

# TOWN OF RIGA

## NEWSLETTER

### Riga Town Board Members

**BRAD O'BROCTA, SUPERVISOR**

**JAMES FODGE, COUNCIL MEMBER, CINDY JESSOP, COUNCIL MEMBER**

**DEREK HARNSBERGER, COUNCIL MEMBER**

**DEBORAH CAMPANELLA, COUNCIL MEMBER (EDITOR)**

### Supervisor's Report

I hope everyone has had a wonderful winter so far. The weather has been cold and snowy through January and the first part of February, which has been great for any outdoor winter enthusiast. I am, however, hopeful for an early spring!

The Planning Board has reviewed a concept plan for a 5-megawatt solar energy system being proposed for a 38-acre parcel on Riga Mumford Road just south of Route 33A. The Planning Board subsequently provided a positive recommendation to the applicant for the possible rezoning of the property to create a solar energy systems overlay district, pursuant to our town code 95-31. As of this writing, the Town Board has NOT received an application for rezoning of that parcel. We will continue to provide updates as they become available.

At our December 2021 Town Board meeting, and after much public input, the Town Board voted unanimously to opt out of allowing cannabis dispensaries or cannabis consumption lounges in the Town of Riga.

The Town Board received an application for annexation of a 25-acre parcel in the town requesting to be annexed into the Village of Churchville. The property is located behind Parnell Drive. The applicant has since pulled the application. Therefore, there will be no further action by the Town Board.

The Town Board has allocated funds to review and update our current Town of Riga Zoning Law. We will utilize MRB Group, who has extensive experience in municipal code updates, to assist us in this important undertaking.

Our current zoning law was adopted in 1996. The main purpose of this update is to better align our code with our comprehensive plan, and to better clarify and modernize certain sections that have become outdated.

As you may know, the Federal Government passed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in 2021. Among other things, the Act provides relief funds to state, local, and tribal governments that have been negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. There are strict guidelines on how the funds may be used. Riga has received \$181,845.62 thus far and will receive a second payment this summer of \$181,845.60, for a total allocation of \$363,691.22. To date, we have expended funds for air purification systems in the town hall, highway building, courtroom, and Mahar Lodge in an attempt to provide a safer environment for everyone that enters our facilities. These systems are



March/April/May  
Riga  
Spring 2022  
Issue

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## Assessor News

### Real Property Tax Relief Credit

I have had some inquiries regarding the Real Property Tax Relief Credit. This is not a credit that appears on your tax bills. It's a credit that is claimed on your NYS Tax Return. See the legislation below:

Chapter 59 (S.2509-C), Part III • Tax Law § 606(e-2) Chapter 59, Part III, enacted a new State income tax credit, called the "Real Property Tax Relief Credit," for the 2021, 2022 and 2023 income tax years. The credit is available to homeowners whose "qualified gross income" is less than \$250,000 and whose property taxes exceed six percent of their qualified gross income. To be eligible, the homeowner must be a full-year resident and occupy the home for at least six months of the year. The amount of the credit is a percentage of the "excess" property taxes, depending on income, but no credit is payable if the computed amount would be less than \$250, and no credit may exceed \$350. The credit will be claimed on State income tax returns.

### Vietnam Veterans Exemption

Chapter 606 amends various State statutes regarding Vietnam

War veterans, including the Alternative Veterans Exemption authorized by RPTL § 458-a, to align with federal law. As a result of these amendments, the Vietnam War is now deemed to have started on November 1, 1955, rather than on February 28, 1961. The ending date remains at May 7, 1975.

My office has sent out Alternative Veterans Exemption Applications to those Cold War Veterans who are now qualified. Please make sure to get those applications back by March 1, 2022.

### Volunteer Firefighters & Volunteer Ambulance Workers Exemption

New legislation has passed to amend RPTL Section 466 by adding a new section (466-K) that allows the Volunteer Firefighters & Volunteer Ambulance Workers exemption to be extended to the Town, County & School if those municipalities choose to adopt it. It is already available for Village residents.

The Town will not be adopting it because there is no town tax. The County will be adopting it.

The primary residence owned by an enrolled member for at least two years of an incorporated

volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service which serves the Town of Riga shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of ten percent of assessed value of such property for Village, County, School, and special district tax purposes, exclusive of special assessments; provided that the governing body adopts a local law, ordinance or resolution. The two-year enrollment must be certified by the authority having jurisdiction.

