



Spring 2023 Newsletter



News from the Town Supervisor

A special thanks goes out to our highway crew and Highway Superintendent Bill Hall for keeping the town roads well cleared and sanded this winter. Bill was up nearly every night at 2:30 am to be sure weather conditions have not changed, which can require an earlier than normal call to the plow drivers.

We've made lots of progress over the years in speeding up communication. We continue to strive for even better results. For the town of Scipio, the best method is with the web site, www.townofscipio.com. Board meeting minutes and agendas are posted so residents can see what is happening in the town. Of course, we always encourage your attendance.

I continue to monitor different training meetings to see if we can practically update our phone systems. This newsletter, which comes out twice a year, also provides needed information, especially regarding all the activities for the spring and fall clean up days. These clean-up days help keep our town beautiful and gives us an opportunity to be proud of being a Scipio resident.

The town board continues to plan for a more modest office renovation than we received bids for last year. Our office is over 60 years old and needs some upgrading. But with the cost of materials and needing to pay prevailing wages, we need to be wise stewards in our approach.

We are also monitoring the projected wind and solar installations in the town. The boards are negotiating for the best possible community host agreements for each of the projects. As public meetings regarding these projects transpire, please check the website for dates and locations.

The clean energy community program is offering grants, if we meet certain requirements including encouraging residents for community solar programs. A separate mailing should be forthcoming.

As always, I try to be available to all residents via phone or email. Enjoy the beautiful spring and summer of Scipio.

Gary Mutchler

Notes from ZBA

As Chair of Scipio's Zoning Board of Appeals I'd like to pass on advice which will be helpful if you are planning on a project. Talk to Patrick Doyle, the Code Enforcement Officer, before you involve architects, engineers, contractors and material suppliers. Patrick will let you know what proper channels you will have to address to be legally permitted. This process can be somewhat daunting without his advice and likely will save you a good deal of time. The ZBA hears cases which have been denied by Patrick's interpretation of the Town Zoning Laws and these are a very small number of total permits granted. In the last two years we have heard 2 appeals which wouldn't have had to go through the ZBA or could have been heard earlier if the applicants had talked to Patrick before having drawings done and/or purchasing and staging materials. Better communication might make the difference between doing a project this year or having to wait until next year. Thanks, and enjoy your summer.

Keith Welch

DEAR CITIZENS OF DISTRICT 7

We have accomplished some very good things this year. We have fought back on mandates imposed by the governor on vaccinations, masks, bail reform policy, and the Halt Act. We also ended the home heating fuel tax forever for our residents to combat the current inflation rate imposed by economic policy of the federal government. As Chairman of Cayuga County Public Utility Service agency we are looking for alternative renewable clean energy solutions to address a multitude of economic and social needs.

- First it provides a resource to attract and retain companies to employ our residents. Creating jobs, giving our companies a way to reduce expenses by using clean and renewable produced energy.
- Second from a social aspect it allows all our residents to have access to energy that doesn't rely on a fossil fuel source, sources that have been dwindling and cost of production for alternative energy – such as solar, wind is less expensive. Hydrogen as an energy source is the future for Cayuga County and we are encouraged by the projects planned.

The governor's plan to offer first responders a discount on property tax is not a fair one but makes the governor look good. We would rather see a plan that includes ALL first responders for their dedication and service and the state law should include those that don't own property to inspire younger volunteers to join.

The recent State budget has some surprises in it with the governor wanting to keep the Medicaid payments from the federal government not passing it down to local citizens thereby forcing the County to absorb the huge cost. This is the reverse robin hood effect where we rob from the poor and give to the rich, Not acceptable. WE WILL FIGHT!

Lastly with the changes from the last election on redistricting moves the district from Scipio, Ledyard and Springport to Springport, Aurelius and Fleming. I want you to know it is an honor to serve and fight for you.

God Bless Cayuga County! Robert Shea

SCIPIO FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Scipio Fire Department would like to remind Town Residents that we are having a drive through Chicken BBQ on Mother's Day, May 14th from 11:30 am till sold out. Please reserve dinners ahead of time by calling 364.8922 as we sell out quickly.

This winter saw an increase in House and Barn fires, and we would like to remind residents to have your chimneys cleaned when using wood, coal or pellets and to check your smoke detectors and make sure your batteries are working properly.

The fire department would also like to remind people to be on the lookout for slow moving farm equipment and that passing a stopped school bus in any direction is a violation of the law.

