

THE TOWN OF

Halfmoon Navigator

August 2015



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

West Crescent Fire Department
Calendar of Events
Saratoga County
Sheriff's Department



WELCOME
TO HISTORIC
HALFMOON

1664

GATEWAY TO SARATOGA COUNTY

ALSO

Meet Fedora Michaels
Historical Society
and much more...

Message from the Town Supervisor:

Summer is finally here and the Town of Halfmoon has been busy as we kicked off our Summer Recreation Program with 594 youth. We are excited to welcome back your children to the summer program, and be able to provide them with many fun activities.

Halfmoon continues to offer the "best of everything". Town historical sites, walking and recreational trails, and beautiful Town Parks are open for our residents to enjoy nature and the warm weather. The Town Parks and Recreation Departments continue to make many exciting improvements throughout the Town. Please visit the Halfmoon Town Park on Route 236 and check out the playground with our new Toddler Train and picnic tables.

No matter what time of year it is, there are many ways to help those in need. Currently, the Mechanicville Area Community Services Center is providing lunches and snacks to children in our area who normally receive lunches through their school. There is a box in the Town Hall lobby to drop of pre-packaged snacks. CAPTAIN will again distribute backpacks to children in need to start the school year. School supplies can be dropped off at their office at 5 Municipal Plaza in Clifton Park through August. Our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive is also gearing up. Donations will be accepted for this project beginning September 28th. Every year Halfmoon residents show their generosity to these programs; I am proud for all that this community does to help.

Please continue to use this newsletter as it is full of information for you to plan and participate in the many activities that are happening in the Town of Halfmoon. From the concerts and movies in the Town Park, to the Fireworks on August 13th, to the Fall Festival on September 19th, come out and enjoy these great activities sponsored by the Halfmoon Celebrations Association.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to all of the businesses and companies who purchased advertisements in this newsletter. I encourage you to patronize all of our Halfmoon businesses and thank them for their continued contribution to our Town.

*For more information about the Town of Halfmoon, I would welcome you to visit our website at www.townofhalfmoon-ny.gov, or "like" us on the **Town of Halfmoon Facebook page**. If I or a member of our Team can be of service to you, please feel free to contact me at any time at 518-371-7410 X 2200. Thank you and with best wishes.*

Kevin J. Tollisen
Halfmoon Town Supervisor



Kevin J. Tollisen
Halfmoon Town Supervisor

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Town Of Halfmoon Refinances Bonds Resulting In Significant Savings To The Town

From: Supervisor Kevin J. Tollisen



The Town Board and I continue to work to improve the efficiency of Town government. While the costs to operate Town government continue to rise, we have made every effort to reduce spending wherever possible. In last month's issue, we highlighted the Town of Halfmoon's effort to install solar panels at the Halfmoon Water Treatment Facility, that once operational, will result in utility savings to the Town of Halfmoon of approximately \$170,000 the first year alone and over \$4,200,000 over a twenty year period.

Over the past year, we have also reviewed the Town's bond projects in an effort to save additional monies in the Town budget. In June of 2014, the Town refunded three of its existing municipal bonds and the Halfmoon portion of the 2005 bonds for the construction of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library. The refunding of the municipal bonds resulted in actual budgetary savings of \$425,863 over the remaining term of the loan. Additionally, the savings for the Halfmoon portion of the library debt was \$276,334. All combined, last year's refunding resulted in a total savings of \$702,197 to the Town of Halfmoon.

In March of this year, the Town was also able to refund its 2004 water bonds and 2008 public improvement bonds. This refunding also resulted in significant budgetary savings to the Town of Halfmoon in the sum of \$933,868 over the remaining term of the loans. These two refunding projects combined have resulted in "real savings to Halfmoon" in the total sum of \$1,636,065.

The Town Board and I will continue to work to provide the very best services to the residents of Halfmoon.



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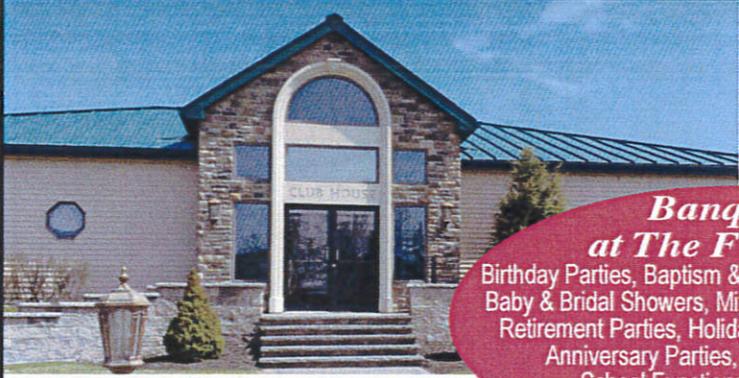
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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE – HISTORICAL RECORDS INVENTORY

The Town Clerk's Office stores the Town's most important and historical records in the vault. It is very exciting to peruse through these records that date back to the first Town Board Minutes in 1786. In each publication of the Navigator we will highlight a different series of our records. The Town Clerk's Office recently inventoried these historical records. When we started the inventory, we went through many boxes of records that were uniformly folded, with dust adhered to the document, and with hundreds of pins and other devices holding them together and in most cases for over a century. Some of the job titles described in the records no longer exist such as the "Fence Viewer". The "Fence Viewer's" duties were to appraise and certify the value of sheep killed or injured by dogs in the town so the resident could be compensated for their loss. Other jobs were the "Pound Masters"

