

# Town of Milton Spring Newsletter April 2008



## From the Supervisor Frank Thompson

In this issue of the Town of Milton's newsletter, I thought I would bring attention to the outstanding achievements of some of the Town's residents.

This past March, teams from the Ballston Spa School District competed in New York State's Odyssey of the Mind competition. Wood Road Intermediate School's team finished first in its division and is now eligible to compete in the ODOM's world finals. Congratulations to team members Christian Canham, Cody Fabian, Eric Howe, Luc Johnson, Ben Walker and Jacquelyn Wertel and their coaches Krista and Robert Canham. We wish them luck.

Ballston Spa student Matthew Hosek was recently awarded the rank of Eagle Scout in a ceremony in February. Achieving the rank of Eagle Scout makes him one of the scouting "elite" and he deserves to be proud.

Last August, I had the pleasure of recognizing the Miss Scotties U12 and U14 Girls Softball teams' participation in the ASA Eastern National Championships. To compete successfully to this level is certainly commendable. Congratulations again to team members Abigail LeBarron, Emily LeBarron, Rachel LeBarron, Danielle Groat, Taylor McMahon, Becky Dickman, Katie Rimawi, Kelsey Broe, Morgan Thorne, Brittany McMahon, Kailey Rothacker, Katie Phillips, Erin Van Zandt, Kayla Hall, Sarah Traver, Taylor Manderson, Mikayla Simek, Merideth Venerus, Alicia Crandell, Kelly McCann, Kayla Marois, and Coaches Marissa Traver, Don LeBarron, Ralph Rothacker, Mike Venerus and Mike Dickman.

Continued on Page 2

From the Supervisor, Continued

Long-time Milton resident Raymond "Mickey" Elliott has been inducted into the New York State Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame in honor of his work and many achievements in the fields of conservation and outdoor sports. Mickey has served on the NYS Conservation Council and the Wildlife Management Board and has been actively involved with youth hunting and fishing. He also plays a major role in putting together the Town's yearly children's fishing tournament. You may remember Mickey was also instrumental in securing a \$10,500 grant for the Town through the DEC's Habitat Stamp Funding Program. I'm proud to have a Mickey Elliott in our Town.

Another item of interest is that April 2008 has been declared "Grange Month" and I was fortunate to be invited to an awards ceremony on April 12th at the Old Stone Church honoring some of Milton's long-time Grange members. Read more about this event on page 10.

I'd like to continue to bring attention to the special achievements of Milton's residents. Please feel free to bring them by my attention by either calling the office (884-2766) or sending an e-mail to [supervisor@townofmiltonny.org](mailto:supervisor@townofmiltonny.org).

I would also like to make you aware of some of the fun things happening in the Village of Ballston Spa. We hope you have a chance to participate in some if not all of them and enjoy the beautiful Village of Ballston Spa. A listing of events is to the right.

In closing, I am looking forward to a wonderfully busy summer. I hope your children are able to participate in our summer program this year and you and your family are able to attend the Town's Town of Milton Day tentatively scheduled for August 10th.

As always, it is my pleasure to serve the residents of this Town. If I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 884-2766.

Thank you.

### Events in and around the Village of Ballston Spa

Saturday, May 24th - Village of Ballston Spa Memorial Day Parade - 9 a.m.

June 7th & 8th - The Old Iron Spring Festival of Music and Art at the Saratoga County Fairgrounds, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

June 8th - Heritage Day at the Brookside Museum and the Iron Spring Park, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thur's & Sat's June 12th thru Sept. 27th - Ballston Spa Farmers' Market in Wiswall Park - Thur's 3 p.m.-6 p.m., Sat's 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

June 14th & 15th - Perennial Sale at Brookside Museum, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

June 14th & 15th - Village Wide Garage Sale Weekend

Thur's June 19th thru Aug 28th - Summer 2008 Free Concerts in the Park in Wiswall Park, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

- June 19th-The Lustre Kings
- June 26th-String Dusters
- July 3rd-Jump Daddies
- July 10th-Kevin McKrell
- July 17th-Happy Balky & the Good Livin'
- July 25th-The Zucchini Brothers
- July 31st-Sonny & Perley Trio
- Aug. 7th-Ice Cream Social w/the Union Fire Co. Band
- Aug. 14th-Ryan Jensen
- Aug. 21st- The Audiostars
- Aug. 28th-Mudbug Uprising

June 29th - Family Fun Day at the Saratoga County Fairgrounds

August 1st & 2nd - The Ballston Spa Film Festival in Wiswall Park.