Any enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service who accrues more than twenty years of active service and is so certified by the authority having jurisdiction, shall be granted a ten percent exemption of the assessed value on their primary residence for the remainder of their life as long as said residence is located in Monroe County.

**Submitted by:  
Lori Frongetta,  
Assessor**



## Riga RFD (Rural Free Delivery)

Within the Town of Riga there is one service that we have taken for granted for the past 120 years. That is the Postal RFD (Rural Free Delivery) system. Yes, the free delivery of mail within the township. Up until the late 1800's, those living in the Township had to pick up their mail at either the Town of Riga Post Office or the Churchville Post Office which could involve traveling many miles in all sorts of weather

and traveling on roads that were sometimes impassable.

Over the years the location of those offices varied with the appointment of local Postmasters. Officially, the Town of Riga Post office was established as early as 1812 with Richard Dibble as its first Postmaster and ceased all operations on November 20, 1900. The location of the Riga Post office often changed and would have been

found in local stores or even the Postmaster's home in and around Riga Centre, near the intersection of Churchville-Riga Rd. (Once called Moule Rd.) and Chili-Riga Center Rd. (Once called Riga Center Rd.) The Churchville Post office was established in 1829, with Samuel C. Church (Son of Churchville founder – Samuel Church) appointed as the first Postmaster. Its location also varied, moving

*Continues on Page 3 →*

## Riga RFD (Continues)

from place to place within the business district of the village.

The beginnings of a Postal RFD system began in 1893 when Congressman Thomas Watson successfully pushed through legislation creating the Postal Rural Free Delivery system. But it was not until October of 1896 that the first five riders began their deliveries in rural West Virginia. Why so late, local merchants feared competition from mail-order businesses and did everything to stall or eliminate the enacted legislation.

The first RFD route in New York State originally started out as an experiment and was conducted in Elba, New York on October 15, 1896. A 1926 Buffalo Evening Newspaper captured the story of that first delivery in the following news article: "BATAVIA, Nov. 15. - Rural letter carriers from seven western New York counties, numbering nearly 200, aired their wants and talked shop in the presence of three congressmen who were guests of honor Saturday night at a banquet held in the I.O.O.F. Hall here in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of rural free delivery service in New York state.

It was on October 15, 1896, thirty years ago, that the first rural mail route in the state was instituted at Elba in Genesee County, and the pioneer rural mailman of that first route sat at the high place of honor at the banquet. He is Truman P. Barr, 54 years old, of Elba, and he enjoys the distinction of being the oldest rural letter carrier in years of service in the United States. It was necessary for him and his wife, who was sworn into service jointly with him as a substitute, to first canvass the patrons of the new route and determine which ones wished their mail delivered, as without a person's permission his mail could not

be taken from the post office. The farmers along his route, according to Mr. Barr, thought there was some string attached to the service and many had the firm conviction that they would have to pay for it one way or another.

It was a momentous day, the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 1896, when Mr. Barr and his wife repaired to the post office at Elba to prepare for the opening of the first route. They tied the mail bundles with cotton twine, as such things as pigeonhole boxes for sorting the letters were to come later. A fair-sized crowd gathered when the couple launched forth on their history making route. Of course, there were no mailboxes, said Mr. Barr. I carried a little brass horn and blew it when I approached a house. In a few days improvised boxes made out of old stove pipes or whatnot were put up.

I remember the first piece of mail I collected. It was a postcard. I started to read a few words of it, and then I caught myself. If this was for me to read, my name would be written on the other side. I argued and I told myself this thing would have to stop at once. And believe me or not that was my first and last experience at reading other people's mail.

Mr. Barr's first route was eighteen miles long. The salary for a year was about \$300.00, and in order to make both ends meet Mrs. Barr ran the route in good weather thus allowing her husband to work out. Trading horses was another trick of the trade in those old days. Mr. Barr recalls swapping nags three times during one day; his wife could never look out of the window to watch for his home coming as she never knew what sort of a horse he would come back with."

Unfortunately, I was unable to find the exact date or route of the first rural free delivery in the Town of Riga, but all evidence points to the

year 1902. I did come across a newspaper article describing the establishment of the third Town of Riga Postal RFD route which began operations on November 1, 1902, with Frank Combs as carrier. This route, approved by a state postal inspector, covered twenty-four miles, and served 120 homes with an approximate population of five hundred people.

