

# Town of Cambria 2014 Spring Newsletter



## Cambria Town Board

**Wright H. Ellis, Supervisor**  
433-8523

**Matthew P. Foe, Councilman**  
433-3370

**Jeffrey Hurtgam, Councilman**  
791-4146

**Joseph Ohol, Councilman**  
433-8243

**Randy M. Roberts, Councilman**  
433-0183

## Town Hall Office Hours

**Town Hall**  
Mon. - Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Assessor**  
Mon. - Fri.  
8:30 am - 2:30 pm

**Building Inspector**  
Mon., Wed., Thurs.  
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Note: The Building Inspector is frequently out of the office during the afternoon for field work.  
Please call for an appointment.

**Highway Department**  
Mon. - Fri. 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

**Water Department**  
Mon. - Fri. 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

## Monthly Meetings

**Planning Board**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 8:00 pm

**Recreation Committee**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 6:00 pm

**Town Board**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 8:00 pm

**Zoning Board**  
4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 8:00 pm

## From the Desk of Wright H. Ellis, Supervisor

Writing my article for the Spring Newsletter tempers somewhat, the depressing effects of the long stretches of bitter cold and extremely strong winds that we are experiencing this winter.

A few months ago, we distributed a questionnaire to all Town households in conjunction with our Comprehensive Plan update. Questions were included on your interest in recreational facilities and programs and, as might be expected, the responses to those questions were quite varied. We are addressing some of those concerns. Our Day Recreation and Baseball/Softball programs are both gearing up for a busy season. Our Day Recreation program will be consolidated at the Town Hall/Community Building site, this year and in the future. The Soccer Shots program for younger children will be back again for a full season. We have directed the Town Engineer to provide a conceptual design and analysis for a new restroom facility and associated utilities in the Town Park. This will enable us to structure a funding mechanism. For 2014, we will purchase hand washing units to complement additional portable toilets. We will build a double-size picnic shelter, suitable for larger gatherings. Swing sets are budgeted for the playground along with horseshoe pits and a volleyball system. Our goal is to make our Park more family-oriented, with perhaps some special events or activities as time and money will allow. The picnic shelters may be reserved through the Town Clerk's Office. There is a charcoal grill and picnic tables available at each shelter.

By now, you have heard of our switch to bi-weekly recycling collection utilizing 65 and 95 gallon wheeled carts. The new carts will be delivered to Town households on Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, with the majority of residences receiving the 65 gallon size. The initial trial period is 90 days. After that time, if you feel a larger cart is needed, please contact the Town Hall. The convenience of the larger wheeled carts should encourage us to recycle more, thus reducing the amount of refuse requiring disposal, whether through landfill or incineration. In addition to the obvious environmental benefits, we will reduce the annual cost of refuse/recycling collection and disposal by \$19.75 per household, an annual savings of \$40,000 in the Refuse District budget. Payback on the cost of the recycling carts will be two-and-a-half years. If you have no use for your old recycling tote or it is wearing a roll of duct tape, it can be recycled as a hard plastic. Just leave it at the curb or inside the new cart. We do have a quantity of new 18 gallon recycling totes left over in storage and the Town Board is making them available to Town residents. Contact the Highway Department Office, if you are interested. There is no charge for one or two per household; quantities more than two (2) will be \$3.00 each. They are useful storage containers and several farmers have expressed interest in purchasing larger quantities.

Enjoy the articles herein and remember that our purpose is to serve the citizens of our Town. However, we cannot address your concerns unless they are brought to our attention. Thank you.



## BUILDING INSPECTOR ~ James P. McCann

It's been a long winter and many of us are probably thinking about some type of home improvement project. If you have questions or are not sure if a building permit is required, please call our office. We will discuss your project, offer suggestions and give you the specific requirements and regulations needed to remain compliant with the Town's Zoning Ordinance.

