

May 2014 Issue

GROVELAND NEWSLETTER by, Supervisor
WILLIAM E. CARMAN aka "Bill"

Well it is about time for another update as I get more comfortable serving in my capacity as your Supervisor. Our State continues to make it challenging to provide the very basic services and at an already low town tax rate. I have researched other towns and how they operate their services with their budgets and find we are extremely frugal. We are working on budgets early this year and as the previous Supervisor did a tremendous job on holding the tax rate for many years by utilizing our surplus we are at the point of not having the surplus to tap into. We are hoping to figure a way to be creative and not jeopardize services or hurt the outstanding staff we have while maintaining the tax rate. Again the state has come out with New Tax Cap regulations in the last few weeks. As a tax payer I would be excited that I might get up to 3 bonus checks similar to the rebate checks we enjoyed a few years back, but it comes with many strings attached. Details of the tax cap under town board section.

I attended for the first time the Livingston County Teen Youth Recognition Banquet to present certificates to the nominated youth of our town. I am so proud to know we continue to have upstanding youth in our community. Congratulations to Hannah Gressinger, Conner Guldenschuh and Christopher Guldenschuh. Thank you to the nominators who noticed these great kids!

This years Memorial Veteran Service was in honor of Wilbur McKelvey who passed away in March 2013. It was an honor on my part to speak on his behalf.

I recently sat and talked with Mary Spencer who turned 100 years old on May 19th. The lady is amazing. She could remember more of her family than I could of mine at my age. In case many of you don't know Mary, she is the oldest living Adamson of her generation. She

enjoyed her party and all the gifts. I truly think she has another 10 years in her!

It looks like Time Warner is being bought out by Comcast who is a large utility company. This transition will not be effective until sometime in 2015. The town is looking at some of the benefits to its users while we negotiate the Franchise contract.

Town Board: The new name for the Tax Cap this year is Property Tax Freeze. The freeze is for property taxes on the primary residences enrolled in STAR to homeowners with income at or less than \$500,000 in local governments and school districts that stay within property tax cap. It is effective for school districts starting with 2014-15 school year and for all other municipals beginning in 2015. To receive the tax credit in the second year, school districts and local governments must stay within tax cap and develop plans for sharing or consolidating services that will achieve savings for taxpayers. (Groveland has achieved this portion by shared services in Assessor and Code Enforcement)

Timing of Freeze credits if all the above are met are: Fall 2014 (school only), Fall 2015 (all taxing purposes), Fall 2016 (all taxing purposes but school)

Town Clerk: The town has decided that the community picnic was the most popular event and plan to hold it again. We have opted to do a community picnic collaboration with the Fire Department 75th anniversary celebration. The date is set for Sunday August 3rd with times to be announced, so save the date! Games and fun for all for free, we will be selling tickets for the meal which will be advance sales tickets only for the first 275 people. Tickets available for purchase at the Town Hall & Fire Department each \$7.00 per person. If you would like to sponsor any part of the event, please call our office for details!

NYSDEC has crossbow legislation to be open in our area sometime in August but does need one more approval. If approved the laws indicate you can only use a cross bow if you

have a completed a hunter safety course on or after April 1st, 2014.

There is no new update on rifle regulations for our county as of yet.

Our office continues to monitor and implement the ongoing updates to the new software. A reminder to hunters come open DMP season, it will be a much longer process.

Town Hall: The grants have fallen short in its three attempts to secure funds for the removal of the paneling and replace with drywall. We chose plan B which has improved by putting fresh paint over the brown paneling. It really has brightened the place up with very little cost. Nice job to Marc Moreland.

Town Court: Did you know that Groveland Court is one of the busiest courts in NYS with 1400+ courts; town of Groveland is ranked in the top 300 based on revenues. I know you ask how and what criminals we have in our beautiful small town (besides the 2 correctional facilities) well the answer is we still have very little criminal cases (thank goodness) but with 2 exits going through our township, the court sees its share of the speeding tickets.

