

**Town of Scipio
3705 State route 34
Scipio Center, NY 13147**

**Spring 2022
Newsletter**

Message from the Town Supervisor

On Saturday, March 19, I attended the Bob Brower Scientific Symposium sponsored by the Owasco Watershed Lake Association (OWLA). In 3 hours, a vast amount of knowledge was shared on Owasco Lake temperatures, HABS, lake levels, and how they are controlled. The rate of water released has a huge impact on lake levels following storms. Salt applications to the roads not only impacts the lakes, but also ground water and our wells. OWLA's work on surveying for the Hemlock Wolly Adelgid was also shared. I encourage all of you to check out the presentation at <https://owl.org/bbss2022>.

A special thanks is extended to our dedicated staff and elected officials; Denice Hall, Mark Chamberlain, Vivian Cunningham and Gary Whitten for their many years of service to the town. We welcome Lucinda Pattington, Bill Hall, Mel Pitman and Jason Botsford in their new roles in Scipio's government .

Plans for the remodeling of our town offices are progressing. Please visit the town web site regularly to keep informed as to where our town offices will be during the renovations.

The highway crew did a superb job keeping our roads passable this past winter as always. Thanks guys, and we look forward to the your continued efforts to fix and maintain our roads.

Conversations continue regarding wind and solar projects and possibly a retail store in our town. It is highly unlikely that any construction will be done this year on renewable energy as no grants from NYSERDA have been awarded.

We are working with area farmers as they contribute to green energy thru methane and natural gas generation. The town board is looking to digitize the town records which date back over 225 years. Understanding which records need to be kept and which ones can be disposed of is under review.

We are happy that Casella has new management, and the town Transfer Station has regularly scheduled service to unload the dumpsters. We recently replace the 30 year old phase converter for the compacter. Mark your calendars for the semi annual Clean Up Day on May 7 from 9am—4pm.

Feel free to attend any board meeting or contact me at 315.730.3638 or supervisor@townofscipio.com

Town Clean Up Day

**May 7th 9 am—4pm
At Transfer Station
3705 St. Rte. 34
Scipio Center, NY**

This is your chance to get rid of all your junk.

PLEASE NOTE: we can not accept electronics, paints, chemicals or anything with freon.

There is a \$20 charge for mattress disposal.



Highway Department

With warmer weather coming you will see our Highway crews working on the roads and road-sides. Please remember that the New York State "Move Over Law" also applies to our crews. Please respect the law! Slow down and move over so we can go home to our families. Thank You

Bill Hall
Highway
Superintendent

Historian 's Corner

Recently Frank Flynn shared this picture while researching his family history in Scipio.

This is a picture of the Apple Dryer, circa 1920's, in Sherwood. Operated by Charles and Alice Chase Koon, caretakers and managers for Isabell Howland's properties.

Alice Koon left a large sum of money to Sherwood School for scholarship funds.

Laura Wallenbeck
Town Historian



The Community Science Institute (CSI) is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization that fosters and coordinates water quality monitoring in partnership with local volunteers groups.

We are currently recruiting volunteers to assist in the Cayuga Lake Watershed with our synoptic stream monitoring program.

Interested volunteers should email our Director of Outreach, Nate Launer nathaniel.launer@communityscience.org.

VOLUNTEER TO PROTECT LOCAL STREAMS!

What: Synoptic stream monitoring volunteers collect water samples at their designated sites during baseflow conditions 3-4 times per year. Volunteers also collect samples during stormflow conditions once per year. Volunteers transport the samples to CSI's state certified lab to be analyzed for various water quality parameters (E. coli, total coliform bacteria, phosphorus, nitrogen, chloride, conductivity, pH, turbidity, total suspended solids, etc.). These data are then uploaded by CSI staff onto our free public Water Quality Database (www.database.communityscience.org/) for all to explore and use.

When: Stream monitoring events occur from April until November. Baseflow sampling events are pre-scheduled, while stormflow sampling events are coordinated by volunteer groups when on regional storm events occur.

