

# Town of Vernon Times

www.townofvernon.com

Summer 2012

## FROM THE TOWN SUPERVISOR

Myron J. Thurston, Supervisor

The winter months were a bit different than the norm . The highway department employees were able to spend a little more time with there families but we still have the fall and early winter left in 2012. In the past the bad weather and snow tends to average out.

The town and village of Vernon are working with many of the businesses in our town to organize the 2012 Vernon Fall Festival. There are going to be some new additions to the event. Check the town website where the updates will be posted. Save the date September 22 for an afternoon and evening of family memories.

The Town and Village of Oneida Castle are working with each other to secure a USDA Rural Development Grant to make public sewers an affordable reality. This fall and early winter I plan to have informational meetings for the residents effected by this project. Then you will have the opportunity to vote and tell us if you wish to make this public sewer system a reality.

The State budget for 2012-2013 includes the same Video Lottery Terminal funding to the town that it did last year. Sales tax revenues to the town have been slightly higher also. These two revenues should keep our tax levy for 2013 very close to what it was in 2012. Your town government has been very careful with their spending and yet provide reasonable funding for all items that are in our town budget.

Please support our local businesses. They are very important in making our town the community that we so much enjoy living in. You will find that there is everything you need in your own back yard. You can also find many different types of entertainment . By the way, when you are walking on the town walkway or driving to a destination in town take a close look at the beauty all around you.

May God bless you and your family!

*Myron J Thurston*

**Myron J Thurston**  
Supervisor



## FROM THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE

Code Enforcement Officers for The Town of Vernon: Jody Thieme and Terry Williamson

### Pool Safety

As the weather grows warmer we all start thinking about a swimming pool to cool off in. Of course the safety of the pool and the installation is the first thing we should consider before purchasing or using a pool. Unfortunately too often, what should be a joyful summer season turns to tragedy when pool safety is not the prime consideration and an accident happens. Incorporating some common sense safety features in the design or installation of the pool could often prevent these terrible accidents.

To minimize the risk inherent in pools, especially to small children, NYS has placed regulations on the design, installation and maintenance of all pools, spas and hot tubs. These required safety features are part of the NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (the Building Code) and are in force in every Village, Town and County in NYS. They apply to both new and existing pools, spas and hot tubs regardless of when they were installed. What follows is a brief rundown of the Code required features.

NYS defines a swimming pool as any structure of any material that is capable of containing water over 24 inches deep (except plumbing fixtures). This includes the self-supporting or "inflatable" blue pools, spas and hot tubs. All swimming pools, spas and hot tubs shall:

- Have a four-foot high barrier completely surrounding the pool equipped with a gate that prevents unmonitored access by a child. Certain exceptions apply.
- Barriers are required no matter when the pool was installed.
- A licensed electrician must install electrical devices and service to pool equipment in compliance with the National Electrical Code and the NYS Code.
- New pools installed or existing pools substantially repaired or modified after December 2006 are also required to have an approved pool alarm (must meet ASTM F-2208).
- Suction outlets are required to have anti-entrapment covers (except skimmers)
- Anti-entrapment features must be included on in-ground pool plumbing systems.
- Because these requirements are part of the NYS Building Code, a permit must be obtained from the Code Enforcement Officer whenever a pool is installed, substantially modified or repaired or the installation of a deck or fence involving a pool is considered.
- If the safety requirements have not been complied with and/or a permit was not obtained when the pool was installed, it is a violation of NYS Code to continue using the pool. See Below

### TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Effective Date: January 1, 2003

Source Document: 19NYCRR 1220 - Residential Code of New York State (RCNYS)

Topic: Self-set swimming pool with 48 inch wall height

This document is to answer the question whether a self-set or quick-set swimming pool (not rigid metal walls) with 48 inch or more wall height meets the requirements of section AG 105.2 of Appendix G of the Residential Code of New York State (RCNYS) as a barrier.

NO. Section AG 105.2 states in part:

An outdoor swimming pool, including an in-ground, aboveground or on-ground pool, hot tub or spa shall be provided with a barrier ... The term "barrier" is defined as "A fence, wall, building wall or combination thereof which completely surrounds the swimming pool and obstructs access to the swimming pool."

