

TOWN OF RIGA

NEWSLETTER

Riga Town Board Members

BRAD O'BROCTA, SUPERVISOR

JAMES FODGE, DEPUTY SUPERVISOR, CINDY JESSOP, COUNCIL MEMBER

DEREK HARNSBERGER, COUNCIL MEMBER

DEBORAH CAMPANELLA, COUNCIL MEMBER (EDITOR)

Supervisor's Report



What a year 2020 has been! The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted virtually every aspect of our lives. It has without a doubt impacted the finances of government entities worldwide and will continue to have a negative effect through 2021. Local sales tax revenues continue to be lower than expected. Sales tax revenues are the major source of funding for our part-town side of the budget. We were able to stay within our 2020 forecasted budget, and we feel confident that we will be able to do the same in 2021.

The 2021 Town Budget was adopted at our November 12th Town Board meeting. For 2021, the Town of Riga will continue with a **0% tax rate**.

Given the financial uncertainty looming in 2021. The Town Board asked that all budget requests be kept as close to 2020 levels as possible. Our town departments and outside organizations who provide services to the town did a spectacular job in providing reasonable and efficient budget requests given the fiscal situation we all find ourselves in.

Below are some of the highlights from the 2021 budget:

1. Town-wide operating budget spending **decreased** 6.14% for 2021.
2. We budgeted a 6% increase for health care costs. As has been the
3. Full-time and part-time employees will receive a 3% increase in salary for 2021.
4. The 2021 Budget includes minimal equipment upgrades, one of which is the replacement of our 6-wheel dump truck.
5. Funds were allocated for playground equipment upgrades at our Sanford Road Park.
6. We continue to realize savings by outsourcing mowing and cleaning services.
7. Our contribution for NYS retirement next year will be essentially flat.
8. The Newman Riga Library, the Riga Cemetery, and Senior Citizens of Riga (SCOR) will receive funding to help offset their operating costs.
9. For the Town outside the Village portion of the Budget, 2021 revenues are expected to exceed expenditures. Therefore, no taxes will be levied for the Town outside the Village part of the budget.
10. The Town tax levy for 2021 will be **zero** for all residential and commercial property owners.

Dec/Jan/Feb
Riga
Winter 2020/2021
Issue

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SUPERVISOR'S REPORT (CONTINUES)

Please remember to continue to follow all COVID-19 safety protocols recommended by the CDC and our local health experts. Continue to practice social distancing (6 feet apart), wash your hands frequently, and wear your mask when appropriate. As COVID-19 infection rates are back on the rise, let's do our part to lower numbers so we are not forced to shut our economy and lives down again.

The Riga Town Board would like to

thank all of our organizations and individuals that volunteer their time to help in providing care and comfort for those that have been in need throughout this pandemic. Your generosity is what makes Riga such a special place!

As we near the end of 2020, I cannot help but reflect on all that we have gone through this year. So many aspects of our lives have changed significantly since the onset of COVID-19. It has no doubt been one of the most

difficult years for many of us. However, each new year provides us with an opportunity for a fresh start. I am hopeful 2021 will be our best year yet, bringing us happiness and prosperity.

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

Submitted by:
Brad O'Brocta,
Supervisor



Assessor News—It's that time of year again!

ALL EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS must be filed with me by Taxable Status Date, MARCH 1, 2021.

For NEW Enhanced STAR exemption 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 (Income Verification Program) with New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

To be eligible for this increased exemption from school taxes, you must be a resident homeowner **who will be at least 65 in 2021 (born by December 31, 1956)**, and whose income is no more than \$88,050 on your 2019 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.

For EXISTING Enhanced STAR exemption applicants, you do not need to do anything. You have already completed the one-time mandatory registration for the

Income Verification Program with New York State Department of Taxation and Finance. They will determine if you meet the qualifications for the exemption and will contact you directly by mail (they will never call you) if they have questions or need additional information.

