



Galway Reader

Published by the Town of Galway



Winter 2017

Supervisor

Greetings and Happy New Years -

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season and you were able to take time to enjoy family and friends during the recent holidays. All have my best wishes for a healthy, safe and successful 2017.

It appears that "old man" winter has found us this year. Already during the end of 2016 we had more snow removal costs than we did for all of the winter of 2015-2016. We are hopeful that remainder of the winter of 2016-2017 is reasonable to help us keep within our budget.

As I look back on 2016, there were a number of things that were accomplished at the town level. Notably, we honored the Dockstader Trust for their philanthropic grants to town which helped us make our recreation fields and pavilion area first class. We also honored Chuck and Ruth Quinlan on the occasion of their retirement and for the many services they provide to Galway. Additionally, we also marked the passing and honored the lives of Alice Bingham and former Supervisor Dick Weber.

As Chairman of the Public Safety Committee in 2016 at the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors, I was proud that we were able work through the process of adding more road deputies to the Saratoga County Sheriff's Department. A total of ten new officers will be added during 2017. This was needed to meet the demand for law enforcement in a growing County like ours. With population growth comes more calls for public safety services and the potential for increased crime.

The new Galway Volunteer Fire Company fire station is progressing nicely and seems to be on schedule for an opening and dedication in the first part of 2017. The station will be a great addition to the community. There was an enormous amount of work done behind the scenes by many of the members of the fire company to make the new station construction a success and we should thank them for their services.

As I often do, I will once again ask you to consider volunteering some of your time to the many worthwhile boards, committees and groups in town. Please do not forget our food pantry. This is a critical time of the year for the food pantry so please consider making a donation of food, personal care items or cash to the pantry.

Again, I hope 2017 is great year for all.

Paul Lent
Supervisor

DISCLAIMER: The Town reserves the right to accept or reject any article and is not obligated to accept and print all articles.

GREETINGS FROM THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Our winter is finally upon us. The season started off earlier this year than last considering the unseasonably warm weather that we experienced right up into December last year. We have had two snow events thus far which has taken us out of our fall maintenance mode and switched us into the task of plowing and sanding the roads. This leads me to discuss a new, winter maintenance program that we have implemented this year.

Through the acquisition of a cargo truck and trailer from Federal Surplus and the purchasing of three (3), three-thousand gallon, used tanks from a local vendor we are in the process of getting a road pretreatment program started utilizing salt brine and a calcium based liquid enhanced with corn derivatives (Boiling Bond Breaker/ BBB). The object of the program is to spray (pretreat) the roads prior to a snow event. The State and County have also implemented this pretreatment program to aide in the winter maintenance of the road systems.

As with any new program; there is an element of trial and error to get the correct percentages of product that will work on any given weather condition. Once we get those percentages dialed in, we feel that the program will cut down on our overtime, fuel and equipment costs.

Now that the growing season has officially ended and the need for mowing has concluded we will be switching over to cutting brush town-wide on the R.O.W's and preparing the roads for the spring/summer construction season. Please be aware that our highway crews will be around town and drive accordingly when encountering their work zones.

With the winter season comes the need to touch on the subject of mailboxes and garbage cans. We try our best to not hit mailboxes or your garbage cans. We request garbage cans be placed behind the snow banks. This will help to keep them from getting knocked over by the snow coming off of our plows. Placing them in the roadway puts the motoring public at risk and results in our hitting the cans.

As a courtesy, we will replace mailboxes that we damage with a "standard" mailbox. This applies to residents on "Town" roads only. In addition, we are not responsible for keeping the area around your mailboxes or driveway entrances plowed out. This is the responsibility of the resident.

If you reside on a County or State highway you will need to contact those authorities in regards to your mailbox. The contact number for the Saratoga County DPW is (518) 885-9020 and for the State DPW is (518) 584-3790.

As always, there are wood chips and during the winter months, salted sand, available to Town residents. As you pull into the Town Complex, these items are located on the right-hand side of the driveway, **before** the main gate to the Highway Department. Please note that anything beyond the main gate is not for public use.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Highway Department at 882-6651 or on my cell phone at 265-0426. You can also email me at highway@townofgalwayny.org.

