

# Henrietta Happenings



Autumn 2022



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## TOWN SUPERVISOR

Stephen L. Schultz

## DEPUTY SUPERVISOR

Craig Eckert

## FINANCE DIRECTOR

Linda K. Salpini

## TOWN BOARD

Millie Sefranek

Lisa Bolzner

M. Rick Page

Joseph D. Bellanca, Jr.

## TOWN OF HENRIETTA

475 Calkins Road

Henrietta, NY 14467

585-334-7700

[www.henrietta.org](http://www.henrietta.org)



## From the Supervisor...

### SAYING GOODBYE TO AN OLD FRIEND

With roughly \$4-million in ARPA money, \$1-million from the sale of a cell tower, \$1-million from excess 2021 sales and mortgage tax revenues, and another \$1.5-million from a combination of grants, excess 2022 sales and mortgage tax revenues, and/or a bond, we are expecting to go out to bid on the new Town Court this fall. If we have to go to bond, the cost of the debt service on that bond would be less than what we are currently paying to rent space for the temporary court, meaning there would be no property tax increase to pay for the new Town Court. But obviously, if we can get enough grants and excess 2022 revenues to not have to bond, then we can save the entire amount we are currently paying in rent and that savings would happen every year, which could help us avoid an increase due to the rising costs.



In order to build the new Town Court, we must first say goodbye to an old friend: the former public library. We had looked at the possibility of using the building for the Town Court, but it just is not suitable for that use. Its heating, cooling, and ventilation systems are designed to operate in a large, wide-open space and would not operate properly if we put up the necessary walls for offices, storage, court rooms, and the like. The cost to retrofit would be prohibitive, so the first step of construction will be to demolish the old library.

It has served this community well through the years and a lot of people have very fond memories of the facility. Over the years, the systems in the old

*Continued on Page 2*



building began failing and with the strange design of the utilities all located in what is essentially an attic space in the concrete tower accessible only by a steel ladder, there are a lot of people who will not miss these aspects and may happily swing a sledge hammer. Still, it will be bittersweet to knock it down.

## **ASSEMBLING THE BUDGET**

It is the time of year when we begin assembling the budget. We start by taking known operating expenses, such as salaries, utilities, and contracts that we have every year. If we already know the increase for next year, we add that in. If we do not, we add in an estimated increase. At the same time, we ask our Department Heads to look at what expenditures they have to make and what additional expenditures they would like to make – the latter we generally refer to as their “wish list.”

The next step is to do the same with revenues. We have historical sales tax and mortgage tax revenues and we project those out based on trends. When projecting, we try to stay on the conservative side. I would rather end the year with excess sales and mortgage tax revenues than not enough. This practice was especially useful when COVID first hit because it meant our expenses did not greatly outstrip our revenues. In previous years, when we have seen significant growth in the sales and mortgage tax revenues, we have been able to apply a good portion of that excess towards reducing the property tax burden the following year.

What we do that is critical is we do not cross the revenue streams when it comes to paying expenses. By that I mean we use recurring revenues for recurring expenses and one-time revenues for one-time expenses. When you start trying to use one-time revenues for recurring or operating expenses, you start to get yourself into financial trouble that is just compounded the following year as you still have the budget gap and now the one-time revenue is gone.

As such, you will not see the one-time ARPA revenues used for operating expenses. Instead, they are being used for one-time capital expenses, such as building a much needed Town Court and installing some much needed water and sewer infrastructure in places where it is missing in Town. We have also been actively pursuing State and Federal funding, wherever available, in order to complete capital projects while minimizing the cost to local taxpayers.

Projecting out the rest of 2022, we are pretty much on budget. Due to the gasoline tax holiday, the 2022 sales tax revenues are not expected to be as large as last year, but because we budget conservatively, we do not expect them to be below budget. Similarly, with the raising of interest rates, we expect the second half of the 2022 mortgage tax revenues to drop but the year should still be above the budgeted amount due to a very active real estate market at the end of 2021 and the start of 2022.

With all of the projected revenues and expenses entered, we then begin to look at the wish lists to see what we can afford and what we cannot. For the past four budgets, we have been able to keep the property tax levy flat, meaning we have not collected any new property taxes. So as new real estate development comes in or as property values increase and are reassessed, the result is that the tax rate drops. That is again expected to happen as a result of our 2023 budget.

Earlier this year, the Town Board voted to commit \$2.5-million of the excess sales and mortgage tax revenues received in 2021 to keep the property taxes down for 2023. We are hoping to be able to use that excess revenue to once again keep the property tax levy flat, but as expenses have been increasing



dramatically, we do not yet know whether that will be possible. Salaries are going up, both due to normal increases as well as a Cost of Living Adjustment the Town Board has adopted due to the high inflation rate. And of course fuel costs and material costs have all gone up as well. Our Town Employees have worked hard to try to minimize the effects of those additional costs, but there is only so much we can do. If there is an increase, I expect it to be small. The budget process runs through the fall and completes in November. I will share the full budget details in the next Town Newsletter.

### **EXPANDED DPW FACILITIES**

Anyone coming to the Town Hall campus has undoubtedly seen the large building going up to the south of the parking lots. That is the new Sewer and Drainage garage. Over the past four years, we have been adding people and equipment to the Highway Department in order to reduce plow times and keep up with paving the streets. As well as to the Facilities and Grounds Department in order to keep up with mowing the new Town lands and maintaining the new Town buildings, and to the Sewer and Drainage Department in order to keep up with maintaining the infrastructure in Town. As a result, our current DPW garage is overflowing.



To make room, we first built a new Facilities and Grounds storage building to store the material and equipment that was in the very old and somewhat dilapidated DPW garages that were on the site where the new Sewer and Drainage garage was to be built. That building was largely built by Town crews to save taxpayer money. The Sewer and Drainage garage is being built with contingency money that has accumulated in those budgets thanks to us having very few major infrastructure failures for a good number of years. As a result, we have enough to cover construction costs and still have plenty of contingency funds should we have a major failure of either the storm or sanitary sewer systems. I emphasize: there will be no property tax increase to build this building as the funds are separate from property tax funds. By moving the Sewer and Drainage vehicles into their own garage, that will free up space in the DPW garage for the additional highway vehicles we have added over the past five years.

The result of all of the above is that the Town is getting some much needed new facilities for the operation of the Town without adding any new tax burden to our property owners.

