

Henrietta Happenings



Summer 2023



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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



From the Supervisor... PROGRESS ON THE NEW TOWN COURT

As you can see above, the foundations and steel are in on the new Town Court. The familiar wedge-shaped tower from the old library is now part of the new court building, but instead of it being where all of the HVAC equipment was housed (a horrible design by the way!), the tower is now a means to bring daylight into the entry and lobby of the new building. The below-floor plumbing

and wiring are in, so the next steps will be to install the sub-floor stone, compact it, then pour the concrete floor.

We have started the lengthy federal process to apply our ARPA funds to the project and applied some of the windfall sales and mortgage tax revenues from 2022 to the project as well. It continues to look like we will be able to fund the entire project without having to go to bond, which saves taxpayers money. The expected completion date is next spring.

Unfortunately, the time-lapse camera failed during the demolition of the old library, but I was able to collect a few individual images of the demolition. The time lapse did work for the installation of the steel, which went amazingly fast.



Continued on Page 2

From the Supervisor...



TOWN OPERATION OF THE RIVERTON MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

The Town has always owned the Riverton Municipal Golf Course, but this year, we have begun the process of taking over the operation of the golf course when informed by the previous operator that he was no longer going to do so. The plan was to open in early May but a legal dispute between the operator and the Town scuttled those plans. As those issues remain unresolved, we have not been able to open the golf course, and so the Town is using this opportunity to make some much-needed repairs:

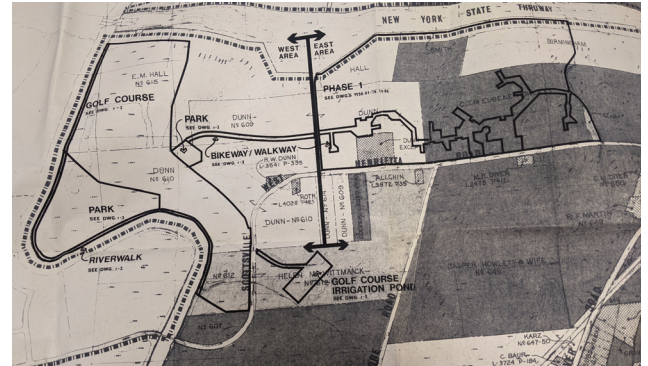
- We rebuilt the irrigation pump house and are in the process of replacing the pumps as they have suffered from years of neglect. We are also replacing numerous damaged sprinkler heads.
- We are repairing over half of the sand traps, installing new drainage where needed, new sub-bases where needed, and replacing sand in all of the traps.
- We are building new cart paths where needed to avoid the mud and ruts throughout the course.
- We are repairing bridges and culverts including replacing a jerry-rigged culvert made up of barrels buried in the ground. This will require digging a huge trench and installing proper culvert pipe.
- We are removing dead or damaged trees as well as junk trees that have grown up in places on the course. Where necessary, we will plant new, quality trees.
- We are repairing the weirs and retaining walls of some of the fairway ponds so they once again hold water to their proper depths.
- We are filling in the holes and ruts in the fairways and restoring the grass on greens, tees, and fairways where it has died out or thinned out.

If you are wondering why we must resolve the legal dispute between the Town and the previous operator it is because even though the golf course itself has always belonged to the Town, the parcel that contains the clubhouse, maintenance barn, driving range, and parking lot has belonged to the previous operators. The Town had put together a sales offer and a rental agreement allowing the Town to use those facilities until the real estate sale closed, but the legal dispute resulted in the Town no longer being allowed to use the facilities. As the legal dispute is in the hands of the lawyers, I have no idea how long it will play out. But hopefully, it will be resolved this fall. If not, the Town has another piece of land adjacent to the golf course that it can use to build a clubhouse and parking lot rather than buying the existing one.



LAND SWAP TO CREATE RIVERWALK TRAIL

The Town has also been going through the incredibly painful process of parkland alienation in order to swap a portion of the access road to the Riverton Golf Course to the developer of the Fairways at Riverton housing development (also known as “Riverton Parcel A”) in order to obtain a 15’-wide path from that same developer so we can carry the future Riverwalk Trail safely past the golf course. The Town is receiving nearly three times as much acreage as we are surrendering. And there will still be a connection from the Riverton Community trails to the golf course as the new development will include sidewalks connecting the two. The parkland alienation process requires that a bill pass in the State Assembly and Senate and then be signed by the Governor. That step has finally been completed. Now the Town is working with the State Parks Department to clear everything with the federal government since the park was originally acquired and built using federal Land and Water Conservation Funds. We must go through the process to avoid having to pay back any of the nearly one-million dollars received, which is the case when a funded park is sold or surrendered by the Town. But since we replaced the surrendered land with new, adjacent land of greater value, we will not have to pay back any of the funds.