Board of Excise Records: This group is now what we know as the Liquor Authority. Prior to 1896, local governments in New York State had the power to license places that sold alcohol and charge a license fee. The license would be to keep an inn, tavern or hotel and to sell "liquors, wines, ale and beer..." and to ensure that it not be "disorderly, or suffer any gambling...with the inn..." In 1788 there were 40 taverns in the Town of Halfmoon that paid a license fee of 2 Pounds.

now "Animal Control" and the "Path Masters" who are today's "Highway Department". Many of the early roads were originally "Indian Trails" which were very narrow paths and were only travelled by foot or horseback. These are very interesting glimpses into our history! If you would like to check out the full inventory of records, please go to the Town Clerk's page on the website, click on Records on the left column and at the bottom of the list, click on Historical Records Inventory. Each issue of the Halfmoon Navigator will feature some interesting glimpses from our past. Enjoy!

Lynda Bryan
Town Clerk



Election Records: Town records that date back to 1847 included the Poll Lists of residents who were allowed to vote, the Canvass of Votes, and Civil War Proxies for the soldiers who were serving and would not be able to cast their votes. Records also show there was a Special Town Election held in December 1864 for the purpose of raising money... to fill quota of the late call of the President for 300,000 men. There was also a resolution of the Town Board that a War Committee had been appointed to negotiate loans for raising money on the credit of the town to pay volunteers or to pay bounty for substitutes dated December 1864. Some of the Town's Election Records in the vault date back to 1847.



The Town of Halfmoon Code Enforcement office is made up of 3 Code Officers and 1 Secretary. Our office is combined with the Planning Department since our daily work goes hand in hand. We enforce all 9 of the New York State Codes (Building Code, Residential Code, Fire Code, Property Maintenance Code, Plumbing Code, Energy Code, Fuel Gas Code, Mechanical Code and Existing Building Code) as well as the Town of Halfmoon Local and Zoning Laws. The Town Code Officers are also able to write parking tickets for Fire Lane, Handicap, and Parking on town roads during winter weather violations.

If you are looking to construct a home, shed or other structure at your property, please contact the Code Officer for specific instructions. The office number is 371-7410 ext. 2260, office hours are 8am-4pm Monday through Friday.

The 5th Annual Kayaking 4 Meso

The 5th annual Kayaking 4 Meso is again being co-hosted by the Town of Halfmoon. This year's event is set for Saturday, September 12th, 2015.



This is an 8 mile paddle down the Hudson River, launching from Admiral's Marina in Stillwater to the beautiful Halfmoon Lighthouse Park in the Town of Halfmoon. Participants paddle a total of 8 miles, passing through 3 locks on the historic Champlain Canal. With usually close to 100 kayakers on the water, it's quite a spectacular sight to see.



This event was founded by Mark Wells of Mechanicville in 2011, inspired by his daughter Linda who was diagnosed with asbestos caused Mesothelioma when she was only 16. Surviving this deadly cancer has been an ongoing battle for Linda. Her dad created this event to raise awareness and donations to help fight this rare cancer thru research, and also to give those fighting Mesothelioma, hope and encouragement in their battle against this incurable cancer. At our 2014 event we were honored with the presence of 6 Meso survivors, 3 of whom paddled in our event.

This year's paddle is dedicated in memory of Dan DeRusso from Clifton Park, who sadly passed away this past January. The 2015 paddle is hoping to attract over 200 participants. Registration by August 21st guarantees you a t-shirt to wear on the day of the event. All the information you need on the event can be found at the website: www.Kayaking4Meso.org. All proceeds go to the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation for Meso research. Festivities with food and refreshments are available at the Halfmoon Lighthouse Park from 1-4pm. This is a fun event for all and quite the adventure for those going through the canal system for the first time, so let's grab those kayaks and meet us on the river!!

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A SEARCH & RESCUE SERVICE TO PROTECT THOSE WITH COGNITIVE CONDITIONS WHO WANDER

Sheriff Michael Zurlo has announced that The Saratoga County Sheriff's Office have brought the Project Lifesaver program to Saratoga County. Designed to track and rescue those with cognitive conditions who tend to wander, this service answers a critical need for protecting people at risk of wandering, including those with Alzheimer's, Autism, Down Syndrome and Dementia.



In this photo: Deputy Anthony P. Timpanaro & Deputy Andrew Gravelle, Saratoga County Sheriff's Office/Project Lifesaver Search and Rescue Team Members

Project Lifesaver International, the leading organization in electronic search and rescue (SAR) programs, has conducted mandatory training and provide certification, ongoing management and support to the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office. Their training included teaching public safety officials how to use the equipment and how to gain the trust of and communicate with people who wander, as well as to ensure that caregivers are well versed in the program – all of which are essential to a successful rescue.

Clients enrolled in the service will wear a wrist-watch sized radio transmitter on their wrist or ankle. The transmitter constantly emits a Radio Frequency signal, which can be tracked regardless of where the person has wandered—even into a densely wooded area, a marsh, a concrete structure such as a garage, or a building constructed with steel. When a loved one goes missing, caregivers notify locally trained agencies and they are dispatched to the wanderer's area and the average rescue time remains around 30 minutes.