### **GARBAGE DISTRICTS UPDATE**

We have received several hundred responses to the Garbage District Survey to help us put together what services a waste hauler would have to provide for a garbage district. The next step will be to sit down with the waste haulers to confirm that at the volumes we are expecting, there would be discounts available, as well as to take an initial map of the districts. We are still many months away from asking people to sign up, but we are moving in the right direction.

# From the Town Clerk's Office



## PLEASE EXCUSE OUR DUST

This summer, our Facilities team has been building us a new counter (see above). Construction is ongoing as we wait for remaining materials.

## "PROJECTS IN TOWN" WEBPAGE

Last year, we added the [www.henrietta.org/projects](http://www.henrietta.org/projects) webpage, which includes application materials for both upcoming and ongoing projects.

## PANDEMIC RESPONSE STATUS INDICATOR

Hopefully, we won't need it as much going forward, but to allow you to quickly learn our pandemic response status, we've added a small indicator in the upper right corner of our webpage with one of the three

statuses for our current pandemic response level.



# Seeing Henrietta Through Your Eyes Art Contest



Share what makes Henrietta special to you

We are accepting art submissions from all ages to be considered for use on the Town's web site: [henrietta.org](http://henrietta.org). The judging panel will be looking for a variety of perspectives to showcase the multitude of things Henrietta means to different people.



**Deadline: October 14, 2022**

**Open to All Ages**

**Art must be submitted electronically.**

**Images must be a minimum of 1920 x 890 pixels and less than 5 MB.**

**Images must be in landscape orientation.**

**Submit Materials at [www.henrietta.org/seeinghenrietta](http://www.henrietta.org/seeinghenrietta)**





# 2022 School Tax Collection



As students get ready to go back to school, it's time to start thinking about School Taxes. Tax bills will be mailed to real property owners on August 31<sup>st</sup>. If you are responsible for payment and do not receive your tax bill by September 7<sup>th</sup>, please contact us at [townclerk@henrietta.org](mailto:townclerk@henrietta.org) or (585) 359-7035 to request a duplicate bill at no charge, or visit [www.monroecounty.gov](http://www.monroecounty.gov). For complete payment info, please visit [www.henrietta.org/taxes](http://www.henrietta.org/taxes).

## PAYMENT OPTIONS

### **PAYMENT IN FULL**

- Pay in full by deadline of Monday, October 3, with no additional interest.
- Pay in full between October 4 and October 31, with additional 2% interest applied to total amount due.

### **INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS**

- Installment payments are subject to a service charge and must match the amount on the payment stub **exactly**.
- **FIRST INSTALLMENT**
  - Due on or before Thursday, September 15, with no additional interest.
  - For those who miss the September 15 deadline, there is a grace period from Friday, September 16 through Tuesday, September 20, with 1% interest added to amount due.
  - If first installment is not paid on or before Tuesday, September 20, the installment plan will no longer be available, and you will be forced to pay the taxes in full.
- **SECOND AND THIRD INSTALLMENTS**
  - Second and third installments cannot be accepted at Henrietta Town Hall.
  - Second and third installments must be made payable to the Monroe County Treasurer.
  - Second installment due October 17. Third installment due November 15.

## PAYMENT METHODS

- **ONLINE** To pay with a credit card or online check, please visit [www.monroecounty.gov](http://www.monroecounty.gov). Credit cards are subject to a 2.75% service fee with a minimum fee of \$2.75. Online checks are subject to a convenience fee based on the payment amount. As an example, for a payment between \$500.01 and \$3,000, the fee would be \$8.
- **BY MAIL** Pay by check or money order made payable to *Receiver of Taxes, Henrietta*. Postmark dates are honored. If you're close to the deadline, walk your payment into the post office to ensure it gets postmarked. Please include payment stub.
- **DROP BOX** Our secure external drop box is available 24-hours a day. Please include the payment stub. All deposits will be collected at 9 AM every business day and processed using the previous business day's date.
- **AT TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE** Pay by cash, check, or money order. Make payment payable to *Receiver of Taxes, Henrietta*. Please include payment stub.

**DON'T FORGET!** Sign up for our "**Tax Reminders**" email subscription to receive reminders when bills are mailed and a few days before payment deadlines at [www.henrietta.org/subscribe](http://www.henrietta.org/subscribe) – we hope that it helps!

**For any questions, please visit [www.henrietta.org/taxes](http://www.henrietta.org/taxes) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at (585) 359-7035 or [townclerk@henrietta.org](mailto:townclerk@henrietta.org).**



## “I’M LATE, I’M LATE, I’M LATE” — NO PROBLEM!

Starting September 1, 2022, both the Henrietta and Rush Public Libraries will join the Rush-Henrietta Central School District (RHCS D) in **no longer charging late fees** on their books and other materials. Late fees are a reason some of the most vulnerable people in our communities – children, people who have disabilities, the elderly – don’t use our libraries. 46% of students in the RHCS D are classified by the State as economically disadvantaged. We’re excited that this change will make borrowing books and reading more accessible to more members of our community!



## CHILDREN’S STORYTIMES FOR DAYS (AND TWO EVENINGS A WEEK!)

We’ve added a second evening storytime to our schedule to make it easier to enjoy stories together at the library! Starting in September, storytimes will be:

Mondays: Baby 9:30 AM, All-Ages 10:30 AM, All-Ages 6:30 PM

Tuesdays: Baby 9:30 AM, All-Ages 10:30 AM

Wednesdays: Baby 9:30 AM, All-Ages 10:30 AM, All-Ages 6:30 PM

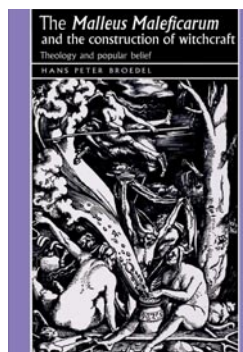
Thursdays: Baby 9:30 AM, All-Ages 10:30 AM

Fridays: Baby 9:30 AM, All-Ages 10:30 AM

Our storytimes are all drop-in, so no need to register. Find the most up-to-date information on storytimes and other classes and events for kids at [hpl.org](http://hpl.org).

