

City of Sherrill Winter 2018 Newsletter

www.sherrillny.org



From the City Manager, Brandon M. Lovett

On behalf of the City of Sherrill employees and administration I'd like to wish everyone a Happy & Healthy 2018. We're excited for the new year and the opportunities that ahead. In 2017 residents saw the completion of the Power & Light Building, the start of work and progress on the DPW building renovation, some improvements at the CAC, and the completion of the Betsinger Road sidewalk including a pedestrian crosswalk on Route 5. 2017 also saw a spike in private development with the Maple Leaf Market, Greenhouse Brew, Briggs & Stratton and a few other new small businesses. To follow up on a successful 2017, we are wrapping up planning for our 2018 construction projects and our spring/summer recreation and community programs.

The City recently hosted an Economic Development Workshop with Mohawk Valley EDGE which provided insight and technical assistance to entrepreneurs, business and property owners seeking new opportunities. On February 7th we'll host a follow up to the fall recreation meeting to discuss activities, programs and facilities the community would like to see. We welcome your input in implementing fresh ideas.

We're scheduling our summer concert series and we'll announce our 2018 lineup soon. The fireworks weekend entertainment is confirmed, and we're excited to announce that Last Left will perform on Friday July 27 and Soul Injection will perform on Saturday July 28. We're planning the 5K race and introducing a new twist to the golf tournament- it will be a 9-hole Thursday evening event. Details about these events are coming soon.

The City was successful in the NYS Consolidated Funding application program for the first time. We received \$30K for waste water planning. This will allow us to do engineering work needed to compete for large scale funding and upcoming mandates required for disinfection. Senator Joseph A. Griffo was instrumental in helping Sherrill secure \$75K to replace the generator at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Senator Griffo also helped secure \$10K from the Department of Criminal Justice Services for public safety equipment. The Community Foundation provided \$4K for a new ADA and pet friendly drinking fountain for Robertson Park. We also received \$8K from the Oneida County Youth Bureau for youth summer employment. We'll continue to explore 2018 grant opportunities starting with NYS Department of Transportation PSAP and TAP grants.

The Police Department has hired a new full-time officer, patrolman Joseph Pruckno, who joined the force in November. Officer Pruckno came to Sherrill as a lateral transfer from the City of Rome. Pruckno is a US Navy Veteran and served in Afghanistan. He is a reserve member of the Air Force Security Forces EADS 224 Attack Squadron, a Utica College graduate and Athletic All American. He is married and has a daughter. Welcome aboard Joe, we are glad to have you on our team.

In closing, I encourage our citizens to continue to stay involved. Local government is most successful when we have input from our community to help guide and direct the City's planning. One of the most important roles of local government is to be accessible. Organic ideas, suggestions and involvement will help us to continue to move in a positive direction. Feel free to shoot me an email, stop in or give me a call anytime. I look forward to hearing from you.

All the best,
Brandon

Ice Skating



The skating rink will continue to be open weather permitting. If you see the STOP sign the ice is not fit to skate on and the rink is closed. Skating with hockey sticks and puck passing can be done when the rink is not crowded but games are not allowed when there are other skaters. All skating is at your own risk. The Rotary building will generally be open 4-8pm Monday-Friday and 2-8pm Saturdays, Sundays & when school is closed.

If you have skates you'd like to donate for use at the rink contact Sara Getman (315) 363-6525.

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**City of Sherrill
Contact Information**



City Officials

Brandon Lovett, City Manager
(315) 363-2440, blovett@sherrillny.org

Michael Holmes, City Clerk/Comptroller
(315) 363-2440, mholmes@sherrillny.org

City Commissioners

William Vineall, Mayor
(315) 366-5430, mayor@sherrillny.org

Tom Dixon
(315) 363-1890, tdixon@sherrillny.org

Patrick Hubbard
(315) 363-3379, phubbard@sherrillny.org

Jason Merrill
(315) 886-6998, jmerrill@sherrillny.org

Joseph Shay
(315) 363-9234, jshay@sherrillny.org

Other City Phone Numbers

City Hall, (315) 363-2440

CAC, (315) 363-6525

Power & Light, (315) 363-0780

Police Department- Please note these numbers and use the correct one for efficient response.

