



TOWN OF

COLONIE CHRONICLE

July 2008

www.colonie.org

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TOWN OFFICIALS

Paula A. Mahan
Supervisor

Nancy R. Hernandez
Deputy Supervisor

Robert D. Becker
Councilmember

William E. Carl
Councilmember

Nicole Criscione-Szesnat
Councilmember

J. Brian Hogan
Councilmember

Thomas F. With
Councilmember

Elizabeth DeTorto
Town Clerk

C. Michele Zilgme
Receiver of Taxes

A Message From Supervisor Mahan



My Fellow Colonie Residents,

Summer is here and, in my former life, as a teacher we would be gearing up for summer vacation. With that in mind, I hope you enjoy this edition of the Colonie Chronicle. Inside this issue you'll find information on the various activities and events the residents of our Town can enjoy during the summer months. As always, you can visit our website at www.colonie.org for the latest developments.

In addition to the range of summer activities planned, we have been hard at work on the financial recovery plan for the Town. We have taken steps to save nearly one million dollars internally by freezing non-essential spending. In addition, we've made significant progress on the sale of the Town's portion of the Heritage Park Property, which will generate \$2.7 million to pay down the Town's deficit. Last month, we secured an agreement to guarantee an additional \$1.5 million in revenue at the Town's landfill. In just a few short months we've generated over \$5 million to reduce the burden of the Town's deficit on Colonie taxpayers.

Another great part of being Supervisor is having the opportunity to attend various special events throughout the Town. Just this past month I was able to participate in the Village of Colonie's Senior Luncheon, the Colonie Elks Teenager of the Year Program and the groundbreaking ceremony for the Colonie Veterans Memorial. It certainly reinforces what we know, and that is that Colonie is a great place to be. I look forward to seeing all of you around Town this summer!

Sincerely,

Paula A. Mahan

Paula A. Mahan
Colonie Town Supervisor

Colonie on Your TV

Two regular shows have been added to the Colonie Government Television Channel (Channel 17). First, in "Colonie Connect with Paula Mahan" the Town Supervisor discusses services and issues with Town Department Heads, staff, and special outside guests. Previous shows have included an in-depth discussion of the Town's finances with Comptroller Craig Blair, the Veterans Memorial Project and the Police Explorers. If you have an idea for a topic you'd like to see on Colonie Connect you can send an e-mail to colonie@colonie.org.

The second new show is "The Senior Resources Show." In this show, Senior Resources Director Christine Cary addresses issues of importance to the Town's seniors.

Now in its second year, our station has produced nearly 300 unique programs including children's story hours that residents can watch daily at 9AM and 7PM. For a complete program listing, visit www.colonie.org/library.

Upcoming Events

Tweens Play Casting Call

Calling all tweens entering grades 6, 7 and 8. The Youth Services Dept. at the Town Library is looking for actors, costume designers, prop builders and writers to present two plays this summer.

We'll adapt two stories:

"Six Foolish Fishermen" and "Peace and Quiet".

Contact Maureen Delaughter or Lee Ricci at 459-9274 for more information

Town Pool Opening Weekend

The Colonie Town Pool is set to open for the weekend of June 21st and 22nd. After the weekend opening the Town Pool will be open throughout the summer beginning June 28th.

Playground Dropoff

The Recreation Departments Summer Dropoff program will open for business beginning July 1st. There is no charge for children to visit any of the 15 dropoff sites. This popular program will run through August 8th and there is no formal registration required. For information on sites call Recreation at 783-2760.

Youth Bureau Broadway Trips

The Youth Bureau is sponsoring two trips to New York City for youth ages 12-16.

July 9th - Legally Blonde - Palace Theatre -\$75.00 (includes show, lunch at Hard Rock Café and transportation) Depart: 8:30AM, Return 8:30PM

August 13th - Little Mermaid - Lunt-Fontanne Theatre--\$75.00 (includes show, lunch at Ellen's Stardust Diner and transportation) Depart: 9AM, Return 8:30PM

For reservations contact Barb Mahaney at 456-3786

30th Annual Dynamic Duo Road Race

The Colonie Recreation Department sponsors this 3 mile team race, where teams are composed of one man and one woman.