As always, we are looking for volunteers to join our department, you need not have any experience as we will provide the training and there are positions available for all ages. We welcome you to stop by the fire house any Monday night or speak to a member for more information. We hope you all have a safe and enjoyable Spring and Summer.

Leslie Baxter Scipio Fire Dept



Hazard Library News

Change is coming for the Hazard Library. When the Board of Trustees accepted the invitation from The Howland Stone Store Museum to build a new Hazard Library building on the remaining Opendore foundation, we discovered that to do so, we needed to include the town of Scipio in our library charter. We applied to the New York State Board of Regents, the agency which governs libraries in New York, to expand our charter to include not just Venice, but also the towns of Scipio and Genoa. Just this month, we were granted the charter change, and are now the official chartered library for the towns of Venice, Scipio and Genoa. Our patrons will continue to come from all of the Southern Cayuga School district and beyond, and there is no requirement that the towns provide funding to the library.

This charter change will allow us to continue to move forward with our new library. We are now in the process of hiring an architectural firm to expand the concept design prepared by Larry Libertore, with our next step being the hiring of a contractor and applying for the Library Construction Grant which will fund the project. We can also move forward with our Capital Campaign, to raise the matching funds required by the Construction Grant.

To learn more about this project and the charter change, and to talk with Hazard trustees and staff, please join us at our Annual Meeting at Opendore on Monday, April 24th at 6:30 pm. Wine and refreshments will be provided, as well as a chance to see the Opendore site and ask questions about our building project.

For more information, or to contribute to our building fund, please visit Hazard Library or our website at hazardlibrary.org. Capital Campaign contributions can be made to the library or online.

Nancy Hart, President, Hazard Library Board of Trustees

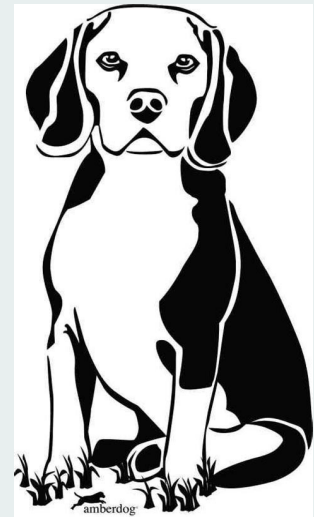


New Hazard Library Hours Beginning April 3, 2023

Monday: 9am – 1 pm
Tuesday: 9am – 1 pm & 2 pm – 7 pm
Thursday: 9am – 1 pm & 2 pm – 7 pm
Saturday: 9am – 1 pm

DOG LICENSES

ARE YOU UP TO DATE
ON YOUR DOG'S
LICENSE?



ALL DOGS OVER THE
AGE OF FOUR
MONTHS ARE
REQUIRED TO BE.

Please provide to the
Town Clerk :

- Proof of current Rabies vaccine
- Proof of spaying or neutering .
- Dog licensing fee

Spayed/Neutered—\$10
Un-spayed/neuter -\$20

BE PROACTIVE
FOR YOUR PET

Fines are charged to
unlicensed dog owners.

SOUTHERN CAYUGA INSTANT AID

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy year in Scipio, but if life happens be assured Southern Cayuga Instant Aid, Inc (SCIA) and the Scipio Volunteer Fire Department (SFD) have your backs. SCIA is a non-for-profit ambulance, 24/7 paramedic level, with at station EMS personnel and drivers to help ensure the highest level of pre-hospital care in a timely manner for our Southern Cayuga Rural Community. SCIA is here to serve our local community!

In 2022, SCIA responded to 463 Calls and transported 352 of your family, neighbors, community members and visitors to hospitals. SCIA routinely transports Scipio residents to local hospitals such as Auburn Community and Guthrie Cortland Regional Hospital, as well as all the hospitals in Syracuse and Cayuga Medical Center in Ithaca. As of the end of February, SCIA has responded to 80 calls, transported on 46 of them and assisted on 6 Structural Fire or Mutual Aid EMS Standbys as well as Refusals and Public Assists.

SCIA has deep roots in the community we serve, with many of our crew, local residents, and the majority of SCIA's staff are members of volunteer fire departments. Rachel Moran and Erin Morrissey are members of both the SFD and SCIA. Erin Morrissey is an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Rachel is coming back to SCIA after an absence and along with Scipio resident and SCIA Driver/Operator Drew Aklestad-Simkin, they are taking the Cayuga County EMT class and hope to be certified in June. The EMT Original class is over 160 hours of training and clinical experience, and we are very proud and thankful that Rachel and Drew are taking this rewarding course. SCIA is very willing to sponsor local residents to become EMT's. SCIA is also assisting the Southern Cayuga Central School with the training of seven students in the Certified First Responder (CFR) Class, taught by Instructor Michelle Shaw. SCIA is hopeful that many of this current class, that finish in May, will go on to help serve in local volunteer fire departments and SCIA. SCIA also needs volunteer Driver/Operators, training will be provided. If interested please call (315) 364-950.

