

Village of Churchville Newsletter

23 East Buffalo Street P.O. Box 613 Churchville, New York 14428

Phone: 585-293-3720

Fax: 585-293-2590

Message from the Mayor

As we look forward to this new season and all that there is to offer, I think it is important for each of you to know that the Village continues to remain fiscally sound. And even though we are all faced with this strained economy, we continue to do our best in offering viable services to our residents and not stressing your pocketbooks to do so. Our community has much to be thankful for and we hope that by keeping our businesses on Main Street healthy and offering new areas for recreation and gathering for community groups that we keep our community strong and serve you well.

As you read this newsletter, you will learn about some of the activities that will be happening in our village this summer. I hope that if you are doing a 'stay-cation' that you enjoy all we have in close proximity to Churchville. Remember that there are many ways you can get involved in this community too. If you have some spare time or a special skill that you would like to share, please let us know.

If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact me by phone at 293-3720 or by email at MayorNancy@Churchville.net. I am always open and receptive to hear new ideas or concerns.

"Democracy is based on the conviction that there are extraordinary possibilities in ordinary people."
~ Harry Emerson Fosdick from Friendly Chat

Community Center

In case you haven't heard by now, the Churchville Volunteer Fire Department has sold the former fire hall to the Village. The plans are to see if it is feasible to convert it into a Community Center. The concept of having a Community Center was of major interest during the joint Master Plan update and the Charrette Vision Plan for the Village. We all should express our gratitude to the volunteer firemen who not only appreciate their new fire hall, but also believe in the need for a community center and were willing to help move this forward.

A committee has been formed to look into this opportunity of bringing a Community Center to our community. In February, Mayor Nancy Steedman, Deputy Mayor Don Suter, Trustee Diane Pusateri and Councilwoman Debbie Campanella listened to community organizations talk about how they would like to use the facility. The organizations reporting to the committee were Riga Recreation, Senior Citizens of Riga (SCOR), Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America and the Churchville Lions Club. Each one expressed their interest in using the facility. This spring there will be another opportunity for the community to share their input with the committee.

Continued on next page...

2010 Census



Mayor Nancy Steedman hands her Census form to Postmaster Steven Risewick

The Village of Churchville urges you to participate in the 2010 Census. Getting a correct count of Village residents helps determine Government aid to our area.

For more information visit <http://2010.census.gov>

* Did you know...

Answering all 10 questions on the Census form is mandatory and required by law.

To read more about the Census see page 3.

(Community Center continued from front page)



The topics discussed in the meetings were to find out just how each organization could use the facility, with types of activities, frequency of use, equipment needs, storage needs and any other suggestions. A representative from each organization was asked to serve on the main committee to work out further details.

As of this time, there have been several architects and engineering firms that have toured the facility and will present their proposals for overall design and their cost estimates for converting the building into a facility to meet the needs of the community.

Funding for this project will always be a driving factor as to whether we, as a community, can bring this to be. As of this time, there are two sources of funding that the Village is seeking. One is Community Development Block Grant funds (CDBG) to construct two entrances to the building which are handicapped accessible, to make the current bathrooms ADA compliant and to add an elevator so the lower floor of the building may be used by all. If the Village is successful in an award of this funding, it will become available in August of this year. The second source of funding is from the NYS Main Street Grant that has been revitalizing the downtown area of our Village. We have had two years to use the funds allocated to Churchville. We must use all of the funds by August of this year and even with the active participation of 15 property owners in the downtown area, there still might be \$30,000 available for use on the Community Center. These funds could be used for façade upgrades and for streetscape treatments.

This will be a very active project for our community this year, so if you have any suggestions or wish to help out in any way, please contact the Village Office at 293-3720 or email MayorNancy@Churchville.net. We are doing our best to bring a Community Center to our residents at the least amount of cost.

Community Memorial Park

We anticipate that the Community Memorial Park 'Phase I' will be started and completed this year. This is a park-like setting at the Village Gazebo that is a joint venture by the Town of Riga, Churchville Lions Club and the Village of Churchville. It will bring a park-like setting for residents to enjoy the music during the concert series, and a peaceful area to remember our loved ones on the bank of Black Creek. There will be an area where bricks will be able to be purchased in honor or in memory of our loved ones.

Jon Ehrmentraut has worked with the committee to present a concept drawing of the completed area. It includes a secluded area by the creek for reflection, a large, flat grassy area for concert viewing, benches, lilacs and some native plants in the landscape. This concept drawing is available for viewing at the Village Office.