Emergencies- 911

Dispatch- (315) 363-3200

Leave a message- (315) 363-6221

Assessor's News

March 1, 2018 is the deadline for filing certain property tax exemption applications. Many exemptions including the Senior Citizen's and Enhanced STAR exemptions do not automatically renew and require annual applications and proof of qualifying income.

The Senior Citizen's exemption, with far lower income limits than the Enhanced STAR exemption, is normally based on the previous year's income. For the Senior Citizen's exemption, you must provide proof of your previous year's income. Form SS 1099 and tax returns are often needed to prove your income level. Please also bring in receipts for out-of-pocket unreimbursed medical and prescription expenses, such as dental, health insurance premium payments, eyeglasses, hearing aids, etc.) which are used to reduce your income.

Eligibility for Enhanced Star is based on being 65 years old, regardless of when you turn 65 during 2018, and 2016 income. Those applying for Enhanced STAR exemption may elect to participate in a voluntary program whereby the Assessor's office is automatically notified in future years regarding the income eligibility of the applicant. This process is only for those filing New York income tax returns. Applications for the program are available at the Assessor's office and cannot be used for any other income-related exemption.

If you purchased a residence in Sherrill **prior to May 1, 2014** and have **NOT** previously applied for the Basic STAR exemption, you may qualify for this significant property tax exemption designed to lower your school tax bill. The residence must be your primary residence each year to qualify. Renewal to continue the Basic Star exemption is NOT necessary. *Important Changes: For homeowners who purchased property after May 1, 2014 both the Basic & Enhanced STAR programs have changed. Please contact Bob Comis with questions and visit <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/default.htm> for details.

Bob Comis, Assessor for the City of Sherrill, has set the following times to process exemptions at City Hall: January 11 & 12 9am-12pm for Enhanced STAR; All exemptions- February 1, 2, 7, 8, 12-14, 21-23, 27 & 28, 9am-12pm. Changes to this schedule will be posted at www.sherrillny.org. An appointment can also be scheduled by contacting Bob, (315) 264-6362. Property owners considering construction this year are welcome to meet with Bob to discuss the potential change to your City assessed value.

The Town of Vernon Assessor's Office welcomes inquiries from all town property owners, residents, and taxpayers. Sherrill residents can receive some of the same services that they receive from the Sherrill Assessor's Office at the Vernon office, including assistance relating to exemption applications. The Vernon Assessor's hours are Monday & Thursday, 9am-2pm through the month of February. Frank Laguzza, (315) 829-2587, is the Chairman of the Vernon Board of Assessors.



Sherrill Recreation News

Community Activity Center, 139 East Hamilton Ave, (315) 363-6525



Mark your calendars for these upcoming spring/summer events!

Call or visit www.sherrillny.org for more information!

Easter Egg Hunt- March 30, 10am

Spring Craft Show- April 7, 9am-3pm

Bowling Tournament- April 12-14

Arbor Day- April 27

VVS Education Foundation Garage Sale- April 28, 9am-1pm

Garden Club Plant Sale- May 19

Summer Concerts- June 26-August 28

Fireworks Weekend- July 26-28

Open Bowling Hours

Wednesdays 10am-12pm

Fridays 6-11pm

Saturdays 1-5pm & 9:30-11pm

Sundays 12-5pm

*Hours may change. The CAC is also open on some school holidays. Call for updates. Cost: \$3.25/game & \$1/shoes

Spring Bowling Leagues

There will be adult and student spring bowling leagues at the CAC April-June. Please call for information.

Billiards Information

Call for information about adult leagues. Anyone 16 or older can play pool when the CAC is open and tables are available. Cost: \$2/half-hour

Birthdays, Parties and Private Events

The gym & upstairs are available to rent for birthday parties, baby showers, graduation parties & other events. Visit www.sherrillny.org/recreation/cac/ for more information.

Youth Center

Youth Center for VVS students is open through March on Mondays & Tuesdays from 6-9pm for students in grades 4-6 and Fridays & Saturdays from 6:30-10pm for students in grades 7-12.