Spring clean-up projects often result in burning of debris. In an effort to prevent and control air contamination and pollution we would like to remind our residents that open burning is prohibited. Information explaining this regulation is available at the Building Inspector's office.

Unregistered and/or unlicensed vehicles continue to be an issue in the Town. Town of Cambria Zoning Ordinance, Section 1123, prohibits the outside storage of unlicensed and unregistered vehicles. To avoid town action, please address the issue with proper storage or removal of such vehicles.

**Remember to check the batteries in your smoke & carbon monoxide detectors. Keep your family safe.**

### \*\*\* ATTENTION DOG OWNERS \*\*\*

Pursuant to Article 7 of the Agriculture & Markets Law §109 'the owner of any dog reaching the age of four months shall immediately make application for a dog license'. You must provide proof of a current rabies vaccination and a certificate of spay/neuter if the dog is spayed/neutered. The cost of the license is:

Spayed/Neutered Dogs \$11.00  
Unspayed/Unneutered Dogs \$18.00

If you are harboring a dog within the Town of Cambria and do not have the dog(s) licensed, please visit the Town Clerk's Office with the proper paperwork to do so. The Town Clerk's Office will be conducting a dog enumeration soon so get your dogs licensed to avoid the enumeration fine!

### 2014 FREE RABIES IMMUNIZATION CLINIC DATES

**FOR CLINIC RELATED QUESTIONS, CALL THE NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT 439-7511**

**Saturday, April 12th from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**  
**Town of Somerset Highway Garage**  
8700 Haight Road, Town of Somerset  
Phone: 795-3575

**Saturday, June 14th from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**  
**Hyde Park Pavilion (behind Ice Arena)**  
911 Robbins Drive, City of Niagara Falls  
Phone: 286-4940



**Saturday, July 12th from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**  
**Town of Wilson Highway Garage**  
3356 Wilson-Cambria Road, Town of Wilson  
Phone: 751-6704

**Saturday, September 20th from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**  
**Town of Lockport Highway Department**  
6560 Dysinger Road, Town of Lockport  
Phone: 439-9524

## ASSESSOR'S OFFICE ~ Janelle L. Kroening

Taxable status day, March 1st, when all exemptions have to be filed with the Assessor, has come and gone. Change of assessment notices will be mailed by May 1<sup>st</sup> for property owners whose assessments have changed due to new construction or changes in inventory information. The Board of Assessment Review will be meeting this year on Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon and evening to hear complaints on assessments. Please come to our office in early May to pick up the booklet which includes the required complaint form that must be completed. The Tentative Assessment Roll may be viewed online on the Town's website on the link to the Assessor's page after May 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Assessor's office provides the following services: location of parcels and school districts, property ownership, assessment and tax information, sales information, inventory collection and the processing of tax exemptions. If you move from your primary residence, please notify the Assessor's Office.

High school seniors interested in applying for a scholarship from the Niagara County Assessor's Association should obtain the application at their high school guidance office.

### TAX COLLECTOR ~ Debra A. Littere

The last day to pay taxes is **MONDAY March 31<sup>st</sup> 2014**. From 8:00 – 12:00 and 1:00 – 3:30pm. If you can't make it on that day, please drop your payment at the post-office, it must be postmarked **March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014**. There is also a drop box outside the front doors to the town hall that is checked daily, and will be checked at 3:30pm March 31<sup>st</sup>!

Tax bills/receipts are available online on the Town of Cambria website, [www.townofcambria.com](http://www.townofcambria.com), under the Tax Collector tab, the link <http://www.basny.com/cambria> will give you information about your taxes that you can view or print out from your own computer!



### HANDICAP PARKING PERMITS

Town of Cambria residents who have been issued a **permanent (blue)** handicap parking permit will receive a courtesy renewal letter the month prior to the expiration of the tag. When renewing your permit, please provide a **VALID NYS driver's license** or non-driver's ID card and return your old permit so we may destroy it. A new physician's statement is not required for renewal of a permanent (blue) handicap parking permit. If you have any questions please contact our office at 433-7664.

