

TOWN OF RIGA

NEWSLETTER

Riga Town Board Members

BRAD O'BROCTA, SUPERVISOR, JAMES FODGE, DEPUTY SUPERVISOR,
DAVID GEORGE, COUNCIL MEMBER, CINDY JESSOP, COUNCIL MEMBER
DEBORAH CAMPANELLA, COUNCIL MEMBER (EDITOR)

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Supervisor's Report

Greetings to everyone as winter approaches and the year comes to an end. Time certainly does fly by. It has been another busy and successful year here at the Town with many projects being taken on. My thanks go out to everyone here at the Town Office and Highway Department for their hard work in moving our community forward.

The 2019 Town Budget was adopted at our November 14th Town Board meeting. The Town of Riga will again have a 0% tax rate for 2019.

As has been the case for many years now, the Town Board spent a great deal of time, meeting with each department to justify their budget requests. Each budget year poses unique challenges and monetary demands that we as a Board must weigh carefully. This involves not only examining the short term financial implications of the proposed budget, but also how our spending plan will affect budgets in the future. I am thankful for the hard work and forward thinking put forth by everyone involved in the budget process.

Below are some of the highlights from the 2019 Budget:

The budget for health care costs is projected to increase by 10%. Over the

years, we have implemented changes to the health insurance benefit to control costs by changing providers, plans, and adjusting benefit levels. We continue to work with our benefits manager to look for ways to slow the ever-increasing cost of providing health care for our employees.

The contribution for NYS Retirement is projected to increase by 3.29% this year.

Salary increases for 2019 will be 2% for Town employees.

The Newman Riga Library will receive a small increase in funding for 2019 due to the rising costs associated with their independent operation.

Riga Cemetery will receive a small increase from the town to help them with their operations.

The Highway Budget for capital improvements and road repair was increased by 13%. Major road repair for Stearns Road accounts for the bulk of this increase.

The Budget includes replacement of the front-end loader, bobcat, 10-wheel dump truck, and a trailer.



Dec/Jan/Feb
Riga
Winter 2018 Issue

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TOWN AND COUNTY TAX COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

I will be mailing the 2019 Town & County tax bills by January 1st, and will be collecting from the beginning of January to the end of May.

Full Payment instructions:

Jan. 1–Feb. 10: Pay the total amount of tax bill to Kimberly Pape, Tax Collector

Feb. 11–May 31: Pay the total tax amount plus interest to Kimberly Pape, Tax Collector

Interest Schedule

February 11-28	1.5 %
March 1-31	3 %
April 1-30	4.5 %
May 1-31	6 %

New Installment Payment Instructions:

The first installment **must** be paid by February 10th. If first installment is not paid by February 10, total bill plus interest is due.

Jan.1–Feb 10: Pay 1st installment to Kimberly Pape, Tax Collector. Any payment on or before February 10 is interest free.

Feb.11–Feb. 29: 2nd installment due with 1 ½% interest to Kimberly Pape, Tax Collector.

Mar. 1–Mar. 31: 3rd installment due with 3% interest. If 2nd

installment was not paid by Feb. 28, both the 2nd and 3rd installments are due with 3% interest. Payment is made to Kimberly Pape, Tax Collector.

Apr. 1–Apr. 30: 4th installment due with 4.5% interest. If prior installments are not paid by respective due dates, all installments shall be paid as one unit with 4.5% interest.

Submitted by:
**Kimberly Pape, Town Clerk/
Tax Collector**

Office hours are 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Wednesday 9:00 to 5:00 pm.

Supervisor's Article Continues

Our town-wide Operating Budget increased by 11%. The purchase of the new dump truck is the largest cost with an estimate of \$250,000. \$60,000 was set aside for a storage building near the highway garage so the valuable equipment we have can be stored safely and securely inside. This will certainly increase the life of those pieces that were previously left outdoors. We have also budgeted funds to continue the Community Center Feasibility Study in 2019. Funding was appropriated for youth athletic equipment that was sorely needed. Additionally, we budgeted to purchase equipment to maintain some of the athletic

fields that we have recently added and improved.

Outsourcing of dog control and the use of private contractors for mowing and cleaning services continue to provide savings to the Town.

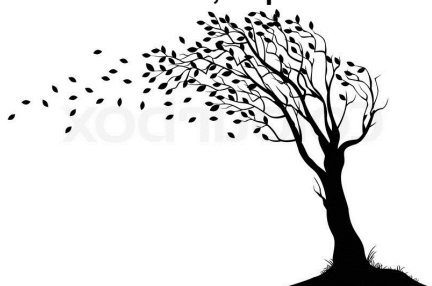
Our aggressive replacement policy on some of the heavy pieces of equipment used in highway maintenance also results in significant savings.

For the Town, outside the Village, 2019 revenues are expected to exceed expenditures, therefore no taxes will be placed on either the Town-wide budget or the Town outside the Village Budget for

We here at the Town of Riga would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday and Happy New Year!

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any other Town Board member.

Submitted by:
Brad O'Brocta, Supervisor



Fire Safety During Winter Storms

Winter storms can happen almost anywhere and can be problematic.

Know what to do before, during and after a storm. This will help keep you and your family safe from a winter fire.

Test all smoke alarms. Do this at least once a month. This way you will know they are working. Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home. Test the alarms.

Plan two ways out of the home in case of an emergency.

Clear driveway and front walk of ice and snow. This will provide easy access to your home.

