

Village of Churchville Newsletter

Message from the Mayor ...

The Village of Churchville will be experiencing changes with the retirement of two of our top personnel. Both Dave Adams, Superintendent of the DPW and Sue Davis the Clerk/Treasurer have decided to take the NYS early retirement incentive and will be leaving their employment with the Village of Churchville at the end of October.

I realize every day how much I depend on their input and leadership here in the Village. Whenever I am away from my desk I always feel confident that everything is running smoothly. They have to make decisions every day that affect our residents and community. And they do this with the confidence, ability and thoughtfulness as if it was a decision being made for them personally or their family. They both have always had the interest of the Village foremost in their minds and actions. We, as a community, have had the benefit of their skills for many years and thank them for it.

Over the years they have been mindful of keeping the services to our residents in top form while also always being mindful of the taxpayer. Their dedication along with always being accountable not only to the Village Board but to the residents has been a top priority. Resident concerns, input or compliments come to them at all times and in all forms. Sometimes this is difficult, but they both have been professional in every way and do their very best to serve the residents.

Join me in wishing them both much happiness and relaxation in their upcoming retirements. As a chapter in their lives closes, a new and exciting time arrives. We all wish them the best and thank them for their many devoted years of service.

Friday, October 29, 2010 will be their last official work day. Please stop by the Village Office or DPW and wish them well. There is a retirement reception being held on the same day in the evening at the Gatherings at the Senator's Mansion. Note the invite in this issue of the newsletter. All are welcome to gather with us as we wish Dave and Sue well in their retirement years.

(Over the years, the Village board and departments have prepared for this as it was expected for Sue and Dave to retire this year or next. We have been receiving applications and interviews have been scheduled. The goal is to have new personnel in place at the beginning of November.)

Mayor Nancy L. Steedman

The Village of Churchville cordially invites you to a retirement celebration for

David A. Adams
Superintendent of DPW
&
Sue A. Davis
Clerk/Treasurer

Friday, October 29, 2010
Gatherings at the Senator's Mansion
99 South Main Street
Churchville, New York
5:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Presentations at 7:00 pm

Grazing Stations & Cash Bar Reception

Tickets available until October 22, 2010 - \$25.00
Village Office
23 East Buffalo Street

County Executive Visits Churchville



Pictured: Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks, District Manager François LaChance and Mayor Nancy Steedman

Village of Churchville Mayor, Nancy Steedman joined François LaChance, District Manager of Star of the West Milling Company as Monroe County Executive, Maggie Brooks presented François with a proclamation declaring Wednesday, September 29, 2010 as 'Star of the West Day' in Monroe County. This was to acknowledge the anniversary of Star of the West as they celebrated their 200th year of milling flour in the Village of Churchville.

Village receives Grant for Records Management

The Village of Churchville has been awarded \$50,501 for a Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (FGRMIF). This grant was written by village employee Stacy Stanton. The funds will be used to reorganize and update the records storage room at the Village Office. These funds will ensure that the village records retained meet the archival standards for inactive records such as historic books, maps and permanent records. Shelving will be replaced, flat map cabinets will be relocated to the Records Room to allow for proper map storage, new light fixtures and anti-lignin free tissue paper, boxes and box labels will all be part of this grant. There will also be a part time clerk retained to purge records and organize the Records Room. The Village of Churchville feels this project is very important but did not want to burden the tax payers by increasing taxes to help fund this project. We are very fortunate to have been awarded this grant to accomplish this task with no cost to the tax payers. We are also very proud to have an employee such as Stacy with the skills to write this grant and thus save the taxpayers more money.

Star of the West Anniversary

Star of the west celebrated their 200th anniversary on August 15, 2010. Francois LaChance was joined by corporate leaders from headquarters in Frankenmuth, MI. Tours and many presentations of congratulations were part of this special day.



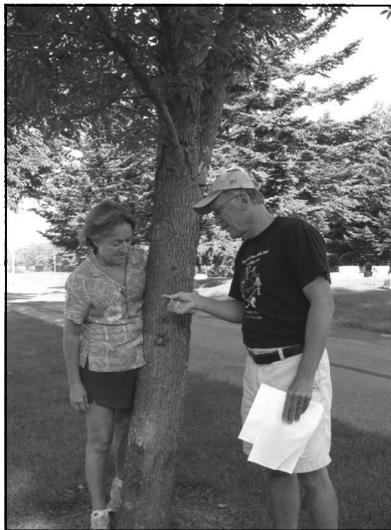
(Pictured left to right: District Manager Francois LaChance, Senator James Alesi, Mayor Nancy Steedman, Deputy Mayor Don Suter and County Legislator Robert Colby)

Concerts in the Gazebo

This year's concert series was a huge success!! For the most part, the weather cooperated and we had great turnouts. Pictures of each concert are posted at www.churchville.net in the photo album under recreation & fun.