Dave

Gonzo

Harry

John

Joe

Phil

Pat

Buck

Michele

Julia

The Galway Jr. Rifle Club

The Galway Jr. Rifle Club has existed in the community for over 40 years. Its basic purpose is to teach rifle marksmanship and firearms safety to our youngsters. Living in a rural community like we do, most youngsters are going to be exposed to firearms at one time or another – a little safety training can only help.

The program is sponsored by the Galway Fish and Game Club with help from the Galway Youth Commission and The Lions Club. All the necessary equipment and facilities are furnished to the juniors. The only charges are an annual membership fee of \$25 and whatever the cost of ammunition is. There are several certified instructors associated with the program, and new shooters get a lot of individual attention.

Juniors start off with a safety class and a written exam which they must pass. After that, they start shooting in a prone position, and work themselves through increasingly more difficult score requirements. Prizes are awarded every time they achieve a new proficiency level. After they master prone, they move on to sitting, then kneeling, and finally standing. This evolution normally takes several years. After this, there is an extremely difficult qualification called “Distinguished Expert” which the juniors may try for. They don’t all make it, but they have a lot of fun trying.

Every year, there is a match between the juniors and their parents. The juniors have never lost.

The club meets on Wednesday evenings at the Galway Fish and Game Club on Rt. 29. You must be 12 years old to start participating. As an interesting aside, this is one of the few sports where girls compete directly against boys...and do very well. About a third of the club is girls.

Within the club, there is a much smaller group (six juniors) that shoots competitively. This group practices more and shoots in tournaments around the area – and also in Pennsylvania, Colorado, Ohio, and anywhere else that top-level shooters get together. Their record is very, very good and includes numerous State Championships, National Championships, and Division 1 college scholarships!

If you have a junior between the ages of 12 and 17 and you think they might be interested in this program, call Coach Chuck Boykin to get signed up (882-9352). Openings for the new year (January) are available, but limited. First come – first served. If you have questions, feel free to call; or, if you’d rather see the program in action, stop by the club on Wednesday or Friday evenings around 6 PM or so.

Historian

We present the remaining text of John Chester Booth's "History of Saratoga County", 1858, chapter on the town of Galway; *"Until after the Revolution, this was the most remote settlement northward of Albany County, save near Jonson's "Fish House," along the Sacandaga valley, in the present towns of Edinburgh and Providence, where the Shew family, and two or three others, had located as early as '68, under Sir William's protection. Poor and living in constant danger, these Galway pioneers had neither time or means to spare for the maintenance of religion and education. In the long summer Sabbaths still longing for the dear and familiar communion of their Mother Kirk, they could be seen following the lonely trails that led through the wilderness to the settlement at Freehold, or far away to the westward toward Perth, where with their "brither Scots" they might unite in the praise of God according to the forms, and in company with those who still kept to the traditions of the faith of their fathers. No separate edifice for public worship was erected in the town, until 1792, when the Baptists built what was known as the "First Baptist Church," in the north part of the present township. The nearest mill to the settlement was Gordon's in Mr. Ball's community, and thither, with their grists on shoulder, they were compelled to travel to procure the coarse flour and meal wherewith to eke out the scanty comforts of their far away clearing. In 1785 Campbell built the first mill ever erected in the present town. It stood in the site of Hiram Foster's present mill on Glowegee Creek. Shortly after the turn of settlers, at the close of the war the first school was opened, in a log cabin erected for that purpose at the Major settlement.*

As a trustworthy chronicler of events we should be sadly recreant to our calling did we omit to honor with due importance the birth of the first white child in the good town of Galway. This occurrence took place in 1774, when Elizabeth Kelley rejoiced the hearts of her parents, William and Elizabeth Kelley, and honored the world in general and that settlement in particular, by this her first appearance upon the scene of mundane existence. And as death and life walked then, as ever, side by side, the record would be incomplete did we fail to note the first death, that of James Major, above named who was killed by the fall of a burning tree, while engaged in saving the settlement from destruction, by one of those forest fires so common and full of danger to the pioneers."

In the spring 2016 issue of the "Galway Reader", we wrote of John Chester Booth, his credentials and primary source of materials and how his manuscript was discovered. We are pleased to have this opportunity to pass this man's work on to our readers. We believe that it would be such a waste if those who are interested in the early history of Galway (or any of the other townships of Saratoga County) were never made aware of it.