Low Income Senior Citizen exemption renewals were mailed in September. You must be 65 before the end of 2021 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.

STAR check program. Basic STAR has a maximum income requirement of \$250,000. 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 directly on your school tax bill.

Agricultural, Clergy, Non- Profit, and Disabled with Limited Income renewal applications were sent out in September.

New Street Address Assignments

911 has requested that all parcels that do not currently have a street number assigned to them should in fact have one assigned so they will know when they get a call to send the correct fire department. All vacant parcels in the Town that do not have street numbers will be given numbers to define them to our first responders.

If you have questions and I can be of assistance, please give me a call at the town hall at 293-3880 ext. 126 or you can call my assistant Shelley Kasper at ext. 137.

Submitted by:
Lori Frongetta, Assessor



RIGA HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS



As we close out another year, and begin another new year, we wish you a safe holiday season. In the recent weeks your Highway Department has installed 5 miles of snow fence in areas prone to drifting snow, readied plowing-salting equipment for the winter ahead, and remains vigilant around the clock. We are watching weather forecasts and radar to be ready for the next weather event. Around the clock shifts begin as soon as forecasts require. If you notice a condition that needs attention in the Town please, call the Highway Department office at 293-2530.

Winter Readiness- As we continually maintain Town equipment throughout the seasons, please remember we also need to be vigilant with our personal vehicles. Check the tread on tires, tire pressure, antifreeze, wipers, belts, hoses, and lights on your vehicles. We all know variable conditions are likely in our 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 footwear with good tread is also a good idea as icy spots can be encountered on walkways, drive-ways 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. We never enjoy being away from families on holidays and weekends but appreciate the service we provide to our community. Snow plowing/salting can be long, 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, 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 due to winter weather, it's simply not always possible. Our staff will continue to work diligently to make our roads as safe as possible thru the winter season.

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, and last our town roads. Each of our five plow routes, drivers and trucks need 3 hours minimally to complete assigned route of 35 to 40 miles with an average 2 to 4 inches of snow. When heavy snow is falling and wind is blowing, plow route completion times will be extended. Travel is slower as visibility is impaired and multiple passes are needed to clear intersections. One of our biggest frustrations in winter is when snow begins falling after 4 or 5 AM when normal call-in time for a snow event is 3AM. It is impossible to cover the entire town prior to work and school

traffic at 7 or 8 AM when routes start at 5 to 6AM. Our goal is to provide safe passable roads, but timing and variables of temperature, wind, rate of precipitation, lake effect, often make each snow or ice event somewhat unique.

Mail Boxes: Please check your mail box and make sure post and fasteners are in good condition before winter weather arrives. 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 and rotted posts. We are not responsible for repair of mailboxes already in poor condition or in the right of way of the highway, but will repair to functional condition or replace with a **standard size mailbox** if yours is damaged beyond repair by our snow plowing equipment. We do not recommend plastic or decorative mailboxes as they tend to be easily damaged.

We wish you a safe and happy new year as we move forward into 2021.

Concerns or questions can be emailed to:

highwaysupt@townofriga.org

Office: 585-293-2530

Cell: 585-733-3808

Submitted by:

David Smith, Highway Superintendent



MEMORY LN

A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY—THE YEAR 1920

Looking back 100 years to the year 1920, we learn that U.S. Senator Warren G. Harding was elected as the 29th President of the United States. Purchasing a new home cost about \$6,000.00 with the average yearly income being around \$2,100.00. A new car ran you approximately \$525.00 with gas being pumped by an attendant at 33 cents a gallon. A loaf of bread was 7 cents, dozen eggs: 34 cents, a quart of milk: 9 cents and a postage stamp: 2 cents. One could expect that the average life expectancy was 54 years where today it is 77 years, and the average time a