Although the self-set pool has a 48 inch wall, it does not obstruct access because it is not rigid. The wall can easily be deflected by a child who grabs the top inflated ring.

Ronald E. Piester, R.A., Director  
Division of Code Enforcement and Administration

**TOWN OF VERNON DIRECTORY**

MYRON THURSTON

Supervisor, Budget Officer 829-2985

**TOWN COUNCILPERSONS**

GENE BENNATI

Deputy Supervisor Intergovernmental  
Relations Committee 363-0060

SANDRA B. WILLIAMS

Education &amp; Libraries Committee 829-2848

MICHAEL MCDONOUGH

Operations Committee 829-4729

RANDY WATSON

Economic Dev. Committee 829-2365

**OTHER TOWN OFFICIALS***Town Justices*

WILLIAM CROLL 829-4481

ROBERT SUTTMEIER 829-4481

*Court Clerk*

LOUISE SNYDER 829-4481

KRISTIE MEYERS 829-4481

TRACY DAM-CHIECO 829-4481

*Town Bookkeeper*

WENDY COSTON 829-2985

*Town Clerk and Tax Collector*

JULIE MCELROY 829-2422

*Deputy Town Clerk*

JANET POHLEY 829-2422

BVEVERLY MACKEY

*Dog Control*

CALL TOWN CLERK 829-2422

*Codes Officer*

TERRY WILLIAMSON 829-2434

*Fire Inspector*

JODY THIEME 829-2434

*Codes Office Clerk*

JEAN HALSTEAD 829-2434

*Chariman*

FRANK LAGUZZA 829-2587

*Assessors*

TIMOTHY WAGNER 829-2587

ROBERT MOHER 829-2587

*Assessors Clerk*

JUDITH BEACH 829-2587

*Chairman, Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)*

NORMAN LAUBE 829-2434

*Chairman - Planning Board*

MICHAEL SHERIDAN 829-2434

*Superintendent of Highways (Churton Road)*

ARTHUR FREEMIRE 829-2742

**COUNTY LEGISLATORS***2nd District*

HOWARD REGNER 798-5902

*3rd District*

PATRICK BRENNAN 798-5902

**VERNON TOWN COURT**

Justice William B. Croll • Justice Robert G. Suttmeier

Court Clerks: Tracy Dam-Chieco and Lisa VanTress

The Court is excited to announce that vehicle and traffic fines can now be paid online at [www.PayCourtOnline.com](http://www.PayCourtOnline.com). (A convenience fee will be applied by the vendor.) Please be advised that use of this website will NOT LIFT ANY OUTSTANDING SCOFFS. YOU WILL NEED TO COME INTO COURT TO OBTAIN YOUR LIFT SCOFF PAPERWORK AND HAVE YOUR LICENSE UNSUSPENDED. Feel free to visit [www.townofvernon.com](http://www.townofvernon.com) and the Town Court's page to find links to other useful websites.

Court is held at 1:00 pm on the third and fourth Wednesday of the month. Assistant District Attorney Kurt Hameline will be available at all Court sessions.

In addition, Judge Suttmeier will now be holding all DWI hearings and sentencing on the fourth Monday of the month. All civil matters will also be heard at this time. The first date will be Monday, June 25th at 1:00pm.

Court Clerk Hours:  
Mon-Wed: 9am-2pm  
Thurs: 9am-11am  
Fri: CLOSED

**FALL FESTIVAL**

The second annual Town Fall Festival will be held on **September 22, 2012** from **Noon until 5:00 P.M.** at the Town Park located behind the Town Offices. Some expected events will include a bike rodeo, NASCAR Stock Car Show along with other antique equipment, ie; tractors, etc., chicken barbeque after 5:00 put on by volunteer fire department and fireworks at dusk. Any business or individual wishing to rent a booth for the day can do so by completing the form included with this newsletter and submitting it prior to September 22, 2012 at the Village of Vernon or Town of Vernon offices. Any questions, contact Todd Morris @ 269-6714. No admission fee.