Phyllis Keeler, Town Historian

Tom Cwiakala, Deputy Historian

Youth Commission Winter Activities

Karate

The Galway Karate Club will hold classes for youth on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Galway School. The classes will be held in the Junior High Gym if it's available or otherwise in the High School Cafeteria. Beginner classes are from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Advance classes are from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For further information contact Karate Club Instructor Chris Malley at 727-0385 or email shinanchris@gemakarate.com.

Recreation Basketball

Recreation basketball which started in November will continue to be held on Saturday mornings at Galway Central School for girls and boys in 1st grade and 2nd grade thru February. Starting in January thru March 1st, the older youth will become travel teams. For further information, please contact Recreation Basketball Instructor Dan Anderson at 882-5225.

Pee Wee Wrestling Program

The Pee Wee Wrestling Program will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning on Monday, January 9th, for boys and girls in pre-K through 6th grade. Beginner classes will be held from 6pm to 7pm. Advanced classes will be held from 7pm to 8pm in the Lower Level Wrestling Gym at Galway School. The Pee Wee Wrestling Program will be held through the end of March. For further information, please contact Nick Dalessandro at 320-6932.

A special Thank You goes out to all of our local businesses, community service organizations and Galway Central School District for their continued support and donations to the Galway Youth Commission.

And also a special Thank You to members of the Galway Youth Commission Board as well as our many program volunteers who contribute their time to serve our youth. Your dedication is greatly appreciated.

With everyone's support and help, we are able to provide our youth with a variety of programs!

Galway Public Library

The Board of the Galway Public Library has been listening to the input from members of the community about why the previous referendum for the new building failed. We appreciate the valuable ideas and guidance we have received from the community over the last year, about how to move forward and work on solutions for the challenges of the current facility, such as the lack of space for our programming and safe, adequate parking. We have been working with Butler Rowland Mays Architects to use these community suggestions in a revised plan for a new library building. This working design is smaller and will cost considerably less than the previous plan, but it will still deliver the services that the residents of the school district have told us they want and need. The Board would like to finalize a new building plan with the architects early in the new year and we invite you to take the time to provide your input on the proposal before then. You may view a copy of the working plan, as well as associated cost projections, by visiting the library or looking on our website at galwaypubliclibrary.org. Please do not hesitate to contact Deb Flint at the library or at gal-director@sals.edu with any questions or suggestions. The Galway Public Library is the community's library and we want to know how we can best serve you. Thank you.

The library has two new Kindles available for use by children and teens, pre-loaded with apps, games, and books for their enjoyment in the library, courtesy of the Kimball Fund. Our children's programming is thriving thanks to our Library Assistant, Sara Pandori. The kids' Coding Club has been so successful that we've had a waiting list, so in January we will have two sessions to give more kids the opportunity to participate. One will be for homeschoolers and the other is open to everyone. The focus will be on creating interactive stories on the computer. Registration is required. Our Crafternoons and Stop Motion Animation workshops will also continue. Call us at 882-6385 or stop in the library to register for programs. Sara has created an online monthly newsletter for kids, which you can find under the Youth Services tab on our website: galwaypubliclibrary.org. You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletters and "like" our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/galwaypubliclib>) for dates, times and more information.

Our adult Writers' Group will now meet on the *third Wednesday of each month at 6:30*. Newcomers are always welcome to stop in and share your writing, network with other writers, and get inspired! Herb Kopper's fun drop-in Open Art Sessions meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, beginning at 6:00. Herb is eager to share his knowledge and offer help to anyone interested in art. The library was the recipient of a Reading and Discussion grant from Humanities NY, discussing Pulitzer Prize-winning books on the theme of the American Dream. The series concludes on January 23 with Junot Diaz's book *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*. In February *When Readers Meet*, the regular book discussion group, resumes. Check the library for a list of books we'll be reading.

The Friends of the Galway Public Library will hold a book sale at the library on Friday, January 13 from 2:00-6:00 and Saturday, January 14 from 10:00-2:00. Mark your calendar for their *Taste of Chocolate* on February 11th!

Our new sidewalk is complete, the library trim and doors have been repaired and painted, our attractive new snow guards, painted by the Zembsch girls, are up, and our bookshelves are neat and tidy. We are very thankful for the support of the community volunteers who have been sprucing up the library and helping out in so many other ways. If you'd like to be a volunteer, please contact Deb Flint; there's always a need for more!

