

Central County

Town of North Greenbush Report

Submitted by Councilwoman Mary Frances Sabo

April is the month we celebrate Earth Day which marks the beginning of the modern environmental movement in 1970. Until that time, mainstream America remained largely oblivious to the hazards of leaded gas, inefficient autos and air pollution. In honor of Earth Day, we all can do something for our environment whether it is walking or riding a bike to a destination instead of taking a private automobile, participating in a neighborhood cleanup day or beginning a backyard compost program. Several residents have asked me about recycling electronics. The town does not have plans for an electronics recycling event at this time. I have compiled a list of private opportunities for electronic recycling which I have described on my facebook page Councilwoman Mary Frances Sabo. Two town committees that I chair are working on projects to improve and enhance the environment in town. The Open Space Committee is putting together a grant to secure funding from the Hudson River Valley Greenway for a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI). The town became a Greenway Community in 2001. The committee is lacking expertise in GIS mapping, a core part of the NRI. If anyone has GIS mapping skills and would like to volunteer to work with the committee on this project, please email me at [msabo@northgreenbush.org](mailto:msabo@northgreenbush.org). The town’s Climate Smart committee is also focusing on actions that will help the town achieve certification as a Climate Smart Community. This summer we are focusing on two particular projects-creating an educational campaign to encourage waste reduction and composting and hosting climate related educational seminars, workshops or fairs. The committee could use volunteers to help with these initiatives. High school and college students are especially welcome. Again, please reach out to me at [msabo@northgreenbush.org](mailto:msabo@northgreenbush.org) if you would like to help.

Road Paving In West Sand Lake And Schodack

by Denise Wright

The New York State Department of Transportation announced that on Monday, April 26, site preparations would begin with actual paving work to start on Monday, May 3 on Route 150, Bittig Road in West Sand Lake to US 9/20 in Schodack.

The project will include pavement repairs, isolated drainage repair, guide rail repairs/replacement where needed and traffic signal loop replacements at the road’s intersection on Route 9/20 in Schodack. According to a DOT informational letter, the road will remain open at all times with alternating one-way traffic controlled by flag persons. The work will not be progressing within 500 feet of the Route 9/20 intersection weekdays between 7-9 am and 3-6 pm, and Saturdays between 11 am-5 pm. This project will take approximately four months, but that is contingent on weather and “other conditions encountered in the field.”

BRUNSWICK

Tailgate Sale

On Sunday, May 2, the Brunswick Grange will hold its annual Spring Agricultural Tailgate sale at the Schaghticoke Fairgrounds from 7:30 am to 12:30 pm. More than 50 vendors will have various varieties of chickens, ducks, geese, pigeons, veggies, plants and other agricultural items. Absolutely no dogs, cats, puppies or kittens will be allowed. A donation of \$15 per vendor will be charged at the gate. Spectators are free.

Masks will be required and there will be no food vendors on site. The event will be held rain or shine. For more information please call 518-279-9113.

The fairgrounds are located at the corner of NYS routes 40 and 67 in Schaghticoke.

SCHODACK

Business Development And Storm Water Management At Planning Board Meeting

by Denise Wright

These two issues were important topics of conversation at the April 19 Schodack Planning Board meeting. The meeting began with a public hearing about the MS-4 annual report for the Town. The New York State Storm Water Design program provides standards for the design of the Storm water Management Practices (SMPs) to protect the waters of the State of New York from the adverse impacts of urban storm water runoff. The focus is on outreach/education, public participation/involvement, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site runoff control, post-construction runoff control and pollution prevention / good housekeeping.

During the report to the Board, the presenter noted that the Town found “no exceptions” but did note that illegal dumping sites in the town have, regrettably, increased. Over the past few years, it had remained consistent with problem areas in the southwest corner of town, but officials have noticed that incidents have increased in the northeast corner of town as well. One goal that the Town has for 2021 is to get the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) involved to assist with enforcement against violators. While the

Town will continue its practices of street sweeping and clearing out catch basins, they do plan to improve the training to ensure more efficient and effective cleaning methods.