In 1901, Postal officials adopted a standardized mailbox and a year later they were required in order to receive rural mail delivery. The specifications of the mailbox were as follows: The box must be made of metal, 6 by 8 by 18 inches, and weather-proof. Boxes should be constructed so they can be fastened to a post at a height convenient to the carrier. And lastly, keys for customers' boxes should be easy to use by a carrier with "one gloved hand in the severest weather." Manufacturers of approved mailboxes were also required to have the box stamped with the words "Approved by the Postmaster General." This stamping still appears today on every approved U.S. mailbox.

On one last note, did you ever wonder what is the story behind that red flag located on your mailbox? A 1906 Batavia Times newspaper provides us with the following: "On and after July 1, patrons of the rural delivery service will be required to display signals on their boxes when they leave mail in them for carriers to collect, as after that date, carriers when serving their routes will not be required to open and examine any mail boxes except those to which they have mail to deliver and those on which signals are displayed to indicate there is mail for carriers to collect. Carriers must lower the signal after making collections."

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



## RIGA HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS

**Winter Highlights-** by the first week of February we had received only 48 inches of snow for the season. This is way below the average of 59 inches for season to date by this time of the winter. Normal season total is 99 inches. Salt usage has been about average. We have used just over 1100 tons so far this year. Always is amazing the difference a year makes. Over the past many weeks we have worked on and will be working on; roadside cleanup, brush pickup from winter winds, taking 5 miles of snow fence down, remove plows and sanders, removing rust, replacing worn out parts, painting plows and sander parts to be ready for next year snow season, and getting trucks ready for the construction season.



### **Brush Pickup**

Is planned for the week of **May 2nd**. Please have brush out to the roadside before that date. We will make **one trip down each road and cannot make return trips** after we have been down your road. We will again be bulk handling the piles of brush loading on our dump trucks with a rented prentice loader. Logs do not need to be bucked into small pieces. Truck beds are 12' long enabling us to accommodate branches and logs 14' long. **Construction materials, boulders, stumps with soil on them, concrete will not, cannot be picked up with brush.** If you have materials other than brush to be picked up, please call a disposal company (Waste Management, Cassella, Suburban Disposal) for those types of materials.

### **Roadside Boulders- Posts**

A reminder, we have damaged plow equipment hitting boulders in the highway right of ways placed at entrances to drives. These items are hazardous to the traveling public and highway maintenance equipment. Highway law and

insurance companies consider these obstructions in the Right of Way "deadly fixed objects." By highway law any landscaping boulders, posts, retaining walls must be outside the 33' right of way measured from the center of the road. Your cooperation is appreciated.

### **Mailboxes**

Our plow drivers endeavor to take all precautions to avoid striking mailboxes with the wing of the plow. Here are some tips for mailbox placement to help reduce damage during next winter plowing; Face of mailbox should **minimally be 15' from the center of the road**. Our truck plow with wing makes a 14' wide path. Mailbox post size must not exceed 4" x 4" for a wooden post, as posts that are more substantial in construction like a 6x6 are also considered "deadly fixed objects" and are not permitted within the highway "right-of-way" as there can be liability issues. It would be timely over the spring season to check posts for rot and deterioration, particularly at the base to insure they will not break having heavy wet snow thrown against your mailbox system. **The town cannot be responsible to repair rotted posts that are part of regular ongoing property maintenance.**



### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Riga highway department is to provide safe efficient roadways throughout all seasons for our community and continually seek to improve service to our residents in a cost-effective manner. If you see a condition in the town that needs attention please call 293-2530 or my cell 733-3808.

### **Planned Town Roadwork for 2022**

**Appletree Road** -In place recycle of road from 33A, West to Johnson Road. This process will add 2" of

limestone, grind up existing 4" of road surface, mix the two together, add tar and be paved back down to give us a uniform cost effective roadway. Chip Seal surface treatment will take place a month after to seal water out on surface. **Johnson Road South** will be surface treated to seal water out of this new widened roadway. **Percy Road** culvert at Onion Creek will be replaced. Road will need to be closed for a couple of weeks. We will notify residents on this road and post road closed to thru traffic signs at Buffalo and Bromley Roads. **Lentine Drive and Edgewood Lane** will both be Micropaved. This is a process where a sealing slurry with fine stone is applied to seal out water and provide a cost-effective wear layer to the surface of the road. Weather permitting, we like to get much of our town and county work done early in the summer to allow our equipment and manpower to be used on county projects in surrounding towns. Shared services agreements with the county allow the towns to do work on County roadways eliminating duplication of services. You will often see trucks from other towns in Riga helping us with projects and our trucks helping other towns with county and town roadwork. We can complete large projects helping one another we would not be able to complete on our own. For example, the paving of Bromley Road last summer we needed 2984 tons of asphalt or 157 truckloads. With 12 trucks a day each making 6 to 7 trips to the asphalt plant we completed the project in 2 days.