\$10,000 Gifted to Village of Churchville



A \$10,000 check was presented to Mayor Nancy Steedman to inoculate the Ash trees in the Village of Churchville from the Ash borer. This generous gift is from village resident, Dr. Nancy Weyl, from the Nancy A.K. Perkins Charitable Foundation. Dr. Weyl, a concerned and community minded citizen, understands the importance of preserving the trees in our community. After hearing about the Ash borer, she contacted the Mayor of the village offering to assist in saving the Ash trees. On August 20, 2010 Mayor Nancy and Jim Fallon, a Certified Cornell Master Gardner accompanied by Dr. Weyl examined the Ash trees in the Creekside Cemetery and the Village office campus. There were 6 trees in the cemetery that will be inoculated against this new disease. The Mayor thanked Dr. Weyl for her generous contribution to keep our trees healthy and Jim for his assistance in identifying the Ash trees.

Holiday Tree Lighting

Watch for more information on the holiday tree lighting celebration in December.

Did you know...

- You can use the new Village of Churchville website for genealogy research in the Creekside Cemetery.
- Baker Street Landing has started preparation for the construction of 64 apartment units.

Village Clerk/Treasurer Retires

Dear Village Residents,

I will be retiring in October and I want to express my sincere appreciation to the residents of the Village of Churchville that have supported me and placed their faith and trust in me for the past twenty-five years. During my career with the Village of Churchville working with the Mayor and Board of Trustees, Superintendent of Public Works, appointed officials, consultant and village employees I have seen many successes through joint cooperation and hard work ethic. I want to thank the Village Board who has supported me and allowed me the opportunity to continue my education through attendance at training schools and seminars. I am especially thankful to all of the employees of the Village of Churchville, but especially to my dedicated office staff – Cathy Paye, Meghan Lodge and Vicki Rowland. I can truly say that I have found that true satisfaction comes with public service.

Submitted by Sue Davis, Clerk/Treasurer

Congratulations to Meghan Lodge

Meghan Lodge, Deputy Treasurer for the Village of Churchville, has been awarded the New York State Society of Municipal Finance Officers designation of Credentialed Municipal Finance Officer. She was awarded a plaque and pin at the NYCOM Fall Training School and then presented with both at a Village board meeting held on October 12, 2010.

In a letter from Bonnie Page, Chairperson of the NYSSMFO CMFO Committee, she writes, 'This designation fully recognizes the professional competency of Ms. Lodge in fulfilling the responsibilities of her office and is granted only after an applicant has demonstrated that they have met the high educational, experience and participatory standards established by the NYSSMFO. The Society provides a method of exchanging ideas and experiences while working to enhance the professional service rendered to elected officials and the communities in which they serve.

Please join Mayor Nancy and the Board of Trustees in congratulating Meghan for this achievement. She brings great honor to the Village of Churchville.

Village of Churchville's New Website

The Village of Churchville's website has been redesigned to help serve you better. There is easy access to many commonly used forms and applications, an up-to-date calendar of meetings and community events, photo albums, access to the cemetery database, information about services provided by the Village of Churchville and much more!! Check out the new site at www.churchville.net .

Best Wishes to Barbara Sadden

Barbara Sadden has resigned from the Village Planning Board as she will be moving out of the Village of Churchville. Barb started serving on the Zoning Board in April of 2005 and then switched to the Planning Board in December of the same year. This makes a total of five years that she has been serving the Village of Churchville. We thank Barb for her service and wish her continued success. Planning Board Alternate, Dave George, will be appointed to fill the vacancy. Dave comes to the board ready to serve as all board members and alternates receive the same training for these positions. As we say good-bye to Barbara, we welcome Dave George to the Planning Board.

Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Remember to change the batteries in all your smoke detectors this month! Building and Fire Codes now require you to have carbon monoxide detectors in your house. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that is highly toxic to humans and animals. Please make sure you have both smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in your house!

Household Energy Monitoring Kits

Kits are now available that contain everything needed to determine the operational cost of each appliance in your house. Just stop in and sign out a kit at either the Village of Churchville or the Newman Riga Library, and get on the road to reducing energy costs!