Make sure your house number can be seen from the street. If you need help, firefight-

ers will be able to find you.

Be ready in case the power goes out. Have flashlights on hand.

Also have battery-powered lighting and fresh batteries. Never use candles.

Stay aware of winter weather. Listen to the television or radio for updates. Watch for bulletins online.

Check on neighbors. Check on others who may need help.

Generators should be used outdoors. Keep them away from windows and doors. Do not run a generator inside your garage, even if the door is open.

Stay away from downed wires. Report any downed wires to authorities.

Be ready if the heat stops working. Use extra layers of clothes and blankets to stay warm. If you use an emergency heat source, keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away.

Turn portable heaters off when you leave the room.

Turn them off when you go to bed.

Please remember to adopt a fire hydrant and keep the snow clear around it this winter. This service will help our firefighters during these precious moments when they arrive on the scene.

Submitted by:

**Building Inspectors
Bob Panik and Ken Kuter**



Riga Cemetery

It's hard to believe that summer 2018 is past and soon snowflakes will be falling. It's time to tidy up the cemetery grounds and get ready for winter. If you have not already removed the summer decorations/flowers from your loved ones' site, now is the time to take care of it. We welcome Christmas wreaths at this time. Keep in mind that the Christmas decorations should be removed before April 1st, so that we can be ready for spring. Thanks to the efforts of Sue Kuter, our tree project for 2018 has been completed. Also, we thank Dave Smith, Ken Kuter and Kevin Bruton Jr. (Town of Riga), who were responsible for the plantings. I noticed that we had a couple of pumpkins on the berm again this year. I think our youngest helper, Amy Kuter, is responsible for the thoughtful addition.

As always, we welcome any volunteers, people who would like to serve on the board of directors and/or who would like to help with the actual work on the cemetery grounds.

Please contact President John Loser at 585-538-2951.

We want to thank the American Legion for placing new flags on our veterans graves and a new flag for the flagpole in the veterans section. If a member of your family is a veteran and did not have a flag in place this year, please advise Commander Gil Budd so that the oversight can be corrected for next year. At this time, we would like to express our sympathy to those who lost family members this year. We strive to maintain the cemetery in pristine condition to honor our deceased family members and friends.

We would like to advise: SNOWMOBILES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE CEMETERY. If you need to pass the cemetery with your snowmobile, please keep as close to the road as possible to avoid damage to the grounds and headstones. Donations are gratefully accepted and can be sent directly to the Riga Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 527, Churchville, NY 14428. Please keep us in mind in your estate planning. The Officers & Board Members wish you and your family a Blessed Christmas Season and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

**Submitted by:
John Loser,
Riga Cemetery**



Taxable Status Date—March 1st

It's that time of year again! **ALL EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS** must be filed with me by Taxable Status Date, MARCH 1, 2019.

Enhanced STAR **renewal** applications were sent out in July and were requested to be returned to the Assessor's office by September 21. This was due to a change in NYS legislation that removes the exemption from the Assessor's office starting in 2019 and into the hands of the New York State Tax Department. You are now required to enroll in the Income Verification Program (IVP) to receive your Enhanced STAR exemption. You only need to enroll in the IVP once. If eligible for the Enhanced STAR exemption, you'll automatically receive the exemption each year thereafter.

For new Enhanced STAR applicants, you will need to apply with the Assessor in the first year of the exemption to verify your eligibility, and then you'll be enrolled into the IVP.

To be eligible for this increased exemption from school taxes, you must be a resident homeowner **who will be at least 65 in 2019** (born by December 31, 1954), and whose **income is no more than \$86,300 on your 2017 tax** return that was filed last April. If you are currently receiving Basic STAR and meet these criteria, you should contact me to see if you may be eligible for this increased exemption from school taxes.

Low Income Senior Citizen exemption renewals will be mailed in November. You must be 65 before the end of 2019 and meet the income requirement, which includes Social Security, including Medicare. The State, County, Town, and Village have set the maximum income to \$37,399.99 to be eligible for any percent of this exemption. The school district maximum is different in each of the three districts in Riga.

Basic STAR has maximum income requirement of \$500,000

and does not have to be renewed. New Basic and Enhanced STAR applicants who qualify for STAR will need to register with the New York State Tax Department www.tax.ny.gov or call (518) 457-2036 instead of applying with the assessor. If you qualify, you will receive a STAR credit in the form of a check, rather than receiving a property tax exemption. The dollar value of the credit will be the same as the property tax exemption would have been.

Agricultural, Clergy, Non-Profit, and Disabled with Limited Income will be sent out at the end of the year.

If you have questions, and I can be of assistance, please give me a call at the town hall at 293-3880 ext. 126.

Submitted by:
Lori Frongetta,
Assessor



RIGA HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS



As we look forward to the Holidays and the start of another

new year, winter season is now in full swing. In the last many weeks your highway department has been installing 5 miles of snow fence in problematic drifting areas, readied plowing-salting equipment for the winter ahead, and is vigilant around the clock looking at weather forecasts and various weather radar to be ready for the next weather event. The advent of weather radar has become a great and useful tool to

understand when and where snow is or will be falling. Around the clock shifts will begin as soon as forecasts dictate. As weather permits, we will be removing hazardous, dead and declining trees, and trimming of branches hanging over town roads. If you notice a condition that needs attention in the Town please call the Highway Department office at 293-2530.