Saturday August 3rd

9:15 at the Colonie Town Park

Red Cross Babysitting Courses

William K. Sanford Library, Stedman Room

August 18-21 - 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

August 18-21 - 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Open to residents, ages 11 to 15

Register by calling 456-3786, \$25.00 fee

Veterans Memorial Groundbreaking



On May 3rd ground was broken at the future site of the Colonie Veterans Memorial in the Crossings Park. Elected officials, including U.S. Congressman Michael McNulty and Albany County Executive Michael Breslin joined Town Supervisor Paula Mahan and Veterans Committee Chairman Commander Robert LaDuke for the ceremony.

The Memorial is scheduled to be completed by Veterans Day 2008 and will serve as the only town-wide tribute to those Colonie residents who have answered the highest call in public service by serving in the United States Armed Forces.

For more information on how you can become a part of the effort to build Colonie's Veterans Memorial contact Bob LaDuke at 527-8147 or email vetmemorial@colonie.org.



Colonie Town Golf Course on the Upswing

The Colonie Town Golf Course is building on momentum started in 2007 as it continues to provide the best golf value to Colonie residents and their guests. The Town operated golf course played host to nearly 68,000 rounds in 2007, making it the busiest golf facility between Boston and Buffalo north of Hartford. Colonie Town Golf Course is home



to 30 leagues and over 80 tournaments and outings, benefiting many professional organizations and charities within the Town of Colonie and throughout the Capital Region. 2008 highlights include Colonie Town Golf Course hosting the final round of the prestigious Albany County Amateur Championship as well as the Northeastern New York PGA Assistant Professional's Championship and the Capital District Executive Women's Golf Association's Chapter Championship.

PGA Head Professional Noel Gebauer was nationally recognized in April by the PGA of America for his Growth of the Game initiatives, partnering with the Colonie Youth Center as well as the Executive Women's Association for instructional clinics held at Colonie Town Golf Course.

2008 will bring better playing conditions at the course as well. The Colonie Town Golf Course maintenance crew, lead by Superintendent John Risler, embarked on a aggressive drainage project on the Blue Nine which will improve the ability to move water away from many of the wettest holes on the course. This will help the golf course open earlier in the spring and remain playable during wet periods of the golf season.

2008 should prove to be another great season for Colonie golfers at their Town golf course. For tee times and course information call 374-4181 or visit www.colonie.com/parks/golf.

Recreation Department Ready for Summer

The Recreation Department has a full range of activities for Colonie families to take advantage of as the summer months begin. You can read more about the programs and events they are sponsoring below and for more information on anything you read here call the Recreation Department at 783-2760.



Learn To Swim: This program is offered at the Colonie Town Pool and at Shaker High School. The program at the Town Pool is a two-week program that begins at the end of June. Registration information was sent home through the schools in May and can also be obtained by calling the Recreation Department.

Summer Playground Program: This six week program for school age children is offered at 15 sites throughout the Town, Monday through Friday, beginning in the end of June each year. No formal registration is required, and the only charges are for various trips. Directors supervise individual and group activities, arts & crafts, roller skating, pool, bowling and field trips to various theme parks like the Great Escape.

Summer Enrichment Program: These courses are offered in four program areas from kindergarten through high school aged children throughout the Town. The four program areas are music, crafts, swimming and athletics. Among the courses offered are individual music lessons, crafts for kids, Level I through Level VII swimming lessons, and such athletic camps as basketball, golf, soccer, gymnastics, lacrosse, field hockey, softball and baseball.

Water Aerobics: The classes will be again be held at the Colonie Town Pool and are intended provide fun AND fitness. Set to music, participants will engage in a series of water exercises aimed at improving muscle tone, flexibility and strength while limiting the impact on the back and joints. Men and women of all abilities are encouraged to participate

Summer Track Nights: This long running tradition returns for its 43rd season as residents of all ages can participate in track & field events each Tuesday this summer beginning June 10th and concluding on August 5th. Events begin at 6PM each Tuesday and participation is free.

