page turner about the unraveling of a mystery of a B24 bomber when it disappeared with its crew in the Pacific during WWII. Driven by the families need to know, the author fills in the black hole as best he can. The MIA status of the missing crew is torture for its loved ones. While it may represent only one of the many missing crews lost during the war, it makes you wonder about all lost and/or missing soldiers.

Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand

On the best seller list for years now, Hillenbrand's account of POW Louis Zamperini is a compelling story. How can a talented runner, a peer of Jessie Owens in fact, with a promising running career that is interrupted by the war have gone totally unnoticed? A POW for years, he still remained under the radar in terms of news. The fact that his life finally unfolds in the hands of such a talented writer, represents a tribute to both the man and the nonfiction genre.

Hot Zone by Richard Preston

A truly terrifying account of the appearance of the Ebola virus in Washington D.C., it serves as a reminder that we are only an airplane ride away from a pandemic. This is a true story that one sincerely wishes, was fiction.

Lost City of Z by David Grann

Percy Fawcett and his men set out in 1925 to find El Dorado. None return. For years, people have tried to find traces of the party, in order to explain whether or not they were survivors in the jungles or had met their demise at the hands of cannibals. Nothing has been revealed. Diaries of the men indicate that they found what they called “Lost City of Z”, but nothing else is revealed. Most of us will find this story new, and most compelling.

Higher Call by Adam Makos and Larry Alexander

The numbers of fascinating stories that make up World War II are myriad in number. But now and again, a book will chronicle an event that is so heartwarming, or so strange, that one wonders why we hadn't heard it before. This is such a book. Imagine 2 pilots, one German, one American. The American's plane is crippled. But instead of finishing him off, the German pilot escorts him to safety. Years later, the men meet in a lovely story that will prompt you to recommend the book to all of your friends.

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Stealing the General by Russell S. Bonds

A spy and a trader-in-contraband lead an ill-fated mission during the Civil War to steal a locomotive called "The General" in an effort to destroy a critical Confederate supply line. A tale of espionage, capture, trial and escape, half the team is executed, while the other half receives the newly established Medal of Honor. It was a new story for me that made me wonder if I'd been absent the day it had been taught.

Under the Banner of Heaven by Jon Krakauer

Krakauer explores the brutal killing of a woman and her 15 month old baby at the hands of her brothers-in law. Divine Intervention was the rationale used by the killers who are devout Mormon polygamists. In an age of Western incredulity about Islamic fundamentalists and their extreme beliefs, reading about such an episode within our own country is startling.

Under a Flaming Sky by Daniel James Brown

In September of 1894, two forest fires converge on a town in Minnesota trapping more than 2000 people. It creates its own weather including hurricane-strength winds, gases and flames. Two trains, one with every car on fire, become the sole means of escape. Over 400 people die, leading to the birth of the federal agencies that we know today, whose mission it is to monitor and fight wild fires. I knew of no such episode in history. As chilling as it is, I believe it will be a revelation for most readers.

Mark your Calendars for the following Library Events:

Teresa Wood and History Houses/American Girl Doll Program presents

May 8th Molly 1944 @7:00 P.M.

June 12th Julie 1974 @7:00 P.M.

Our Summer Reading Program this year will have a Soccer Theme. Readers of all ages will be invited to participate--preschool through Adult. The games begin July 7th and run through August 14th. School-aged game players will be able to play on Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays between 2:30 and 4:30 P.M. Weekly programs will include the following: A Trip to the Mountains with Musician Missy Reed on Tuesday, July 15th at 3:00, Traveling Campfire on Thursday July 24th at 3:00 and Birds of Prey on Tuesday, July 29th at 3:00. Additional programs will be announced soon. The programs are suitable for children of all ages.

Donna Haire

Village Clerks Association

Association of Monroe County Village Clerks meets at Churchville Village Hall on January 15th.

The Association formed in 1983 and consists of clerks and staff from the ten villages in Monroe County. Meetings are in January, April, August and October. Village Clerk Meghan Lodge is the Association President and Deputy Clerk Cathy Paye is the Association Secretary this year. Meetings consist of speakers and valuable supportive networking.



Churchville Veterinary Hospital Donation

New to the Village will be a dog watering station at the Village Office near the Memorial Park for all of our four-legged friends to stop and have a drink thanks to the Churchville Veterinary Hospital in the Village. Also as you walk the West Shore trail with your pet, you will find a doggie clean up bag station compliments of the Churchville Veterinarian Hospital. Our thanks go out to them for thinking of our four-legged friends and their needs. This is a great donation and will be welcomed by all. Please join us in extending thanks to the Churchville Veterinary Hospital for these pet friendly gifts.



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Calendar of Events

- April 25 Arbor Day Celebration
- May 17 Boy Scout Chicken BBQ
- May 17 & 18 Churchville Greene Garage Sales
- May 19 Joint Town/Village Meeting
- May 19 Chamber of Commerce Youth Hall of Fame
- May 26 Memorial Day Parade
- June 12 Chamber of Commerce Walk About
- June 30 Patriot Camp, Riga Recreation
- July 17 Waste Management Open House
- August 9 & 10 Lions Club Country Fair

Mark your calendar!!

Refuse Pickup Date Change:

Due to Memorial Day, refuse will be picked up Thursday, May 29th

Due to Labor Day, refuse will be picked up Thursday, September 4th

The Village Office & DPW
will be CLOSED on the
following dates:

- May 26 - Memorial Day
 - July 4 - Independence Day
 - September 1 - Labor Day
 - October 13 - Columbus Day
 - November 11 - Veteran's Day
 - November 27 & 28 - Thanksgiving
 - December 25 & 26 - Christmas
- Normal office business hours are
8:30am to 4:00pm

Meeting Schedule

Village Board Meetings

2nd & 4th Monday of every month at
7:00pm

Planning Board Meetings

1st Wednesday of every month at
7:00pm

All meetings are at the Village Office
Check www.churchville.net for meeting
updates/cancellations, agendas and
meeting minutes.



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all newsletters or go to
www.churchville.net/newsletters

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Don Suter, *Deputy Mayor*
Scott Cullen, *Trustee*
John Hartman, *Trustee*
Diane Pusateri, *Trustee*

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Eric Roth, *Alternate*

Village Office 293-3720

Meghan Lodge, *Clerk/Treasurer*

DPW 293-3366

Paul Robinson, *Superintendent*
Tom Perkins, *Building Inspector*

Village Attorneys

John Fitzsimmons
Mel Olver