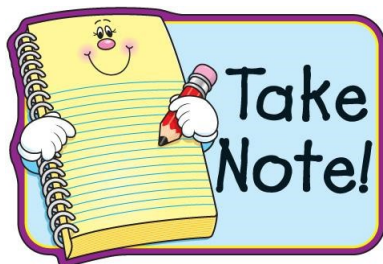
student spent in school that year was 75 days compared to 180 now. The year 1920 was also the first time in American history that two amendments to the Constitution of the United States were enacted. On January 17th, 1920 the 18 amendment to the Constitution went into effect which began Prohibition only to be repealed in 1933. Then on August 26th, the 19th amendment took effect, which guaranteed all women the right to vote. And, last but not least, on June 13th the United States Post Office ruled that children could no longer be sent via parcel post.

For the Town of Riga, the year 1920 started out with a tragic house fire. A January Batavia Daily newspaper detailed the fire as follows: "The farmhouse of Oliver Shepard, three fourths of a mile south of Riga Corners, was burned yesterday afternoon between 2 and 3 o'clock, with all its contents. Mr. Shepard, who lived alone, was in the house at the time and in trying to escape by a window, his coat was caught by a nail and he would have been burned with the house if a neighbor, Gordon Granden, had not rescued him. Mr. Granden saw smoke coming out of the windows and tried

Continues on page 7 —>

TOWN AND COUNTY TAX COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

I will be mailing the 2021 Town & County tax bills by January 1st, and will be collecting from the beginning of January to the end of May.



Modifications to collection due to COVID.

The Town Hall is currently open to the public, with a limit of 3 customers in our Lobby at any time. We ask that you please consider utilizing other options for making your payment instead of entering the building. You may mail your payment, place it in our drop box located to the left of the double doors, or pay online at www.monroecounty.gov.

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 %

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.

Stay safe

Building Department Safety Information

Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.

PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.

PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.

LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.

- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.

- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.

- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

After Christmas

- Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry.
- Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.
- Check with your local community to find a recycling program.
- Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

FACTS

- More than **one of every four** home Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems.
- Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- A heat source too close to the tree causes **one in every four** of the fires.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading national fire and life safety organization

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Clothes Dryer Safety

Doing laundry is most likely part of your every day routine. But did you know how important taking care of your clothes dryer is to the safety of your home? With a few simple safety tips you can help prevent a clothes dryer fire.

- Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- Do not use the dryer without a lint filter.
- Make sure you clean the lint filter before or after each load of laundry. Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- Rigid or flexible metal venting material should be used to sustain proper air flow and drying time.
- Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a qualified professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
- Make sure the right plug and outlet are used and that the machine is connected properly.
- Follow the manufacturer's operating instructions and don't overload your dryer.
- Turn the dryer off if you leave home or when you go to bed.



Your Source for SAFETY Information
NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269

www.nfpa.org/education

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www.nfpa.org/publiceducation. © NFPA."

Wishing you
a **safe** and happy
holiday season.

FACT

- The leading cause of home clothes dryer fires is failure to clean them.





Newman Riga Library



A great benefit of being a member of the Monroe County Library System (MCLS) is that all library card holders have access to a rich collection of on-line resources. These can be found on the MCLS website at www.libraryweb.org under Research/Databases or by clicking on the Databases icon. During this pandemic time, these resources may be especially helpful to families with children of all ages who are attending school remotely. There are encyclopedias, reference resources, newspapers, and magazine articles, as well as more specialized sources such as Gale's Literary Criticism and Opposing Viewpoints.

The latest addition to the databases is ProQuest's "Black Freedom Struggle in the United States: A Selection of Primary Sources". According to ProQuest, this resource "features

select primary source documents related to critical people and events in African American history." It is a great resource for "anyone interested in learning more about the foundation of on-going racial injustice in the U.S. – and the fights against it."

If you need assistance with any of these resources, please call the library.

Any of our services can change at any time so we are using our website as the official location for posting the latest information (<https://newmanrigalibrary.org>).

Other ways to stay up to date on the status of the library:

Call us at 293-2009

Follow us on Facebook

Check the Village of Churchville message board in front of the library.

