

City of Sherrill Winter 2017 Newsletter

www.sherrillny.org

From The City Manager

Michael R. Sayles



I hope this letter finds you all happy and healthy and enjoying this Christmas season. Fortunately, (or unfortunately) the winter weather seems to be setting in. As we wound down the year, there was a large focus on the 2017 budget. After many meetings with department heads and City officials, and a Public Hearing, we adopted a budget that does not increase City property taxes. At the same time, we will continue to get a lot of work done around the City, purchase critical equipment and renovate the DPW garage to bring it up to today's standards and improve its fit into the neighborhood.

I am sure that you have seen that the Public Works Department has been busy picking up leaves and completing a general fall cleanup. The weather of course has not been a great help but we are fighting through it. We did complete new paving and curbs on some important streets that were in desperate need of repair. Also, we installed more than 1,000 linear feet of new sidewalk and began the sidewalk extension project on Betsinger Road that is being paid for by a New York State grant that was awarded to the City. All this work was completed in a very compressed time-frame as the crews spent the first half of the year preparing for the centennial celebration. If you see them, thank them for all their hard work!

The Power & Light crew has been busy completing the new Power & Light Building on Elmwood Place. The facility looks great and is much more neighborhood-friendly in appearance. Also, thanks to the crew who did a great job decorating the City for this Christmas season. On a side note, congratulations to Trevor Onyan for completing his Line Worker Training Program with a final average of 98.8%. Trevor completed the 4-year, Northeast Public Power Association (NEPPA) administered Northwest Lineman College certificate program. In addition, Trevor completed over 6,000 on-the-job training hours with our Power & Light company and is now a NYS certified Line Worker. Congratulations Trevor. We are proud of you and your accomplishments.

In addition, last month, the City hired Daniel Slator to be our new Police Department Patrolman. Dan was a Valedictorian at Stockbridge Valley and earned Bachelor and Masters degrees at Cortland College. Most recently, Dan was a part-time patrolman here and in Cazenovia. Dan is very professional with a great attitude and is a key addition to our department. Congrats Dan!

Lastly, thanks to Michael Holmes, Tricia Rossi, Beanie Zupan, Judy Hildreth, Chief Robert Drake, Rob Mumford, Kevin Mumford, Chris Bailey, Sara Getman and Greg Talbot. Without all of you and the rest of the city crews, my job would not be as easy or as enjoyable.

Merry Christmas and a blessed holiday season. May the spirit of Christmas be with you throughout the New Year.

Ice Skating



The skating rink will 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, etc. can be done at times when the rink is not crowded but games are not allowed. 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.

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ASSESSOR'S NEWS

City of Sherrill Contact Information



City Officials

Michael Sayles, City Manager
363-2440, msayles@sherrillny.org

Michael Holmes, Clerk/Comptroller
363-2440, mholmes@sherrillny.org

City Commissioners

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

Jeffrey Gilbert, Deputy Mayor
813-3301, jgilbert@sherrillny.org

Tom Dixon
363-1890, tdixon@sherrillny.org

Patrick Hubbard
363-3379, phubbard@sherrillny.org

Jason Merrill
361-5242, jmerrill@sherrillny.org

Other City Phone Numbers

City Hall, 363-2440

CAC, 363-6525

Power & Light, 363-0780

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

Emergencies- 911

Dispatch- 363-3200

Leave a message- 363-6221

MARCH 1, 2017 is the deadline for filing certain property tax exemption applications with the Assessor's office. 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 your tax returns are needed to prove your income level. Also bring in receipts for your out-of-pocket unreimbursed medical and prescription expenses which are used to reduce your income. These expenses include dental, health insurance premium payments, eyeglasses, hearing aids and others as defined by the IRS.

To qualify for Enhanced STAR you must turn 65 during 2017 and be income eligible in 2015. Those applying for Enhanced STAR may elect to participate in a voluntary program whereby the Assessor's office is automatically notified in future years by the State regarding income eligibility. This process is only useful for those filing New York State tax returns. Applications for the Income Verification Program are available at the Assessor's office. This process cannot be used for any other income-related exemption including the Senior Citizen's 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 to qualify for Basic STAR. Renewal to continue the Basic Star exemption is NOT necessary.