RIGA HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS (CONTINUES)

Winter Readiness- As we continually maintain Town equipment throughout the seasons, please remember we also need to be diligent with our personal vehicles. Check the tread on your tires, tire pressure, antifreeze, wipers, belts and hoses, and lights on your vehicles. We all know variable conditions are likely in this region. Good tread depth is required for starting as well as stopping. All season tires are sold as adequate for winter, but good aggressive winter snow tires are always going to be highly superior in traction for starting, stopping and holding the road. Proper foot-wear with good tread is also a good idea as icy spots can be encountered on walkways, driveways and many parking areas. **In every case whether walking or driving, please slow down.**



Please be aware that with snow removal there are real people out there performing a real service, often under unrelenting conditions, during all hours of the day and night, including being away from families on holidays. Snow plowing/salting can be long,

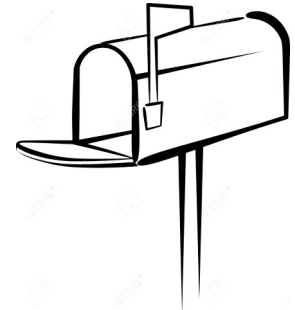
As we tiring, and is often thankless work. Complaints and frustration can be common when snow is frequent. Please remember to keep your headlights on, even when it is snowing lightly, and even after sunrise. Your vehicle is much more visible to other drivers and plow operators. While our goal is to make sure no one is inconvenienced during weather events, it's simply not always possible. Our staff will continue to work diligently to make our roads as safe as possible.

Your Highway Department maintains 150 lane miles of road in the winter. Highest attention is given to highly traveled state highways, secondly is county roads, lastly our town roads. For each of our 5 plow routes, drivers and trucks need at least 3 hours to complete an assigned route of 35 to 40 miles with an average 2 to 4-inch snow. When heavy snow

is falling, and wind is blowing, plow route completion times will be extended as travel is slower. Visibility is impaired and multiple passes are needed to clear intersections. One of our frustrations is when snow begins falling after 4 or 5 AM, when normal call in time for a snow event is

3 AM. It is impossible to cover the whole town for work and school traffic by 7 or 8 AM when routes are begun at 5 to 6AM. Our goal is to provide safe passable roads, but timing and variables of temperature, wind, rate of precipitation, and lake

effect. often make each snow or ice event unique.



Mail Boxes: Please check your mail box to make sure post and fasteners are in good condition. As our plow width is 14' we request the front door of your mailbox be no closer than 15' from the center of the road. Heavy snow thrown from wing plows will damage dilapidated mailboxes. We are not responsible for repair of mailboxes already in poor condition or in the right of way of the highway. We will repair to functional condition or replace with a standard size mailbox if yours is damaged beyond repair by our snow plowing equipment.

Concerns or questions can be emailed to:

highwaysupt@townofriga.org

Office: 585-293-2530

Cell: 585-733-3808

Submitted by:

**David Smith,
Highway
Superintendent**



Happy Holidays

Just Passing Thru



When the railroads first passed thru the Town of Riga in 1837, its citizens were in awe of the new technology and were certain that this advancement would be a boom to their local economy. For the most part they were correct. The railroads did create many local jobs, it also created a hub for products to be distributed locally and across the country, and the necessity to establish such businesses as hotels, livery stables and merchandising stores. But with every new technology, there is often the "bad" side of the business. For the Town of Riga and the railroads it was the tramp, also known as the hobo or knights of the road who the dictionary defines as individuals that travel from place to place on foot in search of work or as a vagrant or beggar.

In researching this subject, it became obvious that the tramp was a burden to the community. In February of 1896, a local newspaper article reported that "Churchville has been infested with tramps of late and the good citizens of that burg are roused to do something to get rid of them, but don't know just what to do. Set them at work; there is no punishment equal to that for a tramp." In another article, the Churchville tramp was observed as follows: "Constable Dan Stevens, of Churchville, arrived at the police station last night with

what he calls a Churchville tramp. The main difference between Churchville and ordinary tramps, judging by this one, seems to be that they are dirtier and raggeder. John Thompson, this tramp, will probably be put to soak in the penitentiary bath-tub this afternoon."

Insight into the life of a Churchville tramp was detailed in the following newspaper article: "Several tramps have been loitering around the vicinity of Churchville for nearly a week. It is not accurately known where they are spending their nights, but they appear daily on the streets, and as new arrivals, en route to some distant town, to obtain work, and in the meantime, anxious only to find food. They have even appeared in some instances at the same houses the second time, but whenever recognized, have boldly denied ever having seen the town before. Complaints have been entered by some of the citizens against them, and the matter will probably be investigated by the authorities. The tramp nuisance has assumed such proportions at Churchville, as shown by the recent report of the overseer of the poor, and the large number of able-bodied loafers that apply to the residents for food, that public interest has been awakened, and an effort will be made to mitigate the nuisance and lessen the expense.

What course shall be adopted has not yet been determined, for it is claimed that if these vagrants are arrested and brought before a justice the cost of the legal process would be very much greater than that of the present

system, viz: Giving them lodging for a single night, and one meal, with a request to move on. The latter, however, is no remedy for the evil, and encourages this class in making the village their destination."

By 1899, officials at the County level sought action against the tramps as reported in the following D&C newspaper article. "Tramp, tramp, tramp, the tramps are marching and because a theory which Superintendent of the Poor, Clarence V. Lodge, has worked out with surprising success, these transient pests of every housewife are marching right past Monroe County. Superintendent Lodge's scheme has been a simple one, but with the co-operation of all the overseers of the poor in the county, he has caused the tramp nuisance to become a thing of the past.