Book Drops:

Our book drops are open and all items are quarantined and backdated. You may not see items removed from your account for 3-5 days.



E-Books and E-Audio Books:

Use the Overdrive or Libby App on your phone, computer or e-reader devices to access e-books and e-audio books.

WiFi:

Our filtered wireless network (WiFi) is on and available for patron use from the library lawn or the parking spots closest to the library.

Submitted by:
Lynn M. Brown, Librarian

SCORNEWS

Thanks a bunch! Feeling grateful to those who have helped us and encourage us to do kindness to others. To SCOR committee workers, ANG Market, Jim Ehrmentraut, Riga Town and Noone American Legion we say "well done". October 13th take-out-Free lunch for Seniors of Riga members successfully served 108. Verna, Doug, Dyan, Pat S., Gerry S., Jim, Mary T., and Dolores P. get GOLD STARS. We will try to bring happiness to others throughout the

season. We continue to plan in 2021 to gather together as circumstances change. SCOR callers will contact members each month with information about other upcoming happenings.



Submitted by:
Dolores Perry,
Publicity for SCOR
—532-6978

Photos by Dyan Monte Verde-Eisele



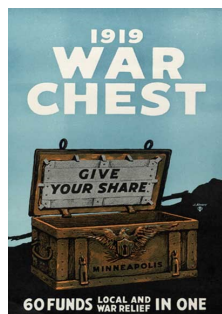
A Look Back in History (continues)

to get in at the front door but was prevented by the flames.

Mr. Shepard who is eighty years of age, and in feeble health, was taken to the County hospital at Rochester by George A. Johnson of Churchville last night." One-week later Mr. Shepard passed away and his death was attributed to the house fire.

In April, the Churchville Community Red Cross, an organization created during WWI, demonstrated their generosity by adopting a French war orphan, little 9-year-old Gabrielle, and provided her with financial assistance.

Then in May, a local WWI memorial was dedicated. The Rochester D&C newspaper reported the following: "Memorial Day is to be celebrated in Churchville on Monday with the unveiling of a memorial in honor of the boys with the colors from Riga township. Some time ago it was



decided to use some of the remaining War Chest money (Historians note- During the World War I era, War Chests were formed to provide relief for the

armed forces and their families, as well as refugees in Europe.) to purchase of a suitable memorial for the boys. Joel Snow was made chairman of the committee to secure the bronze tablet. This has been set in a huge boulder and placed in the park in the center of the town. The tablet has the words: "Honor Roll of the Boys with the Colors from Riga Township" and contains 63 names. It is a fitting tribute to the sacrifices of loyal Riga in the war." After 100 Years, that monument has stood the test of time and can still be found on the grounds of the present -day Newman Riga Library.

The original grist mill, built by Samuel Church in 1810, was once

located on the west bank of Black Creek just north of the Buffalo Rd. bridge and in the spring of 1920 was torn down to make way for an electric generating plant for the Riverside Box Company. The new grist mill, on South Main Street, began operations in 1915, and was powered by electricity, not water and provided quick access to the railroad lines.

Just opposite the site of the old grist mill, on Black Creek, was once a cooper's shop and sawmill, which were razed, and a cinder block building was constructed to house the Riverside Box Company. This company which hired many local men and women, began operations in 1920 and produced cardboard boxes for hats, clothing, toys and etc. In 1922, the company decided to exit the box operations and switch to becoming the All-Fair Toy Company with Herman Fisher as the plant manager. By the late 1920's Mr. Fisher tried to purchase the Churchville plant but was unsuccessful and then moved to East Aurora, New York where in 1930 he met Irving Price and formed the Fisher Price Toy Company.

Also, for year 1920, the Churchville Masonic organization, who's roots go back to 1810, purchased the Snyder, Sage and Briscoe Block on the east side of South Main Street. The lower half of the building was divided, with a General Store on the north end and the Churchville Bank, which started operations in 1917, on the South half. Owing to a lack of membership, the Churchville Masonic organization will turn in its charter in 2006 ending almost 200 years of existence.