## SEPTEMBER 29: PARTNERS IN DISCOVERY: SHE, UNSUNG

On Thursday, September 29 at 7:00 PM, presenters Chandra McKenzie and Anne Coon will talk about their collaborative research project, **She, Unsung**, which focuses on women who spent at least some of their lives in Rochester. Six equally deserving heroines who possessed the remarkable ability to foresee new opportunities and the determination to make a difference in their profession will be highlighted. Some left a legacy of influence in this community; others enjoyed notoriety far beyond Rochester, but today, they have all become virtually "unsung." Register to join us at [hpl.org](http://hpl.org).



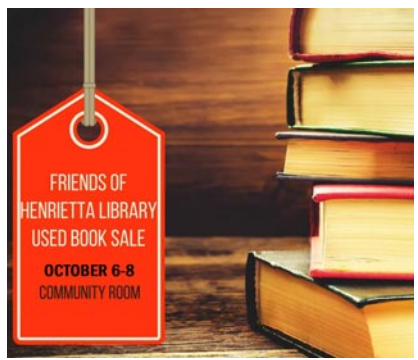
## OCTOBER 27: A HISTORY OF WITCHES & THE MALLEUS MALEFICARUM

On Thursday, October 27 at 7:00 PM, Maya Rook will lead us through an investigation and discussion of one of the most influential and misogynistic pieces of witch-hunting literature: *The Malleus Maleficarum* (1486). Together we’ll dive deep into this text and explore how it contributed to the negative portrayal of witches, informed popular conceptions of dark magic, and fueled the persecution of women during the witch trials.

This event will take place on Zoom - registration is required. Sign up at [hpl.org](http://hpl.org).



# Henrietta Public Library



## OCTOBER 6-8: USED BOOK SALE

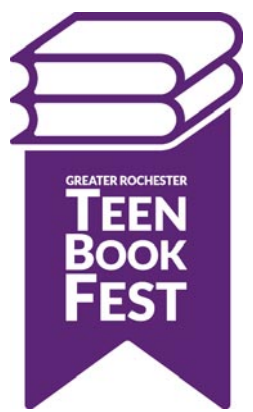
The Henrietta Public Library Friends & Foundation Book Shoppe Team is bringing back their popular fall used book sale! The sale will run:

Thursday, October 6 (2:30 PM – 8:30 PM), Friday, October 7 (9:00 AM – 4:30 PM), and Saturday, October 8 (10:00 AM – 2:30 PM)

Buying used books is environmentally friendly and easier on your pocketbook than buying new, and the proceeds support library classes, events, and special programs. Shopping at the book sale is a win-win-win!

## GREATER ROCHESTER TEEN BOOK FEST

The 2022 Greater Rochester Teen Book Fest will be held on Saturday, September 24 from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM at Frontier Field. This is a free all-day event for teens to attend. There are 18 authors scheduled to attend including Ellen Hopkins, A.S. King, and G. Neri. The theme this year is **Take Me Out to TBF**. There will be author workshops, book signings, and new friendships to be made. Come enjoy the atmosphere of Frontier Field with your friends while getting to know your favorite authors.



To help teens get ready for the Festival, we are hosting a Teen Book Festival Author Spotlight program on Tuesday, September 20, from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM. Teens will get together to talk about the authors who will be attending the Teen Book Festival. During this program, teens can sign up to meet our Teen Librarian, Ellen, at the Festival and have lunch together to discuss the workshops they've attended. Register for the Author Spotlight at [hpl.org](http://hpl.org).

## ROCHESTER CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL

The Rochester Children's Book Festival is back in person on Saturday, November 5, 2022, from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM, and will be held at a new location: the Rochester Institute of Technology!



Presentations for all ages will take place in three different rooms every half hour. Our craft room will keep your kids entertained making book-related crafts. Best of all, your family can interact with around 50 authors and illustrators as they sign books for purchase. Bestselling author Tui Sutherland will be speaking about her **Wings of Fire** series to kick off the Festival.

Mark your calendars and join us for this fun, free celebration of literacy and learning. Visit [RCBFest.com](http://RCBFest.com) to learn more.

## HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT WORKING AT THE LIBRARY?

If you've ever thought that it would be rewarding and interesting to work in a library, you're right! And we've started an email newsletter for people who want to be the first to find out about job opportunities here. To sign up, visit [hpl.org](http://hpl.org), call the library, or stop by.

Adrienne Pettinelli, Library Director, [adrienne.pettinelli@libraryweb.org](mailto:adrienne.pettinelli@libraryweb.org)

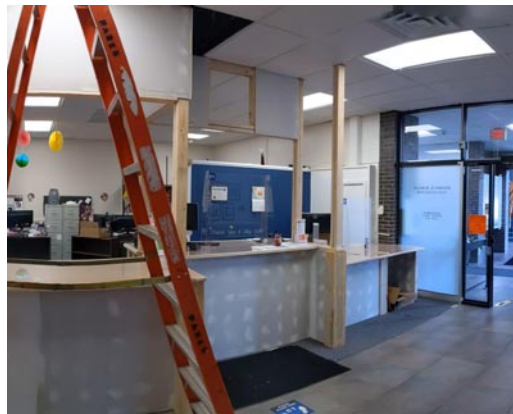


# Department of Public Works



## GROUNDS CREWS CLEARING TREES

The Grounds Crews within the DPW has been keeping the grass on Town lands mowed, weeded, and mulched. With the dry, hot summer, it has afforded the crews time to catch up on other projects such as clearing the dead trees at Hoskins Park (at the wye intersection of Pinnacle and Winton Roads) and other Town Parks. The crews were also able to repair the steps leading to the northern courtyard of Town Hall.



## NEW COUNTER FOR THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

The old counter in the Town Clerk's office was supported by old filing cabinets and in need of replacing. In addition, there was no area that was wheelchair accessible. Town crews are building a new counter that will have a fourth clerk station, including one that is wheelchair accessible, and will also feature better security features for our Town Clerks. Counter surfaces are the next step, but those have a long lead time. Construction will pause until they arrive but will not be installed until after the School Tax collection has ended to avoid major inconvenience during our busiest times.

## SEWER AND DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE

The Sewer and Drainage Department has been maintaining, flushing, and repairing existing sanitary and storm sewers as well as overseeing the construction of new sanitary and storm sewers that will be dedicated to the Town once the work in a new subdivision has been completed. The team has also been working with the Engineering Department on the design of new sanitary sewers for some of the areas in Town that do not have them.