For more Info call 885-5711.

The Saratoga County Board of Supervisors, at its Regular Meeting on April 15, 2008, passed the following Resolution

**PROCLAIMING MAY 2008 AS  
"SENIOR CITIZENS MONTH IN THE  
COUNTY OF SARATOGA"**

**WHEREAS**, our President and our Governor have proclaimed May as "Senior Citizens Month"; and

**WHEREAS**, our County is fortunate that its residents include more than 26,000 individuals 60 years of age or over; and

**WHEREAS**, each of these citizens has been an important contributor to our County as it has progressed to its present fiscal strength and its status as the most populous rural County in the State; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that this Board of Supervisors proudly proclaims the month of May 2008 as "SENIOR CITIZENS MONTH IN THE COUNTY OF SARATOGA".

**MILTON TOWN BOARD**  
Frank D. Thompson, Supervisor

Councilpersons

Hollis F. Blodgett  
Joseph J. Miranda, Jr.

Allison Saul  
Frank Blaisdell

Planning Board

Keith Leal, Chairman

Ron Lacey  
James Staulters  
Ben Zlotnick, Jr.

John Whittel  
John Frolish  
Larry Woolbright

Barbara Kerr, Alternate

Zoning Board

Mary Lou Festa, Chairwoman

Brian Companion  
Kimberly Weaver

Fred Harris  
Kenneth Buhrmaster

James Cook, Alternate

Town Officials

Town Clerk  
Deputy Town Clerk  
Justice  
Justice  
Highway Superintendent  
Deputy Highway Superintendent  
Assessor  
Tax Collector  
Comptroller  
Building & Fire Inspector  
Enforcement Officer  
Animal Control Officer  
Historian  
Health Officer  
Town Attorney  
Attorney to the Planning &  
Zoning Boards  
Town Engineer

William Mevec  
Mary Ann Mevec  
Timothy R. Thomas  
Carlos Calderon  
David C. Forbes  
Jeff Manning  
Mary Ann Becker  
Carl E. Englehart  
Martin Glastetter  
Wayne Howe  
Frederick D. Dreher  
Richard Pine  
Royann Blodgett  
William S. Kelley MD  
James P. Craig  
Martin W. Pozefsky  
Garry Robinson

Village of Ballston Spa  
66 Front Street, Ballston Spa, New York 12020  
(518) 885-5711

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Joseph J. Miranda, Jr., Councilman

The Town of Milton, in cooperation with the Towns of Ballston, Charlton, Galway and Greenfield, will be holding its third Household Hazardous Waste Day on Saturday, August 9th from 8 a.m to 3 p.m.

Everyday household hazardous waste items such as painting supplies, stains, paint thinner, and turpentine will be accepted. In addition, garden supplies, pesticides, transmission fluid, brake fluid, antifreeze and cleaning supplies will be accepted. Residents may also dispose of fluorescent light bulbs, mercury bulbs and mercury thermometers. Computer monitors, computer power units (CPU's) and televisions (limit two per vehicle) will also be accepted.

Pre-registration is required and forms will be available at Town Hall or at [www.townofmiltonny.org](http://www.townofmiltonny.org) beginning May 12. Because space is limited we suggest you register early.

For further information call 1-866-738-7348



## Village Board

Mayor John Romano

## Trustees

Richard Duffy      Stuart Hodsoll  
Donna Thomas      Robert Cavanaugh

## Officials

Village Clerk & Registrar	Patricia Bowers
Deputy Clerk	Theresa Zayac
Attorney	Richard Kupferman
Treasurer	Chris Hickey
Deputy Treasurer	Jean Crandall
Justice	Thomas Schroeder
Animal Control	David Brown & Mark Hersh
Building Inspectors	Randy Lloyd & Gerry Morris

## Planning Board

Edward Lake, Chairman  
Michael Barabasz      Chris McDonough  
John Mancini      Ingrid Melander

## Zoning Board

Kevin McDonough, Chairman  
Greg Thomas      Bruce Courture  
vacant      Anna Stanko

# FROM THE ASSESSOR

Mary Ann Becker, Sole Assessor

As many of our residents are aware, if they have been to our office, there have been some changes — in appearance and in personnel. The configuration of the office has been changed as has been the occupants at the desks — at least in relation to job description.

