

TOWN OF RIGA

NEWSLETTER

Riga Town Board Members

BRAD O'BROCTA, SUPERVISOR

KEN KUTER, DEPUTY SUPERVISOR, JAMES FODGE, COUNCIL MEMBER

CHRIS VOSSLER, COUNCIL MEMBER, DEREK HARNSBERGER, COUNCIL MEMBER (EDITOR)

Sep/Oct/Nov
Riga Fall
2026 Issue

Supervisor's Report



The Gilman Road sidewalk project is moving ahead.

After many months of working with Monroe County to solve a host of engineering and placement issues, we have received all required permits

from the County. Bids from potential contractors were opened on August 4th. Upon consultation with the Town's engineering firm (MRB Group), the Town Board awarded the contract to Campobello Construction at our August 11th Town Board meeting. We expect the project to be completed later this Fall, with possible finishing touches next Spring.

With Fall approaching, the Town Board will soon be tasked with working on the 2027 Town Budget. The budget process will once again include meetings with all department heads and outside groups that provide services to the Town to review their budget requests. Each budget line will be reviewed to ensure requests are appropriate and warranted. Even with stubbornly high costs across the board, I am confident the Board will put forward a Town Budget that will meet the needs of our community while being fiscally

A huge thank you goes out to everyone involved in the budget process. I am thankful for their hard work and dedication to this important task!

Our summer day camp program was once again a resounding success. The program continues to grow and provide recreational and educational opportunities for our younger population. I want to thank Dave Childs, our recreation director, and his entire staff of counselors for creating a safe and welcoming environment for all involved. We also would like to thank the Churchville-Chili Central School District for providing the facilities and staff at Churchville Elementary School. Their cooperation and help is integral to the success of our summer day camp.

Please take a moment to read an article submitted by Deputy Supervisor Ken Kuter regarding a proposed community solar project, which is located on page 2.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me or any other Town Board member.



Submitted by:
Brad O'Brocta,
Town Supervisor

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PROPOSED COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT UPDATE



The Town of Riga Planning Board has received an application for a ground-mounted Type 2 Solar Energy System to be located at 509 Riga Mumford Rd. The application was received from BS Riga LLC, an affiliate of Aurora Renewables Inc.

This property is in an RRA (Rural Residential Agricultural) land use district.

To ensure solar developments do not negatively impact Riga's rural character, and to help protect local farmland and better align with our town and village comprehensive plan, the town board approved Local Law 1-2025 which officially amended our zoning code chapter 95-78 regarding solar energy systems. This local law guided commercial solar development away from the RRA land use district to the General Industrial and Light Industrial land use districts.

After a thorough review, the Planning Board will determine whether to move forward on approving a special use permit and site plan or deny the application.

If the application is denied, the applicant will always have the option to apply for a use variance by application to the Town of Riga Zoning Board of Appeals.

The Town Board remains committed to balanced progress and we want to encourage residents to participate in all the required open meetings and public hearings as this project unfolds.

We should also not forget Home Rule in New York is the legal power granted to local governments, such as towns and villages, to manage their own affairs, pass local laws, and provide community services without waiting for state approval.

Planning Board meetings are held at the Riga Town Hall typically on the first Monday of the month. Meetings are noticed in the Westside News and on the informational sign board in front of the Town Hall. You can also contact the Town Clerk's office at 293-3880 Ext 121 or 122.

Submitted by:
Deputy Town Supervisor
Ken Kuter



RIGA HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS

As we move from a busy summer of construction and vacation with family and friends, we notice the days are shortened as it is dark in the mornings when alarms go off, and evenings are not quite as long as they were a month ago. As we transition to Autumn, we look back on a productive summer. Much has been accomplished in our town and county by your neighbors and friends in the Riga Highway Department. I am thankful for a dedicated crew who accomplishes much to make our Town a great place to live and work.

Town & County Road Work Accomplished

With such a wet Spring we had to start roadwork later than normal. We have had a very busy Summer but have accomplished what we had scheduled. We did several roads throughout the town with oil and stone and then fog sealed with a coat of oil to seal everything together. It might look like the roads were paved before we did this process but that was just a truing and leveling process that is done to get the tire grooves out and to put a crown back in the roads. With all the rain we found several cross culverts that were bad and had to be replaced. The County roads that were completed are Robertson, Bridgeman, and Hosmer. For the Town Roads we have completed are Stearns, Jenkins and Leibeck Roads. We will still be getting N. Sanford Road ready for asphalt.

There are always questions about what we do and why we do things on certain roads. We have different agreements with the County and State on what we can do on their roads for roadwork. If anyone has questions or concerns

about what is happening on a specific road please feel free to call me at the Highway Department and I will be happy to explain it. I am not sure if residents of the town know what roads are Town, County, or State so I have included a list just for information. Just remember if you have a concern on any of these roads please call us at the Highway Department and we will make sure it gets taken care of.