## LEAF AND BRUSH DROP OFF

The Town will have the brush drop off site on Martin Road for six weekends as follows:

October 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>  
October 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>  
October 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>

November 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>  
November 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>  
November 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>

The site will open each day at 10:00 AM and close at 3:00 PM.

The site is for residential use only, not commercial use.

The site entrance is opposite the entrance for Martin Road Park.

Mike Catalano, Commissioner of Public Works, [mcatalano@Henrietta.org](mailto:mcatalano@Henrietta.org)

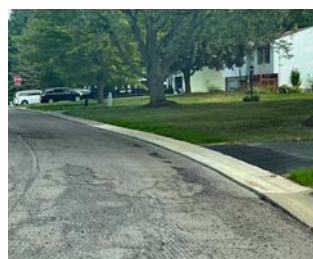




# Highway Department

## STREET PAVING

The Town Highway Department has already put down 9,779 tons of pavement this year. That includes work done for the County including 3,200 tons at Genesee Valley Park for which we were reimbursed \$101,000 for the work, helping keep property taxes down for Town residents.

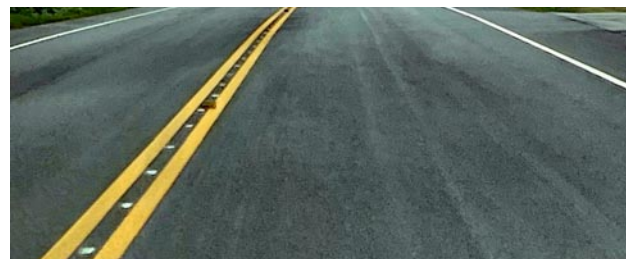


## GUTTER REPLACEMENT AND DRAIN FLUSHING

Prior to being able to repave many of the roads, we had to replace broken or uneven gutters — around 800 linear feet of gutters in all. Gutter repairs and the flushing of storm mains and catch basins is essential for keeping water flowing off our streets during heavy rains.

## RESURFACING

To date we have completed 3.66 miles of micropaving and about a mile of Nova chip, two forms of resurfacing that extends the life of the pavement before a full resurface is needed and resurfacing is considerably less expensive than full repaving.



## ROAD SIDE MOWING AND SWEEPING

Highway crews work to keep the rights of way mowed on both Town and County roads. The State DOT mows the State roads, although we often help if there is a dangerous sight line issue. Highway crews also sweep all of the roads in Town to clean up trash, loose stone, and other hazards.

## NEW SLEDDING HILL

Highway crews bulldozed the land on Town property on Erie Station Road to improve the opportunities for sledding this winter. In addition to making a better sled run, crews also installed a parking lot, put in necessary drainage, and created berms to help stop sledders from reaching the parking lot. Hydro-seeding has had to wait due to the long, dry, hot summer we experienced but should go in soon. We hope this will be a place where families with small children can go to enjoy some winter activity.



Tim Lessing, Superintendent of Highways, [tlessing@Henrietta.org](mailto:tlessing@Henrietta.org)

# Recreation & Senior Center



Check out the Henrietta Parks and Recreation Fall Brochure online at [henrietta.org/parksandrecreation](http://henrietta.org/parksandrecreation).



This season's brochure is filled with fun events and great new programs guaranteed to get your family moving and smiling.



Henrietta Recreation is pleased to announce that the **1 Year Old Walker with a Parent** class has returned for Fall 2022. Classes will be held on Saturdays. Registration for late fall gymnastics opens to residents on Oct. 3 and classes begin Nov. 1. Your toddler will love it!

The Henrietta Senior Center presents:  
**Computer Courses and Seminars**

**Facebook Intro**

Thursday, October 13  
10:30 am

**The Right Computer**

Thursday, November 17  
10:30 am

**TV Today**

Thursday, December 1  
10:30 am

Sign up today! Call Shelly at 334-4030 to register



**Instructor  
Daniel Jones**



## MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

NATIONAL DAY OF DOING GOOD

**Saturday, October 22**

**9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**at the RH Senior High School**

Join us in making a difference in our community by lending a helping hand! Groups, service organizations, families, and individuals are welcome! Volunteer activities 9:00am-12:00pm at the RH Senior High School with a pizza party to celebrate the completed community projects.

For more information and project assistance, please call (585) 359-2540, option 8, or email [atichacek@henrietta.org](mailto:atichacek@henrietta.org).

### Henrietta Recreation is Now Hiring!

If you enjoy working with children in a fun environment, consider applying for one of these openings:

**Preschool Instructor:** weekday mornings

**Gymnastics Instructor:** Afternoons, early evenings and weekends. Prior gymnastics experience is **not** required



## Lunch Club 60



Our nutrition program provides nutritious, cost effective meals to adults 60 and over. This program is administered by the MCOFA and promotes health, wellness and social interaction. Suggested contribution \$3.50 for individuals 60+. Reservations are required. Call (585) 334-4030.



# Tinker Nature Park



## FALL FOLIAGE FUN RUN

AT TINKER NATURE PARK

INAUGURAL RACE  
OCTOBER 8, 2022

ALL AGES AND ABILITIES WELCOME  
<https://bit.ly/FallFoliageFunRun>

1525 Calkins Road  
585-359-7044  
[naturecenter@henrietta.org](mailto:naturecenter@henrietta.org)



Visit [henrietta.org](http://henrietta.org) and select Tinker Nature Center under the Community tab for information regarding out classes, staff led hikes, and more. Please remember, pets are not allowed at Tinker Park.



## Tinker Harvest Festival

Saturday, September 17  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Free and open to the public.

Watch the honey extraction and enjoy live music, Tinker Homestead open house, and cider press demonstrations.

Fresh honey will be available for purchase.



# Halloween Celebration at Tinker Nature Park

Saturday, October 15 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Get into the spirit of Halloween with a visit to Trick or Treat Street. See an authentic Victorian Funeral Scene at the Homestead and then take a walk down Jack-o'-lantern Trail. This event is open to Henrietta families with children preschool to sixth grade.

**Registration required.**



This is a free event. Please bring a donation of a non-perishable food item for the RH Kicking Hunger Food Pantry.

# Building & Fire Prevention



## Building Permits and Building Codes

A permit is required to ensure safety, not just during construction, but for years to come. It is our job at the Building and Fire Prevention Department to guide and educate applicants to ensure compliance with codes, which in turn ensures their safety. Please call us at 585-359-7060 if you have any questions, or visit our web page at [henrietta.org/building](http://henrietta.org/building) for more information on your particular home improvement project.