Most of you are familiar with me after 25 years of service in the office. However, my position has changed from Clerk to Assessor. I hope this will be a welcome change for the community. Julienne Audette is still our data collector who has been working part-time for the past 12 years and will be in the office and on the road more frequently due to the new innovations County-wide (we will discuss those later). Our newest employee since January is Brenda Howe. She has been a great asset to the office and has worked especially well with the seniors as they bring in their yearly exemptions. She has a background in finance, enjoys working with the public, has computer skills, and enjoys the many aspects of our office (so far).

Enough about our new make-up. Income tax time is here and taxes are on everyone's mind. We are busy preparing the tentative roll, due May 1, 2008, making value adjustments for permits, new construction found during road-work, and making our town properties as equitable as possible. That is the purpose of this office. Remember that assessments do not drive taxes — tax levies by the school and municipalities are what tax rates are established by; we only try to distribute the tax burden as fairly as the system allows.

In preparation for your school tax bill, please be advised that due to the new State budget, you will see a decrease of 10% in our STAR savings for 2008 school taxes, in addition to the increase due to the school tax levy.

From the Assessor's Office, Continued

The County-wide program I mentioned earlier involves internet access to every parcel in every town in Saratoga County. The County has received a grant to put all information on the internet for the public's convenience. Maps, pictures and inventory of all homes will soon be available from your home. Julienne and Brenda will be throughout the Town in the next few months taking pictures for this program.

Although STAR has been in existence since 1998, many property owners are still unaware of the program or think it's not for them. STAR is an exemption from school taxes financed by the State. Those eligible are property owners at their primary residence. There is no age or financial requirement for the "Basic" STAR, but requires application at our office with proof of primary residence (driver's license or voters registration). Owners who are 65 years of age or over must reapply the year they turn 65 and meet an income limit. Mobile home owners are also eligible for this exemption whether they are on their own parcel or in a mobile home park. Proof of residence and a bill of sale are requirements with this application. MARCH 1ST of each year is the deadline set by the State.

Change of assessment notices for those with increases/decreases will be mailed the first week of May. Values are established based on market through July 1, 2007. Although many think market values have decreased substantially, that is not the case in Saratoga County where market has held but sales have taken a longer period of time to occur.

Our office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. We are here to answer questions or concerns and are available for either phone or personal appointments.

Serving the Public through the Assessor's Office,  
Mary Ann Becker

# FROM BUILDING DEPT.

Wayne Howe, Building Inspector

## BARBECUING SAFETY TIPS

Nothing says spring more than the smell of food cooking outdoors. But before you pop open the barbecue grill this year, take a couple of minutes to inspect it to ensure a safe barbecue season.

### FIRST TIME OUT

Some people still enjoy the taste of food cooked over a charcoal or wood-fired grill. Most use liquefied petroleum gas, also known as propane. Whichever one you use, please take a minute to look at the following:

- Inspect the grill for structural stability and rust; the stand, firebox and top.
- Make sure any lighter fluid has a safe place to be stored, preferably in a cabinet in a garage or shed
- Make sure charcoal is stored in a dry location.
- Inspect the valves, burner and hoses for rust, rot holes or damage. Squirrels have been known to eat through rubber hoses and wasps can block the valve.
- Find a safe location to store your grill. Propane should not be stored inside any building or close to building openings.

### BAD GRILL PRACTICES

- Don't grill inside  
This includes under overhangs, patios and in garages. Almost 10% of Carbon Monoxide deaths are from charcoal and propane grills.



### From the Building Department, Continued

- Don't grill next to a building  
Regardless of the type of building you are in, get the grill at least 10 feet away. A grill is hot enough to melt siding or cause a fire on your siding and roof eaves.
- Let the grill cool down  
Whether you are using charcoal, wood or propane, always let your grill cool to the touch before covering and or storing it.
- Grills belong outside  
Both propane and charcoal grills can have issues being within a building after their use. By keeping them outside, you and your family do not need to worry about the increased fire hazard or carbon monoxide threat.
- Burnt charcoal and wood belong outside  
If you are using charcoal or wood, have a metal ash bucket, with a lid, to properly dispose and hold burnt fuel until it is completely cooled and a safe location to store the bucket outside.

Have a safe summer.

Wayne, Gerry, Sue and Rick in the Building Dept.  
884-2764

# FROM THE HISTORIAN

## Royann Blodgett

### Milton's Birthday—A Brief History Lesson

On March 7, 2008 our Town became 216 years of age. Established by Act of the New York State Legislature on March 7, 1792, our lands had previously been part of the northern portions of the Town of Ballston, which had been established earlier. The designation of our boundaries and the name Milton took effect on April 1, 1792. Our first Town meeting was held at the home of William Baker when Col. John Ball, a Justice of the Peace in the Saratoga County Court System, was elected first Supervisor. The Baker home was located near the intersection of the present Sodeman and Middle Grove Roads since at that time Milton lands extended further north, thus making this a central location within what was then the Town of Milton. It was not until the following year that the Town of Greenfield was established by the New York State Legislature and set off from the northern portion of Milton.