Sherrill Recreation Meeting- We held a meeting in November for residents to share ideas and input about parks, activities, events, etc. We'll have a follow up meeting Wednesday February 7 at 6pm at the CAC. All are invited!



February Break Activities- Join us for these activities during the February break from school! The CAC will also be open for bowling Monday-Wednesday 12-5pm, Thursday 12-4pm, Friday 12-11pm, Saturday 1-5pm & 9:30-11pm and Sunday 12-5pm.

*From 12-2pm each day and 1-3pm Saturday kids 14 & under bowl free and everyone else pays \$5 for two games and shoes (limit 2 games).



Tuesday & Wednesday February 20 & 21- Sports & Crafts, CAC Gym, 9am-11am- for K-6th grade kids who live in Sherrill or attend McAllister school, *Registration is required. Forms will be sent home at school or available at www.sherrillny.org.



Thursday & Friday February 22 & 23- Free Family Open Gym Time, 9am-12pm- Come play in the gym! Kids 14 & under must be supervised by a parent/guardian.

Daily Activities & Ongoing Classes, Groups and Events

-Indoor Walking in the Gym- Open to all, weekday mornings, 8-9am.

-Kids Time- Children ages 5 and younger who are supervised by an adult are invited to play in the gym Monday-Friday, 10am-12pm. *Times may change due to special events. Contact the CAC for updates.

Mondays

-Bone Builders-Strength Training for the Older Adult, 9am, Contact Polly, (315) 853-6258 for details, \$1.50/class.

-Free Family Open Gym Time- Residents are invited to use the gym for basketball from 5-6pm at no charge. Kids 14 & under must be supervised.

Tuesdays

-Community Fine Arts Guild- Join this group of artists 9am-12pm to paint, share ideas, and for critique.

-Free Family Open Gym Time- Residents are invited to use the gym from 5-6pm at no charge. Kids 14 & under must be supervised.

Wednesdays

-Oneida County Office for the Aging- A representative from the office is at the CAC on the first Wednesday of the month at 11am to provide people ages 60 and over or those with disabilities, with services. Stop by or call Emily Comito, (315) 768-3623.

-CAC Craft and Chat Group- Join this group the 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday of the month, 11am-1pm, to knit, sew, or create any craft.

Thursdays

-Rescue Me K-9 Dog Rescue Dog Socialization Classes- These are free classes from 6-7pm for anyone who wants to bring their dog. Donations are accepted. Call Debbie Martin, (315) 829-3454 with questions.

News from the Department of Public Works



Upcoming Garbage Pick-Up Date Change

<u>Normal Pick-up Date</u>	<u>New Pick-up Date</u>
02/19 (Monday)	02/20 (Tuesday)

Garbage Statistic- The City of Sherrill generates an average of 4 tons of electronic waste per year.

*The following are some violations that are still occurring:

- Garbage can & contents combined total weight over 40 lbs. Please cover garbage and recyclable cans. Rainwater & snow significantly increase the weight to unsafe handling limits for the sanitation crew.
- Recyclables not loose, but stuffed in plastic bags.
- Cardboard not broken down.

Bags- Empty plastic wood pellet bags and other plastic film items (i.e. grocery bags) can be brought to Hannaford, Price Chopper, Target, and Tops for proper recycling. For wood pellet bags please cut off the top of the bag so that the corners are removed and shake out any leftover residue. Bags must be clean and dry.

*For helpful tips on what is recyclable, please visit www.AmlRecyclable.com

Winter Reminders- Please do not place garbage cans or recyclables in the sidewalk because it interferes with sidewalk clearing. Please place containers at the edge of your driveway between the sidewalk and road.

Transfer Station Updates- The Transfer Station is open on Saturdays, 8am-1pm until spring. Disposal coupons must be purchased at City Hall prior to dropping off items. Visit www.sherrillny.org/departments/public-works/ or contact City Hall for information.

Wood Ashes- At the end of Fairway Lane, there is an area for dropping off properly extinguished wood ashes.

Summer Employment

If you're interested in working for the DPW, Summer Playground Program or at the Swimming Pool please stop by City Hall to fill out an application or download one from www.sherrillny.org/employment.