### **Monroe County DOT Road projects for this summer:**

At publication we do not have a list of projects planned by the County DOT. I do believe Betteridge Road will be chip sealed again this summer. I did receive a call from Bob Kiley from Monroe County Environmental Services asking if



we would have interest in paving projects in Churchville Park. I let him know we would be very interested. I will be working on pricing these improvements and contracts in the next few weeks.

**Household Hazardous Waste** can be disposed of at the Monroe

County eco park. You can visit the Monroe County **ecopark** website at: <http://www.monroecounty.gov/ecopark/> for an appointment. Or call (585) 753-7600 for information or appointment. Address: 10 Avion Dr, Rochester, NY 14624 (off Paul Road on south end of Airport)

**Submitted by:**  
**David Smith,**  
**Highway**  
**Superintendent**



## SWIMMING POOL PERMITS

With the return of warmer weather this summer season, portable swimming pools will begin appearing in many backyards in our town and village. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), "Each year, nationwide, more than 300 children under 5 years old drown in residential swimming pools, usually a pool owned by their family. In addition, more than 2,000 children in that age group are treated in hospital emergency rooms for submersion injuries."

Please be reminded **all** "swimming pools" require a building permit be issued before installation and final approval is required with in 90 days of being issued a permit, before the pool is put into use.

### Definition of "swimming pool"

The term "swimming pool" is defined in the NYS 2020 Uniform Code as "any structure, basin, chamber or tank which is intended for swimming, diving, recreational bathing or wading and which contains, is designed to contain, or is capable of containing water more than 24 inches (610 mm) deep at any point. This includes in-ground, above-ground and on-ground pools; indoor pools; hot tubs; spas; and fixed-in-place wading pools (inflatable pools/storable soft sided)

### Swimming Pool FAQ



#### Are There Property Line Setback Requirements for A Swimming Pool?

**Yes.** Generally swimming pools and appurtenances (filters, pumps etc.) concrete aprons and pool decks

have side and rear property line setback requirements and vary per land use district, please call the office for setback distances.

Overhead Electric Lines must be located at least **10 feet horizontally** from the water's edge of the pool/hot tub/spa

#### Do I Need to Install A Fence or Barrier (Enclosure) Around the Pool?

##### Yes. New York State Residential Code - Outdoor swimming pool.

An outdoor swimming pool, including an in-ground, above-ground or on-ground pool (**INFLATABLE**), hot tub or spa **MUST** be provided with a barrier which shall comply with the following:

1. The top of the barrier shall be at least 48 inches (1219 mm) above grade measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. The maximum vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches (51 mm) measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. Where the top of the pool structure is above grade, such as an above-ground pool, the barrier may be at ground level, such as the pool structure, or mounted on top of the pool structure. Where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, the maximum vertical clearance between the top of the pool structure and the bottom of the barrier shall be 4 inches (102 mm).
2. Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere.

3. Solid barriers which do not have openings, such as a masonry or stone wall, shall not contain indentations or protrusions except for normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.

4. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45 inches (1143 mm), the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming pool side of the fence. Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 1.75 inches (44 mm) in width.

Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1.75 inches (44 mm) in width.

#### What Type of Gate do I Need?

Gates installed in the enclosure need to be self closing and self latching and must open outward (away) from the pool. If the self latching device is located less than 54" from the bottom of the fence it must be installed on the pool side of the gate at least 3" below the top of the gate and there can be no openings greater than 1/2 "within 18" of the latching device.



#### What about Pool Ladders?

Where an aboveground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, and the means of access is a ladder or steps, then: The ladder or steps shall be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access, or the ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier that

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## Recycling Remedy for Empty Pill Bottles

One of the questions Monroe County Solid Waste educators often hear:

**“Are prescription bottles – colored and white — recyclable in my home recycling bin?”**

The answer is:

- **colored bottles** that prescriptions come in – **NO** (but can be brought to the ecopark for proper disposal)
- **white bottles** that contain vitamins and supplements – **YES**

Why are **colored prescription bottles not acceptable for recycling?**

- In the majority of cases, the bottles are so small they will not make it through the sorting system
- Bottles end up crushed and in the residue (garbage) which is sent to the landfill
- Crushed pieces can end up in the paper stream – since 80% of recycling in Monroe County is paper, paper needs protection from contaminants
- There is the possibility that actual containers with pharmaceuticals would be put in curbside bins and could pose a

health hazard to recycling workers

**EMPTY colored prescription bottles can be brought to the Monroe County / Waste Management ecopark for proper disposal**