Working hand in hand with trained law enforcement and other public safety agencies, Project Lifesaver saves time, money, resources, but most of all, SAVES LIVES. Project Lifesaver agencies have had 3,000 successful rescues since the program's inception in 1999, and the average rescue time is approximately 30 minutes.

Currently, over 1,400 agencies – police, sheriff, fire, public safety departments and other emergency responders – in 48 states, D.C., six provinces in Canada and Australia participate. The method relies on proven Radio Frequency technology and specially trained search and rescue teams.

Project Lifesaver develops public outreach programs to educate others about the issue of wandering, and they constantly work toward developing public policy and effective law enforcement response to help save lives and "bring loved ones home." This service is now available.

Families and caregivers can enroll their loved ones by contacting The Saratoga County Sheriff's Office at 518-885-6761.

Halfmoon Planning Board: What do they do?

The Halfmoon Planning Board helps balance the ability of an applicant to develop their land with the need to protect the quality of life of neighbors and promote the interests of the entire Town of Halfmoon. To achieve this objective, the Planning Board reviews certain types of residential and non-residential projects for compliance with the Halfmoon Town Code and County and State laws. Specifically, the types of projects reviewed by the Planning Board include:

Subdivisions of Land (Residential and Non-Residential)

Lot Line Adjustments

Duplex (two family) Homes

Commercial, Light Industrial, Industrial, and Manufacturing Site Plans

Planned Development Districts (PDDs)

Signs

Change of Use and Change of Tenant (Non-Residential)

In-Home Occupations

Special Uses, as listed in the Town Code for each Zoning District

The Planning Board meets two times per month, usually the second and fourth Monday at 7:00 PM, with meetings held in the James A. Bold Meeting Room in Town Hall. For more information regarding the Halfmoon Planning Board, please visit <http://www.townofhalfmoon-ny.gov/planning-board>.

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REMINDER - DOG ENUMERATION IN EFFECT

Attention all Dog Owners!

The Town of Halfmoon continues with its dog enumeration.

What does this mean to dog owners? A Town-wide dog census is being conducted in order for Town residents to be in compliance with New York State's dog licensing requirements. All dogs 4 months of age and older living with a resident for more than 30 days must have a current license. Licenses are issued through the Town Clerk's office. The cost for licenses is \$10.00/year for a spayed/neutered dog and \$16.00/year for an intact dog. There is an additional surcharge of \$5.00 per dog for first time licenses during an enumeration.

If your dog(s) is unlicensed, please bring a current rabies vaccination certificate, proof of spay/neuter (if applicable) and payment to the Town Clerk's Office (**Monday - Friday 8AM - 4PM; Wednesday until 7pm**). If you voluntarily license your dog(s) between May 1st and September 1st, 2015, the enumeration surcharge of \$5.00 per dog will be waived by the Town.



You must also provide the following information:

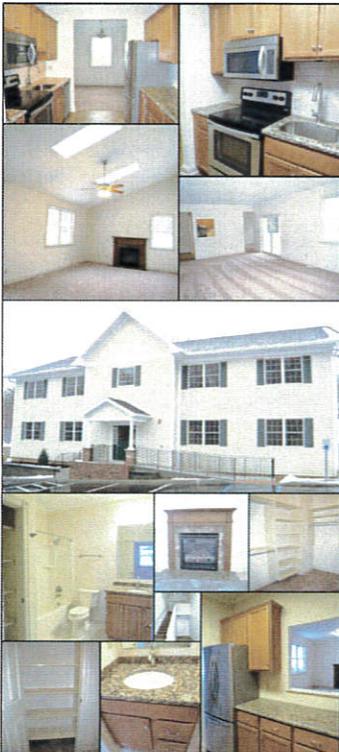
- Dog owner's name, Dog owner's address (No P.O. Boxes),
- Dog owner's telephone number, Number of dogs, Dog breed(s) if known,
- Sex of dog(s), Color(s) of dog(s), Name(s) of dog(s)

If you have any questions please contact the **Halfmoon Animal Control Office** at (518) 371-7410 ext. 2452 or email at halfmoonanimalcontrol@hotmail.com

A Special Thank You to Halfmoon Veterinary Hospital, Dr. John L. White, DVM for their support of this newsletter.

Oak Brook Commons

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Come and experience what it feels like to live in an apartment community where each home is built with a distinctive eye for detail.

Our open floor plans offer a spacious living room with a formal dining area for entertaining and a breakfast nook for everyday dining. In select apartments, second floor residents will enjoy vaulted ceilings and skylights.

All of our apartments have been designed to provide a wealth of open space and natural light.

Oak Brook Commons

On Route 9 – just south of Farm to Market Rd

Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:00pm
Saturday 11:00am-3:00pm
Sunday 10:00am-2:00pm

518-371-0216

The story of the 9/11 Memorial



Since September 11, 2002, one year after the attack on America, the Town of Halfmoon has held a Memorial Ceremony to honor those who gave their lives on that day and those who have given their lives since then – those that were innocent individuals and those who protect our freedom.