****IMPORTANT STAR CHANGES: For those homeowners that purchased their property after May 1, 2014 both the Basic and Enhanced STAR programs have changed. For more information visit the following links:**
<https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/default.htm>
<https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/star-program-changes.htm>

Bob Comis, City Assessor, has set the following dates and times to process exemptions at City Hall by the March 1 deadline: January 10 & 11 9am-12pm for Enhanced STAR; All exemptions, February 1 & 2, 7-9, 14-16 & 22-24 & 28, 9am-12pm; changes to this schedule, if necessary, will be posted at www.sherrillny.org. An appointment, if more convenient, can be scheduled by contacting Bob at 264-6362. Sherrill residents can receive some of the same services that they receive from the Sherrill Assessor's Office at the Vernon Assessor's office, including assistance relating to exemption applications. The Vernon Assessor's hours are Monday & Thursday, 9am-2pm through the month of February. Call Frank Laguzza at 829-2587.



Sherrill Community Activity Center News
139 East Hamilton Ave, 363-6525

Call, stop by or visit www.sherrillny.org for details about events and programs!

Open Bowling Hours



Wednesdays: 11am-2pm & 6:30-9pm
Fridays: 6-11pm or 9:30-11pm
alternate weeks
Saturdays: 1-5pm & 9:30-11pm
Sundays: 12-5pm

Holiday Hours

December 23: 12-11pm
December 24 & 25: Closed
December 26-30: 12-5pm
December 31: 1-11pm
January 1: Closed
January 2: 12-5pm

*Hours may change and there may be additional hours during school vacations and on snow days and holidays. Please call for updates.
Cost: \$3.25/game & \$1/shoes

Youth Center



Youth Center for VVS students in grades 4-12 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.

Birthdays, Parties and Private Events



The gym and upstairs are available to rent for bowling birthday parties, baby showers, graduation parties or other private events. Call for details and availability.

Daily Activities

-Indoor Walking In the Gym- Open to all, weekday mornings, 8-9am.
-Kids Time- This is a self-monitored program for indoor play in the gym for children ages 5 and younger who are supervised by an adult, Monday-Friday, 10am-12pm
-Gym- The gym can be used for basketball. Cost: \$3/person/hour. Residents must sign out balls. Children 15 & under must be supervised. Call for availability.
-Pool Tables- Anyone 16 or older can play pool when the CAC is open and tables are available. Cost: \$2/half-hour

Ongoing Classes, Groups and Events

Mondays

-Bone Builders- Strength Training for the Older Adult, 9am, Contact Polly, 853-6258 for details, \$1.50/class.
-HIVE Cooperative- HIVE is a home school cooperative for children 3-7 years old and meets Mondays, 10:30am-2:30pm, September-May. Visit www.hivecooperative.com for more information.

Tuesdays

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

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, 768-3623.
-CAC Craft and Chat Group- Join this group the first, third and fifth Wednesday of each month, 11am-1pm, to knit, sew, or create any other craft. Bring a lunch!

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, 829-3454 with questions.

Upcoming Special Events



Oneida County Health Department Healthy Neighborhood Program- Saturday February 18, 10am-2pm- Stop by for free safety information.

Spring Craft Show- Saturday April 1, 9am-3pm

Sherrill Garden Club News



Thank you to SGC member Lois Licht for planting the Sherrill-Kenwood Library flower boxes with red and white geraniums! We also decorated two Christmas trees in the library for the community. On January 3 the club will review committees and activities for the year. On February 7 Sheila Allen, Master Gardner, will present "The Garden You Really Want-Start With Seeds." Sheila will explain reasons to start from seeds, equipment needed, sources and planting steps. On March 7 Bernadette VanValkenburg will present, "European Gardens," a photographic guided tour of sites she has seen in the Netherlands, France, Austria, Italy, and the Czech Republic. Meetings are held at 7pm in the Sherrill-Kenwood Library.

AYSO Soccer News

On-line AYSO Soccer Registration is open for the Spring 2017 season which will take place April 30-June 25. Age groups are 4-18 years (U-15 and U-19 teams will be formed if there is enough interest). Early bird cost is \$45 for players that played in Fall 2016 and \$60 for others. Visit www.840ayso.org for details and contact Jim Ripper, rc@840ayso.org with questions.

