

October 2011



GROVELAND NEWSLETTER,  
JIM MERRICK, SUPERVISOR  
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I hope you all had a safe, wonderful and enjoyable summer. It is that time of year again to bring you up to date on our town and county news.

**Town:** 2012 Budget has not passed yet but it is proposed to stay within the 2% tax cap. The rate per thousand will remain without an increase. No increases were given except to the approved Union Highway Contract of 3%. You will find at the end of this newsletter a copy of the proposed 2012 budget.

We are always looking for residents who are willing to serve on the various boards, contact our Town Clerk's office for open positions.

**Town Clerk:** Sandy Bean is a recent recipient of the Registered Municipal Clerk (RMC) which is given to those Town Clerks' who demonstrate continuing education relevant to professional and personal improvement that will enhance their ability to serve their constituents. Good job Sandy! Congratulations to Kim Burgess for passing her Notary test; this allows for a Notary to be available at the Town Clerk's office during all regular office hours.

A successful kick-off meeting was in August for the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration that is scheduled in 2013. Our community really knows how to pull together and came up with the great

idea to create a historical recipe cookbook; look for an update in the spring asking for family favorite recipes. Our goal is to have them published and available to purchase by October 2012 for Christmas gift ideas.

**Town Hall/Court:** If you stop by the town hall you will notice our court was awarded a \$16,000 grant to improve seating and office security for payments. The benches are beautiful handcrafted hardwood and made locally. We have submitted for another grant to help with lighting and acoustics; so maybe more improvements while grants are available. A big thanks to Elsje van Munster for her 16 years of service as Town Justice; we wish her and her husband Gene happiness in their new Conesus home.

**Ambuscade Park:** We have submitted another grant application recently since we were not awarded it last year. The grant is for a log cabin with running water and electric to be installed. It takes a year for notification on the Park grants. So again we will be crossing our fingers. In 2013 will mark Groveland's 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – still hoping that this can be the location for our community to celebrate at if awarded.

**Lake View Cemetery:** Our Highway Superintendent, Greg oversees the sales and burials at Lake View Cemetery but if anyone is interested in purchasing a plot you should contact Snyder Services @ 335-9820. They provide a wonderful service to the town and are very knowledgeable of the available plots.

With rainy weather it is difficult to keep up with the trimming & mowing. This year Greg has found a person (Marc) who genuinely takes pride in his work; you should notice the difference this

year. Thank you Marc Moreland for a job well done this year!

**Groveland Fire Department:** In case you see the Fire Department SUV parked in a different spot, Steve Teeter has taken over as Fire Chief. Don't forget it is that time again for the delicious breakfasts. The breakfasts are held the second Sunday of each month through March; you won't go home hungry after one of their breakfasts. The Town & Fire Department has renewed the contract for services for 3 years with a 2% increase.

**Groveland Highway Department:** Greg reported that they assisted the County Highway Department on Stagecoach Road in Conesus and Maple Beach Road. This work brings money back into our budget to offset our road improvements. Base stabilization projects have been completed on Abele Road and a section of Rosebrugh Road and a section of Barber Hill Road which involved grinding and adding stone, calcium chloride and a new stone and oil surface. In addition, they have sealed Barber Hill Road from Maple Beach Road to Hunt Hill Road and Bath Road from Groveland Hill Road to Bean Hill Road. Finished adding gravel to Pioneer Road which was funded by Multi-Model money received in 2008. Currently replacing culverts and ditching in several areas of the town. A big thank you to Willie Wilson and his 32 years of service working for the town highway; he retired April 28<sup>th</sup>. Welcome to Jeff Curry who was hired in place of Willie who started August 15<sup>th</sup>; he brings a great deal of experience to the crew with his former job with the State DOT.

**Conesus Lake:** Thank you to Don Wetzel for the great job you have done as Conesus Lake Watershed Manager. We welcome newcomer Miranda Reid as the new Watershed Manager. The Compact of Towns is still active and meeting as needed. Mrs. Higgins has been doing a fine job serving as Water Shed Inspector.

Get all the updated Lake information by viewing the Conesus Lake Association - Laker News @ [www.conesuslake.org](http://www.conesuslake.org)

**Points of Interest:**

- We are seeking your help to fill vacancies on the ZBA & Planning Boards. If you are interested, please contact the Town Clerk for more details.
- A big thanks to all of our Town of Groveland employees for a great job again this Year! Our Department Heads and employees did their part in spending less in these difficult times.
- Another big thank you to Phyllis Meyer for planting flowers under the Ambuscade sign at Rosebrugh Road.
- Our Highway Superintendent, Greg continues to monitor surplus equipment and supplies to meet our needs.
- I have reduced the number of newsletters to one a year to keep costs down especially with the town website that allows our residents to stay informed. Town Clerk, Sandra Bean is the Administrator to keep costs down to the website with posting Minutes and information on a regular basis. Feel free to call if you have any questions or comments on how to improve it.

Take a look at it by logging on to [www.grovelandny.org](http://www.grovelandny.org)

- If you are someone who reads this newsletter and are not on the mailing list, and would like to be. Please call the Town Clerk @ 243-1750.

Have a happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas Holiday season. I look forward to serving you in 2012.

*Jim*

**County Level:** We have directed all county departments to minimize spending. We are still very flustered by the New York Stated unfunded mandates. I cannot give you the exact rate per thousand at this time, but there is a snap shot what we are working towards.

- Budget numbers remain below last year
- cost shifts continue – Probation, Public defense and Social Services
- Pensions(NYSRS) increases – 1.2 million
- Loss of State revenues \$1,297,393
- No action on our Home rule
- Dept. of Social Services - \$400,000
- Health insurance increase – 4.7%

Our Livingston County tax cap is not 2%. The formula is previous year plus pilot programs times' growth factor times 1.02, which equals a 3.4% maximum tax levy. Our target for the rate per thousand is \$7.87.

In closing: As in the past, I want to thank you for your support, patience and trust. Our town is in solid financial shape. As chairman of the Board of Supervisors for the past 13 year, I can say Livingston County is also in great financial shape. We are moving ahead with our projects and commitments that will benefit all our residents locally and county wide.