## WATER DEPARTMENT

Springtime's coming and soon the honey bees will be humming. Most of us will surely be happy to close the door on this winter. Dangerous freezing temperatures and large amounts of snow have made this a challenging winter season. Several fire hydrants have been damaged due to vehicle accidents. If you witness a hydrant accident, please contact us as soon as possible. Fire Departments depend on these hydrants for your safety in times of emergency.

As we look forward to Spring, we will begin scheduling clean-up and grading restoration work from previous water/sewer related projects. If you have an area that needs restoration work, due to water or sewer construction, please contact our office.

Residents are reminded that a Dual Check- Backflow Preventer is required on all water services per the Town of Cambria Water Ordinance. The purpose of the backflow device is to protect against the backflow of water from the premises into the public water system. Routinely, when a home is being sold, and prior to closing, a compliance inspection is required to validate that the water service is installed per the Town of Cambria regulations. If the Check Valve is not installed, the closing date of the sale could be delayed.

The Automatic Meter Read (AMR) program concluded in December 2013. Less than 1% of the water district has yet to change over to the AMR meter. Unfortunately, these customers are paying an additional fee, each billing quarter, until their meter is changed over.



## CAMBRIA HISTORIAN ~ Brooke A. Morse

Many people have heard of the Root family of Pekin, and the world famous Seven Sutherland Sisters of Warrens Corners, but perhaps not of Nathan Z. Peterson. Nathan grew up on the north side of Ridge Road at the end of Baer Road. He enlisted not once, but twice in the Union Army becoming Sergeant under the command of Col. Peter A. Porter. From his letters home during the war, we learn of a young man who played the violin, yearned for peaches from the family's orchard, and was grateful to his father for being strict with him. In 1864, at the age of 22, he was killed in action at the Battle of Cold Harbor.

For more on Nathan's story, an exhibit of his personal artifacts, including his violin, will be on display at the Cambria Historical Hall, which is set to re-open later in the year. The Hall will also feature exhibits on The Root Family, The Seven Sutherland Sisters, historic textiles, antique farm tools, and more. In the meantime, feel free to stop in to a Cambria Historical Society meeting for more details.

You may also visit the Historical Society's website at [www.cambriahistoryniagara.org](http://www.cambriahistoryniagara.org) or "Like" us on Facebook. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7 pm at the Cambria Historical Hall on the corner of Lower Mountain Road and Route 425. We are always seeking new members with an interest in our town's past and people. See web site for more details.

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ~ Jon T. MacSwan

The Cambria Highway Department has invested several hours into plowing this winter. As the snow begins to melt and the ground thaws, flooding may become an issue. It is very common for yards to have some temporary standing water and drainage ditches to be at their maximum capacity during the spring thaw. It is good practice to get outside as soon as the weather permits to be sure that the drainage system on your property is flowing as it should. Be sure to clear any debris to ensure proper water flow. If there appears to be a bigger issue, please give our office a call and we will look into rectifying the problem as soon as possible.

In April we will begin chipping brush. We can accommodate limbs up to 8" in diameter. Please be sure that they are stacked neatly, butt ends toward the road and a pile that is spread out low is preferable to one piled high. We will **NOT** pickup any piles that have wire, rope, stakes, roots, root balls, vines, dirt, thorns, or poison ivy in them. We have the ability to pick up stumps & root balls with a machine at our convenience. Please make sure to notify us in advance. We **DO NOT** chip brush in July & August. We have to utilize the warm summer months to repair our roads. September 1 we will resume chipping brush and continue as long as the weather permits.

With the constant escalation of petroleum prices, we will be limited to the type of road repair work we can do. We have been assessing and prioritizing Town roadways. Baer Road from Upper Mountain Road to Raymond Road will be one of the sections that will receive repair this year. Chip sealing will occur so we ask drivers to please drive accordingly on roads with fresh oil and stone.