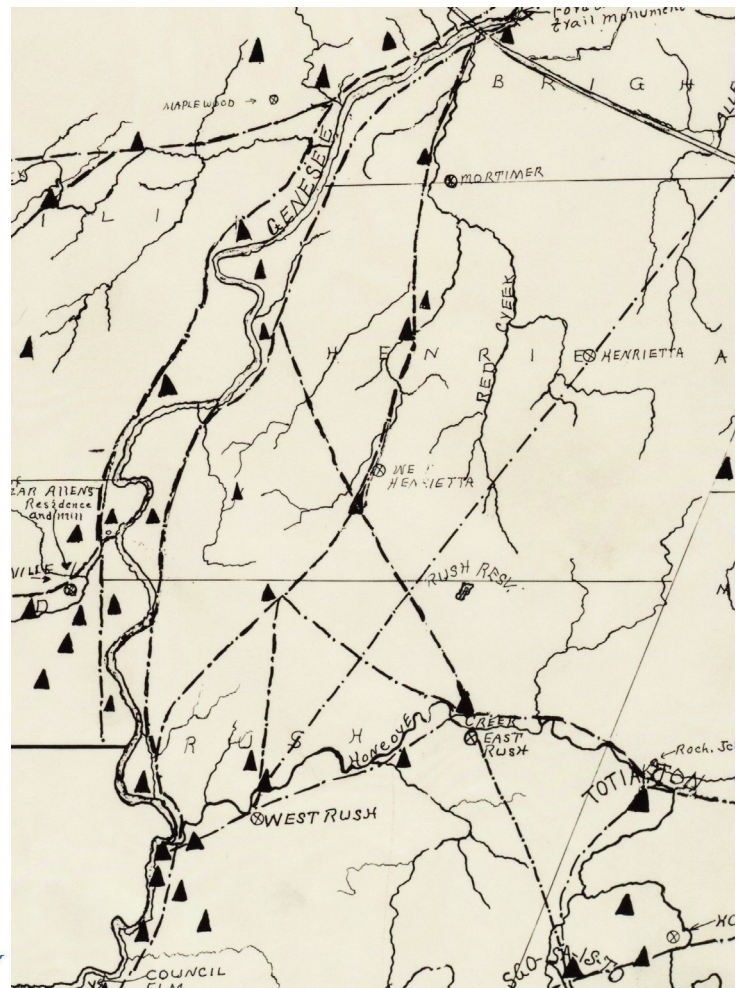


WORKING WITH THE SENECA NATION ON THE RIVERWALK TRAIL

The Town has reached out to the Seneca Nation to help identify some of the history from pre-colonial days. As can be seen in this excerpt from a 1918 map, there were a lot of indigenous trails and camp sites along the river. The plan is to include historic placards that identify the historic trails, show traditional camp life, as well as identify native plants along with their Seneca names and original uses.

The Riverwalk Trail will begin at the Riverwood Tech Campus, where the developers have already constructed that portion of the trail, and be extended south along the river to the underpass where the thruway crosses the river. From there it will swing east across the top of the golf course to the newly acquired trail mentioned above, and continue down to the southern end of the golf course where it will then cross the street. Once there, we will connect it to the portion of the trail already built in Breese Park and then extend that trail south into Rush where the Town of Rush will continue it all the way south to the Lehigh Valley Diamond Branch Trail. The two towns have applied for State Local Waterfront Revitalization Program funding to pay for much of the trail’s construction costs.

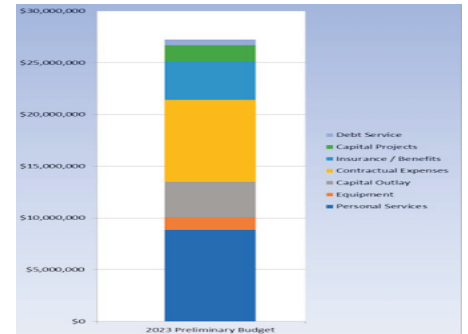
Steve



Some Explanations of the Assessment Process

RAISING ASSESSMENTS DOES NOT BRING IN ADDITIONAL TAX REVENUE

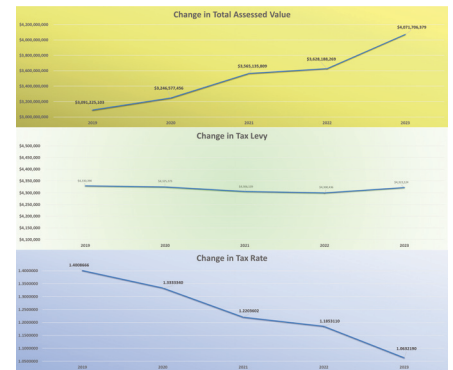
The Town does not get one penny more in taxes by raising an assessment, nor one penny less by lowering one. The amount of money the Town collects in taxes is determined at budget time and that amount, the **Tax Levy**, is completely irrespective of the assessments. What assessments DO decide is how much each property must pay towards that levy. If your assessment goes up by a larger percentage than the average increase, you will pay a larger share. If your assessment goes up by a smaller percentage than the average increase, you will pay a smaller share. But in all, the total collected will be the same.