Mill Along the Creek

Congratulations to the Star of the West Mill for continuing what is now a two hundred year tradition of milling flour in the Village of Churchville.

Constructed in 1810 by Samuel Church, the original mill was once located along the banks of Black Creek just north of Buffalo Street. Its location was very important because the damned up water of the creek provided the energy necessary to turn the mill stones, while Buffalo Street provided the path of transportation to points east and west. As the 19th century arrived, the mill was relocated to South Main Street where the mighty engines of the New York Central Railroad moved its product all over the United States and it was here that electricity was first provided by gasoline generators. Throughout the years, the mill not only experienced many technologic changes, but also survived the wrath of Mother Nature and those created by mankind. The following are only brief accounts of the mill's survival over time along the banks of Black Creek.

Throughout its history, the pond created by the mill dam was noted for its recreational uses. People from all over the county enjoyed such activities as boating, fishing, swimming and ice skating. Then, there were the few times when tragedy struck and lives were lost, as in the following account dated December 30, 1830: "Drowned on the 26th, Samuel C. Gilman, merchant of the Village of Churchville. The circumstances were, that he in company with some others, went on to a millpond for the purpose of skating, but the ice being less permanent than was anticipated, the unfortunate man was precipitated into the water below. Every assistance that ingenuity could devise or humanity and solicitude could dictate, were immediately resorted to, but in vain; the vital spark had fled before the body could be found."

Throughout time, Churchville, like most communities, had its share of violent storms. In particular was the April 8th 1870, storm that created considerable damage in the village. The Rochester Union and Advertiser newspaper reported the following: "A dam in Black Creek destroyed - Friday night the flood of water in Black Creek swept away the large dam in that stream in the village of Churchville. The mill flumes adjoining were also destroyed and total damage is estimated at four or five thousand dollars. The structures were substantial ones and their "taking off" was general surprise. The mill property will have to lie idle until new dam can be constructed." During the 1800's, it was not unusual for the mill dam to experience occasional destruction. It will not be until the early 1900's, that concrete will replace the stone and wood construction making for a much more sturdy structure.

Fires in the 1800's were a destructive force that with very few exceptions, would consume everything in its path. The mill was no exception as reported in the conflagration of 1888. "A severe fire visited this place last Saturday night and burnt one of the oldest land marks in this vicinity. At about 10:40 the old grist mill on the west side of Black Creek was discovered to be on fire. An alarm was sounded and the fire department responded promptly, but owing to the inflammable material of the mill not much could be done to save that building and the firemen turned their attention to saving the miller's house, situated just west of the mill, and the mill sheds. At one time the east side of the house was all on fire but after a hard fight the house and sheds were saved, and by saving that house undoubtedly saved all the rest of the property on the north side of Main street up to the four corners. All that was removed from the mill was the safe which was taken out before the fire reached it. After the good work the fire department did last Saturday night we should think the people would appreciate the good of a fire department, and if the firemen ask for anything to make the fire service more complete, we hope there will be no more kicking about it, for if it had not been for the fire department and their apparatus, instead of having a \$10,000.00 we would undoubtedly have a \$23,000.00 or greater loss to report." Then, there is this interesting account in 1905 that destroyed the mill barns: "Among the most sensational cases that the present grand jury has considered is that of incendiary fires in Churchville, which have occurred with disagreeable frequency within the last seven months. A host of witnesses have been examined and four fires have been inquired into and in all probability the jury has already decided whether or no an indictment will be found against the suspected person.

(continued from page 4)

The talk of a home guard was occasioned, but nothing was done, and while the residents of Churchville were discussing the matter the Potter Mill barns burned and incidentally caused the Congregationalist Church sheds to catch fire. These were also destroyed.”

There were the occasional highway robbers who strolled quickly and somewhat quietly into the village. On Sunday, August 29, 1875, the Rochester Express telegraphed the following: “Sunday morning, about 2:00 o’clock, the grist mill of George Harmon, in Churchville, was burglarized, and the safe was blown open. The noise was heard by the police, who thinking it was a pistol shot, rushed towards the mill. The burglars, who were outside listening until after the report, succeeded in making their escape. Nothing was taken from the mill, although the safe was badly damaged.”