SCIA Operational staff are supported by the SCIA Board of Directors. Steve Fedrizzi and Jacob "Jake" Coalson were recently added to the SCIA Board at the Annual meeting in December. Steve is the Venice Highway Superintendent and Long Hill Fire Department Assistant Chief. Jake has been an active volunteer member of SCIA since 2012, and serves as a CFR & Diver/Operator and ambulance mechanic. Other members of the SCIA board include: President Karen Clark; Vice President Hamilton "Guy" Garnsey; Treasurer Andy Simkin; Secretary Jessie Hawk; Member Becky Davis; Hannah Richter; and Paul Simkin. In addition to leading an update to our operational policies, Guy Garnsey, Scipio resident, recently built with help of friends, cabinets at the SCIA station to store training and general supplies, and equipment. Our new replacement ambulance is scheduled for delivery this fall to replace our aging current rig. We again thank the Towns and our members for their support in purchasing this essential piece of equipment. SCIA being a non-for-profit would be unable to operate without the support of the Towns and the local community for members and donations.



JOIN OUR COMMUNITY SOLAR PROGRAM

Altus Power is excited to announce the launch of our community solar program that can help you save money on your electric bill.

By enrolling in community solar, you can receive up to a 10% discount on your electricity bill and support clean and renewable energy in your community.

To learn more about our community solar program, please visit AltusPowerNY.com/Scipio.

Joining our program is easy, simply sign up online to enroll. With community solar from Altus Power there is no sign-up fee, no annual commitment, no switching your existing utility and no installation. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be a part of your community's clean energy future.

A separate mailing should be forthcoming from Altus Power.

RABIES CLINIC

The Town of Scipio will be holding a Rabies Clinic during the Spring Cleanup Day on Saturday, May 6, 2023 from 10am until 1pm in the Highway Barn.

The cost will be \$20.00 per animal. Please have your dogs on a leash and your cats crated. The Town Clerk will be available to license your dog during this time in the Town Office. Please bring proof of your dog's Rabies Vaccination, proof of spaying or neutering if applicable and licensing fee.

Town of Scipio Contact Information

Town Supervisor
Gary Mutchler
315.730.3638

Town Council Member
Susan "Dee" Allen
315.364.7497

Town Council Member
Jason Botsford
315.283.6882

Town Council Member
Mark Ferrari
716.870.3380

Town Council Member
Melinda Pitman
607.749.0077

Town Assessor
Heather Garner
315.596.1986

Code Enforcement Officer
Patrick Doyle
315.729.3921

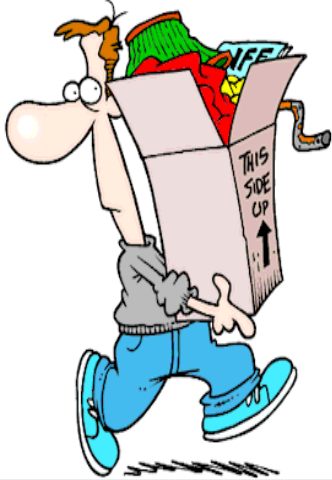
Dog Control Officer
Carl Collier
315.253.4367

Scipio Town Clerk
Ann Robson
315.364.5740

Scipio Town Court
Judge Brian Dugan
315.364.5325

Highway Superintendent
Bill Hall
315.364.7754

Spring
Clean Up Day



SCIPIO RESIDENTS ONLY

Date: Saturday May 6, 2023
Hours: 9 am – 4 pm
Location: Town of Scipio Transfer Station
3705 State Route 34, Scipio Center, NY 13147

Requirements

Town Residents will need to sign-in giving name and address.

Materials That will NOT be Accepted

Freon containing unit (NO refrigerators, air conditioners,
nor dehumidifiers)
Hazardous waste, asbestos, motor oil, fluorescent tubes,
grease, solvents, paint , cooking oil, tires nor batteries

Item Accepted with Surcharge

Mattresses will be accepted with \$20.00
disposal charge

**Regular household waste and recyclable disposal
remains the same at the Transfer Station**

Town of Scipio
3705 State Rte. 34
PO Box 71
Scipio Center, NY 13147