TOWN ROADS	COUNTY ROADS	STATE ROADS NYS DOT - 352-3471
APPLETREE	ATTRIDGE	33 - BUFFALO ROAD
BLUE	BAKER	33A - CHILI-RIGA CTR. RD.
BOVEE (Brew, west to Bergen TL)	BANGS	36 - WASHINGTON
BUNNY RUN (Ogden maintains ROW)	BETTERIDGE	36 - CHURCHVILLE-RIGA RD.
BURNT MILL, N.	BOVEE (Malloch, west to Brew)	36 - RIGA-MUMFORD RD.
BURNT MILL, S.	BREW	
CHILI AVE. EXT.	BRIDGEMAN	
CHILI-RIGA TL (Green to Griffin)	BROMLEY	
EDGEWOOD	CHILI-RIGA TL (Griffin to Hosmer)	
FAIRBANKS	DAVIS	
GOUGH	GILMAN	
GREEN	GRIFFIN	
JENKINS	HOSMER	
JOHNSON	KENDALL (Bangs, to McIntosh)	
KENDALL (McIntosh, west to Bergen)	MALLOCH	
LEIBECK	MCINTOSH	
LENTINE	N. MAIN	
O'BRIEN	PALMER	
PARISH	PARK/PARK RD. EXT.	
PERCY	ROBERTSON (Rt. 36, east to Palmer)	
ROBERTSON (Palmer, east to Attridge)	SAVAGE	
SANFORD, N.	WESTSIDE	
SANFORD, S.		
SHERIDAN		
STEARNS		

Fall Brush Pickup We will be doing our fall brush pickup the week of October 5th. Please have your brush out to the roadside before that date. We will only 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. Please stack branches with butt ends towards the road in orderly piles. Do not cut it into short lengths. Please do not drag entire trees to the roadside, limbs

must be removed and not exceed fourteen feet. Construction materials, boulders, concrete, railroad ties and pallets will not be picked up with brush. We cannot accept tree stumps, leaves, or grass clippings. If you have materials other than brush to be picked up, please call a disposal company (Waste Management, Suburban Disposal, or Casella) for those types of materials. *If you are a landowner and don't care to drag brush to the*

roadside, consider making brush piles for wildlife and returning organic matter back to the soil. There are great resources on the internet discussing benefits of brush piles. You can always bring brush to the highway department all year long. We have a dump site here that you can drop off located next to our wood chip pile.

The purpose of the Riga highway department is to provide efficient roadways for transportation for our residents and users of our town's roadways and continually seek to improve service to our residents in a cost-effective manner within budget. I would like to take a moment and thank the residents and the travelers that commute every day through the town for respecting and taking caution through the work zones. The flaggers are trying to keep you and us safe. If you notice road conditions that need attention, please call the highway office 293-2530.

Submitted by:
Scott Flagler,
Highway Superintendent



THE TOWN OF RIGA'S ROLE IN OUR NATION'S SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL

On July 4, 2026, the United States marked its semiquincentennial, celebrating 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. As the nation commemorates this milestone, it is worth asking what role the Town of Riga played during the Revolutionary era. Although Riga did not yet exist—the area was first settled around 1805 as West Pulteney and officially became the Town of Riga in 1809—its connection to the Revolution took shape nearly three decades after the war through frontier settlement and the lasting influence of the Sullivan Campaign.



The Sullivan Campaign, also known as the Sullivan-Clinton Expedition, was a major American offensive in the Revolutionary War. Ordered by General George Washington to secure the frontier, the 1779 campaign sent General John Sullivan and about 3,200 Continental soldiers into upstate New York. The expedition met its main objectives, defeating roughly six hundred Iroquois and Loyalist fighters and destroying more than forty villages and their crops before ending near present-day Geneseo, New York. Many of Sullivan's soldiers, especially those from Massachusetts and

elsewhere in New England, returned home with vivid accounts of Western New York's fertile valleys. Their stories helped draw future settlers to the region.



After the war, western New York slowly opened to settlement, and Riga's story began. More than half of the town's first pioneers were Revolutionary War veterans and families, including Richard Church, father of Churchville founder Samuel Church.

These resilient settlers endured severe hardships as they cleared land, built log cabins, planted the first crops, surveyed the countryside, laid out routes that became today's roads, and bridged Black Creek. Revolutionary War veterans also helped organize and built the town's first religious society and house of worship, led by Private Nehemiah Frost of Captain Strong's Massachusetts regiment and Private Samuel Baldwin of the Essex County Militia. It was those same Revolutionary war veterans, Frost & Baldwin, that established the first education system in the township with the construction and financing of the first schoolhouse, at a cost of \$178.00, in 1810, at Riga Centre. Private Thomas Hill, a member of Captain Willis Clift's Regiment of the Connecticut Line, was elected and served two years as Riga's first supervisor in 1809. Also, Amasa Frost, a member of Capt. Ebenezer Strong's Co.:

Col Sears (Hampshire Co.) Regt. Massachusetts, served alongside Thomas Hill in 1809, as the Town's first overseer of the Poor. Other veterans including Private Samuel Shepard of Captain Simeon Leach's Company in Colonel Benjamin Gill's Massachusetts regiment, were chosen as highway commissioners, surveying, building, and maintaining all the town's earliest roads. Still others opened storefronts and repair shops or farmed the land, providing the food, tools, and services that helped the settlement grow.

In total, twelve Revolutionary War veterans are buried in the Riga Pioneer Cemetery, where their service and contributions are remembered with gratitude.