Dave Becker has joined the committee bringing his skill of building stone walls. He has offered his knowledge and skill to assist in the building of the wall needed to create a sitting area for viewing events in the gazebo. Along this wall will be the area for the bricks that will be sold by the Lions club to honor or memorialize loved ones.



This will truly be a community effort as members of the Lions club, Town and Village employees and residents join in to construct the 'Phase I' of the plan. If you have any interest in helping or would like to watch this construction, please call the Village Office for more information.

Census - "Take 10"

The 2010 Census will document the changes in our nation since the last census in 2000. This Census data affect how more than \$400 billion in federal funding is distributed to tribal, state and local governments, the census also will frame the future of our country and our community for the next 10 years. An accurate count of the local population determines the amount of federal aid the Village will receive for things such as education and roads.

During Census 2000, the mail participation rate from the Village of Churchville was 88 percent as of the April 2000 cut-off. About \$85 million is saved for every one percent increase in mail participation. For these and many other reasons, we must work to encourage everyone's participation in the census.

Here's what you should know about the 2010 Census:

It's easy. One of the shortest census forms in history, the 2010 Census form asks 10 questions and takes about 10 minutes to complete.

It's important. Census data are used to reapportion seats in Congress and ensure proper district representation in state and local governments. Information from the census helps determine locations for child-care and senior centers, new roads, hospitals, schools and community centers.

It's safe. By law, the U.S. Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities. All Census Bureau employees take an oath of nondisclosure and are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of the data. The penalty for unlawful disclosure is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment of up to five years, or both.

Finally, the most efficient way to respond to the 2010 Census is to complete the form as soon as it arrives and return it in the postage-paid return envelope. Census workers will visit households that do not return forms to take the count in person.

Again, the Village of Churchville asks that you participate in this years Census. To track the Village's participation rate visit <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/take10map> . On the map zoom to the Village and you will see the most up to date participation rate and can compare us to other local Villages.

IF YOU HAVE A POST OFFICE BOX AND HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR FORM, CENSUS WORKERS WILL HAND DELIVER THEM. DELIVERY OF THIS FORM IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETE BY MID APRIL 2010.

IF YOU DON'T RECEIVE A FORM, YOU CAN PICK UP A FORM FROM THE CHILI PUBLIC LIBRARY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT

<http://2010.census.gov>

New Electric Substation Update

The switch gear has come in but we are waiting for 2 transformers that should be here in May. The electric department has been replacing overhead transformers throughout the Village with new transformers that can handle the higher voltage. This project will require numerous scheduled power outages over the next 10 months. We will strive to give as much notice as possible for all of these outages by either door-to-door notification, a letter or as always with notices in the Suburban News. The Village Board and every employee of the Village understands that this project will cause numerous inconveniences and we appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we work through this very extensive project.



New electric substation on Sanford Rd N.

The Village of Churchville is maintaining a list of residents that are on life support so if there is a power outage we can prioritize areas to restore power first. Please contact the DPW at 293-3366 or email Stacy at stacy@churchville.net. If your situation changes please let us know.

Village Curiosities



Tucked away at the end of Carroll St along the west bank of Black Creek, is a small shed containing equipment used to measure the flow and height of the Black Creek watershed. Operating since 1945, this facility is shared by the National Weather Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Buffalo District and the U.S. Geological Survey. The highest recorded level for flow and height was experienced on March 31, 1960. That day, the stream's flow registered 4,880 cubic ft per second with a height of 9.44 ft. That compares to the lowest flow of 0.17 cubic ft per second and a height of 0.93 ft recorded on September 15, 1959.

You can have fun observing the daily data of this station by accessing one of the two following web sites:

http://waterdata.usgs.gov/usa/nwis/uv?site_no=04231000

<http://newweb.erh.noaa.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=buf&gage=chrn6>