Finally, the year 1920 ended with the creation of a public library association within the Town of Riga. To reveal that story, I submit the following Rochester Democrat and Chronicle newspaper article as follows: "The work of establishing a public library in the Town of Riga,

by the Home Bureau is progressing rapidly. More than \$600.00 has already been raised and it is expected that within a short time the amount will be more than doubled. Subscriptions have been received from California and Rochester, from former residents. A pageant has been held, and many members at \$1.00 each secured. The various committees appointed from the churches, Eastern Star Order, and W. C. T. U. report favorably on the work.

A meeting of the Library Association was held in the home of Mrs. J. C. Newman this week and plans discussed. School Superintendent John C. Malloch is chairman; Mrs. J. C. Newman, secretary, and George S. Murray, treasurer. A lease has been secured from the Masonic Temple Association, for a term of four years from October 1st, for the front room upstairs in their block at a yearly rental of \$125.00, heat to be furnished. Books will be secured from the State and good books will be welcomed as donations by those wishing to donate. The public will have free use of the library and rest room, whether members of the Library Association or not.

The service of a librarian will be secured and until a librarian is secured permanently, Rev H. C. Handy pastor has volunteered to act in that capacity. It was announced at the meeting that if anyone wishes to donate pictures and furniture, they could communicate with either Miss Anna Bushnell or Mrs. Howard Leley.

The community is enthused over the project and the public library and rent rooms for Churchville is now assured." Congratulations to the Newman Riga Library on 100 years of serving the Riga community.



**Submitted by:
Ron Belczak,
Town Historian**

RECREATION NEWS

Riga Recreation did its best this fall to provide the community with as many activities as we could despite the current health crisis and CDC Guidelines. This made it necessary to cancel many of our regular programs. However, we were able to bring to the Riga community our Village Gazebo Concerts, Cornhole Tournaments at Churchville Park, recreational pickleball at McNeely Park, softball/baseball at Sanford Road Park, of course our park courts and fields.

On October 31st we were able to hold our annual Halloween Parade. Once again we partnered with the Churchville Lion's Club to bring this popular event to our "Trick or Treaters"! Over 90 boys & girls (along with their ghoulishly dressed parents) enjoyed safe passage lead by the Fire Truck up to Main Street and down to the Village Gazebo to receive a "goodie bag" and then continued on to houses in the neighborhood! Many thanks to the following who made this event so scary: Town of Riga, Village of

Churchville, NYS Senator Michael Ranzenhofer's staff, the Churchville Lion's club lead by Lion Verna Linney, Robb's Apples, Sue, Bailey, Brooke, & Lily (stuffing the goodie bags), the Churchville Fire Dept. & Fire Police along with the local Scout Troop. Last we thank the boys and girls along with their parents for making this night a most memorable one!

Many, many thanks to Zach Spaulding and his "crew" for being able to complete his Eagle Scout project at McNeely Park on Saturday, October 31st. Zach's hard work resulted in a "Gaga Pit", designed to accommodate handicapped children to enjoy this challenging and fun alternative to the game we all know as "Dodgeball". Additional thanks go to the Town of Riga Highway Department that prepared the area in order to install "The Pit". Come out and enjoy this wonderful addition to the park.

Please look at the Winter, 2020 programs to see if there are any

activities that might interest you and your family. As soon as the Churchville-Chili School District, along with the Town of Riga are able to open up their respective indoor facilities, we will be able to offer additional programs.

Don't forget to "Like" us on FaceBook. As the Christmas Season approaches we have Buckman Car Wash tickets for your stocking stuffing pleasure!

Finally, as we head into 2021 we plan to have "WinterFest 2021" on Sunday, January 31st in one form or another. Our "World Famous" Churchville Lions BBQ will be held at a site to be determined that meets requirements to keep our residents safe.