Riga's story reminds us that the legacy of the American Revolution did not end with the signing of the Declaration of Independence or the close of the war. It continued in the lives of veterans who carried the ideals, hardships, and lessons of that struggle into new communities. Through their labor, leadership, worship, education, and public service, Riga's Revolutionary War veterans helped transform a frontier settlement into a lasting town. In honoring America's 250th anniversary, Riga can proudly remember these early citizens whose service to the nation continued long after the battlefield, shaping the community we inherit today.

Submitted by:
Ron Belczak,
Town
Historian



— 1776 – 2026 —



TAX EXEMPTION

News from the Assessor's Office



On the state's Office of Real Property Services website, www.tax.ny.gov, you will see that the maximum income to be eligible for the Enhanced STAR exemption, for the 2026-2027 school year, is **\$110,750**. Resident property owners, who are at least 65 by the end of 2026 (born on or before December 31, 1961), whose **2025 Federal Adjusted Gross** Income (minus any taxable IRA distribution) fits into this category, **MAY** be entitled to the exemption.

For those who are currently Enhanced STAR recipients, renewal notices are no longer required. You no longer need to bring your tax information to the Assessor's office.

First-time Enhanced STAR applicant (meaning you already have the Basic STAR, and you believe you're entitled to the Enhanced STAR) you **NO LONGER** need to file an Enhanced STAR application with the Assessor.

The 2025-2026 Enacted State Budget included several provisions to simplify the STAR program.

Homeowners will no longer be required to submit an application to the assessor if they had an ownership change or if they *aged into* the Enhanced STAR exemption. ORPTS will notify assessors of Basic STAR recipients who become eligible for Enhanced

STAR (rather than requiring seniors to apply to their assessors)

New residents who wish to apply for the Basic or Enhanced STAR will need to apply online at www.tax.ny.gov/star or call (518)-457-2036

Residents who are delinquent with their NYS Taxes NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance will instruct me to remove your Basic or Enhanced STAR exemption.



LIMITED INCOME SENIOR EXEMPTION CHANGES (This is NOT STAR)

As of the 2024 Calendar year, there have been some changes to the Limited Income Senior Exemption income calculations. NYS has tried to restructure the income calculations to be more like the STAR exemption, but of course with exceptions:

- Your New York State tax return is no longer required or needed – just the Federal tax return. However, if your full Social Security is not shown on the tax return, then your Social Security 1099 form will be required. This is also the case with non-taxable interest and IRA distributions, as well as income from a deceased spouse.
- If you do not file a tax return, there will be an Income Work-

sheet that needs to be filled out.

There is a limitation on losses:

- ⇒ \$3,000 net loss per Schedule C, D, E, F
- ⇒ \$3,000 net loss per "any other separate category"
- ⇒ Provided – "the Aggregate amount of ALL losses shall not exceed \$15,000".

The "Mandate" Calculations from Form 1040

FAGI (Federal Adjusted Gross Income)	Line 11
+ Tax-exempt interest and dividends	+Line 2a
- Any Taxable IRA Distributions	-Line 4b
+ Social Security <u>not included in AGI</u>	+(Line 6a – 6b)
Limiting Losses	SEE Lines 7&8
= INCOME	

Now with all that information comes the fact that the amount of the exemption you will receive is based on what income level each taxing jurisdiction (County, Town, School, and Village) has adopted. Not all taxing jurisdictions have the same levels. So, you may receive 50% for County, 30% for Village and 10% for School (depending on what School District you're in because all the School Districts have different levels).

If you have questions, and I can be of assistance, please give me a call at the Town Hall – 293-3880 extension 126.

**Submitted by:
Lori Frongetta, Assessor**



All renewal applications will be mailed out no later than the end of October 2026 for the following Exemptions:

*Agricultural

*Limited Income Senior

*Nonprofit exemption

*Limited Income Disability

*Clergy

New & Updated Recycling Signs Now Available

One of the biggest barriers residents cite to recycling is simply *not knowing* what belongs in the recycling bin. To help address this challenge, Monroe County developed standardized, visually based educational signs to help residents, businesses, schools, and organizations reduce confusion at the bin and improve recycling across our community.

New and updated signs are now available for free download in both English and Spanish! Customized signs for recycling in a school, office, apartment building, public space, or at an event have been designed to help people recycle correctly wherever they are.

The updated sign suite now includes:

- Newly accepted plastic and paper cups
- Reminders to keep dangerous items—such as needles, vape devices, and lithium batteries—out of trash and recycling containers
- A brand-new organics recycling sign

Download the complete Recycling Right Sign Suite at www.monroecounty.gov/recycling and help make recycling easier in your home, workplace, school, or community.

Submitted by:

Nicole Fornof
Waste Diversion & Education
Coordinator— Monroe County
Department of Environmental
Services



RIGA CEMETERY NEWS

We completed the repair of 13 small headstones in our old North Section. The dirt around the headstones has been seeded. This completes our planned headstone repairs for 2026.

We lost one of our new Dogwood trees over the winter and all the leaves fell off one of our new Tupelo Gum trees, which we are trying to recover. We plan to turn off county water at the end of September when our flowers do not need water.

We need to add new members to our Cemetery Board who will help manage the cemetery. This is an opportunity for cemetery lot owners, relatives of recent burials, and volunteers to pay back to our community for the benefits they

have all received. If you need any more information about the work we do, let me know.