Colonie Town Band 2008 Summer Tour

JUNE

- 9 – Pruy House Barn 7PM
- 16 – William K. Sanford Town Library 7PM
- 23 – Crossings Town Park 7PM
- 30 – Beltrone Living Center 7PM

JULY

- 14 – Sheehy Manor, Watervliet 7PM
- 28 – Colonie Center 7PM

AUGUST

- 4 – Cook Park 7PM
- 11 – Colonie Manor 7PM
- 18 – William K. Sanford Town Library 7PM

SEPTEMBER

- 7 – Pruy House – Old Fashion Sunday Afternoon

Bring Lawn Chairs

(Outdoor concerts may be canceled due to rain)
The Colonie Town Band is Sponsored by the Town of Colonie Parks & Recreation Department

To join the band call 783-2760

Farmers Market

On June 7th, Supervisor Paula Mahan rang the opening bell for the official start of the Farmers Market at the Crossings. Every Saturday, June 7 through September 27, the Crossings of Colonie Park will host a farmers market providing residents of Colonie access to fresh, New York State-grown and produced goods in a community-gathering setting. Producers featured at the Market will be Bailsholts Farm, Barber's Farm, Bowman Orchards, Harmony House Marketplace, Karen's Produce, Partridge Sugar House, Professor Java's Coffee Sanctuary, The Farm At Kristy's Barn, Serendipity Farm, Sherry's Kitchen, and Witenagemot Farm.

DatesSaturdays, June 7 - Sept. 27

Times 9:00am - 1:00pm

WhatFarmers Market - The Crossings

Where Crossings Park of Colonie
Albany-Shaker Road across from Emerick St.

Parking ... Available in the field across from the market

Contact Alison McLean, 783-2728



In The Green And Gallant Spring

By: Robert Louis Stevenson

*In the green and gallant Spring,
Love and the lyre I thought to sing,
And kisses sweet to give and take
By the flowery hawthorn brake.*

Ah, it's finally Spring (except in the Hilltowns). Spring brings out the flowers and the bees and the buds on the trees. Unfortunately, it also brings out the hawkers, the hustlers and the hucksters. It's the time of year when strangers appear at your door claiming to be college students selling magazine subscriptions for "points," or paving contractors who happen to have an "extra" load of blacktop they want to sell you on the cheap. As the saying goes, buyer beware, especially in this day and age of identity theft and ingenious scams intended to separate you from your hard earned cash. Consequently, the topic of this article is the Town's Peddler's Ordinance and how that ordinance regulates peddlers "in order to preserve the peace, safety and general welfare of the town and its inhabitants" (Town Code §140-1).

As used in §140-2 of the Town Code, the term "Peddler" is defined as "any person traveling by foot, wagon, automotive vehicle or any other type of conveyance, from place to place, from house to house or from street to street, carrying, conveying or transporting goods, wares, merchandise, or other provisions and offering the same for sale." Town of Code §140-3 makes it unlawful for any person to act as a peddler without having first obtained a peddler's license from our Town Clerk, Elizabeth Del Torto. The Code doesn't apply to a school group, veterans, fraternal or charitable organization, volunteer firemen's association, religious, civic or service group or other nonprofit organization or association that maintains a school, an established business or a chapter within the Town.