It is our job to help you so please feel free to contact our office anytime that you have a question or concern. Enjoy the summer!!

## CAMBRIA WINE TRAIL

The Town of Cambria is home to many wineries located on the Niagara Wine Trail. Visit [www.niagarawinetrail.org](http://www.niagarawinetrail.org) for a complete listing of all the wineries in Niagara County. Niagara County & the Town of Cambria are home to many types of farms. For information on local farmers & markets visit [www.ceniagaracounty.org](http://www.ceniagaracounty.org) or [www.niagara-usa.com](http://www.niagara-usa.com) for updated listings.



**2014  
HOLIDAYS ~ TOWN HALL CLOSED**

Good Friday, Friday, April 18  
Memorial Day, Monday, May 26  
Independence Day, Friday, July 4  
Labor Day, Monday, September 1  
Columbus Day, Monday, October 13

**DEPARTMENT HEADS/OFFICIALS**

Assessor ~ Janelle L. Kroening	433-8161
Building Inspector ~ James McCann	433-8161
Highway Superintendent ~ Jon T. MacSwan	433-8829
Historian ~ Brooke A. Morse	433-0387
Planning Board Chair ~ William Amacher	731-5277
Supervisor ~ Wright H. Ellis	433-8523
Tax Collector ~ Debra A. Littere	433- 8161
Town Clerk ~ Tamara J. Cooper	433-7664
Town Court ~ A. Jowdy / H. Peters	433-3088
Town Justice ~ Amel S. Jowdy, Jr.	434-8417
Town Justice ~ Henry G. Peters	731-3035
Zoning Board Chair ~ Michael Sieczkowski	438-5178

**2014**

**REFUSE/RECYCLING HOLIDAY  
SCHEDULE**

**Memorial Day Monday, May 26**  
Delayed until Friday, May 30

**Independence Day Friday, July 4**  
\*\*\* NO DELAY \*\*\*

**Labor Day Monday, September 1**  
Delayed until Friday, September 5

**TOWN OF CAMBRIA COURT  
(716) 433-3088**

**Justice Jowdy Court** - 1st Tuesday at 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm  
2nd & 5th Tuesday at 6:30 pm

**Justice Peters Court** - 3rd & 4th Wednesday at 7:00 pm



**CAMBRIA VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY EVENTS**

4631 Cambria-Wilson Road, Lockport, NY 14094  
(716) 434-8948

Lenten Fish Fry ~ Fridays through April 18th 4:00 PM ~ 7:00 PM  
Ham Raffle ~ Saturday, April 5th at 6:00 PM  
Jr. Firefighters Pasta Dinner ~ April 6th  
25 Week Dinner ~ May 3rd  
Tractor Pulls ~ August 23rd  
Fly In Breakfast ~ September 14th



For more information on these events and hall rentals, please visit our web site at:  
[www.cambriavolunteerfire.com](http://www.cambriavolunteerfire.com)



**PEKIN FIRE COMPANY EVENTS**

3024 Upper Mountain Road  
Sanborn, NY 14132  
(716) 731-4777

Wine Cheese & Chocolate Festival ~ Saturday, March 29th at 11 AM  
Spring Gun Raffle ~ Saturday, April 26th at 5:30 PM  
Cooler & Meat Raffle ~ Saturday, May 3rd at 6:00 PM  
Ladies Auxiliary Raffle ~ Sunday, May 18th at Noon  
Chicken / Rib BBQ & Basket Raffle ~ Saturday, September 21st at 10:30 AM  
Gun Raffle ~ Saturday, October 4th at 5:30 PM



If you should have any questions regarding fire hall events, please contact the fire hall at the number listed above.

## RECREATION ~ Sally Marotta-Reed

The Town of Cambria will host its annual Summer Day Program beginning Tuesday, July 1st and ending Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. My staff and I will once again provide a fun, safe and enriching experience for children ages 5-15.