Photos by Janice Buneo, NEO Images

## SHERRILL-KENWOOD FREE LIBRARY

### 100 Books for 100 Years

The Sherrill-Kenwood Free Library will be celebrating 100 years of service to the community in 2012. We are hoping to raise enough money through your generous donations to purchase 100 centennial books for the library. We will be purchasing a large selection of books including fiction, non-fiction, classics, new releases, adult books, and children's books with these donations. A donation of \$25 will support the purchase of one of these centennial books. Donors will be recognized on a plaque to be hung in the library. Call or stop by the library for more information or to donate!

### Centennial Book Bags

To celebrate our centennial, book bags are available for \$10 at the library. Displaying our centennial logo, designed by Don Cornue, these bags are great for carrying groceries, knitting, art supplies, library books, and much more! There's even a special pocket for your library card. They make a great gift!

### Looking for Legos!

The library would like to develop our own collection of Legos/Duplos for use within the library and to support future children's programming. If you have boxes of Legos/Duplos in your basement that no longer get used we would be grateful if you would donate them!

### Introduction to Computers

*June 18th, 25th, and July 2nd @ 5:30 pm*

Prerequisites: Each previous session is prerequisite for the next. This three-part hands-on class with guided instruction and self-study guide handouts is designed for people who have little to no experience working with a computer. The class teaches basic skills beginning with using the mouse and keyboard, and progresses to file management and Internet use. Space is limited, so call the library today to register.

### Author Discussion – Jerry Antil

*June 20 @ 6:00 pm*

Author Jerry Antil will be at the library to discuss his novel *The Pompey Hollow Book Club*. His novel is a story inspired by his time growing up in central New York and is based on true events. Copies of his book will be available for sale and autographing at the library during the month of June and during his presentation.

### Family Movie Night featuring *The Big Miracle*

*June 21 @ 6:00 pm*

Join us for a showing of the movie *The Big Miracle*. Popcorn will be provided.

Drew Barrymore and John Krasinski star in this incredible rescue adventure - the amazing true story that inspired the world and captured the hearts of millions. When a family of whales is trapped by rapidly forming ice in the Arctic Circle, a small-town reporter (Krasinski) and an animal-loving volunteer (Barrymore) rally an unlikely coalition of Alaskan natives, oil tycoons and the Russian and American military to set aside their differences and free the whales before it's too late. Kristen Bell, Dermot Mulroney and Ted Danson costar in this charming feel-good movie that the whole family can enjoy! Rated PG Check in at the library for the featured movies in July and August!

### Web Browsing and E-Mail Basics

*July 9th @ 5:30 pm*

Web Browsing and E-mail Basics teaches how to navigate the World Wide Web and use email to send and receive messages. In the first half, learn to use a Web Browser, search for information, visit web sites, and evaluate site content. Next, create a free online email account using Google. Learn to choose a secure password and log in to send, receive, and read messages. Space is limited, so call the library today to register.

### Dan the Snakeman!

*July 11th @ 11:00 am at the CAC*

Help kick-off our Summer Reading Program with a wild performance from Dan the Snakeman at the CAC!

### Internet Searching Basics

*July 16th @ 5:30 pm*

This class will focus on using Web browsing software to search for information on the Internet. Covering both computer skills and search skills, topics will include:

- Web browser basics
- Comparison of common web browsers
- Understanding search results
- Reliable vs. unreliable sources

Space is limited, so call the library today to register.



### Microsoft Excel Basics

July 23rd @ 5:30 pm

This class teaches the basics of Excel, Microsoft's spreadsheet program, using a personal budget as a sample project. The class will be useful both for those seeking learn Excel for their job, job search, and school work and those interested in learning for home use or just for fun. Topics covered will include:

- Navigating the Excel interface
- Entering data into cells
- Formatting numbers and text
- Autosum functions and basic formulas
- Formatting using Cell Styles

Space is limited, so call the library today to register.

### Dave Ruch, Family Entertainment

August 1st @ 10:45 am at the CAC

To celebrate our Centennial and our Summer Reading Program, Dave Ruch will provide family-friendly musical entertainment for all-ages at the CAC!

### Summer Reading Program

The Sherrill-Kenwood Free Library's Summer Reading Goal this year is for each child to read at least 8 hours throughout the summer.