Pioneer settlers had arrived in the 1770's. Numerous grist mills and saw mills, so necessary to provide grains and building materials, were built along the Kayaderosseras and tributaries. The area became known as Mill — Town. These two words became one when the Town was established and named Milton in 1792. While some in the past, and even more recently (Internet references including Wikipedia) have wanted to attribute our name to John Milton, the English poet of the 1600's, it is the Mill — Town origin that is documented in the history writings of both Nathaniel Sylvester in 1878 and Edward F. Grose in 1907.



### Summer Recreation Program Shawn Lisieski, Director

This year's summer recreation program will run from July 7th through August 8th. That's five weeks of fun and games for the children residing in the Town of Milton. The program runs daily 9 a.m. to noon except for Thursday when campers attend field trips until 4 p.m.

Registration forms and further information will be available at the Town Hall or on our website at [www.townofmiltonny.org](http://www.townofmiltonny.org) May 1st.



# HISTORIC STRUCTURES & PLACES COMMITTEE

Royann Blodgett, Historian

Both the New York State Constitution and New York State Municipal Home Rule Law provide a municipality with the authority to enact local legislation regarding the ". . .protection and enhancement of its physical and visual environment." The courts have recognized that this broad power granted to municipalities provides authority for local legislation relating to the preservation of historic and aesthetic resources.

In recent years Milton enacted a Committee-recommended Cemetery Law. Town Board action has also added the following Historic Structures and Places Committee-recommended objective to the Primary Goals of the Milton Comprehensive Plan 2001: "Strive to protect Milton's historic structures and places that are the foundations of both the present and future Town of Milton." In addition, as recommended by the Committee the Town has added to the Town of Milton Code as follows:



## Historic Structures and Places, Continued

- 1) historic mill sites and their remaining structures and equipment to the Kayaderosseras Overlay Corridor section, and
- 2) historic/cultural references within the Open Space section.

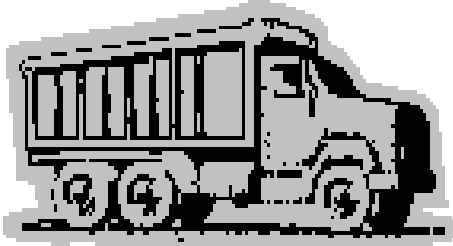
However, no legislative action has been taken to provide an appropriate measure of protection/preservation for individually significant historic structures and sites.

Research and study by the Historic Structures and Places Committee led to a Listing of Milton's Historic Structures and Places (an open-ended enumeration) that was submitted to the Board and accepted in April, 2007. As noted in Historian Reports to the Board in recent months, the Committee has been reviewing state and federal historic preservation guidelines as well as area local laws/regulations regarding historic resources. Committee research continues in order to determine and recommend an appropriate level of preservation for Milton's historic structures and places as they represent the historic legacy of our Town. Questions and comments regarding this initiative may be directed to the Historic Structures and Places Committee c/o the Town Historian.

## ECHO Food Pantry

Serving residents of Rural Milton Areas

St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church  
Route 29, Rock City Falls  
Tuesdays, 9 - 11:30 a.m.



## FROM THE HIGHWAY DEPT. David Forbes, Highway Superintendent

After a long Winter, Spring has finally arrived. The Highway Department has started our annual spring cleanup of yard waste debris. Any yard waste can be brought curbside for bulk pickup until May 15. Anything brought to the curbside after May 15 will need to be put in biodegradable paper bags and will be picked up once a week. Until this time, items such as leaves, branches, and small bulk wood should be separated and placed next to the road for pick up.

I'd like to urge all residents to bring their debris to the roadside as soon as possible to ensure it will be picked up before May 15. Residents are also allowed to bring their debris to the Town of Milton transfer station located at the Town Hall on Geyser Road Monday through Thursdays 6:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays 8:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. Please note the transfer station is closed on holiday weekends (Memorial Day, July 4th weekend and Labor Day).

After May 15, the Highway Department will be starting summer roadwork construction. A few of our jobs will be Leroux Road, Sodeman Road and Baker Road.

In addition, mulch and compost is available free to Town residents again this year while supplies last.