Historian: - Phyllis has been working on a joint venture with the Livingston Co. Historical Society. They have an annual croquet tournament and have expanded to the individual towns. In Groveland anyone who would like to try out this sport can June 10th @ 7p.m. at the Fireman's Field at the corner of Groveland Hill Road and Scottsburg Road. Croquet equipment and direction provided at no charge. A list of the entire schedule can be found @ www.livingstoncountyhistoricalsociety.com

Assessor: The Assessor finished her unpopular job of reassessing all of us. She has been easy to work with and she knows her stuff. Thank you Tammy for putting up with all of us and teaching us how the program works. She will be running a comparison for agricultural exemption on the Fire District to see what the cost shift would be once the Final Assessment Roll is complete.

Ambuscade Park: Also known as Boyd & Parker Park on the NYS Historic Registry List. Schedule for Park grant for a New Pavilion: So we have gotten through the process of picking a design team and have started with some design ideas and having them kicked back at us. What we would like there and what the NYS Preservation Department will allow have been not exactly what we had hoped for. The structure has to be similar looking to the one we are taking down. So no 3 season enclosed building. Stay tune for demolition and maybe construction in July!

We apologize but the Park will not be useable the remainder of the year during construction.

- Design development – May 2014
- Construction/contract documents completed – July 2014
- Bids received – August 2014
- Contract awarded – September/October 2014
- Construction begins – October/November 2014
- Construction completed – May 2015

* Please note that these dates represent targets rather than deadlines.

Lake View Cemetery: We have gotten approval to utilize secured funds to develop the burial area. We will look into companies that can survey and lay out maps for future purchase of burial plots. Current price for each plot is \$500. Our Highway Superintendent, Greg oversees the sales and burials at Lake View Cemetery but if anyone is interested in purchasing a plot, contact Snyder Services @ 335-9820. They provide a wonderful service to the town and are very knowledgeable of the available plots.

Groveland Fire Department:



75th Anniversary

Hope you get this in time to enjoy a chicken BBQ and a preview of Guldenschuh Auctioneer by Conner Guldenschuh who is auctioning items donated and proceeds to

benefit the community picnic & 75th Anniversary celebration.

The Fire Department is interested in donations to be utilized for the fireman's field located at the corner of Groveland Hill Road and Scottsburg Road – It is a great playing area for the kids but is in need of improvements. Wish list is as follows: See Terri!

Groveland Highway Department: Hello from Highway Superintendent, Greg Adamson. He writes: As I am excited winter is over, I now am switching my complaint to the rain. We certainly had our share of damage from the early May rains. FEMA has been in to assess and would take several months to hear the cost of damage. A list of some damaged areas: Mill Gully, Logan Road and the seasonal portion of Barber Hill Road had extensive ditch washout; seasonal portion of David Gray Hill Road with major culvert pipe damage and washout conditions that may benefit at looking on abandoning this seasonal portion road due to excessive damage. There were many other collapsed culvert pipes throughout the town; the highway crew is quickly repairing what they can.

Conesus Lake: Get all the updated Lake information by viewing the Conesus Lake Association - Laker News @ www.conesuslake.org

Points of Interest & County Level:

- The construction on Lakeville Groveland Road and East Groveland Road has been improving the culverts and run drainage tile as this may continue for a few more weeks with wedging and shouldering but no resurfacing until 2015. The construction speed zone restrictions have been well enforced so watch your speed even if no workers they can ticket you.
- There will be no Federal Primary in June; the next possible Election is September 9, for State & Local Primary.

- The Livingston County Health Department each year holds free rabies clinics throughout the county. On June 12th, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. one will be at our town barns. The clinic services rabies for dogs, cats and ferrets.
- No new information on the Water project to the Correctional Facility
- Thank you to each department for providing updates for this newsletter.
- Any time you need town information check out our town website on a regular basis by logging onto www.grovelandny.org

Until the next time, be well, be safe and enjoy the sunshine with friends and family!

Sincerely,

Bill