Hart Commercial Business Park had its PD application for a three lot subdivision of 17-acres reviewed. The site plans, subdivision plans and water quality control plans will be approved at an upcoming meeting once they are finalized over the next few weeks. Two businesses planning to take up residency in the park, Dibble Equipment and Trojan Energy, will have their approximate 11,000 square foot building site plans reviewed for lighting, landscaping, grading and drainage time as well.

WS Auto Sales from North Greenbush near Hudson Valley Community College requested a change of tenancy for 1869 US 9, which has a 1992 variance to allow 30 cars on site. The owner wants to move his business to Schodack. He plans to sell used cars but will have no repairs, detailing, or oil changes completed on the property. The Board approved his Type 2 Business plan and welcomed him to being part of the Schodack business community.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Beryl H. Moul Memorial Grange Scholarship

The Beryl H. Moul Memorial Grange Scholarship was established in 1958 by West Sand Lake Grange #949 in memory of prominent Grange Member Beryl H. Moul. Applicants must be graduating high school in 2021, Rensselaer County residents (for at least 4 years), be accepted in an accredited 2 or 4-year college program in New York State and pursuing a career in agriculture, home economics, nursing, natural resource management, environmental engineering or pharmacology. The application deadline, which

includes an official High School transcript, is May 1. The application and instructions can be found at any Rensselaer County High School Guidance Office or at the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County website at [www.ccerensselaer.org](http://www.ccerensselaer.org) under 4-H scholarship tab. For questions, please contact the CCE office of Rensselaer County at 518-272-4210. Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing equal program and employment opportunities.

Poestenkill Scholarship

A \$1,000 scholarship is being offered by the Poestenkill Library/Clement Memorial Scholarship fund to any graduating high school senior who is a resident of Poestenkill. The student, be he/she from public, private or home schooling, must be planning on furthering their education at a two or four year college.

A 500 to 750 word message, based on the student’s love of reading, must be received by May 21. No particular font or spacing is required. Do not include the student’s name on the essay, as judging will be based

solely on the content of that essay. Please instead, attach a cover sheet with the student’s name, address and phone number, as well as the school currently attending and the college he or she plans to attend this fall.

Entries can be mailed to P.O. Box 305, Poestenkill, NY 12140 or emailed to [info@poestenkilllibrary.org](mailto:info@poestenkilllibrary.org). Should the applicant wish to drop off the essay in person, that can be done at the library, but please call 518-283-3721 first for instructions.

Freedom Scholarship

Applications are being accepted for the scholarship award of \$300 for the best essay on “What Freedom Means To Me” by a graduating senior from Brunswick Central School District or Berlin Central School District who is continuing on with their education. The essay should not be less than 250 words or more than 500 words. The scholarship is being given by the

Carner, Etman, Smith V.F.W. Post 6340 in memory of a former member Elmer A. Grogan.

The deadline for applications is May 10. Applications are available at the guidance counselor offices of both high schools and should be mailed to: Carner, Etman, Smith V.F.W. Post 6340, PO Box 361, Grafton, NY 12082, Attn: Commander Len Claus Jr.

POESTENKILL SAND LAKE

Summer Camp

The two towns are combining to run a joint summer camp program this year at the Poestenkill Elementary School. The camp runs from July 12 to August 13 and is open to children entering kindergarten up to ninth grade. Specific information about the camp, as well as registration forms can be found on each town’s website.

There are currently positions open for Counselors in Training (CIT), Counselors and Medical Team members. Counselors must be 16 years old, while CITs need to be 15 years old.

PITTSTOWN

Fire Department Recruitment Day

The Pittstown Volunteer Fire Department is joining many other departments around Rensselaer County in holding an Open House and Recruitment Day at the fire station on Saturday, April 24 from 10 am to 2 pm. The fire station is located at 134 Parker School Road, just off NYS Route 7.

If you have ever thought of being a firefighter, or possibly helping as a member of the Fire Police, please drop by to see what it’s all about.