So if someone tells you the Town is raising assessments to collect more money, they are just plain **wrong**. We raise assessments because that is what New York State Real Property Tax Law calls for.

WHEN ASSESSMENTS GO UP, TAX RATES GO DOWN

For the past five years, the Town has levied the exact same amount in taxes — that is, we have not increased taxes at all. So what has happened when assessments have gone up? The Tax Rate has gone down. In our first budget, the tax rate was \$1.40 per thousand of assessed value. In the latest budget, the tax rate was \$1.06 per thousand. As a point of comparison, the Town of Penfield has the next lowest rate at \$2.10 per thousand or nearly double our rate. The County average is \$4.03 per thousand, which is 3.8X our rate.



REASSESSING AVOIDS EQUALIZATION RATE PENALTIES

We are often asked, "Why reassess at all?" First, it's the law. While we are not required to keep everything at 100% of market value, we are required to keep things at an even level. So as property values change relative to one another, we would still need to reassess properties to keep things fair according to the New York State Real Property Tax Law. But if a town is not assessed at full market value, then the State assigns an Equalization Rate penalty which increases our tax rates so that school and county taxes are shared fairly from town to town. This penalty is also applied to any exemptions a property might receive, such as for Veterans or for Senior Limited Income. Those individuals are thus hit double with a higher rate and a lower exemption.



MARKET GROWTH HAS NEVER BEEN THIS BAD

If it seems like you are being constantly reassessed, it is because you probably are. The real estate market has seen greater and more sustained growth than at any other time in recent history. In just a two-year span the median home price in Henrietta has gone from below \$150,000 to over \$250,000. And it continues to climb. Unfortunately, this is causing a shift in the tax burden because low end houses are rising at a faster rate, percentage-wise, than high end houses. Albany has been slow to react.





ASSESSMENT LAGS BEHIND THE TIMES, LITERALLY

New York State Real Property Tax Law has a couple of important dates.

March 1st of the current year is the taxable status date. Your house is taxed based on its conditions on that date. Any changes after that do not affect assessments until the following year.

July 1st of the previous year is the target sales date. Comparable sales must be as close to that date as possible. This of course means if the market cools down at the end of the year, it won't affect assessments until the following year.



HOW TO FIND TAX INCREASES ON YOUR TAX BILL

Unfortunately, the Town is not the only taxing authority. You will also find the County, School District, Fire District, and Ambulance. Your tax bill shows you what the total levy is and how much it has changed since the previous year, as circled on both Town & County and School bills to the right.

Levy Description	Total Tax Levy	% Chg Prior Year	Value/Usage	Rate	Amount
COUNTY BUDGET			160,700.00	7.629089	1,225.99
SALES TAX CREDIT - HENRIETTA			-160,700.00	1.189542	-191.15
NET AMOUNT DUE FOR BUDGET	26,183.342	-0.2	160,700.00	6.439547	1,034.84
COUNTY SERVICES-LOCALITIES	3,101,225	10.3	160,700.00	1.762717	122.57
HENRIETTA TOWN TAX	4,323,124	0.5	160,700.00	1.063219	170.86
SPECIAL DISTRICTS:					
Henrietta Fire Dist	15,440,662	15.9	160,700.00	3.316787	533.01
Henrietta Ambulance	887,904	4.5	160,700.00	1.91028	30.70
PW & Capital Exp				0.00	1.00
Henrietta Consol Dm				15.176187	30.35

This past year, the Fire District increased their levy by 15.9%. The Ambulance increased by 4.5%. The School District increased by 3%. The County increased by 0.8%. And the Town increased by 0.5%.

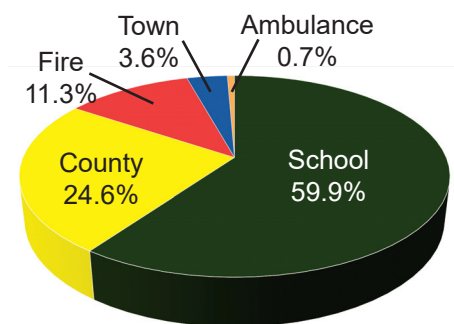
Tax Description	Total Tax Levy	% Chg Prior Year	Taxable Assessed Value	Tax Rate per \$1000	Tax Amount
TOWN OF Henrietta	87,123,380	3.0	160,700.00	17.551023	2,820.45
SCHOOL TAXABLE VALUE					
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE					2,820.45

Why did our levy show an increase when the budget amount was the same? Because after assessments are completed and the tax rate is determined, there are adjustments due to certiorari lawsuits and other actions that can push the levy up or down slightly. In 2021 it was pushed down slightly. In 2022 it was pushed up slightly. The result was a 0.5% change.

DISPELLING RUMORS

Contrary to popular belief, if property values do go down, assessments will be lowered. Again, it does not affect how much revenue the Town receives. It is about being fair and equitable in divvying up the tax levy.