Last April Superintendent Lodge called together all the overseers of the poor in the county and formed an organization known as the Monroe County Association of Overseers of the Poor. Its chief object was to have all its members work in harmony to end the entire tramp nuisance which was then assuming alarming proportions, might be abated, if not entirely done away with. One of the first things done was to have printed in black type a number of posters warning all tramps that they would be arrested if caught within the county.

A resolution was passed by the association whereby every overseer was to strictly enforce the state tramp act, which



Just Passing Thru (continues)

provided that all able-bodied men applying for aid should be arrested as vagrants and committed to the nearest penitentiary, the expenses to be charged to the state. This has been carried out to the letter, and this action, together with others, has provided marvelous results.



The results of Superintendent Lodge's plan have been illustrated best, perhaps by the Town of Riga, containing the Village of Churchville, where the Central-Hudson and West Shore roads come together, and where all freight trains of both roads stop for water. This place, in the past, has been a notorious rendezvous for tramps. The overseer of Churchville, through sickness and other reasons, had not attended the meetings of the association until January, so that from

September 23d to January 4th he kept 400 tramps. In January he strictly enforced, the law, and had but twenty-one to care for. In February not, a tramp appeared in the village."

During this period, many individuals assumed that the tramp problem was due to a lack of employment. But in the late 1890's, Joseph Flynt, a sociologist, was one of the first to introduce the public to the social world of the tramp by publishing his secret life as a knight of the road in many magazines. In 1899, Joseph published a book called "Tramping with the Tramps, of which the village of Churchville was briefly mentioned, and proposed that the tramp was not a product of fluctuations in the labor market but due rather to insufficient law enforcement and alcohol consumption.

But, through all the good efforts, the problem continued. The 1906, Riga Town records reveal that it was costing the town between \$150.00 to \$175.00 per month to provide housing, clothing and food for the homeless.

In 1908, the Batavia Times newspaper revealed the attitude of the Town of Riga officials

regarding the tramp problem. "With the advent of spring the ever-present hobo is making himself obnoxious by riding into the village on freight trains and begging upon the streets. Officer Kates has installed a telephone at his residence recently and will relieve any part of the village of the tramp nuisance if notified.

Several traveling strangers have applied for lodging and meals of late but as it is the policy of Riga officials to discourage vagrancy and keep the army of tramps passing through the village rather than to detain and entertain them these applicants for hospitality, are turned over to Officer Kates, who locks them up for the night, feeds them and if worthy sends them on their way, but woe to the undeserving misguided hobo who attempts to take advantage of his temporary legal guardianship, for he had far better have passed on his way."

To be
MAYHAM
ALONG
THE
TRACKS.

continued.....



Submitted by:
Ron Belczak
Historian

Churchville Lions Club Medical Loan Closet



The Churchville Lions Club has a wide variety of medical equipment for loan including canes, crutches, wheelchairs, hospital beds, etc. If you or someone you know, is in need of medical equipment for loan, please contact us to make arrangements at (585) 749-6598 or medicalloan@churchvillelions.org.



Newman Riga Library

If you are doing any holiday shopping this year using Amazon, please consider using Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com) and selecting the Newman Riga Library as your charitable organization. Amazon will donate a portion of the total purchase price to our library! Please call the library if you have any questions.



Holiday Craft Making - Saturday, December 8th - 10-2pm

Join us and make a placemat for your holiday table or a card for someone special. We will have all sorts of craft materials available for children to use. No registration required.

Special Guest at December Storytime - Tuesday, December 11th

Musician Steve Valvano is coming to our Preschool Storytime **Tuesday, December 11 at 10:30am**. Join us for a fun morning program of songs and a story or two! Suitable for children up to age 5. No registration required.

Makerspace Returns

Our Makerspace Lab returns to the Newman Riga Library! Come experiment with robots and coding. Fun for all ages!

No registration required.

Session Dates:**

December 27th 2-4 pm and 6-8pm

December 28th 2-4 pm

** Other dates and times may be added – please check our website.



Peter Pan Storytime - Tuesday, January 8th - 7pm

We welcome Peter Pan, star of the Roberts Wesleyan College Community Theatre production, on **Tuesday, January 8 at 7 pm**. Peter will read some stories and maybe we'll hear a song or two. Suitable for all ages. No registration required.

Adult Coloring Therapy Program with Brenda - Tuesday, January 15th - 7-8pm

Take time out from your daily stressors and reduce your anxiety at our Adult Coloring Therapy Program. Bring your own project/supplies if you want or we have supplies available here for beginners.

No registration required.

Pajama Party at the Library - Tuesday, February 19th at 7pm

Put on your jammies, choose a favorite doll or stuffed animal and join us! Teresa Wood will bring some of her American Girl Dolls

for a program about bedtime through the ages. Free and open to all! This program is suitable for ages 5 and up.

No registration required.

Preschool Storytime Winter/Spring Session

Children ages 3 – 5 yrs. are invited to join Mrs. Sarah for Tuesday Morning Preschool Storytime! The Winter/Spring Session will start on **Tuesday, January 29th at 10:30 am** and will run approximately 10 weeks. There will be stories, songs, rhymes and fingerplays! No registration is necessary.