- If you are uncomfortable with personal information on the bottle, remove the label OR black out information with a Sharpie marker

**PRO TIP:** Keep a bag with your recycling for empty bottles and bring it to the ecopark when full

**What happens to the colored bottles collected at the ecopark?**

- Along with pharmaceuticals collected at the ecopark and by various law enforcement agencies, colored prescription bottles are incinerated at a waste-to-energy plant, where they are converted into electricity or steam to power homes and businesses

**EMPTY white pharmaceutical bottles (such as those that contain vitamins and supplements) ARE RECYCLABLE curbside**

- Unlike the tinted containers, these will not shatter when

making their way through the sorting system at the Monroe County Recycling Center and can be recycled with plastics from your home such as bottles, jugs, jars and tubs

**Don't forget:** The Monroe County/Waste Management ecopark provides a **FREE safe and proper way to dispose of unused or unwanted medications twice a week, every week**, (excluding holidays) during normal business hours - **Wednesday 1 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Drive in and drop off, NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY!**

Medication disposal is also available throughout the County in cooperation with many local law enforcement agencies.

**Remember: don't flush!**

For more information, visit <https://www.monroecounty.gov/ecopark/pharmaceutical.php>

**Submitted by:**  
**Tina Verno Stevens**  
 Waste Diversion and Education Coordinator  
 Monroe County Department of Environmental Services

## SWIMMING POOL PERMITS (CONTINUES)

meets the requirements of Section 326.4.2.9. When the ladder or steps are secured, locked or removed, any opening created shall not allow passage of a 4 inch diameter sphere.

**Do I Need A Pool Alarm for The Pool?**

All swimming pools installed after December 14, 2006 require a pool alarm that sounds an alarm poolside and at another location on the premises where the swimming pool is located. It must be capable

of detecting a child entering the water and give an audible alarm when it detects entry into the water.

**Are There Electrical Requirements?**

Yes. Electrical requirements are based on the National Electrical Code. Please contact a qualified Electrician or Electrical Inspection Agency.

**Please have a safe swimming pool season and remember many of the above requirements also pertain to pre-existing**

**swimming pools on your property.**

Please contact the Town of Riga Building Department/Code Enforcement Office At 293-3880 x 124 with any questions.

**Submitted By:**  
**Ken Kuter & Bob Panik**  
 Building Inspectors



## Supervisor's Report (continues)

designed to purify the air from viruses (including COVID-19 particles), allergens, and other impurities. We are also researching the possibility of purchasing an LED message sign that would be located outside the town hall in an effort to provide better communication to the community in these rapidly changing times.

In closing, it is with both gratitude and sadness that I am announcing our Highway Superintendent Dave Smith has decided to retire as of February 28<sup>th</sup>. Dave has been involved in our local government in many different capacities since

2005. He served as town councilman, deputy supervisor, and has been our Highway Superintendent since 2014. The positive impact Dave has made on our community will be felt for many years to come. Congratulations Dave and



thank you for all you have done for our community over the years!

With Dave's retirement, the Town Board has appointed Scott Flagler as our new Highway

Superintendent. Scott has served as Dave's deputy Highway Superintendent for the past year. We are confident Scott will continue to provide the same great service we have all come to expect from our highway department.

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,  
Town Supervisor**



Before winter was able to establish its cold grip on us, there were several events happening at the Riga cemetery. On 12/18, the annual Wreathes across America took place. There were 92 wreathes laid at the graves of our veterans. Many thanks to the volunteers that helped and a special shout-out to Erin Maysick who coordinated the activities in

Churchville and Riga.

Two large pine trees fell in the cemetery, which fortunately left little damage to tombstones, and it was cleaned up before WVA.

We requested that MCWA turn the cemetery water off during the winter by removing our water meter. It will be replaced in the spring.

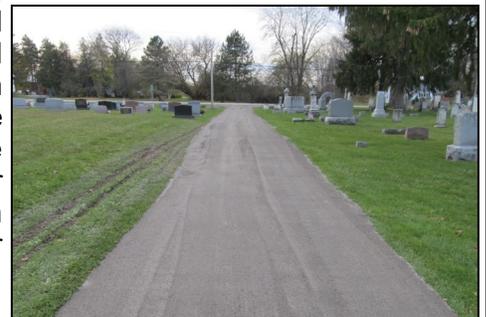
## RIGA CEMETERY NEWS

Information about the cemetery can be found at the Cemetery web page in the Town of Riga website. There we request that lot owners pick up all grave decorations after the Christmas and New Year's season by March 15. We thank our volunteer and workers who keep our grounds in good shape. We can always use extra help.