A Rocking Experience for the Village

On a cold winter's day in 1895, the residents of the Village of Churchville experienced an event that was to be the talk of the town for many weeks to come. Around noon on Tuesday, February 12th, the horse drawn wagons, carriages, and pedestrians were making their way through the snow filled streets of the village. Snow drifts were everywhere, some of them towering as high as twelve feet. Then, in what seemed to be a matter of seconds, the ground began to shake, windows rattled and a shock wave, similar to that of a clap of thunder, pierced the air. One individual described the sound as the noise produced by a heavily-loaded wagon passing over a wooden bridge. Snow drifts that once stood tall were reduced to only a fraction of their original height. People raced out into the streets frightened and unsure of what they just experienced. Immediately, their thoughts turned eastward to the boiler house of the great New York Central Railroad which was once located on Savage Road. Employing many local men, this facility became operational in 1889 and produced steam and hot water for the railroad track pans. These pans enabled the railroad locomotives to pickup water on the fly instead of stopping at a water tank. But, when no plume of smoke could be spotted in the partially cloud covered sky, the residents became relieved. That evening, the city newspapers were searched to see if a serious explosion had occurred in any of the neighboring towns. Finding no evidence of such an event, the people were convinced that the shock experienced could only be caused by; you guessed it – an earthquake.

Days following the quake, the Rochester and Batavia newspapers continued to document the event and recorded similar experiences from communities such as Brockport and South Byron. Although the magnitude of the earthquake was never recorded, it certainly demonstrated the powerful force of "Mother Nature."

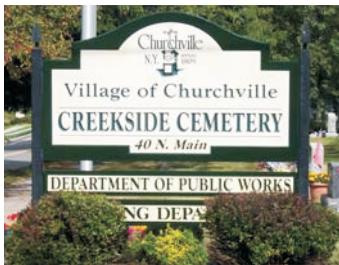
In researching this article, I found that the most recent earthquake activity in this area was a 3.1 magnitude quake on July 7, 2007, which had its epicenter just forty-four miles from Churchville. Since 1983 there have been twelve earthquakes recorded within a one-hundred radius of the village. The most powerful of those was a 3.8 magnitude quake reported on Thursday, November 11, 1999. The Cuylerville N.Y. earthquake of 1994 had a magnitude of 3.6 and was responsible for the partial collapse of the Retsof Salt Mine.

One last note. Earlier in this article I mentioned that the village residents feared an explosion from the railroad boiler house located along Savage Road. Just two years after that February earthquake, a national locomotive magazine reported the following: "A boiler exploded on May 5th in the pumping station at Churchville near Buffalo, N. Y. The boiler was blown through the roof of the station, and landed 400 feet away, on the New York Central tracks.

Continued on next page...

Continued from page 4

The pans on the passenger tracks and the tanks for freight trains are supplied by this station. The station was completely wrecked by the explosion. Engineer Adam Witzel had gone out of the boiler-house to turn the water into the track pans and had reached the doorway on his return when the explosion took place. He received a number of severe scalds and burns on the arms and legs, and was thrown quite a distance from the building. Two men, who had been in charge of the place for several years, had recently been removed, and it is darkly hinted in some quarters that the discharged men had something to do with the accident. This sort of talk is all too common, and no attention should be paid to it. An intentional boiler explosion is one of the rarest things that happen on this earth. We doubt, in fact, if such a thing ever did happen.” Both Articles by: Ron Belczak



Gold Award Project Completed

Girl Scout Stephanie Brown has recently completed her Gold Award Project. This project consisted of taking photos of over 1,000 headstones in Creekside Cemetery. These headstone pictures will be linked to the Village's new website in the near future. Great Job - Thank you Steph!

Churchville Lions Club Visits Fort Drum

On February 24th twelve (12) members of the Churchville Lions Club traveled 175 miles to Fort Drum, NY to meet the twenty three (23) members of the U.S. Army's B Co HQ Platoon.

This road trip started in January when the Churchville Lions Club membership voted to “adopt-a-unit” of the famed 10th Mountain Division that would soon be deployed to Afghanistan. On February 4th four representatives of the Lions Club traveled to Fort Drum for the “Unit Hook-Up” Ceremony. This is when Lions Bill Keidel, Rick Elliott, Ed Uzialko and John Rabideau met 1st Lt. Faberov, B Co HQ Platoon Leader. They also had the opportunity to briefly meet the 23 members of their adopted platoon.

It was after this meeting, on their return ride to Churchville, that this group of Lions devised the plans for a bowling and pizza party for their adopted unit. Arrangements were made and twelve Churchville Lions car pooled to Fort Drum. Upon their arrival they were greeted by members of the platoon, bowled, ate pizza and talked. This gave the Lions and the troops an opportunity to become better acquainted. “We were able to learn more about them personally and what their needs will be while deployed”, stated Lion Karen Hetherington.