The concept of having a ceremony was an idea from Tom Olsen who was about to become an Eagle Scout and needed to do a "Community Service Project". His idea became a reality with the support of the Town of Halfmoon and the help of many volunteers who supplied the space, material and labor to create what is known as the 9/11 Memorial in Abele Memorial Park. The project was completed in time to have the first ceremony which was held on September 11, 2002 in the morning to coincide with the time of the attacks. Some of the speakers in the past years have been people who were working near the Twin Towers, or responding to the "call" to help. This year, the tradition of the Memorial Ceremony will continue with the presence of our local emergency responders and members from our military. The ceremony will include prayer, reflection and the remembrance of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice so that we may live in freedom. Everyone is invited to attend the ceremony on **September 11, 2015 at 6:30pm in Abele Memorial Park**. If you are unable to attend, please take a moment on that day to **Never Forget** the tragic events on 9/11.

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Snowbirds in our Town

With the newest issue of the Halfmoon Navigator I would like to address Town of Halfmoon Residents commonly known as Snow Birds. You know you are a Snow Bird if you fly, drive take a train to someplace warm for the winter. Many of our Snow Birds have set up temporary away address with either my office or the Assessors to make sure your Saratoga County Property Tax bills and Town of Halfmoon Water bills reach your winter address. We do our best to keep up with these changes but sometimes you move to a different address in a warmer climate and we are not notified.

Please check in with my office before you leave for sunny and warm parts unknown. These forms can be found on the Town of Halfmoon home page of our website on the left hand side under Forms and Documents. "Click" on the "Receiver of Taxes" to print out the form required.

I would also like to remind everyone that Saratoga County Property Tax bills are available online and updated daily. Simply go to the townofhalfmoon-ny.gov website. On the bottom right of the home page you will see 2015 Saratoga County Tax bills, click on this spot.

It will take you to a group of boxes to locate your bill. You need to fill out just one box, easiest is by name. Type in the name on the deed last name first then the first name click search and this will bring up the bill. You can either just view the bill or print it from this screen.

From the homepage, you can also pay your water bill online. On the left hand side of the home page you will see Online Water Payments. This will bring you to the page to pay. The payment link says Utilities Payments. There is a \$5.00 fee to pay online, and a 3 percent fee to pay by phone. All payments must be made by November 1, 2015. This is the deadline for our books to close. Any payments made after November 1, 2015 will be returned to residents and the late fee amount will appear on your January 2016 Saratoga County Property tax bill. There are no exceptions. Also available on this page are ACH Forms to have your water payments automatically withdrawn from your savings or checking account on the 20th of the month that the bill is due. This service has no extra charge involved.

Please feel free to email me kpingsel@townofhalfmoon-ny.gov

or call at 518-371-7410x2251.

Karen Pingelski
Receiver of Taxes



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*Thank you to all of the businesses in this newsletter
for their support. Please patronize these businesses
and mention the Halfmoon Navigator.*

The Werner Road water tank rehab project on both tanks is now completed and in service. The tanks were originally constructed in 1992. The tanks were completely painted inside and out. New mixers and protection devices were installed in both tanks. Water tanks are required to be inspected every 5 years. The project cost was 2.2 million dollars and was paid for from the Water Department Capital Reserve fund; no bonding was needed.



The Water Department is continuing with water meter upgrades at no cost to the residents.

Highway News

Please do not place grass clippings in or near storm drains, wetlands, creeks or detention areas!

Remember that fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides from your lawn clippings can run off during storms and harm groundwater, wetlands, and watercourses. They also clog or hamper water flow. Leaving grass clippings on your lawn to act as a natural fertilizer reduces the amount of pollutants that can poison our water and wildlife.

The annual **Household Hazardous Waste Day**, in conjunction with the Town of Clifton Park, will be September 12th from 8:00am -2:00pm in the Town of Clifton Park, 22 Ray Rd – opposite from the Clifton Park Transfer Station. In order to participate, you **MUST SIGN-UP** to be able to drop off your hazardous items. Sign up at our Town Clerk's Office or online at www.cliftonpark.org.



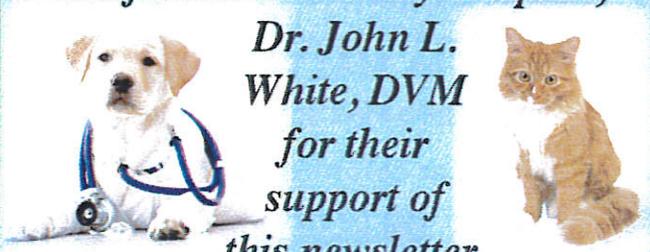
The annual **FREE Fall Clean Up** is Tuesday, September 15th & 22nd, 8:00am – 12:00pm; Friday, September 18th & 25th; 12:00pm – 5:00pm and Saturday, September 19th & 26th; 8:00am – 3:00pm. More details can be found on our website www.townofhalfmoon-ny.gov

For further questions or comments feel free to contact Highway Superintendent John Pingelski at 664-3127 or jpingsel@townofhalfmoon-ny.gov

Remember to sign up for our E-Alerts and Text-Alerts!
Go To: www.townofhalfmoon-ny.gov



*A special Thank You to
Halfmoon Veterinary Hospital,
Dr. John L.
White, DVM
for their
support of
this newsletter.*