**Submitted by:  
Tim Speares, Vice-President**



The driveway was scraped, and new gravel was laid down in addition to a small area to park cars and an extension in front of the Veteran section. Again, we thank Waste Management for their contribution to help with cost of this major project.



## Harvey C. Noone Post #954

### A Few Words of Thanks As The Baton Is Passed

This will be my last article as Commander of the Harvey C. Noone Legion. So, it is only fitting that I thank this community for its support during my tenure which began in 2011.

At that time, Legion Posts across the US were facing declining membership and finances as we began losing members of the Greatest Generation. Many Posts closed. I vowed that would not be the fate of our Post. So, I developed a two-part strategy to increase membership and re-establish financial stability. It was a long, sometimes bumpy road, but both goals have been achieved. Our success rests with a small group of Legionnaires and Auxiliary members who have worked tirelessly and with the many individuals, elected officials

and other community organizations that provided generous and constant support.

It is with a great deal of gratitude, humility and optimism for the future of our beloved Legion that I will pass the baton to Vice Commander, Ken Juergens. Thanks again to each and every one of you for your support. It has been my honor and privilege to serve you.

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

Euchre Tournament at 7:00 pm sign-in by 6:30 pm

Dates: March 4, March 18, April 1, April 15, May 6, May 20

⇒ April 16, 2022  
Pick up the Parks  
Churchville Park



10:00 am

⇒ May 14, 2022

Craft and Vendor Fair 10:00am—4:00 pm

⇒ May 30, 2022

Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

⇒ June 14, 2022

Flag Retirement Ceremony 7:00 pm

⇒ June 16, 2020

Churchville Walk About/ Open House 5:00 pm

Community members please update your calendars and feel free to participate. If you have any questions, please call the legion at 293-1364 and we will get back with you. Thank you!

**Submitted by:  
Ken Juergens, Vice Commander**

## RECREATION NEWS

Riga Recreation is still in somewhat of a "Holding Pattern" as we negotiate our way through this ongoing health challenge. The Santa from Riga Rec. and his elves sleighed the roads of Riga in December to drop off gift certificates to those homes deemed tastefully decorated. The certificates were purchased from local businesses. The homeowners were VERY surprised and appreciative of the gifts.

We, once again, had to cancel the indoor portion of "Winterfest, 2022" as the Churchville Lions wanted to use the Riga Highway Department for their "World Famous" BBQ (which by the way, sold out once more!) Thanks to the Lions for all their hard work in the cold conditions and to the Riga community for their overwhelming support!

In response to last year's "Who Can Build Riga's BEST Snowman/Snow Sculpture" Contest we are once again challenging individuals/families to go out and create a work of Art for the months of January & February. Just call the office for us to come and take a picture or send a picture via email to us!

In the meantime we are planning our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 9th. We will have more definitive information about this event (either a parade or actual hunt at Maher Lodge) once we receive more information around large group get togethers from Monroe County Health. Stay Tuned...

We have been working with the Village of Churchville to collaborate on 2 projects..... Earth Day/Pick



Up the Parks (April) and a return to the Village of Churchville "Walk-A-Bout" (June) More details to come as we work thorough all the logistics of bringing these exciting events to the community.

We are also working on Riga's popular Summer Camp. Director Dave Childs and I are looking for at least three (3) summer camp counselors as Emily, Alex, and Carli have graduated. We wish them well and thank them for their many years of dedicated service to our campers! If you know of any high school age young adults that would like to work with our campers, please let us know!

The Churchville Youth Assn. (Softball/Baseball) and Churchville Soccer Club will also be getting out their agendas for the 2022 season as soon as possible..