Kevin D. Wilson, Director of Building & Fire Prevention, 585-359-7063, [kwilson@henrietta.org](mailto:kwilson@henrietta.org)



## HEAR A CHIRP, MAKE A CHANGE!

I know it doesn't feel like it, but autumn is on the way. That means it is time again for you to check and replace those Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detector batteries. Most newer homes have detectors powered by the building power source but are required to have battery backup power. If you hear a chirp, you may need to change the battery or the whole detector.

### SMOKE ALARMS

- ✓ A continued set of three loud beeps — beep, beep, beep — means smoke or fire. Get out, **call 9-1-1**, and stay out.
- ✓ A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed.
- ✓ All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years.
- ✓ Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the smoke alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.
- ✓ Keep pathways like hallways lit with night lights and free from clutter to make sure everyone can get out safely.
- ✓ Sleep with your mobility device, glasses, and phone close to your bed.

### CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS

- ✓ A continuous set of four loud beeps — beep, beep, beep, beep — means carbon monoxide is present in your home. Go outside, **call 9-1-1** and stay out.
- ✓ A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be replaced.
- ✓ CO alarms also have “end of life” sounds that vary by manufacturer. This means it's time to get a new CO alarm.
- ✓ Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.
- ✓ Use of a low frequency alarm or bedside responder alarm can also wake a sleeping person with mild to severe hearing loss.

## NO OUTDOOR BURNING OF WASTE

As we are preparing our properties for the cold weather, please keep in mind that “open burning” of yard waste is prohibited in Henrietta and throughout Monroe County for that matter. Your refuse collector has an obligation to pick up yard waste that is placed at the road. In addition, the Town has a drop off location on Martin Road open for six weekends this fall. See the Public Works page for more details.



## NEW FIRE MARSHAL

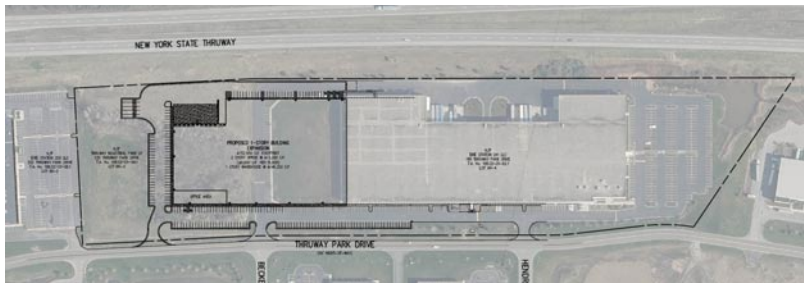
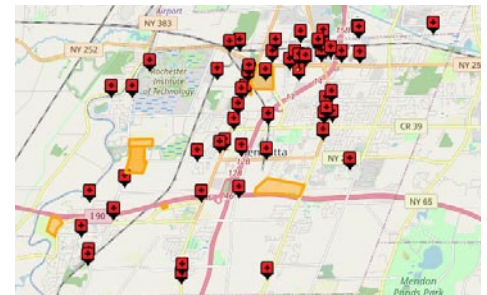
The Building and Fire Prevention office is pleased to welcome Steve Ersteniuk as Fire Marshal. Steve comes to us from the City of Rochester with 20+ years as acting Fire Marshal. He is an experienced Firefighter with extensive certifications and holds advanced degrees in Fire Service and Public Administration.

# Engineering & Planning



## New Projects in Town

There are a lot of new projects in Town, as can be seen by the large number of pins on the project map seen at right. If you have any questions about a project in Town, visit [henrietta.org/projects](http://henrietta.org/projects) to find the application material for new subdivisions, business expansions, new businesses, and other projects. A few of the major projects are highlighted below.



## CooperVision Expansion

CooperVision is adding a 152,950 sq ft expansion to its facility on Thruway Park Drive. Construction is already underway on the \$62-million project that is expected to add 173 new jobs when completed and fully occupied. The work is expected to be completed in 2023.

## Masonic Care Community

The New York State Masonic Fraternity is building its second Masonic Care Community senior living facility on the northeast corner of Erie Station Road and Middle Road. The first community is in Utica, NY. Approval is still underway but construction should start in 2023.



## Adopt-a-Basin Program

Roadside catch-basins and drainage inlets are designed to drain water from highways and yards, carrying the water to streams, ponds, and stormwater management facilities. If they are not operating properly then flooding can occur, potentially disrupting traffic or damaging properties.



In the fall, catch-basins and inlets can get clogged with leaves creating problems both for fall rains and winter snow melts. Ensuring catch-basins and inlets are clear near your house reduces the risk of flooding.

Checking catch-basins and inlets to ensure the openings are free of grass, leaves, trash and other debris. Make sure swales that carry water to the inlets and catch-basins are not obstructed. One note of caution however; never attempt to open or lift the grates off these structures. If you see something that is inside the catch basin or field inlet that might affect its ability to collect stormwater; contact the Town's Drainage Department.

The Town's Drainage Department inspects basins and other drainage structures but with the thousands of these structures within the Town, help from residents is essential. By adopting a basin, you can reduce the flooding risk around your property.

Christopher E. Martin, PE, Director of Engineering & Planning, 585-359-7056, [cmartin@Henrietta.org](mailto:cmartin@Henrietta.org)

# From the Assessor's Office



## Noting Property Conditions for 2023

Let the Assessor's office know if you have property conditions, such as a cracked foundation or other issue that can affect your property value, that you would like us to make note of for the 2023 tax roll. Now is a good time for us to come out and document any problems with your property that could affect your assessment. Our property inspectors always wear a Town employee badge. If a person is "inspecting" your house but does not have a Town badge, and cannot produce one, they are not a Town employee.



## Request Duplicate Tax Bills from Town Clerk's Office

This is a reminder that the Assessor's Office does not produce tax bills or collect payment — the Town Clerk's Office does. If you do not receive a School Tax Bill by September 7<sup>th</sup>, or Town and County Tax Bill by January 7<sup>th</sup> contact the Town Clerk to print a duplicate or go to <https://www.monroecounty.gov/etc/rp/search.php> to find a copy online.