While visiting with one soldier, Lion Nancy Steedman, Mayor of the Village of Churchville, was told that he had been in the Army for 15 years and that “this was the first time that anything like this had ever happened to me. You really don't know how much this means to us, what you are doing. We really appreciate it! Thank You!!”

When we departed Churchville in the morning none of us was quite sure what to expect, but on our return home we knew and understood the importance of what we had done that day. We had 23 new friends! Soldiers, young and well trained, who will travel half way around the world to defend us and allow us to enjoy our freedom. In return we will support them by sending “Care Packages” of beef jerky, hand sanitizer, magazines, DVD's of popular TV shows and other items to help them through their 12 month deployment. Letters will be exchanged and new friendships will develop.

Anyone wishing to support our efforts can contact Lion John Rabideau, 293-3875, or any Churchville Lions Club member. Any money received will help defray the cost of shipping “Care Packages” to our Adopted Platoon.

Submitted by Lion John Rabideau, PID

Newman Riga Library News

Grandmothers are very brave. It's not as if we court danger on a regular basis, by participating in extreme sports or volunteering for front-line duty during a war. But brave we are! (**Conquering Fear: Living Bravely in an Uncertain World** by Harold Kushner.) Who else would agree to travel hundreds of miles to live with a kid and an in-law to care for a two year old while a new baby enters the world? You grandmothers out there already know...that's just plain fool-hardy!

It starts with the flight. Most of those are uneventful, but occasionally, they're just not ok. There is a minor issue that pilots deal with called "wind shear." One minute you're flying along, minding your own business, freezing and starving onboard Delta partner Korean Air (yes, I did say Korean Air), the next, you're plunging into tree tops nose first in an unannounced effort to land, until and only until, the nose of the plane does a "180" in an abrupt effort to climb back into the heavens seemingly to meet the "Maker." G-forces instantly smooth decades of wrinkles, the only bright spot in a death defying moment. And truth be told, you're also not cold any longer. You find yourself mopping sweat from your brow only to hear that it time to try the landing "just one more time" until you will be forced to proceed to the nearest airport 2 hours away. Now that is bravery—especially when you've spent the layover and the early part of the flight worrying about whether your pilot was the "12 year old" wearing a pilot's hat or the slovenly over-weight "dufus" that was with him. It was the 12 year old. (**Flying without Fear** by Duane Brown). We land safely, more or less, and proceed to the house where the real challenge is about to begin.

As "extended" family, you can be sure that your child-rearing style will not even vaguely resemble your child's child-rearing style. (**I'm Still Your Mother: How to Get Along with Your Child for the Rest of your Life** by Jane Adams). There is also the physical challenge of keeping up with a two year old. It's been a few years and no amount of working out prepares a middle aged woman (who am I kidding: unless I live to be 114, I'm no longer middle-aged) to keep up with a two year old. (**Building Strength and Stamina** by Wayne Westcott). But you give it the old college try. For a brief shining moment back in the plane, your wrinkles were gone. But now, they're back with a vengeance, accessorizing the dark circles that ring your eyes.

Learning to bite your tongue is another tricky but necessary skill one learns as well, while participating fully in the life of the young family--which isn't yours. (**Walking on Eggshells: Navigating the Difficult Relationship between Adult Children and Their Parents** by Jane Isay) You cook, you clean, you provide child care; all as silently as possible. Compromise is the name of the game. I like "boundaries"; they do not. I like to have dinner early; they like it late. So you eat late and never utter the word "no." But there's an upside. Catching up on reading sounds like a wonderful possibility now, because retiring early is so attractive. Caution: going to bed early means getting up too early and sadly, one cannot wander the house in the "wee hours" and risk awakening a child. Thus I learn how to behave like the perfect detainee. (**Inmate Behavior Management: Key to a Safe and Secure Jail** by Virginia Hutchinson.)