Children will have the opportunity to participate in age appropriate games, physical activities, arts & crafts and explore nature. Your child will have the opportunity to cultivate his or her abilities, talents and interests to the next level. As always we will have many fun field trips and Fort Niagara Swim trips planned. Please note: children must attend the day program for one week in order to participate in the field trips.

Beginning this summer, the day program will be run from one centralized location, Cambria Town Hall / Community Center.

We will continue to have counselors trained in CPR, First Aid, and AED use. We also have counselors with additional life-guard training for our ever-popular Fort Niagara swim trips.

PLEASE NOTE: In order to participate in our program, all children must be five years old NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2014. Applications will be available in the Town Clerk's Office or online by mid-April. If there are any questions about the program, volunteering or donating, please call Sally Marotta Reed at 860-2680.



### SOCCER NEWS



We will be offering a 10-week Saturday "Soccer Shots" program. The program will run from April 26th to June 28<sup>th</sup> at the Cambria Town Park. Children from ages 2-6 will be introduced to the world of soccer in a fun, safe, educational environment. Soccer Shots instructors are energetic, enthusiastic individuals who love working with children. They not only teach soccer skills, but also work on improving balance, coordination, and agility. Soccer Shots also uses the sessions to teach children important concepts such as teamwork, sharing and respect. To register, visit [www.soccershots.org/buffalonth](http://www.soccershots.org/buffalonth).

## BASEBALL/SOFTBALL ~ Rodney Hogg



**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP!!** The deadline to sign up for baseball/softball has been extended to April 15th. You may register at the Town Clerk's Office, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm. Forms are also available online from our website, [www.townofcambria.com](http://www.townofcambria.com).

For those already signed up, you will hear from the coaches sometime in April or early May to set up practice dates and times. Games are scheduled to begin in late May.

If interested in coaching, please contact Rodney at 990-0321.

## SUMMER GAZEBO CONCERTS



All concerts will begin at 6:00 pm and are held rain or shine.

A covered tent for spectators is provided.

Be sure to bring a lawn chair, relax and enjoy!!

*~Refreshments will be available for a small fee~*

**Sunday, July 6** ~ 90 West (High Energy Country Music)

**Sunday, July 13** ~ East of Eden

(Classic/Southern Rock /Alternative Country)

**Sunday, July 20** ~ Then and Now (Classic Rock)

**Sunday, July 27** ~ The Flat Tops

(Classic Mix/Rhythm & Blues)

**Sunday, August 3** ~ **The New Direction Band**

(Polka, Polka, Polka)

**Sunday, August 10** ~ Kathy Lynn & the Playboys

(National Recording Artists-50's/60's Music)

**Car Cruise starts at 5:00 pm ~ Cars will arrive at 4:00 pm**

## CAMBRIA EAGLE SCOUTS

The Town of Cambria is proud to acknowledge those dedicated young men from Cambria Boy Scout Troop 8 who, through hard work and dedication have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest and most prestigious rank awarded by the Boy Scout Program! We wish you the best in your future endeavors!

Congratulations to:

**Daniel Gifford ~ June 2, 2013,**

**Benjamin Chatley ~ January 4, 2014,**

**Kevin Brown ~ February 8, 2014**

## TOWN PARK SHELTER RENTAL

There are (4) pavilions available at the Town Park for reservation. To reserve a shelter go to our website, click on the Town Park/Recreation page, fill out the Park Shelter Use Application & return it to the Town Clerk's Office. **There is a non-refundable rental fee of \$25 for residents & \$50 for non-residents.** Please contact the Town Clerk's Office for more information.

## COMMUNITY ROOM RENTAL

The Town of Cambria Community Room is available for Town residents to rent for non-profit use only. The fee is \$75. Please contact the Town Clerk's Office (433-7664) for available dates and rental information.