Submitted By:
Dave Thomas,
Recreation Supervisor



Churchville-Riga Chamber of Commerce News

Although we currently are seeing a rise in Covid-19 cases across the country, I know we are all hoping for a reprieve from this pandemic so we may enjoy the upcoming holidays with our loved ones. The holidays will be different this year but whatever they look like I am wishing you all peace, health and happiness for the New Year.

The Churchville-Riga Chamber of Commerce is currently on hiatus, not only due to the social distancing restrictions for gatherings but also, we have

recently experienced a drop in membership and involvement in the chamber. New ideas and activities are needed to keep the chamber viable and self-supporting. I would hate to see the chamber dissolve due to lack of interest. We would like to introduce the chamber to the many new businesses that have opened up in the village and town and possibly attract people willing to participate again. We will host a lunch or dinner meeting when we are able and look for renewed interest so we may resume our

great activities like the annual awards dinner, the veteran's day luncheon, the golf tournament and of course our holiday programs.

In the meantime, let us keep doing what we must to stay healthy, continue to wear masks and practice social distancing whenever and wherever possible.

Submitted by:
Joan Hawthorne,
Chamber President



WINTER 2020/2021 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. TBA..9:00-3:00pm Riga Town Hall
- 2) "SECRET SANTA" Holiday Decorating Contest, Wednesday, Dec. 12th.....Santa may come to your beautifully decorated home with a "Goodie"
- 3) Buckman's Car Wash Tickets "STOCKING STUFFERS".....
- 4) Riga Rec "Cornhole Tourney" for Dec....TBA @ The Cobblestone Hall



January

- 1) Scrapbooking with Anne, Saturday, Date TBA.....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) Churchville Soccer Club Registration....www.churchvillesoccerclub.com
- 5) CYA Baseball/Softball Registration.....www.leaguelineup.com/cyabaseball
- 6) Town of Riga Lodge Rentals...call 293-3880 X121-122 for reservations
- 7) "WinterFest, 2021 & FREE Kid's Carnival" & Lion's BBQ at Churchville E.S. Sunday, Jan. 31st.... Noon- 3:00pm * * All of this dependent upon the reopening of the CCCSD schools!

February

- 1) February Recess Programs (Feb.15-19).....Events to be held at the Rose Garden & Bright Raven Gymnastics.....Details will come out in 2021
- 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" @ The Cobblestone Hall, Thurs. Feb. TBA 6:00pm * * * All programs dependent upon "indoor" availability.....



* * * Additional Information and registration for our recreation programs can be found on: FaceBook, the Suburban News, Genesee Valley PennySaver, the ChurchvilleChili School District's "Virtual Backpack," and the Town of Riga's website...www.townofriga.com * * * * PLEASE "Like Us On Facebook:.....Riga Recreation

Harvey C. Noone Legion News

HARVEY C. NOONE FAMILY STILL SERVING DURING PANDEMIC

2020 brought changes - many unwelcome. But, I want to focus on the positives and thank the community for support!

To communicate **Memorial Day** plans, we established a website. An American Flag was placed on veteran graves in Riga/Churchville. Poppy donations enable the Auxiliary to support veterans programs, so changes were made, including virtual distribution. Across the US, July 4th celebrations were cancelled, so we launched a **4th of July Decorating Contest**. In Septem-

ber, the Legion re-opened to Community Users, for meetings, per the NY Forward Plan. In October, with Cub Scout Pack 156, daffodils were added to the **Living Field of Honor For Veterans** along the Westshore Rail Trail. **Veterans Day** was commemorated on November 11th, at the Library Park and we distributed poppies.

In December we will collect toys **and books** for the **Marine Corps Toys for Tots** at Jake's Pub in North Chili and the Riga Newman Library.

It is with a profound sense of sadness that we inform you that the Legion and the Auxiliary, as

the Licensees for Wreaths Across America for Riga's 3 cemeteries, has reached the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 event.