We also thank Scott Flagler, Town Highway Superintendent, and his crew for continuing the full cemetery mowing and trimming around our headstones. Bonnie Loser seeded, raised, and planted geraniums that were placed in the Berm, the Veteran's Walk, and around our shed; and she has maintained them. Ken Kuter and Scott Flagler put up fencing around our new arborvitae to keep the deer from chewing on them and it has worked.

This year the National Wreaths Across America Day (WAA), where we honor our veterans, will be held at the Riga Cemetery on Saturday, December 19, 2026. All are invited to attend.



Submitted by:
John Loser, President
538-2951



Newman Riga Library



2026 "Read for Riga" Challenge Continues....

Grab a reading log from the library or download one from our Facebook page. Track what you have read during the month and drop off by the last day of each month. Each month, a reading log will be randomly selected to win a fun, local gift card! This challenge will run until the end of December.



Children's Storytime Fall 2026 Session

Join Ms. Jenna Thursday mornings at 10:30am for story time! This story time is geared for children under 5 with a caregiver but all are welcome!

Ms. Jenna will read stories, sing songs, rhymes, and have lots of fun with your little ones! Registration is not required but please check newmanrigalibrary.org or the library's Facebook page for any changes.

Session Dates:

October: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
November: 5, 12, 19

Programs

Future Programming

Many of our programs pop up after the newsletter has been published. Please follow us on Facebook or check the Programs/Events tab on our website for programs as they are added.

Fall Hours:

M/W/F: 11am – 5pm

T/TH: 11am – 8pm

SA: 10am – 2pm (Starting on September 12th)

SU: closed

Contact Information

Check our website at <https://newmanrigalibrary.org>

Call us at (585) 293-2009

Follow us on Facebook

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

Submitted by:
Lynn M. Brown,
Librarian



PLANNING
AND ZONING

THE TOWN OF RIGA IS SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR THE FOLLOWING BOARDS

PLANNING BOARD & ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Help Shape the Future of Our Community

We are looking for engaged residents to serve on the **Planning Board** as **alternate members**. If you care about how our town grows — from new businesses to neighborhood projects — this is a meaningful way to get involved.

Your Perspective Matters — Serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals

Want to make a real impact in your community? We're recruiting a **ZBA Member**

and **alternate members**. This board helps residents seek relief from zoning requirements.

Commitment: Boards meet once a month.
Four hours of training required yearly.

How To Apply: Please Send Letter of Interest and/or Resume to:

Riga Town Supervisor
6460 Buffalo Road
Churchville, NY 14428

Or email it to: bobrocta@townofriga.gov



The Town of Riga has established a **Do-Not-Knock Registry**

For residents outside of the Village who do not wish commercial solicitors, peddlers, or hawkers to come to their homes for the purpose of selling.

How to Sign Up You can email the Town Clerk Directly at townclerk@townofriga.gov or you can call the Town Clerk's Office at 585-293-3880 x 121 or x 122 and ask to have your address added to the Do-Not-Knock Registry. The solicitors receive a list of addresses they are prohibited from approaching.

What should I do if a solicitor knocks on my door after I sign up for the Do Not Knock Registry?

Call the Town Clerk at 585-293-3880 x 121 or x 122 to report the incident and include as many details about the solicitation as possible.

NO SOLICITING
THANK YOU

Harvey C. Noone American Legion Post 954

As summer comes to an end, the Harvey C. Noone American Legion Post #954 is excited to welcome everyone back for another season of activities and community events at our Post, located at **6444 Buffalo Road, Churchville.**

Our popular **Euchre Tournaments** return on **September 17, October 15, and November 19**, offering an evening of friendly competition and fellowship. **Trivia**

Nights resume on **October 8** and **November 12**, while **Karaoke Nights** return on **October 9** and **November 12**. These events are open to the public, so bring your family and friends for a fun evening at the Legion.

One of our most rewarding community outreach programs is our **VA Hospital Bingo** at the Batavia VA Medical Center.

Community volunteers are always welcome to join us on **September 2** and **November 4**. We meet at the Legion at **12:45 p.m.** and carpool to Batavia. Spending a few hours with our hospitalized veterans makes a tremendous difference, and we invite anyone interested in supporting those who served our nation to participate.

Our **American Legion Family meetings** resume on **Thursday, September 24, at 6:30 p.m.** If you

are a veteran, the son or daughter of a veteran, or have a parent or grandparent who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, you may be eligible to join the American Legion, Sons of the American Legion, or the American Legion Auxiliary. We invite you to attend a meeting, learn more about our mission, and become part of an organization dedicated to serving veterans, our youth, and our community.

The **American Legion Auxiliary** will host a **Multi-Vendor Wine Tasting** on **Saturday, October 3**. Additional details will be announced soon, so be sure to mark your calendar for what promises to be an enjoyable community event.



On **Veterans Day**, Post #954 will once again host its **Annual Veterans Day Luncheon** for veterans residing in the Town of Riga, the Village of Churchville, or the Churchville-Chili School District. Lunch is **complimentary**

for veterans and their spouse or partner. The guest speaker will be NYS Senator Pam Helming. Our Legion family will be selling raffle tickets from now until the event (prizes total \$3,000). During the luncheon, we will draw the winners of our **Veterans Day Cash Bash Raffle.**



We're also pleased to introduce our new **Legion Family Sunday Breakfast**, beginning **Sunday, September 20**, from **9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**. Enjoy an **all-you-can-eat breakfast for just \$10**. Breakfasts will be held on the **third Sunday of each month**, with upcoming dates of **October 18** and **November 15**. We invite everyone in the community to come out, enjoy a great breakfast, and support your local American Legion.