Notes and News from "The Hall"

-City Commission meetings are held at City Hall in the City Court room on the 2nd & 4th Monday of every month at 7pm. The schedule may fluctuate due to holidays and during June, July and August. Contact City Hall or check the city website for the updated schedule.

-The 2018 City budget was passed at the December 11 meeting. There was a slight tax increase (2.4%) from \$7.13 to \$7.30 per \$1,000 assessed value. For a \$100,000 home this equates to \$17. This is the first increase since 2015. The City has completed and continues to work on some major projects including the Police and DPW building renovations and construction of the new P&L building.

-Additionally, the water and sewer rates will increase slightly both from \$3.30 to \$3.40 per 100 cu. ft. The customer charge increases from \$9.45 to \$12.50 per billing. This represents an annual increase of \$18.30 for both utilities.

-The city is now taking credit card, debit card and EFT payments, and offers pay by phone or text for utility billings. You can get reminder alerts, schedule reoccurring payments, or get your utility bill e-mailed to you directly. Visit www.sherrillny.org and click on "Online Bill Pay" to sign up or get more details.

-City Planning Board meetings are at City Hall on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm.

-The Sherrill Power & Light Utility Board meets the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month at 3:30pm at City Hall.

-The Sherrill-Kenwood Water District's Board meets at City Hall on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 8:30am.

Snow is falling and books are calling...

Sherrill Kenwood Library News

Visit our facebook page or www.sherrillkenwoodlibrary.org, or call (315) 363-5980 for more information about our services.

"Kindness is like snow- It beautifies everything it covers." -Kahil Gibran, poet



We have Federal and NYS tax forms. Photocopy and fax services are also available- copies- .25/page, fax- \$1/page



How can we serve you better? How can we improve? Suggestions are welcome! Please place your comments in our box.



Toddler Tuesday Story Time- Join us for stories, songs and giggles from 11-11:45am.



We have **themed bins** (Animal Antics, On the Move Transportation, & Music Mania) you can take home filled with books & activities!



Story & Craft Times- On Saturday February 10 at 11am we'll celebrate Valentines Day! On Friday March 16 at 1pm we'll celebrate "all things green".



Our **Book Discussion Group** has been meeting for 12 years. All are welcome. On Wednesday January 31 at 6:30pm we'll discuss Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout. We'll also meet April 4 & June 6.



3D Cards- Saturday February 3, 10:30am with Kristen VanValkenburg. Call to register.



Our **Community Art Wall** will feature the following local artists: January- Mary Tiffin, February- Lauren Sullivan, March- artists from VVS Schools. If you're interested in displaying your talent please contact us.



Movie Matinees are held the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 1:30pm. Check our website or facebook page for the movie title. We supply the popcorn!



You can instantly access eBooks, movies, audiobooks, and music with your library card. Download the app or go to hoopladigital.com.



The Library Board will meet at 5:15pm on January 16, February 20 & March 20.



January & February Mid-York Winter Reading Bingo Challenge- Pick up and complete a BINGO card. Completed cards will be entered in a contest for our library to win a KADO Coding Set which encourages STEM thinking.



A Soldier's Journey through the Heart of the Park- On Wednesday February 7 at 6:30pm John Taibi, local railroad enthusiast, will present the story of his father's return from WWII as a POW and his trip to Lake Placid.



Winter School Break Activities
February 20- "Be Kind to Animals Day" with Wanderers Rest, 11am
February 21- Play indoor mini-golf on our six hole course from 1-8pm.
February 22- "Messy/Slimy Art," 1pm- Call to register.
February 23- We'll make snow sculptures on our front lawn at 1pm and snow crafts inside. If there's no snow come play Legos, Snap Circuits & board games.



Art Classes instructed by Judy Bond (oil paint), and Laura Diddle & Linda Evans (watercolor) are held in 6 week sessions. Judy Bond is also offering an after school class for school age children. Please call for more information.



The Friends of the Library thank all who supported the Book Sale and the Holiday Cookie Walk. The group will meet at 6:30pm January 25, February 22, March 22.