Session Dates:

January 29

February 5, 12, 26 (no 2/19)

March 5, 12, 19, 26

April 2, 9



Library Hours

M-W-F: 11am – 5pm

T-TH: 11am – 9pm

SA: 10am – 2 pm (Closed during summer months)

SU: Closed

Check our website for additional programming and updates: www.newmanrigalibrary.org

Submitted by:
Lynn M. Brown,
Librarian

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

United Congregational United Church of Christ

14 N. Main St, Churchville

DECEMBER

Sunday, December 23

Please join us for our Sunday worship service at 10:00 am. A short skit – "Twas the Night Before Christmas" -- will be performed by youth and adults; and a special anthem – "What Did the Star See" will also be sung by youth and adults. The handbell choir will also accompany the congregational singing. After the worship service, a light lunch will be provided for all.

On Christmas Eve, Monday the 24th, a Candlelight Service will be held at 11:00 pm. The Choir will offer special Christmas anthems.

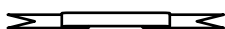
Everyone is welcome to each of these services. Let us include the reason for the season – the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ -- in our holiday celebrations.

JANUARY

Saturday, January 19
Community Pancake Breakfast 8 – 9:30 am (and every 3rd Saturday of each month)

FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 16
Community Pancake Breakfast 8 – 9:30 am (and every 3rd Saturday of each month)



St. Vincent de Paul Church

11 North Main Street

585-294-3085

St. Martin de Porres Parish

Christmas Mass Schedule 2018:

Christmas Eve – Monday, Dec 24

4:00 pm at St. Columba (Christmas music at 3:30)

4:00 pm at St. Mary -(Children's concert at 3:30)

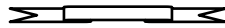
10:00 pm at St. Mary -(Choir concert at 9:30)

10:00 pm at St. Vincent -(Choir concert at 9:00)

Christmas Day – Tuesday, Dec 25

10:00 am at St. Columba

10:00 am at St. Vincent



Churchville United Methodist Church

24 West Buffalo Street

585-293-3282

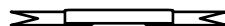
Pastor Meg Morin: 585-391-3527, or 585-953-7521, pastormegmorin@gmail.com

Church Office Hours: Tuesdays from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm (or by appointment at another time).

Our Sunday worship time is 9:30 a.m. Join us for an inspiring, thought provoking message! All are welcome.

December 8th: Children's Christmas Gift Shop: FREE event for children ages 4-16 years old. Items will be available at no cost for the children to take as gifts to their family members. Snacks, a Christmas craft, and give-aways will be available. Drop in anytime between 11:00 am- 2:00 pm. For more information call 585-293-3282.

December 24 at 6:00 p.m. - Join us for Christmas Eve Candle Light Service



First Congregational Church of Riga, UCC

7057 Chili Riga Center Road

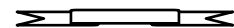
It is difficult to believe how quickly the days have passed from late Summer to Fall. In that time, Riga Church has hosted two dinners, a rummage sale and a craft show. At this time of giving thanks, the Congregation of Riga Church would like to thank you for your support and presence at these events.

This year, the Celebration of Advent begins on Sunday December 2, 2018. You are invited to join us for worship each Sunday morning during the season, as we explore the meaning of Jesus' birth. The sermon series is entitled, "The Messengers", and focuses on the presence of angels as the world prepared for the birth of the Christ child. The series will conclude on Christmas Eve, during our candlelight worship service, at 6:30pm.

Don't Forget! If you are a crafter, and are looking for supplies and community, stop in and visit Crafting For Good; open most Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays from 10:00AM to 2:00 PM. You will find an abundance of both, with thrift-store prices to boot! The proceeds fund food donations for the hungry, and resources supporting clean water where it is needed. Look for special events to be scheduled, too!! (Check the Events Calendar on our website

www.rigachurch.org).

You are warmly invited to join us for worship each Sunday morning at 10:00am, with fellowship immediately following. Questions? Please contact Pastor Susan. 585-293-2070 or visit our website for more information about upcoming events: www.rigachurch.org.



Go Christian Church

22 South Main Street

585-454-9152



Free Food Pantry

Wednesday Evenings 6:30-7:00

We are happy to have the opportunity to make available a wide selection of items due to the very generous contributions of local vendors. We offer bakery items, frozen vegetables, fresh produce, and much more. The items are free.

CHURCHVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

As we read this letter, the events of summer and autumn are fading into our memories and we are faced with the realization that the joys of the Holiday Season and the snow and cold of western New York winters are fast approaching. The Churchville Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) would like to offer a few tips to help you avoid injury and inconvenience during this time of year.

Almost seven months have passed since we last experienced winter driving conditions. Please slow down and drive at speeds reasonable for the conditions. Be sure your car is equipped for winter with snow tires, good wipers, the proper tools for clearing snow and try to keep your gas tank closer to full than empty (reducing the amount of condensation that could build up in the tank). As the piles of snow get bigger, be especially aware of children and vehicles suddenly appearing from driveways and at intersections. Please give snowplows plenty of room to operate and following the plows too closely may actually obscure you from the plow operator's vision.

Colder weather often leads to the use of alternative heating sources. Please be certain to provide adequate ventilation, keep combustibles away from heaters or open flame, keep your chimneys clean and dispose of ashes in a covered metal container outside the house. Don't leave an open ash container inside as still smoldering ash will off-gas carbon monoxide and you still have the fire danger. An ash bucket may actually hold enough heat to cause a fire up to days later.

Darkness is part of our daily commutes both in the morning and at night. Be aware of children awaiting school busses or those returning home on the late bus from after school activities.