We look forward to seeing old friends, welcoming new faces, and continuing to serve our veterans and our community throughout the fall.

Submitted by:
Ken Juergens,
Post 954 Commander



NEW FOR 2026

NEW HUNTING REGULATIONS

TO INCREASE HARVEST OF ANTLERLESS DEER

WHAT HUNTERS NEED TO KNOW



WHY THE CHANGE?

Deer populations are increasing in many areas of New York. Harvesting more antlerless (female) deer helps keep populations healthy, protects habitat, and keeps deer numbers at levels acceptable to everyone.



FOUR BIG CHANGES COMING IN 2026

1



EASIER TO GET DMPs

- Hunters can apply for up to **FOUR DMPs**: two in WMUs with limited DMPs and two in WMUs with unlimited DMPs.
- 19 additional WMUs now have unlimited DMPs. If you apply in these areas, you will receive a DMP.
- Harvest a doe in an unlimited DMP area? You'll get a **BONUS DMP** when you report it—so you can keep harvesting antlerless deer.
- DEC will adjust which WMUs have unlimited DMPs each year based on deer management needs.

✓ More permits.
More opportunity.
More impact.

2



UNLIMITED DMP TRANSFERS

- Hunters can receive an unlimited number of DMPs transferred from other hunters.
- Only paper DMPs can be transferred.



Don't need your permit? Pass it on!

3



SEPTEMBER SEASON EXPANDED

- The special nine-day season for antlerless deer in mid-September is being expanded to 10 additional WMUs.
- More hunters will have an early opportunity to harvest a doe before the regular season.



*More WMUs.
More early opportunity.*

4



EARN-A-2ND-BUCK (EA2B) SYSTEM

This is the biggest change! See full explanation below.



*Harvest a doe.
Earn a second buck tag.*

THE NEW EARN-A-2ND-BUCK (EA2B) SYSTEM

BEFORE 2026

Hunters automatically received **TWO** buck tags with their license:

- Bow/Muzzleloader Either-Sex Tag
- Regular Season Deer Tag



BEGINNING IN 2026

You will receive **ONE** Antlered Deer Tag with your license.



TO EARN YOUR SECOND BUCK TAG:

- Harvest an antlerless deer (doe) using a valid tag (DMP, Bow/Muzzleloader Antlerless Deer Tag, DMAP Tag, etc.).
- Report your harvest.

✓ You'll automatically receive your **SECOND** Antlered Deer Tag at no extra cost!

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW



No extra fee. Fees to apply for DMPs and earn your second buck tag remain unchanged.



Automatic. Your second buck tag is issued automatically after your antlerless harvest is reported.



One second buck tag per year. No matter how many does you harvest, you can earn only **ONE**.



Season restrictions. Your second buck tag cannot be used during the September antlerless deer season.



Honesty matters. DEC monitors harvest reports and may request proof of harvest to help prevent fraud.



Department of
Environmental
Conservation



For full details of the new regulations,
visit DEC.NY.GOV





Fall & Winter Fire Safety Bulletin

As temperatures drop, heating equipment, holiday activities, and seasonal hazards increase the risk of home and workplace fires. Please review and share the following safety guidelines to help keep our community safe throughout fall and winter.

Heating Safety

- Have furnaces, boilers, chimneys, and fireplaces inspected and cleaned before first use.
- Keep a three-foot clearance around all heat sources, including space heaters and wood stoves.
- Use space heaters with automatic shut-off features and plug them directly into a wall outlet. Turn off heaters when leaving a room or going to bed.

Fireplaces & Wood Stoves

- Use a sturdy fireplace screen to prevent sparks from escaping.
- Fully extinguish fires before leaving home or going to sleep.

- Store cooled ashes in a metal container with a lid, placed outside and away from structures.

Cooking Safety

- Remain in the kitchen while cooking—especially when frying, broiling, or grilling.
- Keep combustible items like towels, packaging, and decorations away from the stovetop.
- Ensure ovens, ranges, and exhaust hoods are free of grease buildup.

Electrical Safety

- Inspect extension cords and holiday lights for damage before use.
- Avoid overloading outlets or connecting multiple heaters to the same circuit.
- Use UL-listed electrical decorations and turn them off when leaving or sleeping.

Holiday Decoration Safety

- Keep real holiday trees well hydrated to reduce ignition risk.
- Position trees and decorations away from heat sources and exits.
- Opt for flameless candles whenever possible.

Outdoor Seasonal Hazards

- Clear leaves, debris, and snow from dryer vents and outdoor heating units.
- Store firewood away from exterior walls to reduce fire spread potential.

Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Test smoke alarms monthly; replace batteries every six months.
- Install carbon monoxide alarms on each level of the home and near sleeping areas.
- Replace smoke and CO alarms every 10 years.