No, you do not pay thousands to the Town in taxes. If your total tax bill was \$4,712 (using a real bill) only \$171 went to the Town. The breakdown can be seen in the chart to the right.



No, the Town has not mismanaged money and thus needs to reassess.

Again, we have managed so well, we have the lowest tax rate in the County and we have not raised taxes at all since the voters approved an increase to build the new Library in the 2017 election.

Yes, my home did have its assessment go down. According to the Assessor, a number of properties fell into this same category where the increase from the previous year was lowered slightly.

No, I did not receive special treatment, as other homes in the same category saw similar adjustments. Also, the other houses I own, all entry level homes, were all reassessed for higher values this year.

No, neither the Town Supervisor nor any member of the Town Board has any input on the assessment process itself. That is governed by Real Property Tax Law. We can only work on customer service.

Why Real Property Tax Law and Assessment

NOTHING CAUSES MORE ANGST AND ANGER

There is nothing the Town does that causes more angst for its residents and more anger toward the Town. And the frustrating part is, if the Town could avoid reassessing without hurting our residents, we would.

Naturally residents, especially a senior on a fixed income or a family working multiple jobs to make ends meet, feel angst over how a reassessment will affect their taxes and whether they can afford any potential increase. And the complexity of the system leads to misunderstanding and anger. And of course, with a subjective system, there will **ALWAYS** be disagreements over market value assessments.



IT IS A HUGE WASTE OF MONEY

Reassessing homes based on market value is an expensive process, especially in a growing town like Henrietta. Between the salaries of the people in the assessment office, the consultants to help determine property values, both residential and commercial, and the legal fees associated with fighting the inevitable lawsuits over assessments, the Town spends roughly half-a-million dollars every year. Whether spent on more services or left in your pocket, that's a lot of money.



WE CAN'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GROWTH IN TOWN

If there were no market value reassessments, then the Town could hold the tax rate flat and all existing taxpayers would pay the same amount year to year. But the Town would generate additional tax revenue from the growth in Town.

For the past few years, that growth has been about 3%. Add that to growth in sales and mortgage taxes and we could stay ahead of inflation without ever having to increase taxes.



THE SYSTEM IS NOT TRANSPARENT

The market value-based assessment is confusing, non-transparent, and allows politicians to hide tax increases behind it. I've heard far too many politicians claim, "We kept taxes flat," when what they really did was hold the tax rate flat. But that means anyone who was reassessed is now paying additional taxes. Not just a larger portion of taxes, but entirely new, additional taxes.



THE SYSTEM IS NOT FAIR

Two very similar houses, each with the same burden on infrastructure, can be taxed differently because one neighborhood happens to be selling at a higher cost than the other. Also, properties reassessed more recently can pay a larger share than those reassessed in prior years, especially in a fast growing market like we are seeing today, even if only by a few percentage points. And finally, this crazy market, with rapidly increasing prices for entry level homes and retirement homes is shifting the tax burden from the high end homes to the low end homes.



It Has to Change



WE NEED TO SWITCH TO AN OBJECTIVE SYSTEM

Switching to an objective formula-based system can overcome all of the issues identified. The input to the formula would be objective measurables about the property, such as acreage, square footage, number of bathrooms and bedrooms, and things like that. As such, if you don't change your property, your assessment stays the same.

$$\sqrt{a^2} = |a| = \begin{cases} a, a \geq 0 \\ -a, a < 0 \end{cases} \quad u_i = R_{i,j} + \sum_{j=1}^{j=2q} L_{i,j} \frac{d_i}{dt} + \omega \sum_{j=1}^{j=2q} i_j \frac{dL_{i,j}}{d\phi}$$

$$(a-b)(a^2+ab+b^2) = a^3 - b^3 \quad \int x^\alpha \cdot dx = \frac{x^{\alpha+1}}{\alpha+1} + c \quad \int \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - y_i)^2}$$

$$\sin \alpha = 2 \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \cos \frac{\alpha}{2} \quad \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - y_i)^2} \quad (x^n)' = nx^{n-1} \quad \frac{\sqrt{a}}{\sqrt{b}} = \frac{\sqrt{a}}{\sqrt{b}} \quad \sin \alpha = 2 \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \cos \frac{\alpha}{2}$$

$$M = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{i=2q} \sum_{j=1}^{j=2q} \frac{dL_{i,j}}{d\phi} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - y_i)^2 \quad \frac{\pi}{2} - \text{ArcSin}(x) \quad u_i = R_{i,j} + \sum_{j=1}^{j=2q} L_{i,j} \frac{d_i}{dt} + \omega \sum_{j=1}^{j=2q} i_j \frac{dL_{i,j}}{d\phi}$$

$$y = x + 2 \quad \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \sin \alpha = 2 \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \cos \frac{\alpha}{2} \quad \text{ctg} \alpha + \text{ctg} \beta = \frac{\sin(\alpha + \beta)}{\sin \alpha \sin \beta} \quad x_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{D}}{2a}$$

There would be different formulas for the different types of properties like residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, and open space. The formulas could take into account lake frontage, river frontage, reductions for historic homes, and other such parameters. At the end of it all, when the parameters of your property are put into the formula, it spits out an assessment value. This isn't dollars, but points. But from that point on, the system works the same. You add up all the points in Town to get a Total Assessed Value. The Tax Levy is then divided by the Total Assessed Value to get the Tax Rate. Then your portion of the Tax Levy is the Tax Rate times your Assessed Value.