## MT. VIEW CEMETERY MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE



Residents are invited to join in the observance of a Memorial Day service on Monday, May 26, 2014. A processional march beginning at the Pekin Fire Hall and leading to Mt. View Cemetery, Upper Mountain Road, commences at 9:30 am, with services immediately following at the Mt. View Cemetery.



**12th ANNUAL TOWN WIDE YARD SALE**  
 SATURDAY, JULY 19 AND SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2014  
 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM



**This is how it works...**

All you need to do is sign up using the form below or log on to our website, [www.townofcambria.com](http://www.townofcambria.com) The Town of Cambria provides the brochure (which includes the sale sites, as well as a map), a sign for your location and advertising using various types of media. All at no cost to you! There is no penalty for signing up and then not participating. It's better to sign up than to miss out!

Register by filling out the information below.  
**Signup deadline: Monday, June 16, 2014**

**Return to:**

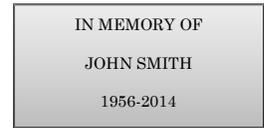
Yard Sale, Town of Cambria  
 4160 Upper Mountain Road  
 Sanborn, NY 14132

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

- MULTI FAMILY                       CHILDRENS ITEMS                       VARIETY  
 HOUSEHOLD ITEMS                       A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING



**CAMBRIA TOWN PARK MEMORIAL TREE GROVE**



The Memorial Tree Grove is located within the Town Park & was an Eagle Scout project started by Brian Zuch. The trees will be planted and staked with a memorial plaque at the base of each tree. The plaque will read "IN MEMORY OF" and will include the name, year of birth and year of death. Anyone interested in having a memorial tree honoring a loved one should fill out the application form below and submit payment of \$250.00 payable to the Town of Cambria. If you have any questions please contact George Bush at 731-9352.

**CAMBRIA TOWN PARK MEMORIAL TREE GROVE APPLICATION FORM**

NAME OF APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLAQUE WORDING ~ STANDARD HEADING WILL READ, "IN MEMORY OF"**

NAME ON PLAQUE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 YEAR OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR OF DEATH: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FEE \$250.00 PAID ON: \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIPT #: \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Circle one: Cash    Check # \_\_\_\_\_)

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO: **THE TOWN OF CAMBRIA**

SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:

TOWN OF CAMBRIA, MEMORIAL TREE GROVE  
 4160 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SANBORN, NY 14132

<p><b>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</b></p> <p>INSTALLATION DATE:-          _____</p>
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**Town of Cambria**  
4160 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD  
SANBORN, NY 14132

PRESORTED STANDARD  
PERMIT # 21  
US POSTAGE PAID  
NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14304

“NIAGARA COUNTY’S FIRST TOWN”



CURRENT RESIDENT OR

*www.townofcambria.com*



*Congratulations on your Retirement !!*

**Robert E. Blackman, Councilman**  
Years of service: 1994-2013

**Lou Ann Murawski, Town Clerk**  
Years of service: 1996-2013

This past December, the Town Board recognized Councilman Robert E. Blackman and Town Clerk Lou Ann Murawski for their long records of public service to our community. Councilman Blackman served ten years on the Planning Board before commencing his term as Councilman in 1994. He also served as liaison to the Recreation Committee, the Zoning Board of Appeals and on the Drainage Committee. He contributed much to the deliberations of the Town Board, being very much attuned to what was best for the Town, not only in the short term, but for the future. At budget meetings, he was one of the first to question the rationale for expenditures, ensuring that the taxpayers' money would be spent wisely. Town Clerk Murawski served two years as Deputy Town Clerk prior to becoming Town Clerk in 1996, serving concurrently as Registrar of Vital Statistics and Records Management Officer. Prior to that, she served as Town Clerk in the Town of Niagara for twelve years. The Board valued her considerable experience in the operation of Town government and extensive knowledge of Town laws at both the local and State level. Her personal contribution to the effective and efficient administration of the Town was much appreciated. The Town Board thanks them for their service and wishes Bob and Lou Ann the best in their future endeavors.