Hours of operation for the Highway Department are Monday — Thursday 6:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact the Highway Department at 885-5655. Any emergency calls after hours can be directed to the Sheriff's Department at 885-6761.

### 2008 Rabies Clinics at the 4-H Training Center will be held on the following dates:

March 18th	July 8th & 22nd
April 15th	August 12th & 26th
May 20th	September 9th & 23rd
June 24th	October 21st
	November 18th

Cats 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.    Dogs 8 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
(must be in carriers)    (must be leashed)

For Further Information call the  
Saratoga County Animal Shelter  
at 885-4113



# NEWS FROM THE GRANGE

April was designated as "National Grange Month". Milton Grange #685 celebrated the occasion with an awards breakfast at one of the oldest buildings in the Town, the "Old Stone Church". Officials of the Town added to the celebration with Supervisor Frank Thompson reading a Proclamation recognizing "Grange Month".

Those receiving awards for the longevity of membership were Stella Tourtellot and Hank Uebrick for 25 years, Mary Englehart and John Cromie for 40 years and Tarsilla Cromie, Myrtle South and Karl Stephenson for 60 years. The "Citizenship of the Year" award was presented to Mary Englehart for her 40 plus years of dedication to activities within our community.

The Milton Grange was established in 1890 and is dedicated to the protection and promotion of the rural community. The Grange is composed of all ages and supports many local activities including Head Start, Jr. Baseball, County Fair, ECHO Food Pantry and the Oakwood Cemetery.



## Grange, Continued

Upcoming events include a booth at the Old Iron Spring on Heritage Day, June 8th and a basket of farm products raffled at "Farm Days" on June 22nd at the Edgar King Farm in Northumberland.

Monthly meetings are held the 2nd Saturday of each month for breakfast at the Old Stone Church at 8 AM. Residents interested in attending or to learn more about the Grange, please contact Sam Becker at 885-6606.



# FROM THE TOWN CLERK

William Mevec

The Town Clerk's Office is open Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The Clerk's office provides a variety of services including hunting & fishing licenses, dog licenses, marriage licenses and park reservations.

Dog owners please remember to license your dog. Dogs four months and older are required to be licensed. To obtain a new license, you will need a rabies certificate and, if applicable, a spay or neuter certificate. If your renewal form states the rabies vaccination has expired we will need a current rabies certificate.

The license fee for a spayed or neutered dog is \$12.50. Un-spayed and un-neutered dogs will be licensed for a fee of \$20.50. In addition, please notify us if there are any changes, i.e. you've moved from Milton, transferred ownership of the dog, the dog died, etc.

Marriage licenses can be obtained at our office for a cost of \$40.00. Both parties must be present and, if either party has been divorced, any and all divorce papers must be submitted regardless of how long ago the divorce(s) was obtained.

## From the Town Clerk, Continued

The pavilions in the Burgess-Kimball Memorial Park make a great place to hold your outdoor social gatherings. For Town of Milton residents, pavilion 1 & 2 can be reserved for \$75.00 each and pavilion 3 for \$50.00. A fee of \$100.00 for each pavilion 1, 2 & 3 will be required for non-residents. A certificate of insurance is required and an application must be filled out at the Town Clerk's Office.

As Records Management Officer, my office makes all town records available during regular business hours. Records may be obtained by completing a Freedom of Information Request (FOIL). FOIL requests are answered as soon as possible and within FOIL regulation timelines.

Hunting and fishing licenses are due to go on sale in August. Because we don't have a specific date available yet, please call ahead to be sure the DECALS system is up and running.

Please contact us at 885-9220 ext. 110 if we can be of any assistance.

22<sup>nd</sup> Annual

# Children's Fishing Tournament

Saturday, May 3, 2008

**Trophies!**

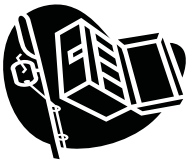
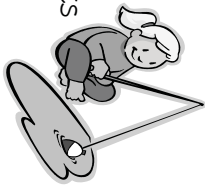
4-H Training Center  
Middle Line Road  
Ballston Spa (off of Rt. 67 West)

**Prizes!**

Registration & Fishing ~ 7:00-11:30 am

*Information:*

- Free registration!
- Children must be Saratoga County residents
- 18 years old and under
- Must have valid fishing license (16-18 years)
- Bring your own fishing poles and bait



4-H All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast

6:30 am - 11:00 am

Adults: \$6    Seniors: \$5

Children 4-11: \$4    Children under 3: Free

Sponsored by the Town of Milton

For more information ~ Town of Milton 885-9220

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Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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