Galway Preservation Society

The Galway Preservation Society meets on each first Monday from September to June at Galway Town Hall. We start at 7:00 with a social time (great refreshments!), followed by a short business meeting and a program of historical interest which starts at about 7:45.

Upcoming programs include: *Libraries of Galway* (Feb.); *Geology of Galway*, Brian Rhodes (March); *History of the Town of Providence*, Ed Dandaraw (April); and *History of the Seabury House and Mills* with presentation of historical marker on site of property, Mike and Alyson Bingham (May).

Watch for orange flyers around town or check our website for more details: galwaypreservationsociety.org. We also have extensive archives available for research.

Our book is still available for purchase at BSNB Galway branch, Galway and Providence Town Halls, and Waterwheel Village. Or we'll mail it for you!

ORDER FORM:

Galway 1900 – 1949, A Photographic History of Life in the Town of Galway, Saratoga County, New York -- A publication of the Galway Preservation Society

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

NUMBER OF BOOKS REQUESTED _____
@ \$40.00 per book + \$6.00 S&H per book.

Each book ships separately, media rate. Total Check Amount _____

Check # _____

Make checks payable to: Galway Preservation Society. Send order form and checks to: Galway Preservation Society P.O. Box 276 Galway, New York 12074 Thank You!

NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR

The Assessor's Office is entering its most busy season – that of exemption administration! Exemption renewal forms have been mailed and all exemption applications must be received by my office by March 1, 2017.

If you are new to Galway and this is your primary residence and you earn less than \$500,000, you may apply for the Basic STAR at the NYS Dept. of Tax and Finance (website www.tax.ny.gov or phone (518)457-2036). New owners qualifying for Senior Enhanced STAR also need to register with NYS Dept. of Tax and Finance (same info as above). In order to qualify for this exemption, you must be 65 years of age – sometime in 2017 or earlier and your adjusted gross income cannot be more than \$86,000.

Senior exemptions are available to anyone turning 65 in 2017 and meeting certain income requirements. Stop by and see if you qualify for more exemptions than you currently receive.

The Town has also approved at Low Income Disability exemption. If you are disabled and earn less than \$32,000/year, please contact my office to see if you qualify for this exemption.

If you have questions or concerns regarding your assessment, the inventory on your property or your exemptions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at my office number 882-6070, ext. 17 or by email at vhayner@townofgalwayny.org. My office is open Tuesdays from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM and on Thursdays from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

Vicki Hayner, Assessor

Galway Reader Article Submission Deadline

The publication deadlines for 2017 will be **at 4 pm** on (NO EXCEPTIONS):

Spring edition: *Wednesday, March 15th, 2017*

Summer edition: *Wednesday, June 14th, 2017*

Fall edition: *Wednesday, September 20th, 2017*

Winter edition: *Wednesday, December 13th, 2017*

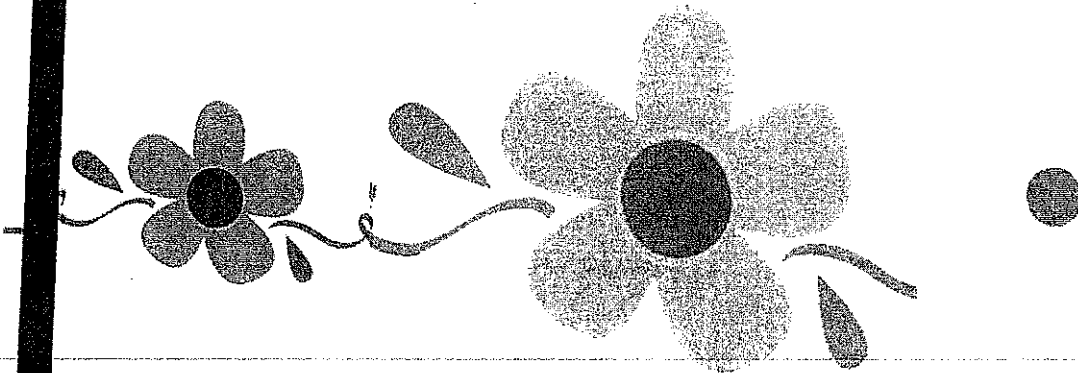
Articles may be dropped off at the Town Hall or e-mailed to me at: galwayreader@townofgalwayny.org. The publication will be sent to the printer the next day and mailed out within 2 to 3 weeks. Keep this in mind when submitting articles.