We'll have a full week of activities during the school spring break and we'll host our 1st Egg Drop Challenge Wednesday April 25 at 1pm! Look for details coming soon.



Our 3rd annual "**Spring for Books**" Event will be held Thursday May 17 from 11am-8pm. Can you help us add 100 books to our shelves? Thank you for your past support of this very successful event! We look forward to another great event in 2018.

News From Local Businesses and Organizations

VVS Little League Sign Up Information



Signups will take place at the Sherrill Community Activity Center on February 3 & 10 from 9am-12pm and February 11 from 12-2pm. Signups will also be held on February 8 from 5-7pm at J.D. George during the PTO Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. VVS Little League would like to thank the City of Sherrill for their work taking care of the fields, dugouts, and buildings throughout the season! We received many compliments from visiting teams about how beautiful our fields are. Thank you!

AYSO Soccer Information



On-line Spring 2018 registration is now open. The spring season takes place April 22-June 17. Practices begin up to 2 weeks prior for 8U and above. Age groups are 4-16 years- 14U & 16U divisions will be formed if there is enough interest. Early bird cost is \$47.50 until February 10 for players that played in Fall 2017 and \$65 for all others. After February 10 the cost will increase by \$10 for each player. Visit www.840ayso.org for information. Contact Jim Ripper at rc@840ayso.org with questions.

Sherrill Garden Club News

The club meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the Sherrill Library. Members of the community are welcome to attend presentations and learn about the club's activities. On February 6 Mike Mahanna, will describe Landscaping with Pergolas and Arbors. Mike is a certified arborist and owner of the How-To Gardener Landscaping Company in Clinton. The March 6 meeting will feature members of the VVS FFA describing Maple Syrup production that takes place at VVS under the direction of Keith Schiebel.

Noyes Real Estate News

Noyes Real Estate is changing hands! We extend warm wishes to Judith Noyes as she explores the benefits of retirement. The agency will welcome Jennifer Dapson into a new leadership role in 2018. Noyes Real Estate would like to assure the community that serving Sherrill will continue to be a priority, and we thank Judith for her dedication and service over the past 11 years in our region. Look for our announcement of a new office location coming soon! For more information contact Judith, (315) 430-0260 or Jennifer, (315) 289-8520.

Upcoming Events at the Mansion House

170 Kenwood Ave, (315) 363-0745

Please call for information about fees and registration.

- February 9 & 10- Behind the Scenes Tours (2/9 at 10am; 2/10 at 10am & 2pm-** Participants will visit attics, basements, and towers and see materials from the Mansion House collection. Wear comfortable shoes.
- February 11- Discussion: Women, Religion, & Politics, 1pm-** Prof. Marcia Robinson of Syracuse University will share her research and insights into how Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, an African-American abolitionist, suffragist, poet and author, created a resistance movement that resonates today.
- February 25- 30th Anniversary Brunch-** It's our anniversary! Support the work of OCMH and enjoy this special celebration. Details to follow.
- March 8 & 10- International Women's Day, 10am & 2pm-** Join us for tours that explore the role of women and gender equality within the Oneida Community and their interactions with the encompassing world.
- March 11- Film-** Connie Cook: A Documentary, 2pm
- March 18- Discussion: Designer Babies of the 1800s, 1pm-** The Oneida Community practiced family planning in hopes their children would inherit spirituality. Join our discussion about this practice and its relation to today.
- March 24- Historic Preservation Workshop: Caring for Historic Windows- 1-3:30pm-** Led by stained-glass expert and window restorer, Jerome Durr of Jerome Durr Studio, learn about identifying issues with historic windows & best practices for their care and repair.
- April 22- Earth Day at the Mansion House-** Hike the pathway around Sunset Lake and pitch in to take care of our environment in this annual litter clean-up!
- April 28- Arbor Day at the Mansion House-** The Oneida Community planted many varieties of trees at their home. Today, we have over thirty varieties! Join us for nature-based activities and demonstrations for all ages.