But now there is no arguing. Or if there is, it is easily resolved by taking measurements. Is your house 1,820 square feet? Is your yard 0.40-acres? These are all straightforward, easily resolved questions. As opposed to, "How much is your house worth?" Which of course does not have a single answer. Ask ten different people and you'll get ten different answers.

HOW THIS SAVES HUGE AMOUNTS OF TAX DOLLARS

In addition to being able to eliminate all of the cost of assessment, saving the Town over half-a-million dollars a year, there are other savings as well. Today, the State has a large department called the Office of Real Property Tax Services, including multiple regional offices. They review the assessments of all 1,000+ towns, cities, and villages in the State to calculate equalization rates to balance the tax rates for taxes that cross municipal boundaries, like school taxes and county taxes. But if everyone is using the same formula, by definition, they are all equalized. These offices can go away, saving hundreds of millions of dollars of State funding.



In addition, each County has an Office of Real Property Services, or some similar name, to do the same within the county. That department can largely disappear as well. All that is needed is one county database of the parameters for the formulas and the IT people to maintain that database and hit "run" to generate the reports. Again, hundred-of-millions of tax dollars would be saved across the State.

SO HOW CAN WE CHANGE IT? GET ALBANY TO ACT

Assessments are governed by Real Property Tax Law so to change it, we will need the Assembly, Senate, and Governor to all agree to change it. That won't be easy, but if there is one thing that unites people of all parties, it is their dislike of the current assessment system. Let our elected State officials know we are tired of this system.



Governor Kathy Hochul

NYS Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

www.governor.ny.gov/contact

Senator Jeremy Cooney

280 East Broad St, Suite 110
Rochester, NY 14604

cooney@nySenate.gov

Assembly Member Harry Bronson

840 University Avenue
Rochester, NY 14602

bronsonh@nyassembly.gov



Parks and Recreation



Henrietta Summer Concert Series



Friday Evenings 6:30pm-8:30pm at the Henry Hansen Amphitheater

July 14

Midnight Storm, Classic Rock

July 21

Uptown Groove, Rock, Funk and Soul

July 28

Songbird, Fleetwood Mac Tribute Band

August 4

Atlas Band, Rochester Party Band

August 11

Lyn' Eyes, Eagles Tribute Band

August 18

8 Days a Week, Beatles Tribute Band

Sponsored By:



**Canandaigua
National
Bank & Trust**



Market at the Park

Fridays, July 14 – August 18; 4–8 pm



Browse the vendor booths lining Cabin Road for unique homemade goodies and handmade treasures. Many popular vendors from last year will be returning for 2023. Then stay for the summer concert!



MOVIE IN THE PARK – Friday, August 25

End the summer with a night under the stars at Veteran's Memorial Park. Activities and children's activities begin at 7:00 PM and the feature film, **The Super Mario Bros. Movie**, begins promptly at dusk.





Tinker Nature Park

Park Open 7am - Sundown

Nature Center Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 9am - 4pm

Closed Sunday, Monday and Holidays

Tinker Homestead by Appointment:

Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 2pm

585-359-7044 — naturecenter@henrietta.org

<https://www.henrietta.org/community/page/tinker-nature-park>

<https://www.facebook.com/TinkerNatureParkHenrietta>

Instagram: @TinkerNaturePark

Dogs are not permitted in Tinker Nature Park

Special Events

Tinker Homestead Community Art Show

Sat., June 17th - 24th, 11am-3pm

The Tinker Homestead & Farm museum will be open to view art submitted for exhibition by local artists from Henrietta and the surrounding areas.



Ice Cream Social

Saturday, July 15th, 11am-2pm

Music, Ice Cream by Abbots, and Tinker Homestead open house.

Wild Tinker

Saturday, August 5th, 11am-2pm

Wildlife Education Day with multiple presenters. Music and food vendors also available!



Harvest Festival

Sat., September 23rd, 11am-2pm

Honey Harvesting, Cider Pressing, Music and Tinker Homestead open house.




Learn about housing options for senior living

Town of Henrietta Senior Housing Fair

Friday, September 22nd 9 am - 12 noon

Henrietta Senior Center

Representatives from both current and future senior housing complexes will be on hand to answer questions about their offerings.

Free Continental Breakfast!