Who: Volunteers need not have specialized training or experience with water quality. Anyone with a passion for protecting water or participating in community science is welcome!

Where: We monitor nearly two dozen tributaries of Cayuga Lake. We are currently recruiting volunteers to help monitor **Salmon Creek, Great Gully Creek, and Yawger Creek**.

Why: Monitoring water quality not only provides information about the health of our local streams, it also allows us to understand the health of Cayuga Lake an invaluable natural resource for clean drinking water, tourism, recreation, and business. Data collected by volunteers and uploaded onto our database are used to inform local and regional water management and policy decisions in the Cayuga Lake watershed. We couldn't do this work without you!

Town of Scipio Council Member Thoughts

Soon the blossoms, bees, and birds, all of nature's vibrations which are our reminder of birth and renewal, will be in full swing. Yard sales and the seasons' crops will be popping up shortly! What a colorful time in Scipio.

I am writing to you as your new town council member, a title which I have undertaken with enthusiasm and zest. On my eighteenth birthday, I fondly remember sitting at my kitchen table with tears in my eyes, filling out my voter registration form. As a young adult, I understood civic responsibility and was excited at the opportunity to help shape the future. Local elections have a significant impact on residents. As one of your municipal representatives, my obligation to you is at the core of my guiding ideologies.

I have undertaken a few projects for the town. Currently, I am revising our town's Ethics Code. I know many have hesitation when it comes to trusting those in politics. A town Ethics Committee will create a process to ensure our town is making ethical decisions. Would you be interested in serving?

In the spirit of spring, we are planning for our office rebuild that starts this summer! Our town's public records include building and property, financial, legal actions, meeting minutes, and more, dating back to 1794. To ensure retention, accessibility and preservation of these historical documents, an adhoc committee will inventory and develop a retention and disposition schedule to digitize these pertinent records.

A lot is happening in Scipio. To better serve the residents of Scipio, myself and the other council members are interested in your opinion regarding yet not limited to these projects:

- Liberty Renewal Agricola Wind Project— proposed 80-100 MW of clean energy harvested by 17-22 wind turbines on less than 50 acres of land in southern Cayuga County.
- Proposed retail store. The Town of Scipio ZBA held a Public Hearing regarding two zoning variances by the developers looking to build a Dollar General on Rte. 34. What is your opinion on this type of growth and development in Scipio?

Sending Positivity,

Mel



SCIPIO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Scipio Volunteer Fire Department is actively seeking new members. You need not be a Fire-fighter or EMT to apply. We have jobs for everyone and we provide training.

On May 7th your volunteer firefighters will be at the Transfer Station for the Spring Clean Up Day. They will be there to help unload your vehicles and answer questions you may have about joining the department.

On Sunday May 8th the Fire Department will be having a Mothers Day Chicken BBQ from 11am until sold out, call 315 .364.8922 to reserve your BBQ dinner.

We would also like to remind all residents about the New York State burn ban which runs from March 16 until May 14th and to remind residents that it is illegal at anytime to burn household trash in New York State.

Members may be found at the Fire House every Monday from 6-8pm. Please stop down and fill out an application. We look forward to seeing you.

Leslie Baxter
EMS Captain
Scipio Fire Department

Town Contacts

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TOWN NEWS FLASH



Recently a developer has applied to the town for a permit to build a retail store on Rt. 34 adjacent to the Scipio Fire House. This application has been reviewed and denied by the Scipio Code Enforcement Officer. The developer has requested two area variances pertaining to the possible construction of a Dollar General Store. On April 5, 2022 a ZBA Public Hearing was held on the proposed building which is not in compliance with the maximum floor area nor would it be permitted due to the maximum acreage coverage on the parcel as originally submitted. Do you have an opinion? Contact your town representatives and members of the Scipio Zoning Board of Appeals. The next ZBA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 2, 2022, 7 pm at the town office.