Articles must be one (1) page or less. Articles greater than one page will be returned for revision and/or not included. Pictures will not be included unless they are submitted by e-mail in jpeg format.

Pamela Wright, Galway Reader Editor

7th ANNUAL
CRAFT FAIR

Hosted by the Galway Lioness Club



Saturday April 1

10 - 3

Free Admission

Galway High School

5317 Sacandaga Rd (Rt 147)

Galway, NY 12074

Tax Collector

JANUARY ONLY MONDAY - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSAY - 7 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

pdefoe@townofgalwayny.org
518-882-6070 ext. 10

IN PERSON CASH PAYMENTS REQUIRE "EXACT CHANGE"

The 2017 tax season office hour payments will run from January 3rd thru January 31st, 2017, Monday thru Thursday 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. without penalty (There are two holidays in January where the office is closed: Monday, January 2nd and Monday, January 16th). If mailing payments in January make sure they are post marked by the 31st of January and there is no penalty.

For February we are back to Tuesday thru Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. with 1% penalty. Mailed payments for February must be post marked by February 28th with the 1% penalty.

March in person payments has a 2% penalty plus \$1.00; the due date is April 4th since the office is not open on Friday's. Mailed payments also have until April 4th for a post mark date.

We will again for the 2017 Tax Season be accepting Credit Card payments. Property owners now have the option to pay their tax bill by credit card/debit card/e-checks. At the Town website: townofgalwayny.org under Tax Collector you will be able to pull up and view the bill status along with additional option to pay bill only. ***All credit card/debit cards will be subject to a service fee of \$1.75 up to \$64, over 2.75%; e-checks access fee \$0.01 to \$1,999.00 - \$2.50; \$2,000 to \$3,999.99 - \$5.00; \$4,000 to \$5,999.99 - \$7.50; \$6,000 - \$7,999.99 - \$10.00; \$8,000 - \$9,999.99 - \$12.50; over \$10,000 increments of \$2.50 per \$2,000.***

If sending payments to us by mail please make sure your telephone number is on your check. If your check is wrong, we will call you regarding getting it corrected (this could be the difference between an on time and late payment). Now that so many people have discontinued their land lines and only have cell phones, it has become difficult if not impossible to get people if the cell number is not listed on your check.

If you have sold your home, have a new address for billing purposes, pay off your escrow please let us know as soon as possible so we can make the correction and get the bill where it need to go.

The mailing address is:

Town of Galway
Tax Collector
5910 Sacandaga Road
Galway, NY 12074

Galway Central School

NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Teams

For the second year in a row, all of the Galway Fall Varsity Teams earned Team Scholar-Athlete Awards! This is a great accomplishment considering the team's total Grade Point Average must be 90.0 or above for three-quarters of the roster.

Girls Varsity Cross Country	-	97.26
Girls Varsity Soccer	-	96.36
Boys Varsity Cross Country	-	93.99
Varsity Volleyball	-	92.88
Varsity Golf	-	92.79
Boys Varsity Soccer	-	92.45

Brooke Martin was named Time Warner Cable News Scholar Athlete of the Week. Brooke, who is currently ranked first in her class and is part of the Section II Class C Championship Volleyball Team, was selected for the honor because she is a good scholar, good athlete, and good citizen.

Britany Kenyon and Lindsay Zawisa were selected to the All-State 1st team and Emma Smith was selected for the All-State 5th team for volleyball!

Please feel free to come and cheer on our athletes and see great performances by our actors and musicians this winter!

Coming Soon - Technology in Education

Galway Central School is piloting new robotic technology that allows homebound students to get the full classroom experience, including interaction with teachers and friends. Please look for an article in the next district newsletter.

Town of Galway
5910 Sacandaga Road
Galway, New York 12074

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Resident

**Galway Youth Commission
Youth Referral Service**

For youth 14 years of age and older, seeking babysitting, housework,
shoveling, yard work, and other odd jobs

Persons interested in hiring youth for odd jobs should contact:

Donna Sowle, Youth Referral Director, at 882-1347

(Clip and Save)