GIVE BLOOD SAVE LIFE

American Red Cross

Scott's Donor Drive

Saturday, August 19th, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org



KIDS FISHING DERBY

SPONSORED BY ELY FAGAN-AMERICAN LEGION POST 1151

Saturday, August 5th, 8:00 am – 10:30 am

Martin Road Park at the Buyck Pavilion, 1344 Martin Road

Bring the kids, **ages 4 – 14 years**, and enjoy the sport of fishing! Awards and free lunch provided, but please bring your own pole and bait. Participants must register by **July 29th**

Register online at henriettaec.org



Monroe Community Power



**Town of Henrietta
CCA Program
Public Info Session**

**Electricity Supply Program
6:30 PM**

Town of Henrietta Launching Electricity Supply Program - Info Session

Join our in-person info session on **Wednesday, August 2nd at 6:30 PM** at the Henrietta Public Library, or our virtual info session on **Monday, July 24th at 6:00 PM**, to learn more about your options! The link for the virtual meeting will be posted on the Town Website (go to www.henrietta.org/green) as we get closer to the date. We will also host informational sessions at the Henrietta Senior Center this summer, including having representatives to assist any seniors with the process.

Our Monroe Community Power electricity supply program is launching in September 2023 for our eligible RG&E residents and small businesses. This program will provide access to renewable (50% and 100% NYS) electricity and standard electricity supply at competitive, fixed rates, with no individual contracts for consumers and no exit fees.

Eligible residents and small businesses can expect to receive information in the mail in July 2023 explaining their options, how to participate, or how to opt-out.

For more information about the program, you can also check www.monroecommunitypower.com or call (585) 244-0244. You can also email the program at info@monroecommunitypower.com

What Energy Supply Choices will I have?

There are three options:

- **Conventional** — This is the standard electricity supply you are likely getting if you did not make a specific choice for energy supply. Typically, there is a lot of fossil fuels generating the electricity. But it is also the lowest cost. The conventional supply negotiated is as low as the previous twelve-month average, which means a significant savings going forward.
- **Renewable** — This is a 100% renewable option that means no fossil fuels are used in the production of your electrical energy. Of course, it is also the highest cost.
- **Blended** — This is a 50% renewable option that means a significant reduction in fossil fuels used in the production of your electrical energy, but also provides a more cost competitive price. While it will start out a slight bit higher, as energy prices rise, this option is expected to save money over the life of the contract. This is the default option.



Additional Answers about CCA

What is an Energy Supply Company?

Just as the name suggests, an Energy Supply Company, or ESCO, supplies energy to the electrical grid. They can either own their own power generation plant or they can purchase energy from a power generation plant. Electric energy can come from renewable sources like solar, wind, and hydro-electric, or they can come from non-renewable sources like gas, coal, or nuclear.

These are separate from the Electrical Delivery Companies, or “Electric Utility Company,” that bring the power from the grid into your home. Henrietta is served by two Electrical Delivery Companies: the vast majority of homes are served by RG&E. A few homes in the very southern part of Town are served by National Grid.

You can choose any Energy Supply Company, or ESCO, you wish to use. Or you can go with the default provider. You have no choice over who your Electrical Delivery Company is. That is determined by whose region you are in.

What is Community Choice Aggregation or CCA?

Most people, around 70%, have never made a selection of an Energy Supply Company. As such, they pay whatever rate their utility company selects. What Community Choice Aggregation does is allow an entity, in this case Monroe Community Power, to negotiate on behalf of the Town to become the new default option for those who have not made a selection. This represents tremendous buying power and can improve on the offers made by Energy Supply Companies.

Which is Better? Fixed Rate versus Variable Rate?

That is an opinion, not a fact. Each have their benefits. Variable rate pricing tends to be lower when there is less energy demand and higher when there is more energy demand. Fixed rate pricing is constant throughout, meaning you will generally pay a bit less rate-wise during high demand times and a bit more rate-wise during low demand times. Fixed rate also has the benefit of being able to be held for a period of time. As the general trend of energy prices has been up, this means that a longer contract can generate significant savings over the life of the contract.

Am I automatically enrolled in Community Choice Aggregation?

If you have never made a decision on an Energy Supply Company, then yes, you will automatically be enrolled in Community Choice Aggregation, although you will have the opportunity to opt out prior to it taking effect and can opt at any time even after it takes effect.

Similarly, if you have previously made a selection of a specific Energy Supply Company, you will have the option to opt into Community Choice Aggregation, either before it takes effect or at any time after it takes effect.

Can I switch out if I don't like it?

Yes. In either situation, you can try it, and if you don't like it, switch. Or conversely, if you decide to wait and see and talk to your friends or neighbors and learn they are saving money, you can switch in the future. You can also start with the Conventional, to save money, and switch to Renewable or Blended later on to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Or vice-versa. There is no limit to how often you can switch in or out, other than you can only switch once per month.



ABB Society's and Historic Site Committee's Annual Awards



ANTIONETTE BROWN BLACKWELL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL AWARD AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The 2023 recipient of the Antoinette Brown Blackwell Society's Henrietta **Woman of the Year** award is **Amy Ahlquist**. This award is given in memory of the first ordained woman minister in the United States, Antoinette Brown Blackwell, who was born in 1825 and was raised in Henrietta, NY.