Article continues at bottom of next page —>

# MAR.-APR.-MAY 2022 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

## March

- 1) Scrapbooking with Anne, Saturday, March 19..... Riga Town Hall
- 2) CYA Baseball/Softball for Ages 6-15.....[www.leaguelineup.com/cyabaseball](http://www.leaguelineup.com/cyabaseball)
- 3) Churchville Soccer Club.....[www.churchvillesoccerclub.com](http://www.churchvillesoccerclub.com)
- 4) Riga's Annual Youth Soccer Academy.....TBA
- 5) Riga Rec "Cornhole Tournament" @ The Cobblestone Hall...Thurs. March 17....6:00pm
- 6) Pickleball at McNeely Park.....Starts March 15.....Sunrise to Sunset
- 7) Cardmaking with Nancy....Thurs. March 24.....6-8pm.....Riga Town Hall



## April

- 1) Scrapbooking with Anne.....Riga Town Hall....TBA
- 2) Earth Day/Pick Up the Parks.....at Churchville Park \*Come celebrate this special day by cleaning up OUR park!.....Saturday, April 23.....9 am.....meet at Church Lodge
- 3) Riga Rec "Cornhole Tournament" at Churchville Park Tennis Courts...Thurs. April 14...6pm
- 4) Pickleball at McNeely Park.....Starts March 15.....Sunrise to Sunset
- 5) "Easter Egg Hunt Parade....Saturday, April 9.....9am.....Meet at Churchville Commons
- 6) Cardmaking with Nancy....Thurs. April 21.....6-8pm.....Riga Town Hall



## March



- 1) MLB "Pitch-Hit-Run", Saturday, May 14.....9am for Boys & Girls Age 7-14 Field #3 at Sanford Road Park.....Registration is ONLINE !
- 2) NY State Safeboating Course, Saturday, May.....TBA
- 3) Pickleball at McNeely Park...Play ANYTIME....we have supplies you may borrow form sunrise to sunset!
- 4) Riga Rec "Cornhole Tourney" .....Thurs. May 12.....6-8pm.....Churchville Park Tennis Courts
- 5) Cardmaking with Nancy at Riga Town Hall.....TBA



\* Summer Camp.....Early Bird Discount of 10% goes into effect March 31 'til May 18.....More details to follow as we receive information from NY State

\* \* Additional Information and registration for our recreation programs can be found on: FaceBook, the Suburban News, Genesee Valley PennySaver, and the Town of Riga's website...[www.townofriga.org](http://www.townofriga.org)  
Facility rentals please call the Riga Town Clerk's Office at 293-3880 x121 or x122

The Town of Riga last year had the Highway Department and the Parkitects Co. install new playground equipment near the Maher Lodge. The weather became an issue and we could not open up the area for play. As soon as the "White Stuff" goes away the Riga Highway Dept. will prep the area to make it accessible for all. When you see the orange fencing disappear....come

on down and have FUN!

The Summer Gazebo Music Series is complete. This year we lead off with the "Buschel Brothers" followed by Don Newcomb, Generations, 3 Hits and a Miss, and finally Blue Sky will perform the last concert in conjunction with the Relay for Life/Luminaria event on August 3rd, NOTE: All concerts start at 6:30pm

and go till 8:00pm. The last concert will start at 7:00pm and go till 8:30pm.

Once again if you have an idea for a new program feel free to contact us.

**Submitted By:**  
**Dave Thomas,**  
**Recreation Supervisor**



# SCOR NEWS

Season of Spring in the U.S. is the time of new life beginning in plants, lush green leaves, more newborn animals, more daylight in a day and the increase of annoying insects like flies, and the amazing occasional rainbow formed in the sky in a multi-colored arc.



Springtime gatherings for SCOR members are planned. On March 8th we will be enjoying hearty soups, corn beef and cabbage, breads and

desserts at the American Legion Hall for St. Patrick's Day party.

On April 13th, the ham buffet and side dishes for our theme of "new life beginnings" that remind us to enjoy the sounds, sights and smell of Spring.

This May 10th we plan to celebrate the 46th Anniversary of the SCOR organization. More details to follow soon.



SCOR members are local senior citizens that gather monthly for lunch, information and friendship. Guests are welcome to one regular luncheon/meeting before becoming members. For more information contact Verna Linney at 293-9068 or a SCOR member. Also, our brochure is available at the Town and Village Offices.

**Submitted by: Dolores Perry, 585-532-6978**

**Publicity for Senior Citizens of Riga Inc.**

## Church News

### Riga Congregational Church - 7057 Chili Riga Ctr Rd, Churchville

Hoping you're all snuggled in safely, enjoying the reconnecting that the winter season provides.

We're reveling in the clean winter beauty, as we plan our welcome of spring. Finding a gift from God is always an amazing joy!

March 26 - Drive thru Turkey dinner! Beginning at 3PM - until sold out or 5:30 PM \$10 per dinner, FULL traditional turkey, dressing, Veggie, home made gravy, REAL mashed potato, roll, cranberry & slice of PIE !!!