August

- 3rd 7:00pm - **Zoning Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 5th 6:30pm - 7:00pm - **Town Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Board Room
7:00pm - **Town Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 10th 6:00pm - 7:00pm - **Planning Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Conference Room
7:00pm - **Planning Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 13th 6:30pm - **Out Past 9 followed by Fireworks** ~ Town Park
324 Rt. 236, Halfmoon, NY 12065 **Halfmoon Celebrations FREE Event!**
- 17th 11:30am - 8:00pm - **Red Cross Blood Drive** ~ Main Meeting Room
Call 1-800-RED-CROSS to schedule an appointment
- 19th 6:30pm - 7:00pm - **Town Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Board Room
7:00pm - **Town Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 21st **Family Movie Night@ Dusk** - Town Park 324 Rt. 236, Halfmoon, NY 12065
Halfmoon Celebrations FREE Event! - Come early to meet characters from the movie!
- 24th 6:00pm - 7:00pm - **Planning Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Conference Room
7:00pm - **Planning Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room

September

- 2nd 6:30pm - 7:00pm - **Town Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Board Room
7:00pm - **Town Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 7th (All Day) - **Labor Day Holiday** - All Town Offices and Senior Center Closed
- 8th 7:00pm - **Zoning Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 11th 6:30pm - **9/11 Ceremony** ~ Abele Memorial Park
- 12th 8:00am - **Kayaking for Meso Event** ~ Lighthouse Park
Kayak from Stillwater to Lighthouse Park with festivities in the park (see article for details)
10:00am - **Volleyball Fundraiser Event** ~ Pavilion adjacent to Town Hall
A benefit for the Breast Cancer Walk held in Mechanicville (see article for details)
- 14th 6:00pm - 7:00pm - **Planning Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Conference Room
7:00pm - **Planning Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
6:00pm - **Citizens Awareness Meeting** ~ Senior Center
Presentation regarding Colonie Landfill presented by Waste Connections

September (cont'd)

- 16th 6:30pm - 7:00pm - **Town Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Board Room
7:00pm - **Town Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 19th 1:00pm - 5:00pm - **Fall Festival** ~ Town Park 324 Rt. 236, Halfmoon, NY 12065
Halfmoon Celebrations FREE Event!
- 21st 7:00pm - **Trails and Open Space Meeting** ~ Board Room
- 27th 11:00am - **Nick's Run To Be Healed** ~ Clifton Commons
(see ad on page 15 for more details)
7:00pm - **Planning Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 28th 6:00pm - 7:00pm - **Planning Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Conference Center
7:00pm - **Planning Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 29th 7:00pm - **Historical Society Meeting** ~ Historical Building
280 Lower Newtown Rd., Waterford, NY 12188

October

- 5th 7:00pm - **Zoning Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 7th 6:30pm - 7:00pm - **Town Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Board Room
7:00pm - **Town Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 12th (All Day) - **Columbus Day Holiday**
All Town Offices and Senior Center Closed
- 13th 6:00pm - 7:00pm - **Planning Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Conference Room
7:00pm - **Planning Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 21st 6:30pm - 7:00pm - **Town Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Board Room
7:00pm - **Town Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 26th 6:00pm - 7:00pm - **Planning Board Pre-Meeting** ~ Conference Room
7:00pm - **Planning Board Meeting** ~ Main Meeting Room
- 27th 7:00pm - **Historical Society Meeting** ~ Historical Building
280 Lower Newtown Rd., Waterford, NY 12188
- 31st **Happy Halloween!** Remember to turn your clocks **BACK 1 HOUR**,
Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00am November 1st.



A safe & supportive day program for older adults

A program of Colonie Senior Service Centers, Inc.

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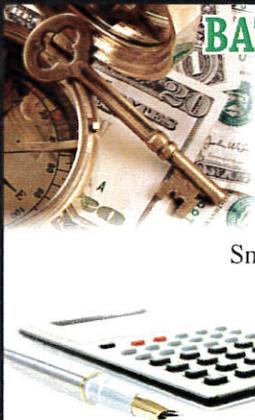
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Halfmoon Celebrations

Halfmoon Celebrations is a not-for-profit organization and is comprised of volunteers that have the commitment to deliver FREE family fun events to our residents and surrounding communities all year long!

The next few FREE events are:

Thursday, August 13th • 6:30pm – 9:00pm
Concert Featuring OutPast9 (Cover Band-Pop Music)
 Followed by fireworks weather permitting at the Town Park

Friday, August 21st

Movie Night Under The Stars (Shown at dusk)
 Weather permitting at the Town Park. We will also have a meet and greet with the characters from the movie around 7:30pm.
FREE popcorn and cold water is available at the movie.



Our Fall Festival is a time of Fall fun for all!

September 19th • 1:00pm until 5:00pm
 in the Town Park!

The festivities held at the Town Park include a hayride, carnival games, raffles, business building, Sparky the Clown with face painting, balloon artist, Saratoga County Sheriffs; Halfmoon-Waterford Fire Dept., rock climbing, pony rides and much more - you don't want to miss out on these FREE fun Fall events!

Refreshments will be available for purchase.

If you would like to be a vendor at this event, we will be accepting vendor applications until Mon., Aug. 24th.

Find all vendor information at our website www.halfmooncelebrations.org

Wizard of Oz Display:

Please come to Town Hall and look at the "Wizard of Oz" in the display cases in the foyer. Halfmoon Celebrations worked with the Halfmoon Historical Society to create a beautiful display for all ages to enjoy. This year marks the 75th Anniversary of the movie and we have all of the costumes on display as well as many "Fun Facts".

For more information visit us at www.halfmooncelebrations.org; email us at halfmooncelebrations@gmail.com; Find us on Facebook under (Halfmoon Celebrations); follow us on Twitter @HMCelebrations or download the Event Stroll App on your smart phone.