Your health is important for your well being. Remember to dress properly for the weather. We have all aged another year since last winter, so let's be sensible when shoveling snow. If we experience a clogged snow blower, please turn it off BEFORE trying to clear the blockage. Use something other than your arm or hand to reach the blockage.

Before winter starts, be certain that vents for water heaters, furnaces and other fuel burning sources

are clear and operating efficiently. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless and odorless gas. With our houses sealed tightly for efficient winter heating, even a tiny CO leak could build to dangerous levels. We should all have operating CO detectors in our homes to alert us to this problem.

Christmas decorations are festive and add to our enjoyment of the Holidays. Read the recommendations for your Christmas lights and don't overload the electrical circuits. If using a live Christmas tree, keep it watered. Unless you cut the tree yourself, that live tree may have been cut weeks ahead of Thanksgiving! This has led to significant drying before the tree gets into your home so that water is important. Avoid open flames near your tree as they burn extremely rapidly, often in less than a minute! Turn off your displays when you go to bed and leave interior displays off if you are not going to be home.

While we respond to many of the potential incidents implied here on a year round basis, we seem to see an increase in these incidents during this time of year. Following these suggestions could help minimize the occurrence of these events and therefore minimize the chance of any inconvenience to you during the Holidays.

The officers and members of the CVFD want to say Thank You for your support during the past year and we wish you a safe and happy Holiday Season and a prosperous 2019!





Give a Toy & Spread Some Joy!

The Town of Riga will be working with the Churchville Lions Club & St. Vincent's Church in collecting donations of new unwrapped toys suitable for children ages 1-12, at the Riga Town Hall (6460 Buffalo Rd.) from November 5th till December 7th. The toys will then be given to children of less fortunate families in our community.

Please help us spread some cheer
this holiday season!

Questions? Call 585-293-3880 Ext 121 or 122



RIGA TOWN HALL BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, December 14th 2018
Monday, February 11th 2019
1:00 PM—6:00 PM

6460 BUFFALO ROAD-COMMUNITY ROOM

Please give the gift that lasts a lifetime.

Please call 1-800-GIVE LIFE
to schedule your lifesaving donation.

If you donated on or before February 15th
you are eligible to donate.

Walk-ins are also welcome!!

donatebloodnow.org



SCOR

"Winter, a lingering season, is a time to gather golden moments, embark upon a sentimental journey, and enjoy every idle hour." This quote is attributed to author John Boswell.

Wintertime 'tis the season' in New York for warmer clothing, holiday parties and decorations, family and friends gatherings.

Seniors of Riga who are members of SCOR will ring in good cheer at our Christmas party on Tuesday, December 11th at Rick's Prime Rib Restaurant.

As we ring in the new year of 2019, members welcome

Churchville's Diane Potter to February 12th to commemorate the January 8th luncheon and the continuance of seniors in this meeting. Diane brings two SCOR members her "*Freedom Story... Liberties Glory*" presentation of luncheons, information, entertainment and service. Final arrangements for Anniversary/Valentine party to be available soon.

February, the shortest month of winter, has several noted days of interest. February gives us more than Groundhog Day, Presidents Day, more than the Beatles debut in the view U.S. and the day the 16th Amendment to US Constitution was ratified authorizing the collection of income taxes of the citizens.

SCOR members gather for the 43rd anniversary party on

To join our membership and obtain more information, contact Verna at 293-9068 or any SCOR member. To give further trip information contact Shirley at 752-4109. Our brochures are located in the Village and Town offices as well.

Submitted by:
Dolores Perry,
Publicity for SCOR



RECREATION NEWS

This is the time of year where we turn our attention to indoor activities with an eye towards a bit of outdoor activity once the "white stuff" arrives.

Before that however, we have once again partnered with the Churchville Lion's Club for our annual "Halloween Parade" on October 31st. The parade started at the Churchville Commons with a lineup for the "Costume Contest". After that the 98 awesomely costumed "Trick or Treaters" were lead up Main Street by the Churchville Fire Department's truck and protected by the Churchville Fire Police at the crossroads to Churchville Park's "Church Lodge". The lodge was terrifically decorated by The Lion's and they also provided cider & donuts. The costume contest winners were announced (See the pictures of these "Goblins & Ghouls" on Facebook) and when leaving, the participants

were given a "goodie bag" to take as they continued their "trick or treating" back up Main Street.

Many thanks to the following organizations for making all of this possible: Churchville Lions (lead by Ruth Stewart), Churchville Fire Department & Fire Police, the Monroe County Park's Department (Churchville Branch) and the Riga Town Board.

As many of you know we received a DASNY grant to construct a 2-court pickleball venue at the Buffalo Road Park. Work has been hampered by all of the inclement weather we have experienced this past October/November.

However, approximately 75% of the project is complete with only the line painting and landscaping to be finished before our planned "Grand Opening" in 2019. Thanks to: NYS Senator Michael Ranzenhofer for securing the grant, Supervisor O'Brocta for

weaving his way thru the paperwork required by New York State, Dave Smith and his Highway Crew for preparing the area for the asphalt court paving, Dilcher Construction for putting the pole sleeves into the pavement for the nets, and Super Seal for painting the courts.

To register for programs (or to get information) one can access Riga Recreation via:

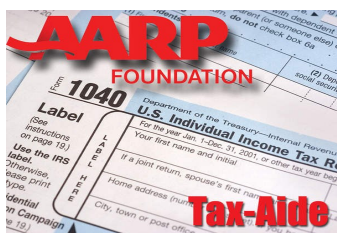
Facebook, Westside News, the PennySaver, and the Town of Riga website www.townofriga.org.