Amy was recognized for her tireless commitment to the community. She is a member of the Calvary Assembly congregation, is part of the Executive Leadership Team that mobilizes volunteers for Flower City Work Camp Ministries, and has helped organize over 1,500 adults and teens to repair over 100 homes in our community. She is a youth advisor and an administrator for Next Steps Ministry. Amy has been a role model for women in service to the community.



Amy Ahlquist, 2nd from right, with Town Board members Joe Bellanca, Rick Page, Millie Sefranek, and Lisa Bolzner

The 2023 recipients of the ABB Society's **scholarship Awards** are **Chelsea Maynard** and **Sejad Al-Rubayie**.



Chelsea is a member of the National Honor Society with a 94.09 weighted average even with her rigorous academic standard. She is a long-time competitive swimmer who also lifeguards and teaches swimming. She is a performer in the RH Singers and Spectrum Singers and is a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Chelsea volunteers with Natural Helpers, Link Crew, her church, and the Good Shepherd food pantry. Chelsea is also a winner of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. "Love Overcomes" Scholarship and a 2023 Henrietta Youth Hall of Fame inductee.

Sejad, whose family immigrated to the United States when he was a young child, is a member of the National Honor Society with an overall average of 98.67. He is a member of the URM Step Program, Link Crew, Women's Empowerment Club, Tutoring Club, and varsity football team. Sejad has been recognized with an RH Student Athlete Award, Digital Citizenship Award, UR's George Eastman Young Leaders Award, French LOTE Award, twice placed first in the Research Symposium in the URM Step Program, and is a 2023 Henrietta Youth Hall of Fame inductee.



HISTORIC SITE COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE AWARD

The Historic Site Committee awarded its 2023 Architectural Heritage Award to Brigid and Michael Andrè of 5517 East River Road.

Built around 1914, this two-story bungalow, called "the Detroit," was ordered from Aladdin Read-Cut Houses, part of the North American Construction Company of Bay City, Michigan.

The idea behind readi-cut or "kit" houses was to save lumber, time and money.

Based on the principle that modern power-driven machines can be programmed to cut timber more efficiently and at a lower cost than hand labor, the lumber was cut by machines, marked and numbered, and sent with complete instructions and illustrations. Windows with glass, brass locks and hinges for all the doors, nails of all sizes, paint for two coats inside and outside, oils, stains, varnishes, plaster board or lath and plaster for lining the entire house were also included.



This is the only "kit" house we are aware of in Henrietta. It represents an important change in how homes could be built. We are grateful that Brigid and Michael Andrè are caring for this property.

Ely Fagan Legion Post 1151



We are pleased to announce the recipients of our scholarships for this school year. These scholarships are awarded each year by our Post, Auxiliary, and partner VFW. The recipients are; DeClan Ells, Jack Burley, and Hailey Hayes. DeClan is a member of our Sons and Hailey is an 18-year member of our Auxiliary. Hailey's post-high school plans include studying Art Studio with a focus on earning a BFA in Art Education. We are proud to support the youth of our community!

We are also pleased to announce our member Ray Torres has been selected as the Monroe County Legionnaire of the Year. Ray, and his wife Ann, have done a tremendous amount of work at our post supporting veterans and our programs as well as helping residents who need assistance shopping, getting to doctors, and other appointments. Ray and Ann will be leading our Memorial Day Parade as Grand Marshalls.



Our longtime Auxiliary member, Kacy Friedler, will be installed as the new Monroe County Auxiliary President in June. Kacy has done tremendous work supporting our community and will now be helping other units do the same.

Congratulations to Zone B Deputy Sheriff Christopher Beh. Deputy Beh was selected as our Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. He was nominated by his peers in recognition of his hard work, commitment, and many years of service to our community. We are fortunate to have officers with professionalism and dedication such as Deputy Beh.

The Legion distributed red poppies in May to be worn as a symbol of sacrifice since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms. May is also the month we placed flags on the graves of local veterans to remember and honor their service. Our members put in many hours to ensure each veteran's grave is recognized.

The Monroe County Honor Guard also meets at our post. This dedicated group of individuals volunteers countless hours and thousands of miles each month to perform funeral honors. The honors include a prayer, rifle volley, playing of taps, folding, and presenting a flag to the family, and placing a poppy with the casket or urn. In reading the heartfelt thank you cards from families, it's apparent these services are truly appreciated.

Our Friday Fish Frys have wrapped up for the spring, but will resume in the fall. Our popular Tuesday night dinner and monthly Sunday breakfast buffets continue. Please keep an eye out for our events in the Penny Saver, our webpage (alpost1151.org), our sign out front, or give us a call to find out what's happening (585-334-8228).

We appreciate the support of our town leaders and all in the community who support our veterans' organizations that work out of our post.

- The American Legion, The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and Blue Star Mothers.

FISH / RHAFT, Inc.