From the Historical Society

A New Logo for The Halfmoon Historical Society



The Halfmoon Historical Society unveiled their new Logo at the Halfmoon Town Board Meeting in May. Callie Schweitzer, a student at Shenendehowa High School, won first place in the Society's Logo Project Contest held this Spring. Her winning logo was chosen for its artistic style and it clearly identified the name of the Society and the 1788 date of the first Halfmoon Town Board meeting.

Included in Callie's logo there is a sailing vessel, typical of those used by the Dutch Fur Traders in the 17th century, bringing merchants and settlers into the lower and central Hudson Valley area. The stone arched aqueduct built across the Mohawk River in the 1820's. The aqueduct and the canal system brought commerce and settlers into and through our area.

She included 4 specific images in the logo that are very significant to our Town (see vintage boxes on right for details).

Callie's logo was chosen from 40 entries from our three area schools located in the Town of Halfmoon: Mechanicville, Shenendehowa, and Waterford-Halfmoon. The 2 runner-ups were, Matthew Moore and Mercedes McDonough. Special Recognition Awards were given out for unique works of art to Katelyn Wulff and Kasey Joyce.

Also included in the logo are

The Thaddeus Kosciusko Bridge, also known as the Twin Bridges, located in the Southwest corner of our town on the I-87 Northway over the Mohawk River; a major link between Saratoga and Albany Counties. And the last image, a one-room school house with a group of children posing in front, is quite typical of the several schools throughout our town during the 1900's; merging together to form the Central Schools of Shenendehowa, Mechanicville and Waterford-Halfmoon.

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Halfmoon Girls Softball, Inc.

www.halfmoonsoftball.com

Serves girls ages 6 – 18 in the Town of Halfmoon and the surrounding areas. Girls can receive year round training with the opportunity to learn the proper fundamentals of softball, in order to compete with a winning attitude and exemplify good sportsmanship.

We don't just teach the game of softball, we help prepare the girls for the next level.

As we wrap up another successful Spring/Summer travel season, we now set our sights on the fall rec and travel season at our new fields. The last tournament of the season will take place at our own fields on July 31st - August 2nd where both 17U teams will be playing. Come out and watch the teams in action. The schedules will be posted on the Halfmoon Softball website one week prior to the tournament.

August will wrap up our free summer clinic that starts in the last week of July. Additional details are posted on the Halfmoon Softball website. The month of August will also bring with it, an open house at the fields on Tuesday, August 4th from 6pm - 7:30pm. We will be discussing the organization and how to get involved. We will also discuss the upcoming rec and fall travel season. Signups for both will be available during the open house and online starting August 1st. Tryouts for fall travel will take place on Tuesday, August 11th and Wednesday, August 12th with all make-ups taking place on Tuesday, August 18th.

September and October will bring us cooler weather, but softball will be heating up with the rec and travel season in full swing. The rec season will consist of 4 consecutive Saturdays of instructions and games. The travel season will consist of 4 consecutive Sunday double headers where teams will travel locally to play other town teams in a more competitive environment.

The website has been upgraded and is updated almost daily. Please take the time and peruse the website and feel free to leave us a message. If you have immediate questions please contact us via email at info@halfmoonsoftball.com or halfmoongirlssoftball@gmail.com or call (518) 810-9160.



We look forward to seeing you at the open house. Regards, Anthony DePasquale, president, Halfmoon Girls Softball (518) 810-9160



Halfmoon Baseball League

www.halfmoonbaseball.com

The Halfmoon Baseball League is pleased to present our 2015 scholarship award to Kevin Carpenter. Kevin has played in the league for 12 years, he is actively involved in the community, a member of the National Honor Society and will be attending the SUNY Polytechnic Institute where he will work towards a degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology. **Congratulations Kevin!**

In this photo:
Halfmoon Baseball
President Greg Bold
and Kevin Carpenter.



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of Halfmoon

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Town of Halfmoon Hours of Operation

**Supervisor's Office, Assessor's Office,
Building Department, Code Enforcement Office,
Finance Office, Payroll Office, Planning Department,
Recreation Department, *Receiver of Taxes,
Senior Center, Water Department** (located on Brookwood Rd.)
Open Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm

*During the month of January, the Receiver of Taxes Office is open
Tuesday 8:00am - 6:00pm and Saturday 9:00am - 12:00pm

Town Clerks Office

Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm;
Wednesday 8:00am - 7:00pm

Animal Control - On-Call As Needed

Justice Clerk's Office (check web site for Court times)
Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Highway Department

(Located on Route 146)
Monday - Friday 7:00am - 3:00pm (Winter Hours)
Monday - Thursday 6:00am - 4:00pm (Summer Hours)

Transfer Station

(Located on Route 146)
Tuesday 8:00am - 12:00pm; Friday 12:00pm - 5:00pm;
Saturday 8:00am - 1:00pm

All Town Parks - Dawn-Dusk

Town of Halfmoon Contact Information

Dial (518) 371-7410 - extensions below

Animal Control	ext. 2452
Assessor	ext. 2242
Attorney	ext. 2202
Code Enforcement	ext. 2260
Finance/Payroll	ext. 2217
Grant	ext. 2206
Highway Department (alternate number 664-3127)	ext. 2500
Historical Society	ext. 2332
Justice Office	ext. 2400
Parks Department	ext. 2533
Planning Department	ext. 2266
Receiver of Taxes	ext. 2251
Recreation Department	ext. 2272
Senior Center (alternate number 371-3872)	ext. 2300
Senior Express	ext. 2320
Town Supervisor	ext. 2200
Town Clerk	ext. 2230
Transfer Station	ext. 2500
Water Department	ext. 2600