Children will earn a prize if they record their time spent reading on their "Summer Reading Record" and return it to the Library at the end of July for a prize, and then again at the end of August for another (larger!) prize. To participate bring your child to the library to pick up their Summer Reading Record, record the time they spend reading, and then return the record at the end of July and August to get a prize. It's that easy!

### Summer Reading Weekly Programs

Story Hour Programs

Monday, July 9:	Dreams & Wishes
Monday, July 16:	Space Adventure
Monday, July 23:	Night Shivers

Children entering Kindergarten & 1st Grade will meet at the library from 9:00 – 10:00

Children entering 2nd & 3rd Grade will meet at the library from 10:30 – 11:00

These programs include read-aloud time, crafts, games, songs, snacks & more!

Space is limited, so call the library today at **363-5980** to register.

### Summer Reading Club Programs

Monday, July 9th, 16th, & 23rd from 12:30 – 1:30 for children entering grades 4-6.

Space is limited, so call the library today at 363-5980 to register.

### Music Heals...

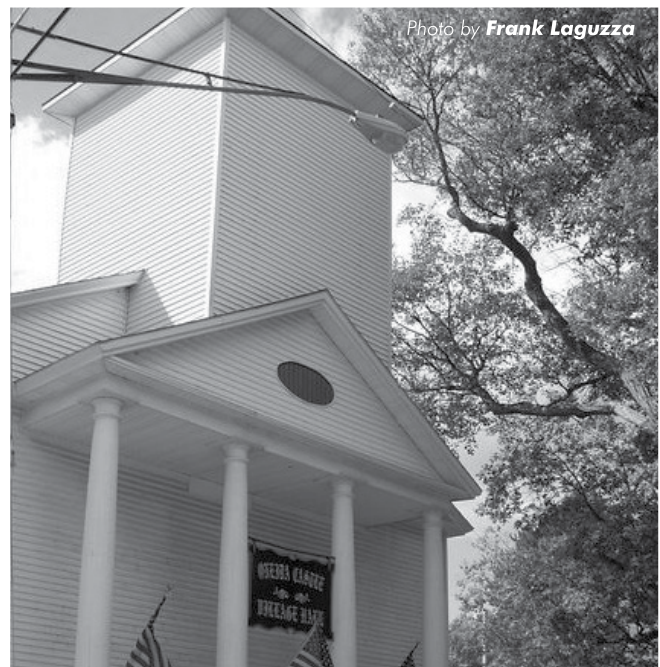
September 29 @ 11:00

Did you know that listening to music for 20 minutes is equal to 325 mg of pain reliever such as, Tylenol or Advil? Did you know that actively listening to music can help lower your blood pressure and heart rate? Did you know that studies show that patients who use music in their treatment for cancer, and other serious illnesses, recovered faster than those who didn't? This workshop raises awareness of the powerful benefits recreational music can have in wellness and healing. This workshop is interactive, with samples of various music therapy exercises, songs and activities presented that aid in wellness, hope and healing!

### Summer Hours

The library will be closed July 4th and Saturdays through Labor Day weekend.

Please stop by or call the library **363-5980** or visit **[www.sherrillkenwoodlibrary.org](http://www.sherrillkenwoodlibrary.org)** for further information or to suggest future programming ideas!



Submit your own local photo at **[www.townofvernon.com](http://www.townofvernon.com)** and click on "Photo Galleries"

## FROM THE TOWN CLERK

Julie McElroy, Town Clerk

### Dog Enumeration

The Town of Vernon will conduct a dog enumeration by mail again this year. Please complete and return the postage-paid postcard that is mailed to you within 14 days. According to Article 7, Section 109 of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law, all dogs 4 months or older must be licensed in the municipality in which they are harbored. Dogs found to be unlicensed during the enumeration period will be subject to a \$10.00 enumeration fee in addition to the regular license fees. Please call or stop in the Town Clerk's Office to get information on how to license any unlicensed dog or to renew any expired dog license. At the conclusion of this mail-in census, the Town will be conducting a random check. Any unlicensed dogs at that time, not in compliance, will be subject to a court ticket and fine. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Also, a reminder that you can purchase hunting and/or fishing licenses through the DEC at the Town Office Building.