As always, if you'd like to see any additions to our recreation offerings do not hesitate to call this office and let me know.

Submitted By:
Dave Thomas,
Recreation
Supervisor



FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION HELP



Tax-aid volunteers will be available beginning the first week of February to help complete your tax forms. Call the Town Hall at 293-3884 ext. 121 or 122 to schedule your appointment.

This help is for all taxpayers with middle and low income; with special attention to those age 60 and older.

Please bring the following with you when you come:

- current year's tax forms and preparation booklet;
- copy of last year's income tax return(s);
- W-2 and W-2P forms from each employer;
- unemployment compensation statements;
- SSA-1099 form if you were paid Social Security Benefits;
- all 1099 forms showing interest and/or dividends;

• 1099R form from the payer of your pension or annuity;

• all forms indicating federal income tax paid;

• childcare provider information;

• all receipts of canceled checks if itemizing deductions; and

• social security cards for all dependents.

Submitted by:
Kimberly Pape
Town Clerk



Dec 2018, Jan-Feb 2019 RECREATION PROGRAMS

We are always in search of energetic parents/coaches to volunteer to help teach/instruct programs!
Interested individuals should contact the Recreation Department at 293-3880 x130

December

- 1) Scrapbooking with Anne, Saturday, Dec. 1...9:00-3:00pm Riga Town Hall
- 2) Youth Basketball League @ Sweden-Clarkson Center Saturdays, Dec. 2-Mar. 17th
- 3) "SECRET SANTA" Holiday Decorating Contest, Wednesday, Dec. 12th.....Santa may come to your beautifully decorated home with a "Goodie"
- 4) A "Just 4 Fun" Christmas Celebration at the Cobblestone, Thursday, Dec. 13th, 7:00-9:00pm
- 5) Buckman's Car Wash Tickets "STOCKING STUFFERS".....



January

- 1) Scrapbooking with Anne, Saturday, Jan. 26...9:00am-3:00pm Riga Town Hall
- 2) Riga Rec./Churchville Soccer Club's "Soccer Academy at Churchville E.S. TBA
- 3) Senior Nutrition Program at Ogden Senior Center...Call us for information
- 4) Senior "Jam Sessions" with Just 4 Fun at Riga Town Hall
- 5) Churchville Soccer Club Registration.....www.churchvillesoccerclub.com
- 6) CYA Baseball/Softball Registration.....www.leaguelineup.com/cyabaseball
- 7) Town of Riga Lodge Rentals...call 293-3880 X121-122 for reservations
- 8) "WinterFest, 2018 & FREE Kid's Carnival" & Lion's BBQ at Churchville Elementary School, Sunday, Jan. 27th....Noon-3:00pm



February

- 1) February Recess Programs (Feb. 18-22).....Events to be held at the Rose Garden & Bright raven Gymnastics.....Details to come out in 2019
- 2) Scrapbooking with Anne, Saturday, Feb. 23...9:00-3:00pm at Riga Town Hall
- 3) CYA Baseball/Softball "Spring Training" Sessions.....TBA
- 4) Riga Rec "Cornhole Tourney" at the Cobblestone Hall, Thurs. Feb 7th, 5:30pm



* * * Additional Information and registration for our recreation programs can be found on: FaceBook, the Suburban News, Genesee Valley PennySaver, the Churchville-Chili School District's "Virtual Backpack," and the Town of Riga's website...www.townofriga.org



Lodge & Facility Rental:

Please call 293-3880 x121 or x122 for information

Harvey C. Noone Legion News

THE AMERICAN LEGION – WHO ARE WE?

In 1919, Congress chartered the Legion as a veterans service organization.

We are nearly 2 million members strong. We wrote the draft of the "GI Bill of Rights", pushed for the establishment of the Veterans Administration, were the single largest donor of the Viet Nam Memorial and simultaneously advocated for the first independent study of the effects of Agent Orange.

Today, at the national level, we are fighting for the delivery of health care services to veterans. Locally, we support our community and local vets in a vari-

ety of ways.

If you are an eligible veteran, or if you are the female relative of an eligible veteran, please join our ranks! Your membership and dues, add your voice for veterans in Washington, DC and locally you have an opportunity to serve local vets and our community. Your membership will help us advocate on the national level for veterans issues and/or help us to serve our community. Our veterans need your help.

**God Bless You and Our
Country,
Gil Budd,
Commander**



Harvey C. Noone Legion:

December 7, 2018
Euchre Fundraiser @ 7 pm at Legion
January 4, 2019
Euchre Fundraiser @ 7 pm at Legion
January 18, 2019
Euchre Fundraiser @ 7 pm at Legion
February 1, 2019
Euchre Fundraiser @ 7 pm at Legion
February 15, 2019
Euchre Fundraiser @ 7 pm at Legion
March 1, 2019
Euchre Fundraiser @ 7 pm at Legion
March 15, 2019
Euchre Fundraiser @ 7 pm at Legion



THE LIONS CLUB CORNER

Question: Are you interested in joining the Lions Club?