April 29 & 30 - Rummage for SPRING treasures! Fri. April 29, Preview Sale \$5 admission donation; deducted from your purchase; or Thank You. Come have the first choices of the beautiful, clean items our donators gift to us!

Preview Sale runs 3PM - 7PM

April 30 - Rummage sale 10AM - 2PM We present a clean sale with

prices to sell and reasonable offers welcome.

May 14 - Drive thru Turkey dinner! A repeat of a town favorite! Same menu as above, to let you take a night out of the kitchen! Same hours as above.

Please know our doors are always open to you. You're welcome to check out our service and meet us! Service begins at 10AM Followed by coffee hour to chat, tempt your taste buds, and possibly find a church family!

Blessing



### St. Martin de Porres Parish at St. Vincent de Paul Church 11 N. Main Street / PO Box 609 Churchville, NY 14428

Lenten Mass Schedule  
St. Columba - Caledonia  
St. Mary - Scottsville  
St. Vincent - Churchville

Ash Wednesday - March 2<sup>nd</sup>

8:30 am - St. Vincent's  
12:00 pm - St. Columba's  
7:00 pm - St. Mary's

Palm Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

Sat, April 9<sup>th</sup> - 4 pm at St. Columba's

Sun, April 10<sup>th</sup> - 9 am at St. Mary's

Sun, April 10<sup>th</sup> - 11 am at St. Vincent's

Holy Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>

Evening of the Lord's Supper  
7 pm Mass at St. Columba's

Good Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>

Friday of the Passion of the Lord  
3 pm Service at St. Mary's

Holy Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

8 pm Mass at St. Vincent's

Easter Sunday Masses,  
April 17<sup>th</sup>

9 am Mass at

St. Columba's

9 am Mass at St. Mary's

11 am Mass at St. Vincent's



# UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

**March**

- 8 SCOR—lunch at Harvey Noone Legion Hall
- 13 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 15 RED Cross Blood Drive—Town Hall 1-6 pm



**April**

- 4 RED Cross Blood Drive—Town Hall 1-6 pm
- 9 Easter Egg Hunt Parade— 9am.....Meet at Churchville Commons
- 13 SCOR—lunch at Harvey Noone Legion Hall
- 16 Pick up the Parks—10am Churchville Park
- 17 Easter Sunday



**May**

- 10 SCOR—46th Anniversary
- 26 RED Cross Blood Drive—Town Hall 1-6 pm
- 30 Office Closed for Memorial 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](http://www.townofriga.org). Contact sponsoring organizations for further information regarding their events. Submit your ideas and comments for further enhancements to the Editor.



**Board Retirements**

On behalf of the Library Board of Trustees, we’d like to express our sincerest gratitude to recently retired trustees, Sue Davis and Geraldine Schnell. Sue joined the library board in 1990 and Geraldine soon followed. We are grateful for their leadership and guidance through many challenges faced in the library world during their tenure. Newman Riga Library is happy to celebrate a collective 60+ years of service from these amazing ladies!



**Overdrive Change**

If you use the Overdrive App to access e-books and e-audio items from the Monroe County Library System, a change is coming in February of 2022. The Overdrive App will be transitioned to the Libby App. You can download the Libby App for free from the Apple App or Google Play. For information, go to <https://www.overdrive.com/apps/libby/>.

Our remaining Centennial Celebration activities will be kicked off with a book sale on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> and will continue throughout the summer. The Summer Reading Program

this year is themed “Oceans of Possibilities” with planning currently underway. Keep an eye out for updates as our plans solidify.

Don’t forget to follow us on Facebook to stay on top of library activities or check our website at <https://newmanrigalibrary.org>.

**Winter/Spring Library Hours:**  
 M/W/F: 11am – 5pm  
 T/TH: 11am – 8pm  
 SA: 10am – 2pm

**Submitted by:**  
**Lynn M. Brown,**  
**Librarian**



## 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**, Council Member

**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.**



**American  
Red Cross**



**RIGA TOWN HALL BLOOD DRIVE  
6460 BUFFALO ROAD-COMMUNITY ROOM**

**Tuesday, March 15th 2021  
1:00 PM—6:00 PM**

**Please give the gift that lasts a lifetime.  
Please call 1-800-GIVE LIFE to schedule  
your lifesaving donation.**

**Walk-ins are also welcome!! Please Bring ID!**

**1-800-GIVE-LIFE    donatebloodnow.org**