The Town Clerk's Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



### VERNON TIMES NEWS CORNER

**Sarah A. McElroy**, daughter of Dennis and Julie McElroy, 5971 Cooper St. in Vernon, graduated from SUNY Oswego on May 12, 2012 with a Bachelor's degree in Adolescent Education and Math. She is working as a substitute teacher at Altmar-Parish-Williamstown High School and will continue to get her Master's degree at SUNY Oswego this fall.

Town of Highway retiree, **Paul Baker**, has finally received the much earned award medals for his time served in Viet Nam. We are all so very proud of Paul and all other service persons who so willing give their time and in some cases their lives, to defend our country.

### NAME OUR TOWN PARK

We are looking for a name for the Town Park. The park is located behind the Town Office Building.

Any suggestions can be emailed to Sandy Williams at [sbwilliams30@yahoo.com](mailto:sbwilliams30@yahoo.com) or mailed to the Town of Vernon, 4305 Peterboro Road, Vernon, NY 13476; Attention: Town Clerk.

All suggestions will be in the fall newsletter and the residents of the Town will be able to vote on their favorite. If too many are received, the top five, chosen by Town Board members, will be in the newsletter.



## ASSESSORS' DEPARTMENT

Frank Laguzza BOA Chairman and Staff

Congratulations to Robert Moher who recently completed the NY State required courses and is now a State Certified Assessor. There are 8 different courses for a total of about 400 hours required. Each course has a written exam. All the assessors in the Town of Vernon and City of Sherrill are State certified.

Donald Ackerman was recently appointed to the Board of Assessment Review. Don replaces George Storey who served on the board for many years and was a former Town Assessor. Our thanks to George for his service to the Town.

The main function of the assessor is to estimate the fair market value of real estate. There are several recognized approaches to value.

**1. Cost Approach** – Replacement cost new minus depreciation plus land value. Generally used for newer improvements of special use properties ex. Churches, car washes etc.

**2. Sales Comparisons Approach** – The subject is compared to recent similar property sales (This is the most common approach).

**3. Income Capitalization Approach** – The net income produced by the property is capitalized using economic rent to indicate value (used generally for commercial properties).

The Town of Vernon has a total of 3,712 parcels. There are 375 Commercial or industrial properties and the remainder are residential.

Village of Oneida Castle	286
Village of Vernon	433
City of Sherrill	1,268
Town of Outside	1,725

Please feel free to come to the office and talk to us about your property assessed value. Any questions can be answered by calling **829-2587**. Our summer hours are 9am-2pm Monday and Thursday.

## EMPLOYEE PROFILES

### JEAN HALSTEAD



Jean works in the Codes Office as Clerk. She joined the Town five years ago after working for a travel agency for fifteen years, that closed.

Jean lives on Willow Meadow Way in Oneida with her husband, Mark. They have four children, Megan, Dana and twins Evan and Adam. They are expecting a fifth grandchild soon along with Connor, Seth, Sydney and Elliott.

Jean's interests include traveling, walking, mentoring youth through Madison County Community Action. Jean states that the Town of Vernon is a great place to work.

### TIM MURPHY



Tim "Murph" Murphy has been working for the Town Highway Department since December of 2002. During the summer he operates heavy equipment to keep the Town roads in

respectable condition for the residents and people passing through.

His favorite piece of equipment to operate is the Gradall, "he and the machine have become one over the past few years"! During the winter Tim drives a snowplow and sander; the team prides themselves on having the roads safe and passable 24/7.

Tim has been active with the Vernon Fire Department for 25 years. In his spare time, he also enjoys collecting die cast trucks/equipment and on occasion has been known to get on a John Deere tractor and play farmer. As his co-workers say, Tim "bleeds green"!

A graduate of VVS, he and his significant other Brenda live on Cooper Street in Vernon.

# Town of Vernon Times

[www.townofvernon.com](http://www.townofvernon.com)

Summer 2012



Anyone knowing of a household not receiving the newsletter is asked to contact Sandy Williams with a name and address. We are trying to maintain a database so all residents of the Town receive a copy.

**Sandy can be reached at: 315-272-5793**