## Limited Income / Senior Exemptions

**Limited Income Senior Exemption (New Applicants):** If you are turning **65 years of age in 2023** and your 2022 total household income is below \$37,400 (everything income related, including FULL Social Security (pink box number) and excluding IRA's) then you may be eligible for this exemption. Please contact our office at the number listed below to have your name added to the mailing list. Applications will be mailed out in mid-December. If you do not receive your application by the beginning of January, please contact our office. This exemption saves you money on your Town and County and School Tax Bill.



**Limited Income Senior Exemption (Renewal Applicants):** These forms will be mailed to you in mid-December. If you do not receive your renewal by the end of December, please contact our office. This exemption saves you money on your Town and County and School Tax Bill.

**Limited Income Disability Exemption:** If you are a resident who collects Social Security Disability (under the age of 65) whose 2022 total household income is below \$37,400 (everything income related, including FULL Social Security (pink box number) and excluding IRA's) then you may be eligible for this exemption. Please contact our office at the number listed below to have your name added to the mailing list. Applications will be mailed out in mid-December. If you do not receive your application by the beginning of January, please contact our office. This exemption saves you money on your Town and County and School Tax Bill.

**The Assessor's office can help you with tips on helping reduce your tax bill for next year.**

Michelle Nicodemus, Assessor, (585) 359-7032, [assessor@henrietta.org](mailto:assessor@henrietta.org)

## Potential Late Changes to Exemption Forms

Be sure to check in with the Assessor's office before filling out exemption forms as the State usually sends updated forms to be used right around Thanksgiving time.

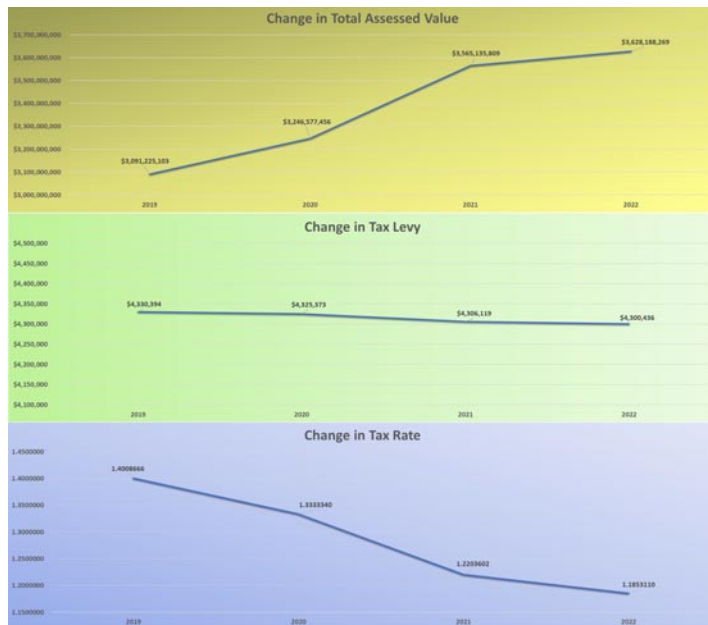
**All exemption paperwork is due back to our office by March 1, 2023**

# Understanding Assessment



## Assessment is based on the Real Estate Market

New York State requires Towns to assess properties at full market value or at a consistent percentage of full market value. If a Town does not assess at full market value, then the State assigns an Equalization Rate penalty that is applied to all properties when determining any tax that covers areas outside Henrietta, such as County, School, and Fire. The penalty also lowers exemptions, which especially hurts seniors.

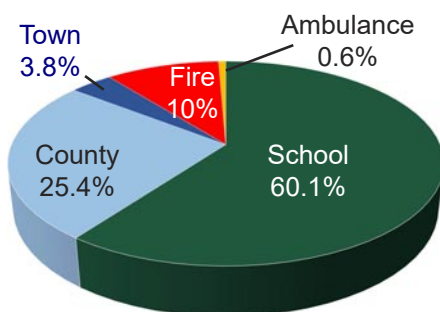


## The Towns Get No New Taxes by Raising Assessments

How much a Town collects in property taxes is set at budget time, not at assessment time. Once the budget is set, then the total assessed value of all taxable properties in Town is used to calculate the Tax Rate. On your bill, that Tax Rate is then multiplied by your assessed value to determine how much tax you owe. As assessed values rise, and the tax levy remains level or decreased each of the past four years and assessed values have risen. The rate has dropped from \$1.401 per thousand down to \$1.185 per thousand. This trend is expected to continue in 2023.

## Assessment Changes Can Affect Your Share of the Taxes

Just because the Town does not get additional taxes does not mean that your taxes won't go up due to reassessment. Assessment does affect the relative size of your share of the tax levy. If your property value is rising at a higher rate than the average in Town then it can mean you will pay a larger portion of the tax levy and others will pay a small amount less, respectively. Unfortunately, in today's real estate market, the smaller, more affordable homes have been going up at a higher percentage rate than have high end homes. This has the effect of shifting some of the tax burden to those in the smaller homes. I have been notifying Albany about this issue through the offices of Assembly Member Harry Bronson, State Senator Patrick Gallivan, and State Senator Jeremy Cooney (who will be Henrietta's new State Senator once the new districting takes place). Whether it was my voice or others, it sounds like they have heard the call as the governor announced signing a series of bills to increase exemptions.



## The Town is a Small Portion of Your Tax Bill

Of course the Town Tax is only a small portion of your tax bill: 3.76% last year. School Tax represents 60.13% of your tax bill, County 25.39%, Fire District 10.07%, and Ambulance 0.64%. Only Riga, thanks to their landfill, has a lower tax rate than Henrietta. The Rush-Henrietta School District has the lowest school tax rate in Monroe County. The Henrietta Fire District is in the top 30% of fire tax rates in Monroe County.

# Town Historian and Historic Site Committee



## THE EARLY DAYS OF HENRIETTA

During the Revolutionary War, George Washington sent the Sullivan - Clinton Expedition to force the Native Americans out of their villages and away from their lands. Following the War, a number of soldiers from that campaign, remembering the fertile fields, returned to the Genesee Valley to settle it.

However, in the early 1800s the Town of Henrietta was a challenging place to live. At the time, it was called "the West Woods of Pittsford" because it was so heavily forested. Trees had to be chopped down in order to clear the land for crops and to build log cabins. Harder still was the removal of the roots of those first growth forest trees, but the settlers needed to establish their farms because they had debts to pay. Making matters worse, in the Genesee River valley, settlers often contracted "Genesee fever," possibly typhoid, malaria, or dysentery.