Emergency Preparedness

- Review and practice home and workplace fire escape plans.
- Ensure pathways to exits remain clear of seasonal clutter.
- Keep an accessible fire extinguisher and ensure everyone knows how to use it.

Submitted by:
Bob Panik,
Fire Marshal



SAVE THE DATE

For National Wreaths Across America Day!
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2026



Riga Cemetery
11am



Churchville Creekside Cemetery
12pm



WREATHS across AMERICA



Churchville Vol. Fire Department

Hello Community Members! We hope you had an enjoyable summer. Please use care as Autumn is approaching, the days are growing shorter and schools will soon be in session. Thank you for your support at our recent 200 Club and Sportsman Raffle events. They were very successful because of your participation. Thank you as well for your support of the spring blood drive. Your donations help many patients.



Here is a brief list of upcoming events of interest at the C.V.F.D. The fall blood drive at the C.V.F.D. is scheduled for September 9th, 2 pm to 6 pm. Please consider

donating as the Red Cross is experiencing some of the most severe shortages of blood products in recent history. Fire prevention open house is scheduled for October 10, 10 am to 1 pm. There will be many valuable and interesting demonstrations and exhibits. See the NYSP rollover simulator, RG&E demos, witness "Hands Only" CPR. There will be free handouts, bounce houses for the kids and experienced members who can answer your questions and tell you lots of interesting history. The C.V.F.D. makes visits to C.E.S and Fairbanks Elementary Schools prior to open house, so bring the kids or grand-kids to get a more complete picture of what we provide to the community!

The Turkey Raffle is November 6th, at 7 pm at the fire department. No cover charge, refreshments available and we will be spinning the wheel for turkeys. Stop by for an enjoyable event.

The fall 200 Club is approaching, ticket holders will be notified with details soon.

Finally, I would like to add that we are always seeking new members for fire, EMS or fire police duties. No previous experience is necessary. All training, equipment and support is provided. It is a great way to meet new people, help your neighbors and community and learn new skills. Applications will be available at open house and any Monday night around 7 pm. Mondays are suggested because there is usually scheduled training or meetings happening at that time. We look forward to seeing and talking to you at upcoming events. Have a nice Autumn!

Submitted by:

**Forrest R. Skelton
Secretary**



TOWN CLERK

TOWNCLERK@TOWNOFRIGA.GOV

OFFICE HOURS

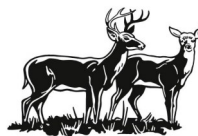
**9 AM—4PM MONDAY—FRIDAY
CLOSED HOLIDAYS & WEEKENDS**

Lodge Rentals:

We are currently accepting Town of Riga resident lodge reservations up to 12 months in **advance**. On the first of each month, we will begin accepting reservations for the entire month of the following year.

Non-Residents can reserve a lodge 6 months in advance.

Hunting News:



Please see pg. 9 for all the new hunting regulations.

For further information you may go to the NY DEC website.

The second round of leftover Doe Management Permit (DMPs) will begin on **November 1st**.

Please do not hesitate to call my office with any questions at 293-3880 x122.

Submitted by:

**Kimberly Pape,
Town Clerk**





RIGA RECREATION NEWS

RIGAREC@TOWNOFRIGA.GOV

Welcome to Riga Recreation!

We're proud to offer programs and activities that bring our community together, promote healthy lifestyles, and create lasting memories for residents of all ages. We look forward to another great season of fun, teamwork, and community spirit.

As students head back to school and we approach fall, we are pleased to offer several new programs at Riga Recreation.



In September, we will offer a "Rec Running Club" (first offering on 9/12). Participants will meet at the Town Hall and be given a distance map of several pre-determined routes around town to walk, jog or run. Come for the exercise and social opportunities. Also, we have partnered with Churchville -Chili to offer a **Community Fitness program**. For \$20 per year, individuals may swim at the high school pool, utilize the fitness room and walk the halls following our "inside track". Pre-register by emailing rigarec@townofriga.gov

In October, we will offer two new free programs - **Functional Movement** for all ages and a **Disney World** (step by step) vacation planning class. If you struggle with discomfort or pain from tight, unbalanced muscles or you're an athlete / fitness enthusiast who wants to perform better, Functional Movement for all ages could be just the thing you are looking for. In the Disney World step by step workshop, participants will be provided details about Disney World vacation packages and explore all booking options to find the perfect vacation for your family. Pre-registration is required in order to participate in these programs.

As the weather cools in November, our Rec activities heat up. We are scheduled to winterize our pickleball, volleyball and basketball courts at McNeely and Sanford Road parks on November 1st. For the first time Riga Rec will offer an **AARP Safe Driver Course**.



This class will keep you up to date on the latest laws and safety rules of the road, as well as a 10% reduction of insurance premiums for three years. Class will be offered on Wednesday 11/11 & Friday 11/13 from 10AM-1PM at the Town Hall - Multipurpose Room. In addition, we will host our 2nd annual Turkey Bowl and Family Turkey Trot at the C-C stadium turf field. Students in grades 5-6 can compete in the flag football "Turkey Bowl" and families can participate in our one mile Turkey Trot.

The Recreation department will continue to offer cardmaking, cornhole tournament, scrapbooking and yoga on a monthly basis. Please visit our website for updates.