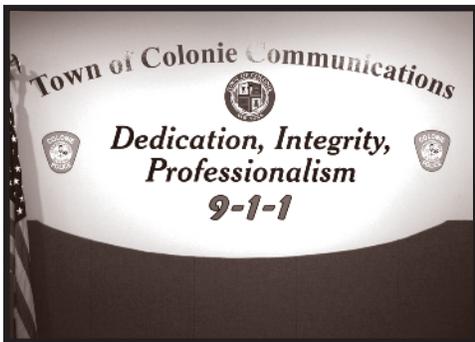
So how does the Peddler's Ordinance protect you from scam artists? First, in order for a person to obtain a Peddler's License he is thoroughly investigated by our Town Clerk and the Colonie Police Department. Second, if the person's business is legitimate, Ms. Del Torto will issue the person a license. The Peddler's License is a large tag with the person's picture, name, and the name of the organization he represents prominently displayed, along with an original signature of the Town Clerk. Our Peddler's Ordinance requires the person to wear the Peddler's License at all times he or she is soliciting from door to door. Therefore, if a stranger comes to your door trying to sell you goods or services and is not wearing the Peddler's License, or is not someone from a local school or organization you are familiar with, be wary. Under the Town Code you have the absolute right to demand to see the person's Peddler's License. If the person does not produce a Peddler's License, you can (and should) call the police. Some criminals go door to door during the day just to case the neighborhood to see what homes are empty. Town Code §140-10 makes it the duty of "any police officer in the Town of Colonie to require any person seen peddling and who is not known by such officer to be duly licensed to produce his peddler's license and to enforce the provisions of this chapter against any person found to be violating the same. "A violation of the Peddler's Ordinance carries a maximum fine of \$250.00 and/or 15 days in the County Jail. In today's day and age, it's better to be safe than sorry. Hawkers, hustlers and hucksters prey on people's good will and come at you with smile and a good story. Don't fall for it. Ask to see the Peddler's License. If he can't produce one, odds are it's a scam and he'll be gone as quickly as the green and gallant Spring.

COLONIE PHONE DIRECTORY

Main Line	783-2700
Animal Control	783-2711
Assessor	783-2701
Attorney.....	783-2704
Building.....	783-2706
Civil Service	783-2721
Community Development...	783-2718
Comptroller	783-2708
Emergency Mgmt. & Planning.....	782-3460
EMS.....	782-2645
Fire Services	783-2712
General Services.....	783-2726
Historian.....	782-2593
Human Resources.....	783-2720
Justice.....	783-2714
Library.....	458-9274
MIS.....	783-2722
PEDD	783-2741
Police (Non Emergency)	783-2744
Pruyn House	783-1435
Public Works Engineering ..	783-6292
Environmental Svcs.	783-2826
Highway.....	783-2795
Latham Water Dist.	783-2750
Pure Waters	783-2766
Recreation	783-2760
Senior Resources.....	459-5051
Supervisor.....	783-2728
Tax & Assessments	783-2730
Town Clerk	783-2734
Youth Bureau	456-2135



Town Upgrades Communications System



The Town recently completed the successful installation of a state-of-the-art digital communication system, the first significant upgrade since the early 90's. The digital system replaces the 800MHz analog system that had become obsolete when trying to obtain parts and service. The communications system is an essential component to ensuring the safety of all residents and visitors of the Town of Colonie.

In addition to the improved radio system, a complete redesign of the communications center at the Colonie Police Department was performed. Dispatchers now use computers for everything from answering the initial phone call, researching the call and dispatching the appropriate emergency personnel.

Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services are the primary users but the upgrades enable other Town departments such as Recreation, Pure Waters and Public Works to utilize the system. The North and South Colonie School Districts use the radio system in their fleet of school buses as well. Today there are over 1,100 radios assigned to the new system.

Coverage throughout the Town has improved greatly and this represents a significant improvement in public safety communications that will serve residents for many years to come.



Assist. Communications Supervisor Haller, Supervisor Paula Mahan and Chief Heider

Spotlight on Our Seniors

Tips for Staying Cool When the Temperature Rises

- Drink plenty of fluids—preferably water—try to avoid caffeine and alcohol, which actually dehydrate you
- Stay out of the sun—remain indoors, in air conditioning, if possible—use fans
- Wear light, loose fitting clothing
- Eat small, light meals—avoid using stoves and ovens that create ambient heat
- Be aware that the temperature in your car rises quickly—never leave people or pets in a closed vehicle

Lunch and Learn Series

Today, more than ever, seniors must stretch their monthly incomes further. There are many benefits and programs available to help seniors financially live better that many are just not aware of. Join us for our new Lunch and Learn Series on the second Friday of each month. Lunch will be served at 12PM and followed by an informational program on a topic of interest to seniors.