Still, holding a sweet-smelling cuddly infant is quite nice, and at least until he's old enough to be taught specific tricks to torment his parents, (**When Difficult Relatives Happen to Good People** by Leonard Felder) its "good enough." Submitted by: Donna Haire, Librarian

Mark your calendars for the following:

April 1-23– Arbor Day Coloring Contest (Ages 10 and under)

Forms are available at the Library

April 24– Arbor Day Story Telling Session

1:00-1:30 (No registration necessary)

April 27th– Learn How to Download Audio Books

(and transfer to a portable device)

Free Class (Register by calling 293-2009)

May 6th– Clowning with Mr. Beau the Clown

10:00 AM (Pre-School Program; no registration necessary)



Help **CELEBRATE** Earth Day/Arbor Day

3rd Annual Electronics



Recycling Drop-off

- ❖ Saturday, April 24, 2010
- ❖ 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
- ❖ Town of Riga Highway Garage
Buffalo Road Churchville

Sponsored by:



Accepted Materials:

- ♦ Monitors (CRT's) ****your cost** \$5 per monitor**
- ♦ Televisions ****your cost** \$10 per television**
- ♦ Computers/laptops
- ♦ Printers
- ♦ Computer Mice
- ♦ Keyboards
- ♦ Copiers
- ♦ Typewriters
- ♦ Fax Machines
- ♦ Cellular phones
- ♦ Pagers
- ♦ Audio equipment
- ♦ Video equipment
- ♦ Telephone equipment
- ♦ Cables/wires

*All data is secure -
shredded or destroyed*

Non-Acceptable Materials:

- ♦ Microwaves
- ♦ Refrigerators
- ♦ Home appliances
- ♦ Vacuum cleaners
- ♦ Batteries
- ♦ Household hazardous waste
- ♦ Liquids
- ♦ Yard equipment
- ♦ Small gas powered equipment
- ♦ NO Businesses

*****Plan to remain in your vehicle and Staff will unload the contents**

Earth Day/Arbor Day Activities

10:00 AM	Tree Planting by Town	
10:30 AM	Heritage Tree planting by Village	Creekside Cemetary
11:00 AM	Community Nursery planting	Brew Road
1:00 PM	Story Time	Newman-Riga Library
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Earth Day/Arbor Day Booths, Events	Churchville Village Office

Calendar of Events

April 24..... Arbor Day Celebration
 May 31..... Memorial Day Parade
 June 10..... Churchville Walk About
 July 26..... Chamber Golf Tournament
 August 21 & 22..... Lions Club Country Fair

Concerts in the Gazebo

In July, concerts will be held every Wednesday night, 7:00pm to 8:30pm at the Village Gazebo. In case of bad weather call 293-3880 x130. These concerts are jointly held by the Village of Churchville and Town of Riga.

Brush & Lawn Debris Pick Up

The first and third Monday of every month the Village will pick up brush piles. Lawn debris and leaves will be picked up only if they are in brown biodegradable bags.



Mark your Calendars
 Refuse will be picked up
 Thursday, June 3rd due to Memorial Day
 Thursday, September 9th due to Labor Day

The Village Office will be CLOSED on the following dates:

May 31st– Memorial Day
 July 5th– Independence Day
 September 6th– Labor Day
 Normal business hours are 8:30am to 4:00pm



Meeting Schedule

Village Board Meetings-
 2nd & 4th Monday of every month at 7:15pm
Planning Board Meetings-
 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm
Community Memorial Park Meetings-
 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm
Trail Committee Meetings-
 Last Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm
 All meetings are at the Village Office

Greater Churchville-Riga Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards

Chamber Member of the Year
 Gary Gayton

Civic Beautification Award
 The Main Street Grant Program

Citizen of the Year
 Sue Davis

Business Persons of the Year
 Cindy Jessop, Jeff Richardson and Gene Dries
 of Waste Management



Village of Churchville
 PO Box 613
 Churchville, NY 14428

PRESORTED
 FIRST CLASS MAIL
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 CHURCHVILLE, NY
 PERMIT NO. 1

Board of Trustees
 Nancy Steedman, *Mayor*
 Don Suter, *Deputy Mayor*
 Scott Cullen, *Trustee*
 John Hartman, *Trustee*
 Diane Pusateri, *Trustee*

Planning Board
 Roberta Ames, *Chair*
 Mark Majewski
 Larry Mitchell
 Larry Powell
 Barb Sadden
 Don Suter, *Trustee Liaison*
 Mike Bohan, *Alternate*
 Dave George, *Alternate*

Zoning Board
 Lyle Warren, *Chair*
 Chris Flaherty
 Cindy Jessop
 Ruth Warlick
 Greg Wooster
 John Hartman, *Trustee Liaison*
 Lorraine Linder, *Alternate*

Village Office 293-3720
 Sue Davis, *Clerk/Treasurer*
DPW 293-3366
 Dave Adams, *Superintendent*
 Tom Perkins, *Building Inspector*
Village Attorneys
 Jim Fitzsimmons
 Mel Olver