Would you like to teach a class, coach a team or just do something new? As always, we would love to hear from you! Riga Recreation website: www.townofriga.com email: rigarec@townofriga.gov phone: (585) 293-0979x130 cell: (585) 752-3816.

Submitted By:
Dave Childs,
Recreation
Supervisor



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 by email at churchvillelions364@gmail.com

The loan closet is located next to the Riga Highway Department building on Buffalo Road.

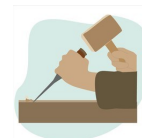
SEP.-OCT.-NOV. 2026 RECREATION PROGRAMS

We are always in search of energetic parents/coaches to volunteer to help teach/instruct programs!

Interested individuals should contact the Recreation Department at 293-0979 x130

SEPTEMBER 2026

1. ***NEW* Rec Running Club** – Saturdays in September (starting 9/12/2026) 9:00AM – meet in the Riga Town Hall parking lot by the electronic sign
2. ***NEW* Community Fitness Program** (partnership with CC Cont. Ed.) – Walk/Swim/Fitness room – Sept 2026 through June 2027 only \$20.00/year for Riga residents.
More information email: rigarec@townofriga.gov
3. **Gentle Yoga** w/ Deb – Monday 4:30PM-5:30PM – Multipurpose Room 9/14 and 9/28
4. **Chair Yoga** w/ Deb – Friday 9:30AM-10:30AM – Multipurpose Room 9/4, 9/11, 9/18 and 9/25
5. **Chair Yoga** w/ Jodi – **Saturday** 10:00AM-11:00AM – Multipurpose Room 9/12
6. Scrapbooking with Anne - Saturday 9:00AM-3:00PM – Multipurpose Room 9/19
7. Cardmaking with Nancy - Thursday 6:00PM-8:30PM – Multipurpose Room 9/17
8. Cornhole Tournament - Thursday 6:30PM-till - Cobblestone 9/17
9. ***NEW* SCOR - Woodcarver Class** (partnership with Chili Rec). Van trip available 8:30AM-11:00AM – Wednesday 9/23



OCTOBER 2026

1. Rec Running Club – Saturdays in October 9:00AM – meet in the Riga Town Hall parking lot by the electronic sign
2. Chair Yoga w/ Jodi – Saturday 10:00AM-11:00AM – Multipurpose Room 10/3 and 10/17
3. **Gentle Yoga** w/ Deb – Monday 4:30PM-5:30PM – Multipurpose Room 10/5, 10/19 and 10/26
4. **Chair Yoga** w/ Deb – Friday 9:30AM-10:30AM – Multipurpose Room 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23 and 10/30
5. Cardmaking with Nancy - Thursday 6:00PM-8:30PM – Multipurpose Room 10/15
6. Cornhole Tournament -Thursday 6:30PM-till - Cobblestone 10/15
7. ***NEW* Functional Movement** for all ages w/ Paul Dick Performance Specialist – Monday 5:30PM- Multipurpose Room 10/19. Pre-registration only at: rigarec@townofriga.gov
8. ***NEW* Disney World** (step by step) **Vacation of a Lifetime** w/ **VacaMagic** – Wednesday 6:00PM-7:00PM Multipurpose room 10/21. Pre-registration only at: rigarec@townofriga.gov
9. Annual Halloween Parade w/ the Lions Club – Saturday 6:00PM – Churchville Commons (Village Gazebo) 10/31



NOVEMBER 2026

1. Pickleball/Volleyball/Basketball courts close for the season – 11/1
2. Antique and Craft Show – Sunday 8AM-4PM – Churchville Elementary School 11/8.
3. ***NEW* AARP Safe Driver Course** – Wednesday 11/11 and Friday 11/13 – Multipurpose Room 10:00AM-1:00PM. 10% reduction on insurance for 3 years. Pre-registration only at: rigarec@townofriga.gov
4. Chair Yoga w/ Jodi – Saturday 10:00AM-11:00AM – Multipurpose Room 11/7 and 11/21
5. Scrapbooking with Anne - Saturday 9:00AM-3:00PM – Multipurpose Room 11/14
6. Cardmaking with Nancy - Thursday 6:00PM-8:30PM – Multipurpose Room 11/19
7. Cornhole Tournament -Thursday 6:30PM-till - Cobblestone 11/19
8. 2nd Annual Turkey Bowl & Family Turkey Trot – Wednesday 9AM-1PM – Churchville-Chili Stadium Field 11/25





SCOR NEWS

Tuesday of the month for lunch and a program. Our dues are \$1 per year for Riga residents, \$10 if you have to live outside Riga. We take August off, like the French. Every able-bodied member is asked to be on one month's Committee per year to decorate the tables and to clean up afterwards. Folks start coming into the Harvey Noone Legion Hall at 11:30 or so for all three of our Fall meetings. We have a Care and Share 50-50 Raffle each meeting that funds scholarships for two graduating Churchville-Chili outstanding music students.

The new stairs and sturdy banisters have made welcome super additions to access the Harvey Noone for our members. We have loads of parking. The entrance is at the back of the Harvey Noone Legion Hall.

September 8 features a buffet lunch of Subs or Wraps with choice of tuna, turkey or ham. Our program will feature Tom Boyce's commemoration of the 250th, the quarter millennial anniversary of American Independence. All that and a bag of chips!