The following are some of the early pioneers who made important contributions to the development of Henrietta.

**Brothers Asa and Justus Baker**, both Revolutionary War Veterans, purchased property on Telephone Road, Lot 27, Range 5. Asa served as path master in 1798 and 1799. Justus was appointed Commissioner of Common Schools at the first Town Board meeting, April 20, 1818. His son Leander purchased the property at the top of the hill on West Henrietta Road from **Calvin Brainard**, a Methodist preacher, in 1831, giving rise to the name "Methodist Hill" for the hill. Leander built a cobblestone house there, but the Farmers and Mechanic Bank foreclosed on the property and it was sold at auction to **George Perry**. This property is one of Henrietta's locally designated historic sites.



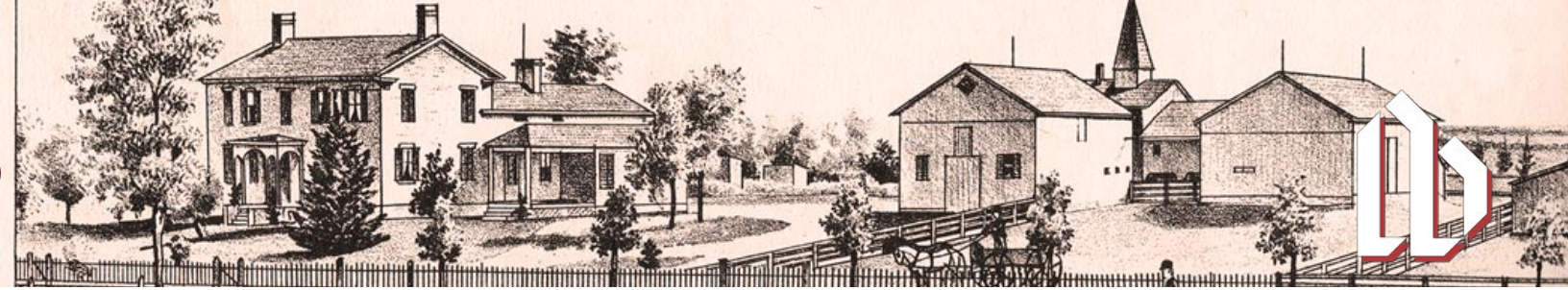
The **Moses Sperry family**, originally from Massachusetts, began moving to Henrietta from Bloomfield in 1809 and settled near Methodist Hill. James and his wife **Fannie Pixley** arrived in 1812. Along with farming, James worked as a surveyor for James Wadsworth of Geneseo. **James Sperry** helped organize the first library, served on the subscription committee for the Monroe Academy, and was town supervisor in 1825. James and Moses were charter members of the Congregational Church. On March 18, 1852 James was selected as Chair of a meeting to form an Anti-Slavery Society at Corinthian Hall, Rochester. At the first town meeting in 1818, **Charles Sperry** was appointed as a Common School Inspector and George Sperry was the Overseer of Highways in District 16. James Sperry's home was located on the southwest corner of West Henrietta and Lehigh Station Roads. It was later moved to Brooks Road.

Speaking of the **Monroe Academy**, it first opened its doors in 1826. It was a boarding and day school located at the corner of East Henrietta and Lehigh Station Roads. **David B. Crane** was the first principal and **Miss Mary Ellen** was preceptress. Students paid a fee to attend and were taught the classics. **Dr. Floyd Winslow** was also a former teacher and headmaster of the Monroe Academy. In 1871, it became the East Henrietta Union School. The school building served schools for 126 years and eventually was destroyed by a fire in 1974.



*Continued on next page*





The family of **Antoinette Brown Blackwell** came to Henrietta from Connecticut following the War of 1812. **Joseph Brown** convinced his wife, his mother and his younger unmarried sister that they should move to Henrietta. His brother had already settled near here. In 1819, Joseph purchased 100 acres of land with a two-room log cabin near the village of Henrietta. The village was located at the four corners of East Henrietta and Lehigh Station Roads. Joseph was appointed



to the subscription committee for the Monroe Academy, and was elected as a Town Justice of the Peace in 1825. In 1831, he built a fieldstone house on Pinnacle Road that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Joseph was the moderator for the annual meeting of School District No. 2. in 1836. His daughter, Antoinette, is recognized as the first ordained woman minister in the United States. As a young girl, she recalls her father “holding court” in their home.



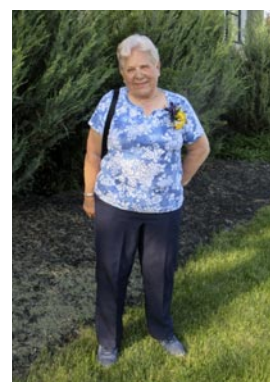
## ABB SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Antoinette Brown Blackwell Society was formed in honor of the Henrietta trailblazer and each year awards scholarships to college bound high school students. The 2022 Scholarship Winners: McQuaid Jesuit High School Senior Patrick Murray who will attend Clarkson University and Rush-Henrietta Senior High School Senior Kayla Dengler who will attend the University of Rochester.



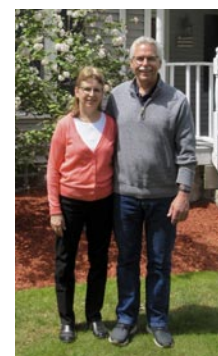
## ABB WOMAN OF THE YEAR

The Antoinette Brown Blackwell Society also presents a Woman of the Year award. The 2022 recipient of the ABB Woman of the Year award is Jody Day. Most members of the Henrietta community probably know Jody through her tireless work in the Town, especially with regards to RHAFT and the Senior Center, or through her work as a Rush-Henrietta Central School District bus driver.



## HISTORIC SITE COMMITTEE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE AWARD

John and Sally Wilcox of 371 Telephone Road have been selected by the Historic Site Committee as the recipient of the 2022 Architectural Heritage Award for their renovation of the former property of Asa Baker, Revolutionary War Veteran (see story on page 16), who owned the property in 1816. Other notable owners included, the Gay Family who farmed 126-acres, and Harold Lane, the Town’s Welfare Officer and Justice of the Peace. We are very grateful to John and Sally for helping to preserve a piece of Henrietta’s history.