Lastly, located on the back pages of a local newspaper dated April 1, 1920, was an article which simply describes the mill’s final days as: “An old gristmill which has been in operation in Churchville for about a century is being torn down and a powerhouse for a box factory will be built on this site.” This marked the end of the mill along the creek.

To close, I would like to congratulate the Churchville Lion’s Club, whose members are celebrating their 60th year of dedicated service to the community. Thank-you, Lions!



The Willard Fountain- A Village Curiosity

Located at number 1 Village Park, on the front lawn of the Riga Newman Library, is a granite monument with a weathered bronze plaque attached to it. The inscription on the plaque reads as follows: “In Memoriam. Francis Willard. Born in Churchville, New York. September 28, 1839. Died February 17, 1898. An Advocate of Temperance who devoted her life to that cause. By their fruits Ye shall know them.” This monument was once a drinking fountain which was erected in 1919 as a gift to the village by the members of the Churchville Women’s Christian Temperance Union in honor of Frances Willard. The land on which this fountain resides on is still a village park, which was originally acquired in 1908. Then in 1952, the library building was constructed.

Both Articles Submitted by: Ron Belczak, Historian

Planning Board News

With the downturn in the economy, the Planning Board saw a slower pace in requests for development within the village in the recent past.

The members of the Planning Board have been busy however updating their training. Four hours of training per year is required by New York State law for members. These training sessions are offered locally, by New York State Planning Federation, the Conference of Mayors, Main Street Coalition and other groups. The broad range of topics presented and networking with other communities allows the Board stay proactive instead of reactive to development which may take place in Churchville. Zoning is not stagnant and the Village Board addresses changes to the zoning provisions of the Code with the best interests of its constituents in mind.

Everyone is welcome at the Planning Board meetings held the first Wednesday of each month in the Village Offices at 7 p.m. These meetings are also advertised in the Suburban News.

Submitted by: Roberta Ames, Planning Board Chair

Newman Riga Library News

Congratulations to all of the winners of the Summer Reading program, children and adults alike. **Get Booked Reading** proved to be a fun theme, and we thank the good sports who allowed themselves to be featured in “Wanted” posters in the library. Thanks to the local businesses, **Marilyn’s, Café** and **The Main Street Deli**, who contributed prizes to the many winners as well.

Fall is a busy time at the library for two reasons. First, it is a busy publishing season, and many long awaited books are being released. Look for your favorite authors as the weather cools down and the days shorten, providing more hours for your reading pleasure. The library is also busy due to our fall programming for children. Mark your calendars. We've been having a fun season. A seven week **American Girl Dollhouse** series at the Newman Riga Library is being presented by Teresa Wood. Children, seven and older, who love history, are invited every Thursday evening, through November 4th, to an American Girl evening, where a doll and dollhouse are on display. Participants are able to see the dollhouse each week representing the period being discussed, see the American Girl doll, and talk about what life was like at the time she lived in America. You are invited to bring along your American Girl if you have one, and be prepared to share. The programs run from 7:00 – 7:40 P.M. No registration is necessary.

- October 7: What do you know about Addy? (1864)**
- October 14: What do you know about Samantha? (1904)**
- October 21: What do you know about Rebecca? (1914)**
- October 28: What do you know about Kit? (1934)**
- November 4: What do you know about Molly? (1944)**

On October 22nd at 2:00 P.M., twelve lucky children, ages 3 – 8, will be invited to participate in a **Thomas the Train** Program. Songs and stories will accompany playtime with trains. Registration will be mandatory for this program and will begin on October 4th. Remember, space is limited. You may call 293-2009 to register.

Plan to attend our adult (and young adult) program on **Downloading Audiobooks** October 17th or November 16th. Classes begin at 7:00 P.M. and run 30 -40 minutes. (Sign up for just one date!) Call 293-2009 during regular business hours for any additional information.

Special thanks to Donald Specht and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Beaman for their recent contributions to our Local History collection. They have provided an **1880 Diary of Julia Howard** and a family **Genealogy of James Goff** respectively.

Happy Reading!

Submitted by: Donna Haire, Librarian

Building Inspector’s Report

Just a reminder that before you begin any type of construction, remodeling, improvement, removal relocation or demolition work on your property it is necessary that you obtain the correct building permit. If you plan on selling your property in the future, the banks will check to make sure you have all the proper building permits for all structures on your property. If you do not have the required building permits it will delay closing on your property and may cost you extra money to get the required permits. Please call the Village of Churchville to find out if you need a building permit before you begin any projects.