October 13 is our Pizza Party! Everyone gets a choice of 2 slices of pizza. Our choices are pepperoni or veggie pizza with a probable third to be

determined. The current problems with lettuce see us pondering a different healthy side from our usual spring mix green salad.

November 10th Thanksgiving with a Turkey Dinner. We supply turkey, stuffing and gravy, Members bring appropriate side dishes. Does anyone remember succotash? Not only is it the expletive of Sylvester the Cat, "Sufferin' Succotash!" but also a dish of lima beans and corn innovated by indigenous people from "the three sisters." Alas, not my favorite as a kid! When the Pilgrims invited the locals to their first Harvest Home feast, guess what was one of their contributions. We know it as a favorite movie snack.

Let me give a shout out for volunteers for "The Committee." Meeting new folks as we work together is a fun way to expand ourselves. It is cognitive cross-training. As we chat, walk around, we beautify the meeting hall with seasonal decor. What a sweet lift it is every time to see the colorful transformation. Many hands make work light. Vice President Marcia Parker recruits committee members. Sometimes a circle of friends chooses a particular month to work together.

To help to know what to do, we have a list of chores posted on the supply cabinet.



Our tables seat 8 people. We have them numbered. A random number generator decides the order tables get called to the serving line. After a Blessing we call first anyone needing help at the buffet. Next summoned are the Committee table and the Officer table. Want to get first crack at the buffet for your favorite dessert? Volunteer for The Committee or become an Officer.

Submitted by: Verna W Linney



SCOR Trips



September 17th - Grapes, Gourmet and

Chautauqua.

Reservations close September 1st.



Arcade & Attica Railroad

October 7th. - Arcade & Attica Railroad.

Reservations close September 15th.

Anyone interested in any of these trips can contact Cindy at 739-1074 for pricing and details.



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

September

- 7 Riga Offices Closed for Labor Day
- 8 SCOR—lunch at Harvey Noone Legion Hall
- 21 Red Cross Blood Drive—Town Hall 1-6 pm



October

- 12 Riga Offices Closed for Columbus Day
- 13 SCOR—Pizza Party—at Harvey Noone Legion Hall
- 28 Red Cross Blood Drive—Town Hall 1-6 pm
- 31 Halloween Parade at 6 pm—Churchville Commons and walk to Church Lodge

November

- 3 Election Day
- 10 SCOR—Thanksgiving Dinner—at Harvey Noone Legion Hall
- 11 Riga Offices Closed for Veterans Day
- 26 & 27 Riga Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- 30 Red Cross Blood Drive—Town Hall 1-6 pm



The Town of Riga Newsletter includes Town notices, departmental updates, and community-submitted announcements as a public service. Publication of any event, program, announcement, advertisement, or notice does not imply endorsement, sponsorship, approval, or recommendation by the Town of Riga, the Town Board, or any Town official. Community-submitted items may be edited for length, clarity, accuracy, and available space. Submission of an item does not guarantee publication. Readers should contact the sponsoring organization directly for details.

CHURCH NEWS

**Union
Congregational
United Church of Christ –
14 N. Main Street**

Union Church's Annual Harvest Dinner (Drive Thru)

Saturday, 11/14/26, 4:00-6:30pm
@ 14 N. Main St.

Yummy Roast Pork, Traditional Bread Stuffing, Whipped Butternut Squash and more, including dessert. We look forward to seeing you.

Food Pantry Dates:
September 23rd
October 28th
November 18th



Sign-up is open for this year's Tutoring Program for elementary school students. Our team of former educators and volunteers

meets weekly with students at the church. This tutoring program is free and non-denominational. If you have a child who needs a little extra help, contact the church for more information at 585-293-1665.



First Congregational Church of Riga— 7057 Chili Riga Center Rd

Rigachurch7057@hotmail.com

Contact@rigachurch.org

www.rigachurch.org

Follow on Facebook -Riga Church -FCC

You are welcome to join us at Riga Church. Our Sunday services are at 10:00am followed by a time of fellowship. Feel free to join us on Thursdays from 10:00 – 11:00am for a time of prayer and worship. Looking for a

Men's or Women's group? Our Men's Breakfast Fellowship is on the second Saturday of the month from 9:00 – 11:00 am, and our Women's Fellowship is at 6:00 pm on Tuesdays, September 29, October 27, and November 17. Our Bible Study sessions will be held on Wednesdays at 6:00pm, dinner included.

With the Alzheimer's Association, we will be offering "Empowered Caregivers Series" on Thursdays, September 17, 24 and October 1, from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. A Ministries dinner fundraiser will be on September 19, at 3pm cost \$15. Fall Craft Sale and Chicken & Biscuit dinner (Take out) 10-4pm, \$16.

We have more activities happening at Riga Church. Make sure to follow us on Facebook to stay in the know.

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

Ken Kuter, Deputy Supervisor

James Fodge, Council Member

Chris Vossler, Council Member

Derek Harnsberger, Council Member

Kimberly Pape, Town Clerk

Scott Flagler, 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 according to a regular schedule.

TOWN BOARD: 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 6:30 pm. Workshops as needed.

CONSERVATION BOARD: 4th Mondays. 7 pm.

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. 7 pm.

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

Monday, September 21st 2026
Wednesday, October 28th 2026
Monday, November 30th 2026

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