Plymouth Alliance Church Events

169 Kinsley Street, (315) 363-5642

- Sunday School Classes-** ages 2-adult, Sundays, 9:15am
- Worship Service-** each Sunday at 10:30am
- Youth Group-** for teens in grades 7-12, Sundays 6-8:30pm at 102 Cramer Ave, Oneida.
- Wacky Wednesdays-** January 17, February 21 & March 21, 6-7:45pm- Free dinner for elementary school kids and their families followed by gym time at McAllister.

From the Fire Department



Membership- The department is always looking for new members- especially junior members! If you're interested in firefighting or EMS and are 18 years or older for regular membership or 16 years old for junior membership, visit the fire station on our Drill Nights that start at 6:50pm, every Wednesday, for information.

Stroke Information- from stroke.org

Use F.A.S.T. to remember stroke warning signs: **F-** Face: Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop? **A-** Arms: Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift down? **S-** Speech: Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. Is their speech slurred or strange? **T-** Time: If you observe any of these signs, call 911 immediately.

Snow blower Safety Tips- from assh.org

- Work at a brisk pace. The faster the blades and pace, the less likely snow is going to stick.
- If heavy, wet snow is anticipated, consider snow blowing several times during the snowfall.
- Some people spray the blades and chute with cooking oil spray. This may help.
- If your snow blower clogs- TURN IT OFF! Disengage the clutch and wait five seconds after shutting off the machine to allow the impeller blades to stop rotating.
- ALWAYS use a stick or broom handle to clear impacted snow. NEVER put your hand down the chute or around the blades.
- Keep all shields in place. DO NOT REMOVE the safety devices on the machine.
- Keep hands and feet away from all moving parts.

Candle Fire Safety- There are an estimated 15,260 fires caused by candles each year. If you use candles, ensure they're in sturdy metal, glass or ceramic holders and placed where they won't be easily knocked down. Avoid using candles in bedrooms and sleeping areas and extinguish them after use and before going to bed. Keep candles at least 12 inches from flammable objects. Never use a candle where medical oxygen is being used as the two can combine to create a large, unexpected fire. Always use a flashlight for emergency lighting. NEVER leave burning candles unattended!

Fireplace Safety- via clean-organized-family-home.com

- Become a Soot Stopper.** Minimize the buildup of soot and creosote by using seasoned hardwood or manufactured logs which burn cleaner than real wood.
- Know about hot stuff.** If you do use manufactured logs, be sure to follow the directions on the bag. These logs burn hotter than regular wood and can potentially warp metal chimneys if you burn more than one at a time.
- Burn only simple stuff.** Only burn wood or manufactured logs. Fancy finishes like glossy wrapping paper, shiny bows and foam peanuts release toxic fumes. Never burn holiday greenery- it releases nasty stuff you don't want your family to breathe.
- Go for a slow burn.** Though a roaring fire looks attractive, it's not as safe as a slower, steadier burn. Also, a too-hot fire can crack your chimney- just burn a couple of logs at a time.
- Open the damper before you light your fire.** Open the damper before starting a fire in the fireplace. Keep the damper open until the fire is completely extinguished.
- Open fireplace doors.** Open the fireplace doors (if your fireplace has them), and use a fireplace safety screen when you've got the fire crackling.
- Keep the area around the fireplace clear.** Don't position your Christmas tree or anything else near the fireplace. If embers spark out of the fireplace you want to make sure there is nothing nearby that will catch fire.
- Don't leave a fire unattended.** This means you shouldn't go to sleep with a fire blazing.
- Keep a fire extinguisher handy.** Stash a fire extinguisher near the fireplace just in case.

Police Department Reminders

- Please let the police know if you are going on vacation so you can be added to their premises check list.
- There is no overnight parking on city streets, November 1-April 30, 2-7am.
- Studded tires are permitted October 15-May 1.
- Be aware of scams. Do not give out information or send money unless you can verify the request.
- Please license your dogs, honor our leash laws and pick up after your dogs.
- Please be aware of pedestrians. Pedestrians are encouraged to wear reflective clothing and use reflective gear for pets after dark.

City of Sherrill
377 Sherrill Road
Sherrill, New York 13461

Snowman Sillies

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"OK, who set the thermostat to 33?!"



CrazyHlyona.com