Village residents have been keeping busy this year! Building permits show that 9 new homes have been built, 11 fences and 7 decks have been installed, a few additions and sheds have also been constructed.

Building code updates will go into effect January 1, 2011. Most updates involve the energy code in single family homes. Look for more information in the next newsletter.

Submitted by Tom Perkins, Building Inspector

Power Outages

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.

Reminders

Waste Oil

The Department of Public Works burns waste oil to heat their shop. If you have any waste oil you are looking to dispose of you may drop it off at the DPW. Any questions call 293-3366

Winter Mailbox Damage

If your mailbox gets damaged during snow removal by the Village of Churchville it will be repaired or replaced by the Department of Public Works with a standard 4x4 post and the standard size metal mailbox regardless of what you have installed.

Winter Parking

It is illegal to park on any Village streets from 2:00 am to 6:00 am, November 1st to May 1st. Please note special winter parking regulations in the municipal parking lot on S. Main St. Any cars parked in these areas at said times may be ticketed.

Fall Leaf Pick-Up

Every Monday starting in mid-October the DPW will pick up leaf piles. There can be NO sticks or twigs in the leaf piles because they will damage the machine. Leaves will only be picked up if piled loosely in the right-of-way or in biodegradable bags.

Infrared Home Scanning

Contact the Village of Churchville for an Infrared Home Scanning. The DPW Crew will scan your home from the outside and prepare a report showing areas in your home that may be losing heat. This will be done in the winter months when conditions are best for the Infrared camera to capture potential heat loss.

Cemetery Decorations

All pots and urns must be removed from grave sites by October 15th each year. Christmas wreaths and such decorations may be placed at the gravesites but must be removed by March 15th of each year or they will be discarded.

Community Memorial Park Update

'Phase I' of the Community Memorial Park has been completed. This has been a joint memorial project by the Village of Churchville, Town of Riga and the Churchville Lions Club. Volunteers spent countless hours collecting rocks from fields that were used to construct the rock wall near the gazebo. You can now purchase bricks in honor or in memory of loved ones for \$35 through the Lions Club, at the Village Office or at www.churchville.net. The placement of these bricks to form a walkway along the wall will be an Eagle Scout project



by Tyler Swetman from our local Troop 133. Tyler is planning the project and will begin work on the walkway in the spring. The bricks that have been ordered so far are being engraved by a local company JBR GRAFX with Tim and Devon Jessop. Once again it is always a pleasure to have a project come together with so much assistance by members of our community. We work together to bring wonderful enhancements to our community.

Congratulations

Stephanie Brown

Chamber President Gary Johnson congratulates Stephanie Brown for receiving the Chamber's Youth Hall of Fame Award.



E-Z Passes

The Village Office has E-Z Pass On-the-Go tags for \$25. The tag is active immediately for the first \$10. The remaining \$15 will be added to your tag once registered.

Passport Books and Passport Cards

The Village Office is now accepting applications from 9a.m. to 3p.m. Monday– Friday.

Passport Books: \$100.00 Passport Cards: \$45.00 Photos: \$10.00

CFL Bulbs and Battery Recycling Program

The Village office will be accepting CFL light bulbs and batteries to be recycled. Ni-Cad, Alkaline, Carbon and Button Cell batteries will be accepted.

Appliance Advantage

Be sure to take advantage of the Village of Churchville's Appliance Advantage. The Village has partnered with the Independent Energy Efficiency Program (IEEP) to encourage residents to upgrade their appliances to Energy Star® labeled appliances. You will be eligible for a rebate if you purchase certain Energy Star® labeled appliances such as air conditioners, ceiling fans, washers, dryers and more! All you need to do is go to the Village office for a rebate form, fill that out and send it to the address on the form along with a copy of your receipt, copy of your most recent Village of Churchville electric bill and sufficient Energy Star® product documentation. Once processed you will then receive a rebate for the incentive amount listed on the rebate form.

The Village Office will be CLOSED on the following dates:

November 11th - Veteran's Day

November 25th & 26th - Thanksgiving

December 23rd & 24th - Christmas

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

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*
Dave George
Mark Majewski
Larry Mitchell
Larry Powell
Don Suter, *Trustee Liaison*
Mike Bohan, *Alternate*

Zoning Board

Lyle Warren, *Chair*
Chris Flaherty
Cindy Jessop
Lorraine Linder
Greg Wooster
John Hartman, *Trustee Liaison*
Mike Marseglia, *Alternate*
Marty Zess, *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