Plymouth Alliance Church Events

Stop by or call 363-5642 for more information or to sign up.



Wacky Wednesdays: Free dinner, game night, and Bible talk for elementary students and their parents from 6-7:45pm. Upcoming Dates: 12/21, 1/18, 2/15, 3/15, & 4/26

Christmas Eve Ceremony: 12/24 at 7pm. All are welcome.

Christmas Day Service: Join us Christmas morning at 10:30am.

Sunday School: For ages 2 to adult at 9:15am- no class 12/25

Teen Chill 2/17-2/19: Camp for junior & senior high students.

Breakaway Game Night: 1/6, 6-8:30pm- games, pizza and gaga ball at our Kenwood Youth Building, 102 Cramer Ave, Oneida.

Youth Group: Sundays, 6-8:30pm, Kenwood Youth Building

Youth Study: Thursdays, 7-8:30pm, Kenwood Youth Building

God's Gym: All men are welcome at this men's bible study group that meets Mondays at 7pm at PAC. Bring a Bible and a pen.

News from the Department of Public Works

Weather Fun (or not so fun) Facts

MONTH	AVG LOW (F)	AVG HIGH (F)	AVG PRECIP	AVG SNOW
December	20	34	3.94"	21.7"
January	14	29	3.73"	27.8"
February	16	31	2.96"	19.2"

Upcoming Garbage Pick-Up Date Changes

Normal Pick-up Date New Pick-up Date

12/26 (Monday) 12/27 (Tuesday)

01/02 (Monday) 01/03 (Tuesday)

02/20 (Monday) 02/21 (Tuesday)

Garbage or Treasure Stat: Sherrill generates an average of 101.04 tons of refuse per month.

**Please note-* The following are some common 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. Please do not bag recyclables.

- Bulk or hazardous items that could potentially damage truck packer or result in DEC fines.

Winter Reminder- 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.

Christmas Trees- The DPW will pick up trees after the holidays as weather permits or they can be dropped off anytime, at no charge at the green waste location at the DPW barn.

Transfer Station Updates- The Transfer Station is open Saturdays, 8am-1pm until spring. Due to the holidays, the Transfer Station will be closed 12/24/16 & 12/31/16. Please visit www.sherrillny.org/departments/public-works/ or contact City Hall for more information.

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



Sherrill Kenwood Library News

For more information call 363-5980 or visit www.sherrillkenwoodlibrary.org.
"In the midst of winter, I found there was, within me, an invincible summer. And that makes me happy." -Albert Camus, winner of the 1957 Nobel Prize for Literature



Join us for our lively book discussions! We will meet Wednesday February 1 at 6:30pm to discuss Some Luck by Jane Smiley. Check our website for additional dates and book titles.



Matinees are held the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month at 1:30pm. Movie Night is the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6pm. Check our website for titles.



Art Classes are instructed by Laura Diddle & Linda Evans and held in 6 week sessions for \$60. Laura's class is Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:30pm. The next session will be January 5-February 9. Linda's class is Tuesday afternoons from 1-4pm. The next session will be January 3-February 7. Beginners welcome.



Toddler Story Time is held Tuesdays 11-11:45am. We share stories, songs, crafts, smiles and more.



Saturday Story Times are held at 11am. Upcoming dates: January 21- Chinese New Year, February 11- Valentine's Day, May 20- Armed Forces Day

Community Art Wall Schedule- January- student work from Laura Diddle's art class, February- student work from Linda Evans's art class, March- VVS student work Please contact us if you're interested in displaying work.



We have an Oneida Community Mansion House membership. Patrons may borrow our pass for guided tours.



The Friends of the Library group meets Thursdays at 6:30pm. Upcoming meetings: January 26, February 23 & March 23.



Our Library Board of Trustees meets Tuesdays at 5:15pm. Upcoming meetings are January 17, February 21 & March 21, April 18 and May 16.

EBay Basics- On Tuesday February 7 at 6pm Jason Worth will answer questions about buying and selling on eBay.

Tax Forms- We will have Federal and NYS tax forms.



Valentine's Day Raffle- Tickets will be on sale in January for movie passes to Glenwood Movieplex and dinner at Chesterfields Tuscan Oven. The drawing will be held Thursday February 9.