"Maybe, but I don't want to go to all those meetings". Attending meetings is not a requirement to become a Lion. It's your choice if you want to come to the meetings. We have three meetings per month and you can attend all or none. And yes, we participate in many things and hold many events every year. "But I can't promise to be at all the events". Again, not a requirement to be a Lion. The Lions Club members are in all different phases of life from young families to having great grandchildren. You only participate in events that fit into your family's schedule. YOU choose the events you want/can participate in. We work hard at all our events, but always have a blast doing it. THE ONLY REQUIREMENT IS A DESIRE TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY. The rest is up to you.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Churchville Lions Club Winterfest Chicken BBQ will be January 27, 2019 from 12:00 noon till 2:00 p.m. Tickets will be \$10 each and there will be drive-thru and/or take-out service or you can eat in. As always, proceeds from this event will go back into the Community-we'll see you there!

**Submitted by,
Debby Landers
Churchville Lions
Club Secretary**



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

December

- 11 SCOR Holiday Lunch—Rick's Prime Rib Restaurant
- 7 Euchre Fundraiser—7 pm American Legion
- 8 Holiday Home Tour—Chamber of Commerce
- 13 Chamber of Commerce—Holiday Luncheon—Cobblestone Hall
- 13 A "Just 4 Fun" Christmas Celebration at the Cobblestone
- 14 Red Cross Blood Drive—Town Hall 1-6pm
- 27 WINTERFEST & Chicken BBQ noon—3 pm

January

- 1 Offices Closed for New Years Day Holiday
- 1 & 15 Euchre Fundraiser—7 pm American Legion
- 8 SCOR Lunch—American Legion Hall

February

- 1 & 15 Euchre Fundraiser—7 pm American Legion
- 7 Cornhole Tourney—Cobblestone Hall 5:30pm
- 11 Red Cross Blood Drive—Town Hall 1-6pm
- 12 SCOR—43rd Anniversary Party
- 18 Offices Closed for President's Day

Submit your ideas and comments for further enhancements to the Editor.

Submit comments and/or upcoming events to:

Town of Riga Newsletter 6460 Buffalo Road Churchville, NY 14428
Fax 585-293-1917 or townclerk@townofriga.org



For further information regarding Riga Rec, Senior, Library and CYA programs, call 293-3880 X130, or refer to the Town's website: www.townofriga.org.

Contact sponsoring organizations for further information regarding their events.



A "one stop drop off" for residential recycling.

10 Avion Drive, Rochester, NY 14624

Wed 1pm-6:30pm, Sat 7:30am-1pm
Closed on Holidays & Thanksgiving/Christmas Weekends

For use by Monroe County residents only!

Please note that the recycling stations at the ecopark are self-serve (with the exception of Household Hazardous Waste, appointment required).

Residents should be prepared to unload their own items.

Accepted at **ecopark**

- Eyeglasses & Hardcover Books
- Appliances
- Bulky Plastic Items (no fabric/metal components)
- Clean Styrofoam Packing (no labels or tape)
- Clothing & Accessories (donation)
- Cooking Oil
- Document Destruction (items are destroyed off site)
- Electronic Waste
- Fire Extinguishers
- Flags (U.S.)
- Fluorescent Lights/CFL Bulbs
- Paper & Cardboard
- Pharmaceuticals & Rx Bottles
- Plastic Bags & Wrap

- Printer Cartridges
- Propane Tanks (1# and 20# only)
- Rechargeable and Button Batteries NO Alkaline Batteries
- Recyclable Glass/Metal/Plastic Containers
- Sharps & Syringes
- Scrap Metal (including bare tire rims)

Fee-Based Items - Credit/Debit Card Only

- Tube TVs/Monitors **\$15**
- Broken Tube TVs/Monitors **\$25**
- Flat Screen TVs/Monitors **\$5**
- Passenger Vehicle Tires On Rims **\$8-\$18**
- Tires Off Rims **\$5-\$10**
- Appliances with refrigerant **\$15**

TOWN OF RIGA

6460 Buffalo Road
Churchville, NY 14428

Phone: 585-293-3880
Fax: 585-293-1917
E-mail: See website for addresses

Brad O'Brocta, Supervisor

James Fodge, Deputy Supervisor

Cindy Jessop, Council Member

Deborah Campanella, Council Member

David George, Council Member

Kimberly Pape, Town Clerk

David Smith, Highway Superintendent

Richard E. Stowe, Town Justice

Scott Okolowicz, Town Justice

OFFICIAL TOWN WEBSITE

WWW.TOWNOFRIGA.COM

FIRST PIONEERS
OF MONROE COUNTY
1809

MEETING SCHEDULE

All Town Board Meetings, Workshops and meetings of Appointed Boards and Committees are open to the public. Most meetings are held at the Town Hall at 7 pm according to a regular schedule.

TOWN BOARD: 2nd Wednesdays.
Workshops as needed.

CONSERVATION BOARD: 4th Mondays.

LANDFILL CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD:
3rd Tuesday of the Month in January, April, July,
and October at 6 pm at Millseat Landfill.

PLANNING BOARD: 1st Mondays.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: Scheduled as needed on 1st Thursdays at 7 pm.

AD HOC COMMITTEES: No meetings scheduled at this time.



Churchville-Riga Chamber of Commerce Tour of Homes



Join us on a tour of eight beautiful homes in the Churchville-Riga area that are decorated for the holiday season

Saturday, December 8, 2018

10am - 4pm

Tickets \$15

Tickets and information are available online at
www.churchvillechamber.org

Or at Westside Community Federal Credit Union, The Glue Factory,
Riga Town Hall and Churchville Village Office

All proceeds will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation

* Presale tickets only * No children under 14 *