For God and Country,
Gil Budd, Commander Harvey C. Noone Legion Family



RIGA CEMETERY NEWS

This year the Riga Cemetery is open despite the Covid-19 pandemic. We do require that everyone follow NYS Covid regulations including wearing a face mask and maintaining at least 6 feet of social distancing at Cemetery interment services.

We continue to improve the Cemetery this year. Sue Kuter and her family have planted 2 Burning Bushes along our south lot line. Dave Smith and his Town of Riga crew have removed our pile of excess grave dirt and

left a nice smooth surface for planting grass. Our landscaper has filled in many of our low areas in the cemetery with top soil and grass seed and straightened many of our headstones.

This year we are going to ask you to pick up your graveside flags after December 19.



THANK YOU

We thank our volunteer and workers who keep our grounds in good shape and we can always use extra help.

Submitted by:
John Loser,
President
538-2951



CHURCH NEWS

United Congregational United Church of Christ – 14 N. Main St. Churchville

We have had our first indoor worship service on October 4th and plan to continue these Sunday services ongoing. However, we will continue to put these services online each Sunday and you may access them at [Soundcloud.com/ucc-churchville](https://soundcloud.com/ucc-churchville).

Our annual Harvest Dinner is planned for Saturday, November 14, and this will be a drive-thru, take-out only. You may pick up meals from 3:30 until sold out. You may also call the church (293-1665) if you would like to reserve your meals.

All other events are currently cancelled and should any event be scheduled, it will be announced on our website (Churchvilleucc.com) and sign-board at the front of the church.

We continue to provide FREE books and puzzles (when available) which are placed near the sanctuary door for the community

to enjoy. If you have any you would like to donate, you may place them also at the door. Thank you for all the donations of books already received and we hope you will find some to your liking.

We have begun a monthly food distribution to needy families in our area. Our second distribution is in October and future dates will be posted throughout the community. This program is supported by five churches in Churchville (Calvary Christian Fellowship, Faith Chapel, First Congregational of Riga, United Methodist Church, and Union Church) as well as Ang Market and Wegmans. This monthly food distribution will be on the third Tuesday of each month from 4:00 - 5:00 pm at Union Church, 14 N. Main Street, Churchville.

Our Meditation/Prayer Garden at the rear of the upper parking lot of the church, overlooking the creek, is always available. It is a great place to relax, meditate or pray in this very quiet and peaceful spot. There is also a box in which

you may put your prayer requests which will be included in our prayers at the Sunday morning worship service.

May God continue to protect our community and each one of you in this turbulent time. If you are in need of any assistance during this time, please call our church at 585-293-1665 or email us at unionucc@frontier.com and we will do what we can to help.



Riga Congregational Church – 7057 Chili Riga Ctr Rd. Churchville (Rt.33A@Rt. 36)

Pastor David Branch—293-2070
Blessings and prayers of health to you all. We are together as a church family and welcome all looking for a spiritual home.

Calendar is quiet due to the challenges we all face .

Please do join us for Christmas Eve service, Dec.24 , at 7PM. Our rejoicing of His coming closes with a candle light song of peace. Merry Christmas , He is with us !

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

December

- 19 CANCELLED—Wreaths Across America, Sponsor – Legion Family and Girl Scout Troop 60487



- 24 & 25 Town Offices Closed for the Christmas Holiday

January

- 1 Town Offices Closed for New Years Day



- 31 Winter Fest 12-3 pm



February

- 15 Town Offices Closed for Presidents Day



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. 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



The Town of Riga would like to thank everyone for their toy donations. The toys will be distributed to children of less fortunate families during the holiday season.



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) 594-2103 or www.churchvillelions.org



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

Derek Harnsberger, 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.



RIGA TOWN HALL BLOOD DRIVE

Friday, December 11th 2020
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
October 5th you are eligible to donate.
Walk-ins are also welcome!! Please Bring ID!

1-800-GIVE-LIFE donatebloodnow.org