Activities at the Library During the Mid-Winter Recess



Tuesday February 21 at 1pm- Make snowmen and snow sculptures on our front lawn weather permitting. If there's no snow, we'll hold a snowman story time and make crafts inside with hot chocolate.

Wednesday February 22 at 1:30pm- Watch classic cartoons and enjoy our collection of Legos.

Thursday February 23 at 1pm- Participate in an UNO card tournament! All ages are welcome.

Friday February 24 at 1pm- Lego & Board Game Day!



The Utica Comets will visit **Wednesday March 1 at 5pm** to talk about the world of professional hockey and sign autographs.



Friday March 17- St. Patrick's Day- No School- Joanna Pritchard, Oneida County Dairy Princess, will talk about everything dairy at 2pm. Join us for shamrock shakes! Sponsored by the Friends of the Library



Plan ahead for Spring! We have events planned during the spring break from school! Also our 2nd Annual Spring for Books event will be held Thursday May 18 and feature music by McAllister



Elementary students, a performance by Jeff the Magic Man, Gypsy Girl Wood Fired Pizza and The Cremeria gelato cart! We're also planning a "Butterfly Bonanza" in memory of Deborah Getman for late spring. We'll raise butterflies and set them free.

Check our website for details about these and more upcoming events!

The Greenhouse Brew



In early 2017 Sherrill will have its very own coffee house! Owners Patrick and Ann Fowler are focused on creating a place where people can come and enjoy good coffee, good food, good friends, and good times. Located on the corner of Sherrill Rd and Noyes Blvd, the location lends itself to outdoor seating for three seasons, as well as indoor seating for central NY winters. The coffee house was most recently Silver City Technology, which is now located in an inner office inside the building and primarily services businesses technology needs. Many will remember the space being Enchanted Touch Massage and Nelson's Cottage of Flowers. The original greenhouse from Nelson's is being incorporated into the café design. Many have seen the outdoor transformation, as a pergola and patio were built this fall. Now renovations are taking place inside with a new kitchen and seating area being created.

We celebrated our 1st annual Greenhouse Brew Halloween and gave out samples of our coffee, hot cider, popcorn, and candy. There was a large turnout on the chilly evening. Thank you to the many encouraging people and for the positive remarks that we received.

The Greenhouse Brew will serve coffee, espresso, cappuccino, latte, tea, soups, salads, wraps, paninis, and sandwiches. Pastries and desserts will also be available. Visit, www.thegreenhousebrew.com, for updates as we get closer to our opening date.

We are accepting applications for employment. Please contact us by email at coffee@thegreenhousebrew.com or call 334-3185 and leave your contact information.

We look forward to bringing the true coffee house experience to Sherrill and cannot wait to serve you a cup of coffee.

Upcoming Events at the Oneida Community Mansion House

The Mansion House is located at 170 Kenwood Ave and was the residence of the 19th century utopian Oneida Community. For more information call 363-0745 or visit www.oneidacommunity.org.

Welcome to Silver City: Sherrill Manufacturing Tour

registration required, Saturday, January 7, 10:30am-12:30pm

Silverware has been made in Sherrill since 1914. Discover the history of the craft- Oneida Community, Ltd. to Sherrill Manufacturing. Members: \$5; Non-members: \$10; Students (ages 8 and up) with parental supervision: \$3

Behind the Scenes Tour of the Mansion House

registration required, Members tour: Saturday, February 18, 3pm; Public Tours: Friday, February 24, 3pm; Saturday, February 25, 11am and 3pm

Discover what's behind closed doors- Participants will visit attic spaces, basements, and towers of the historic landmark and see materials in the Oneida Community Mansion House collection. Members: \$5, Non-members: \$15, Students (Ages 10-18): \$10.