Elected Officials Email Addresses

Town Supervisor, Kevin J. Tollisen ktollisen@townofhalfmoon-ny.gov
Deputy Supervisor/Town Councilman, Paul Hotaling photaling@townofhalfmoon-ny.gov
Town Councilman, John Waiselewski jwaiselewski@townofhalfmoon-ny.gov
Town Councilwoman, Daphne Jordan djordan@townofhalfmoon-ny.gov
Town Councilman, Jeremy Connors jconnors@townofhalfmoon-ny.gov
Town Clerk, Lynda Bryan lbryan@townofhalfmoon-ny.gov
Town Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski, Jr. jpingsels@townofhalfmoon-ny.gov
Receiver of Taxes, Karen Pingelski kpingsels@townofhalfmoon-ny.gov

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Staying fit and healthy is an important aspect of our daily lives.



There are several fitness equipment stations along the walking trail in the Town Park located at 162 Rte. 236. These stations offer various strength and balance workouts that will keep you on the right track.

Halfmoon Baseball

Fall recreation baseball registration is July 27th – August 17th online at

www.halfmoonbaseball.com.

There will be divisions for players ages 6 through 10 as of 5/1/16 and the season will run from September 12th – October 18th with games on Saturdays and Sundays.

Summer Beautification Program



This summer with the help of 14 youths we are able to keep all of our facilities looking great. This summer work program allows 14 and 15 year olds the opportunity to get a first-hand job experience, and keep their Town looking good for its residents. Applications are accepted each year from April 1st until May 1st.

There will be a free summer clinic July 28th, 29th, 30th, and August 4th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Woodin Road fields. Girls ages 6 to 16 are encouraged to attend. An open house on August 4th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. will be held to meet the board members and hear about the organizations vision for the future. Tryouts for the 2015-2016 travel season will take place the week of August 10th, and the Fall recreation program will start Sept. 12th.

Halfmoon Softball



Please visit www.halfmoonsoftball.com for all of the details.

Looking for a place to take a walk or ride a bike?



Just look for the Trailhead Parking signs along the Champlain Canal Trail located at 8 Brookwood Road and 20 Upper Newtown Road. Be sure to make use of the kayak/canoe slip located at Lighthouse Park on Hudson River Road. The dock is open from May until October each year. The open-air pavilion in the middle of the park is a great spot to have lunch or to rest along your way.



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Halfmoon Volleyball Tournament

Saturday September 12, 2015

(Rain date September 13, 2015)

Starts at 10am at the Town Hall - 2 Halfmoon Town Plaza

\$100 entry fee per team • Donations welcomed • Free Lunch

All proceeds benefit Mechanicville-Stillwater
Breast Cancer Walk
(Please make checks payable to them and
place team name in memo)

Tournament winner gets trophy and a years' worth of bragging rights!

Any questions? Contact Paul Hotaling at 275-8852
or email Amanda Smith at asmith@townofhalfmoon.org



SNOWTASTIC Learn to Ski/Snowboard lessons

at Willard Mountain will begin on Saturday,
January 9th and will run for six consecutive
Saturdays (weather permitting). Everyone
ages 4 to Adult are welcome to participate.

Lesson prices vary depending on rental needs and lessons re-
quired. Packages with just lift tickets are available.

The lessons will run from 1:30pm to 5:30pm.

Transportation to and from the Mountain is available to registered
participants. Forms will be available in the Recreation Office
starting in October.

Town of Halfmoon THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Showing our
thankfulness by
feeding those in
need in our
community

We will be collecting items for our Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive
starting September 28th. The donation boxes are located at the front
entrance and outside the Recreation office at the Town Hall.

Items Needed: Instant Potatoes, Stuffing Mix
Gravy / Gravy Mix, Soup / Soup Mix
Canned Vegetables, Dessert Mix
Canned Cranberries, Muffin Mix

Donations will be collected until November 20th.

Once the donations are collected they will be
made into baskets and delivered to local seniors
and families in need. Any leftovers will be
donated to a local food pantry.



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It's a pleasure to be able to contribute to the second edition of the new Halfmoon Navigator and give you some information about the West Crescent Fire District.



West Crescent has been serving the residents of the Town of Halfmoon since 1935 and doing so as an all-volunteer organization. We currently have approximately 40 men and women who selflessly volunteer their time to protect the lives and property of the residents, traveling public and businesses in our town.

We operate out of one station located at 1440 Crescent-Vischer Ferry Road with (1) Engine, (1) Ladder (1) Medium Rescue and (1) Fire Boat and a Pick-up truck for our Fire Police Squad. Our Members, your neighbors, are required to complete numerous hours of training that is performed by NYS Certified Fire instructors and our own qualified members prior to becoming certified to perform most firematic duties. We also work closely with the Clifton Park /Halfmoon Ambulance squad and respond with them to most medical emergencies. All training is provided by the Saratoga County EMS Council.