# Around the Town

## Members of the Ely Fagan American Legion Receive Honors

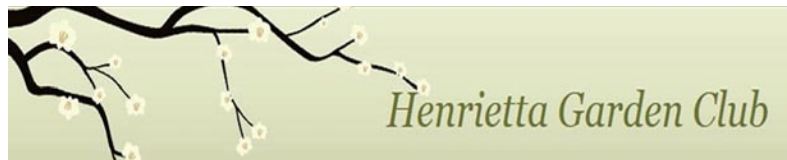
The Rush-Henrietta American Legion post would like to thank the members of our community for their support. Together with the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and Disabled American Veterans (DAV), we have continued to sponsor programs such as American Legion Boys State, Girls State, Scouting, youth sports, scholarships, the Special Olympics, and more. Since our partnership began, the DAV has expanded from two to three service officers and assists 80 – 100 veterans each month to receive medical, education, and other benefits they deserve.



Member, Ray McCormick was honored as County Legionnaire of the Year. Member, John Compitello was inducted into the New York State Veterans Hall of Fame. The Post named Investigator Dave Prull, from Monroe County Sheriff's Office Zone B, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. We are very fortunate and proud to have Dave and other officers in Monroe County serve our community.

We would also like to thank the businesses in the community that allow us to distribute poppies and provide space for our fundraisers and outreach efforts.

We would love to see you at one of our fundraising events, dinners, or out in the community. If you are interested in volunteering or joining our American Legion family, stop by the Legion at 260 Middle Rd in Henrietta, call 585-334-8228 or email us at [elyfaganpost1151@gmail.com](mailto:elyfaganpost1151@gmail.com). You can qualify for membership if you are an active military member, veteran, spouse or child/grandchild of either.



The Henrietta Garden Club meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in January through April and September through November, at 6:30 PM in the lower level of the Henrietta Town Hall, 475 Calkins Road.



The September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature **"Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Hostas"** with Bill Hegeman from the Genesee Valley Hosta Society. Guests are welcome for a free visit. Handicap accessible.

Visit <https://sites.google.com/site/henrietagardenclub/> or call 585-747-6780



**E-CIGARETTES / VAPE DEVICES / E-LIQUIDS ARE HAZARDOUS WASTE  
DO NOT PLACE IN TRASH OR RECYCLING BINS**

**DO NOT REMOVE BATTERIES**  
Place in plastic zip-type bag  
**BRING TO ecopark --**  
**NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY**

**ecopark HOURS OF OPERATION**  
Wednesday..... 1pm - 6:30pm  
Saturday..... 7:30am - 1pm  
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10 Avion Drive, Rochester, NY 14624

- **E-Cigarettes:**  
Disposable, Prefilled or Refillable - No tank or pod  
Cartridge attached to pen containing battery
- **Tanks / Mods:**  
Designed for multiple uses  
Can be filled with different substances and modified to vary voltage
- **Pod Mods:**  
E-cigarette or vaping device with prefilled OR refillable pod,  
OR pod cartridge with modifiable pod system;  
Come in many sizes, shapes, colors  
Compatible prefilled pod cartridges that contain nicotine, THC, or CBD – with or without flavors
- **E-Liquids:**  
Typically a mixture of water, flavoring, choice of nicotine levels or cannabinoids





## Henrietta Chamber of Commerce William J. Welch Scholarships

The 2022 recipients of the Henrietta Chamber of Commerce's William J. Welch Scholarships are:

### Sara Duclos



Sara will graduate from Rush-Henrietta Senior High School in June. She has participated in numerous extra-curricular

activities, including Chamber Orchestra, Spectrum Singers, MLK Singers, and Odyssey of the Mind. She also serves as president of Dedicated Voices and as captain of the softball team.

"Everyone knows of her intellectual acumen, lofty ambitions, kind heart, and sense of humor," says Christopher Daley, a mathematics teacher at the Senior High School. "In my 20 years as a softball coach, Sara ranks as one of the most well-rounded student athletes that I have worked with. Her academic success speaks for itself, but there is another side to her that sets her apart from all others."

Sara has a deep appreciation of – and fascination with – math. That is one reason she plans to study finance at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. Her ultimate professional goal is to become a chief financial officer.

### Bakhawal Khan



Bakhawal will graduate from Rush-Henrietta Senior High School in June. Hailing from Pakistan, he began to learn English by

watching cartoons and studying books. Today, he speaks three languages.

Teachers describe him as friendly, intelligent, hard-working, and resilient. Bakhawal goes home after school each day to care for his younger brother. "Always willing to help, Bakhawal helps Sahib with his school work each day when he gets home from school," says Walter Moore, Senior High School assistant principal. "Bakhawal even emails Sahib's teachers when necessary if there are questions on an assignment. Once Sahib's schoolwork is complete to a high standard, Bakhawal is then able to focus on his own studies. This act of selflessness makes Bakhawal's achievements all the more impressive."

Bakhawal plans to study business at Monroe Community College and finish his degree at SUNY Brockport. He dreams of opening Halal restaurants in the United States and in Pakistan.

### Alexandra Witucki



Alexandra will graduate from Rush-Henrietta Senior High School in June. She balances her academics with the demands of

being a varsity athlete in multiple sports. In addition, she has an impressive work ethic, having been on both sides of the counter at King and I, Highland Diner, and Crumbl eateries.

"Alexandra has excelled academically, demonstrated leadership in our building, and helped improve our community through her service," says Dr. Tim Shafer, Senior High School principal. "She is a member of our Business Honor Society, and she is a member of our Link Crew, which supports the transition of new students to our building."

Alexandra will pursue a degree in sports marketing at Pace University in Pleasantville, NY. In doing so, she will combine an incredible passion for sports with academic strengths. Alexandra is intrigued by the idea of working for a professional sports team to help support merchandise and ticket sales.



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Henrietta, NY 14467

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*35th Annual*  
**Scholarship Golf Tournament**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**Brendan Tydings**  
(585) 424-4600  
btydings@gvrma.com

**Karen Hoad**  
(585) 314-9973  
khoad@reliantcu.com

*Event Sponsors*



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Proceeds to benefit the  
**William J. Welch Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**

**Monday, September 26, 2022**



**Locust Hill Country Club  
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