The End of Marriage: Adultery in the 19th Century

registration not required, Sunday, February 19, 1pm

Guest Speaker: Carol Faulkner

Faulkner's research examines the debate over adultery and marriage among nineteenth-century Americans. From the 1830s to the 1880s, feminists, abolitionists, communitarians, free lovers, and spiritualists challenged the legal institution of marriage, and imagined more egalitarian, consensual relations between men and women. Members: free; Non-members: museum admission + \$2

Uncle Johnny's Girl Farm: Escapism Through Utopian Fantasy in the Mid-Twentieth Century

registration not required, Sunday, March 19, 1pm

Speaker: Molly Jessup

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, magazines ran stories about what they described as "the sex cult that rocked New York." A myth-based and dramatic re-telling of the Oneida Community with salacious details (and illustrations to match), these pulp-literature fictional stories reveal twentieth century ideas about marriage, masculinity, and monogamy through their interpretation of utopia. Members: Free; Non-members: museum admission + \$2



Shop Local at The White Begonia!
30% off Winter Clearance in January
Winter Hours starting in January
2017 will be Wednesday-Saturday,
11am-4:30pm

From the Fire Department



Fire Hydrants- Please keep the hydrants near your house clear of snow. This could save firefighters precious minutes if a structure fire should occur. Remember that the house you save could be your own.

(From New York State Winter Preparedness guide)

Fire Safety- Wood-burning stoves, fireplaces and heaters can add a cozy glow, but make sure you are using them safely.

1. Always keep a screen around an open flame.
2. Never use gasoline to start your fireplace.
3. Never burn charcoal indoors.
4. Do not close the damper when ashes are hot.
5. When using alternative heat sources such as a fireplace, woodstove, etc. always make sure you have proper ventilation.
6. Keep curtains, towels and potholders away from hot surfaces.
7. Have your chimney checked before the season for creosote buildup and then clean it.
8. Do you have a fire extinguisher and smoke detectors? Make sure they work and establish a well-planned escape route with the entire family.

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning- Carbon monoxide is a silent, deadly killer claiming about 1,000 lives each year in the United States. Automotive exhaust, home heating systems and obstructed chimneys can produce the colorless, odorless gas. The gas can also be produced by poorly vented generators, kerosene heaters, gas grills and other items used for cooking and heating.

1. **NEVER** run generators indoors. Open a window slightly when using a kerosene heater.
2. **NEVER** use charcoal to cook indoors.
3. **NEVER** use a gas oven to heat your home.

Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include sleepiness, headaches and dizziness. If you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning, dial 911.

Pancake Breakfast

The Fire Department will hold an **ALL YOU CAN EAT** pancake breakfast at the station February 12, 7am-12pm. Join us and leave the cooking to us.

Membership

The Fire Department is always looking for new members. If you've ever wondered how you could help your community, consider joining. If you're 18 years or older (male or female) please visit the fire station during our Wednesday Night Drill that starts at 6:50pm, EVERY WEDNESDAY, for more information. We also have a junior firefighter program for young men and women who are 16 years or older.

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. Please note- this includes the area in front of Ebenezer's.

-Studded tires are permitted October 15-May 1.

-Be aware of potential scams and 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.

Waste Water Treatment Plant Notice *Sump Pump Discharge*

The City's Waste Water Treatment Plant is under a consent order from New York State to reduce storm water discharge to the Sanitary Sewer System. Part of our issue is residential and commercial sump pumps that are hooked directly to the sewer system. In order to reduce heavy water flows at the treatment plant caused by storm events or a very wet spring we would like to access all sump pumps in the city to see if it's possible to remove the discharge from the sanitary system. If you have a sump pump that may be connected to the sanitary system or if you're not sure please call Kevin Mumford at the Treatment Plant to set up an appointment for a quick inspection. We can determine where your sump pump discharges and if there's an alternative way to remove it from the sanitary system. Thank you!

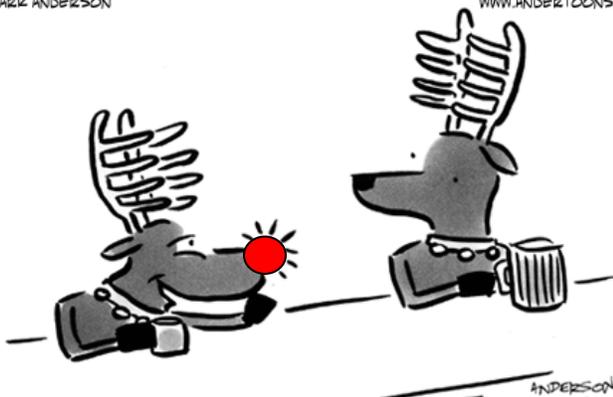
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Christmas Comics

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"Watch this! If I close one nostril it's like a laser pointer!"