We are always looking for new members to join to the ranks of the department. All training is provided at no cost, and there are multiple things that need to be done. Some people are not comfortable entering a burning building or climbing a ladder, and believe it or not, there is much more to the fire service than that.

The Fire District has in the past two years received two Firematic Grants from FEMA for approximately \$96,000 to replace air packs and hose. We have also just received a \$60,000 grant from Senator Marchione's office to replace our 20 year old Fire Boat. We would like to express our sincere thanks to Assemblymen Paul Tonko, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and our own Senator Kathy Marchione for their continued support.

If you would like to be part of something great and help your neighbors, please stop by the station any Monday evening and speak to one of the members or visit our website @ www.westcrescentfire.com.

If you don't live in our district we encourage you to stop into your local department to find out more information on how you can help.

Honoring a Halfmoon Legend: The story of Fedora Michaels

By: Jonathan Pflug

*If you want to know about Halfmoon...
ask one of its oldest residents!*

I recently sat down with **Fedora Michaels**, age 90, to talk about her life and her memories of Halfmoon. Fedora and her late husband John were involved in many activities in Halfmoon over the years and are well known among native residents.



She went through many difficult things, including World War II. Fedora came to this country as a war bride. When she was 20, she married John Michaels, who at the time was a G.I. in Italy November 1945 and, after a quick honeymoon, he returned to the states with his Unit while she awaited transport aboard The Algonquin in the spring in 1946. Soon after that, the two of them started a family. They settled in Cohoes, NY.

After being invited to a fourth of July celebration by the mother of Walter Polak, the couple fell in love with Halfmoon and its open spaces and friendly faces. They first moved to Halfmoon in 1959 and "Dora" as she is known to her friends still lives in the same house! According to her, moving to Halfmoon as a foreigner was, at first, very hard because of the difficulty of speaking English clearly. But this did not stop Fedora from contributing to the Town of Halfmoon. The organizations she joined included the American Legion Auxiliary, the Halfmoon Firehouse Auxiliary, and the Parent-Teacher Association and teaching catechism at Saint Mary's Church. However, Dora did not spend her whole life volunteering in these groups, she also participated in minstrel shows as a singer. Additionally she loved making other people laugh. Always the comedienne, she was also a famous toastmistress at many social events over the years. "Dora" and John enjoyed raising their family and attending parades and festivities throughout the wonderful seasons of life in Halfmoon. Every year, she told me, the Town of Halfmoon progressed greatly.

She and John helped found the Halfmoon Seniors Association. After John passed on, "Dora" continued her volunteer work with the Halfmoon Senior Citizen Association, (serving as its president for 5 years) and at Our Lady of Hope Residence. This past April, she was honored by Senator Kathy Marchione with a proclamation from the State of New York. In addition, Dora Michaels was honored with the Halfmoon Town Board resolution proclaiming her an "outstanding citizen for her achievements and advances" due to generous gifts of service to the community. The Resolution was in recognition of how she not only played a key role in the Halfmoon Senior Association, but also has generously volunteered her time and efforts to the community of Halfmoon, New York. Dora says, "I love the Town of Halfmoon and I'm proud to call it my home!"

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Mail to: Liz Fox, c/o NFTBHF,
PO Box 217, Rexford, NY 12148

Fee must accompany application. \$3.25 processing fee for each online registrant.

For more info. contact Liz Fox at (631) 645-4081 or email nicksrun@fighttobehealed.org

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 10:00AM

11:00am	Nick's Dash
11:15am	Nick's Mile
11:45am	Zumba Warm-up
12:00pm	2 Mile Walk
1:15pm	5K Run

*Dri-fit T-shirts to anyone who registers by Sept. 10
 Form a team and have more fun*

PLEASE PRINT

Entrant's Name _____ Age _____ Gender _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Email _____ DOB _____

Pre-registration: Walk \$20 5K Run \$20 Team Name _____

Day of registration: Walk \$25 5k Run \$25

Nick's Dash (6 & Under): \$5 Nick's Mile (7-10) \$5 *Official Use Only: Bib #*

Receive Runner's hat with logo for additional \$15 donation (Quantity) _____ Will be \$20 day of event

By submitting this form you have read, understood and agreed to this waiver.

WAIVER: In consideration of accepting your entry I, the undersigned, intending to be legally bound, hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I might have against Nick's Fight to be Healed Foundation, the Town of Clifton Park, and any officials and promoters of this event.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (if entrant is under 18) _____



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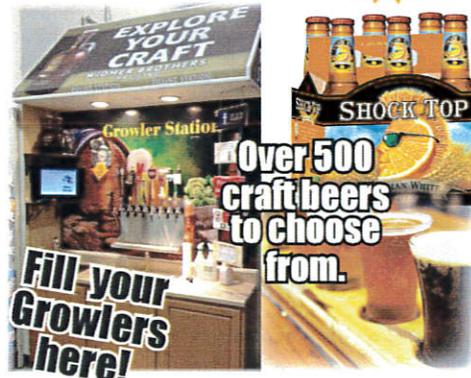
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Today!**

To advertise in the next Halfmoon Navigator please send an email to Navigator@townofhalfmoon-ny.gov or call (518) 371-7410 ext. 2200.

On behalf of the Town of Halfmoon Supervisor, the Town Board and the Halfmoon Navigator staff; Dianne Mincher, Debbie Lucarelli and Lisa Perry, we hope you enjoy the August 2015 issue of the Halfmoon Navigator.