Serving Residents in the Rush-Henrietta School District

Volunteers always needed! (585) 453-2370

RHAFT- Rush Henrietta Area Food Terminal
Food donations for those in need.

FISH- Friends In Service Here
Transportation to medical appointments by volunteers.

<https://fishrhaftinc.org/>

Community News



HENRIETTA/ROCHESTER ELKS LODGE #0024

There's a lot going on at the Elks this summer to benefit our community!

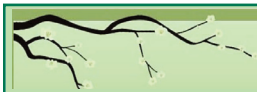
The Elks pledge, "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them". On Sunday, June 11, we're hosting a chicken barbeque to raise funds for the maintenance and restoration of the North Rush Cemetery, where veterans of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War are buried. A group of local residents maintains the cemetery through private donations.

On Sunday, July 30, we're hosting our 8th annual Elks Against Cancer fundraiser to benefit Cancer Support Community Rochester (formerly Gilda's Club). The event includes a chicken barbeque for \$15, hamburger/hot dog dinner for \$8, music, raffles, a "bag" auction, and Alex's Lemonade Stand. Thanks to the generosity of our community, we have donated more than \$40,000 to Cancer Community Support Rochester over the years. There is no entry fee for the event.

MusicFest 2023 to benefit Honor Flight Rochester will take place on Saturday, July 19. Tickets are \$15 (kids 10 and under free) and include live music, food, and soft drinks. Honor Flight Rochester transports American veterans to Washington, DC to visit and reflect together at their memorials. Due entirely to generous private donations and fundraisers, our honored heroes travel absolutely free.

When you join the Elks, you'll also find all kinds of social activities you can join in and make friends for life. If you're interested in becoming a member, or to learn more, stop by the Lodge and pick up a brochure and application, or visit <https://www.elks.org>

A Nationwide Force for Good



Henrietta Garden Club

Dwarf Fruit Trees

Wednesday, September 13th, 6:30 pm

Henrietta Town Hall

Lower Level, 475 Calkins Rd

"Dwarf Fruit Trees: Having Your Own Backyard Orchard" with Jay Cappon, addressing care and maintenance of dwarf trees.

For more info, call 585-781-0278 or visit:

<https://sites.google.com/site/henrietagardenclub/>

Monthly Meetings

Second Wednesdays, Jan-Apr and Sep-Nov

Starting at 6:30 pm

Henrietta Town Hall

Lower Level, 475 Calkins Rd

Topics vary. Guests are welcome for a free visit. Handicap accessible.

HENRIETTA FOUNDATION

Work is in progress, thanks to the Town DPW, on the Trailhead of the Lehigh Valley Trail at East Henrietta Road. Parking has been greatly expanded to meet the increased usage of the trail.

The Driving range at Lookup Park is now in full "swing" thanks to the nice spring weather. The Town DPW is scheduling maintenance of the nets and poles as well as drainage improvements.

The Henrietta Foundation is actively seeking volunteers to assist with the trail and driving range.

If you are interested please call (585) 260-1772.





Fairy Godmothers of Rochester — 2023 Wrap Up

Fairy Godmothers of Rochester has wrapped up our 2023 prom season. We were successful in dressing more than 550 girls from 81 schools. We also dressed girls with special needs from several organizations within the Rochester area.

Over 100 volunteers came out to help us. They brought warmth and love to the work of helping the girls get the dress of their dreams. It's that individual attention and connection from a Fairy Godmother that makes what we do so special.

The Rochester Community also stepped up in a big way with donations of gowns, media signage, makeup, gift cards as well as monetary contributions.

It was joyous, meaningful, hard work. Many happy tears were shed from grateful girls. We saw girls supporting one another with compliments and bonding with their personal shoppers. We heard stories of hardships and big dreams! We loved it all.

We could not have done any of it without the support of you, our community!

Visit www.fairygodmothersrochester.org for more information.



URMC ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY CENTER RIBBON CUTTING

County Executive Adam Bello, URMC doctors and administrators, Marketplace Mall administrators, and I took part in the official ribbon cutting of the new URMC Surgery Center. Work is still ongoing in the rehab center and clinic tower, seen below on the right, with both expected to open up this fall.



Play Ball!

RHAA is looking for players, coaches, and umpires for youth softball and baseball

Visit www.rhaa.net for more info



Communities that Care

Join together to help save lives.



Help prevent a blood shortage! Donate today.
 For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
 Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)



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JULY 4

CELEBRATION

at Veteran's Memorial Park

Craft Show & Garage Sale
Tuesday, July 4th
9:00 am — 2:00 pm
at the
Henrietta Senior Center



Live Music

Sponsored
By:  Canandaigua
National
Bank & Trust

5:00-7:00pm **Uptown Groove**
7:45-9:45pm **Brass Taxi**

Delicious Food!

Children's Activities
beginning at 4:00 pm

Children's Stage Featuring
Rich the Magic Man
Henrietta Community Chorus
Happy Pirates
DJ Dance Party