June 13th

Importance of a Health Care Proxy and Information Regarding Power of Attorney

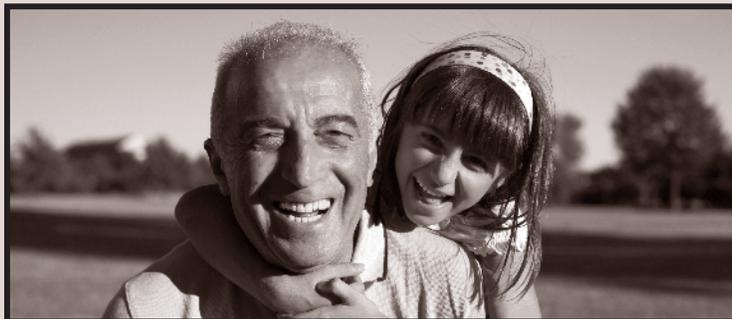
July 11th

Medicare 101

For more information, please call 459-5051

Know an Extraordinary Senior?

Beginning in June, Supervisor Paula Mahan started to recognize an extraordinary Colonie Senior. Each month a new Senior will be recognized for their accomplishments. If you know someone you think deserves the distinction as one of Colonie's Extraordinary Seniors, please contact the Supervisor's Office at 783-2728.



Youth Court



Violet Colydas with First Lady Laura Bush

On Thursday, February 7, 2008, the White House held its 3rd Anniversary Reception of the Helping America's Youth Initiative. First Lady Laura Bush leads this nationwide effort to raise awareness about the challenges facing our youth and to promote the efforts of youth-serving organizations. She utilized the last 3 years visiting youth programs and organizations who support her mission to help at-risk youth. On October 4, 2006, the First Lady visited the Colonie Youth Court program to view a mock trial presented by the youth court members.

Violet Colydas, Director of the Colonie Youth Court, attended the White House event. President Bush and the First Lady made remarks in the East Room on the Initiative's progress since 2005. President Bush signed an executive order to continue its successful efforts and increase the cooperation of federal, state, local and private sectors to help support communities and organizations working to help our Nation's youth. Following their remarks, Mrs. Bush invited her guests to join her in the State Dining Room for a reception. Approximately 175 people representing various youth organizations around the country attended the event.

It was an honor to see the President and Mrs. Bush again. I was able to congratulate her personally on her successful efforts on her Helping America's Youth Initiative. She has done a remarkable job coordinating this effort, and I am grateful to have been granted this once in a lifetime opportunity to be a part of the President's and Mrs. Bush's celebration at the White House.

-Violet Colydas, Director, Colonie Youth Court.

The Colonie Youth Court has been in operation since 1994. The program primarily serves 3 populations: Volunteer Members, Jurors, and Offenders which represent hundreds of youth in the Town each year. The Youth Court hears cases of young people who have committed their first minor offense in the Town of Colonie. High school Members serve the roles of Judge, Prosecutor, Defender, Foreperson, Clerk, and Victim Advocate. To date, it has heard over 1000 cases and has an overall 98% successful completion rate among its offenders. The Colonie program also serves as a statewide model, and has had its success highlighted nationally and internationally.

Sounds of Summer...

Summer has arrived in Colonie...and with it comes the many sounds of summer. We are all opening our windows, staying out later, mowing our lawns and letting our pets out to enjoy the summer sun. As you may know, there is a noise ordinance in the Town. Following a few basic rules of thumb will go a long way in maintaining acceptable noise levels.

- If you have your windows open, keep your televisions and radios at a reasonable volume so that your neighbors are not disturbed.
- Honk your car horn only for the purpose of warning of danger.
- Do not mow your lawn, or use any other residential power tools, before 7 AM.
- If you are performing any construction or demolition on your property, only perform it between the hours of 6 AM to 10 PM.
- Make sure the muffler on your car, and any other motorized equipment you may have, is properly functioning and in good working order.
- Minimize pet noise, your neighbor and your pets will thank you for it.

We hope you enjoy a beautiful, and quiet, summer!



Town of Colonie Memorial Town Hall
534 Loudon Road
Newtonville, NY 12128
www.colonie.org