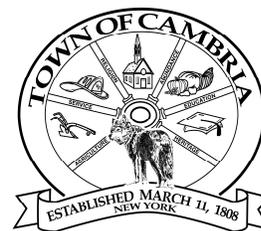


Town of Cambria 2016 Spring Newsletter



From the Desk of Wright H. Ellis, Supervisor

**Cambria Town Board
Meets 2nd Thursday
at 7:00 pm**

Wright H. Ellis

Supervisor
433-8523

Matthew P. Foe

Councilman
433-3370

Jeffrey S. Hurtgam

Councilman
791-4146

Joseph Ohol

Councilman
830-5506

Randy M. Roberts

Councilman
433-0183

“THOUGHTS OF SPRING” greetings from the pages of our Town Newsletter. This Winter season has been far easier than the past two and allowed our Highway/Water/Sewer crews some breathing room and the opportunity to catch up on maintenance responsibilities that are always in need of attention. We are working with National Grid and our local electrician to bring electrical service into the Town Park this year. Concurrently, we are moving ahead with plans for the construction of a Comfort Station this Summer, which will broaden the appeal of the Park and its’ amenities to all of our residents. In the interim, we will have Wash Stations at three (3) of the Portable Toilet locations in the Park this year.

Inside our Newsletter, the Building Inspector addresses the problem of dilapidated or partially fallen down buildings and barns throughout the Town. These unstable structures are an “attractive nuisance” and thus a legal liability to the property owner and a Health and Safety concern to the Town Board. Neighbors frequently complain about the negative aesthetic impact of these structures on the surrounding community. Additionally, trailers originally designed for highway transport of goods are being used as immobile storage areas. I have talked before about the desire to strike a balance between the sanctity of private property rights and the common good of a more densely populated community. Self-correction is an easier course of action than Town-wide policing. The Town Board supports the Building Inspector as he enforces the NYS Building Code and the Town of Cambria Zoning Ordinance.

Also, the Assessor addresses the update of the 2017 Assessment Roll and maintenance of the Assessment Roll at Full Market Value. This Revaluation process, during the next eighteen (18) months, will ensure that the Tax levy is spread equitably among all properties in the Town. Please support the Assessor and her staff as they collect data and survey properties in the process of developing fair and equitable assessments.

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



Department Heads

Debra A. Littere

Assessor
Tax Collector
433-8161 x122

James P. McCann

Building Inspector
433-8161 x126

Jon T. MacSwan

Highway Supt.
433-8829

Tamara J. Cooper

Town Clerk
433-7664

The Town Hall is open
Monday-Friday from
8:00 am-4:00 pm

Hours vary for each office.

Monthly Meetings

Planning Board ~3rd Monday at 7:00 pm
Town Board ~ 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm
Zoning Board ~ 4th Monday at 7:00 pm

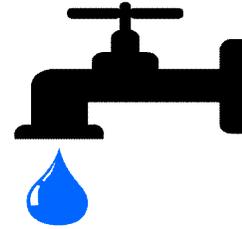
Town of Cambria Court

Justice Jowdy ~ 1st Tuesday at 2pm & 7:30 pm
2nd & 5th Tuesday at 6:30 pm
Justice Peters ~ 3rd & 4th Wednesday at 7:00 pm

2015 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Copies will be available at the following locations:

- * Town of Cambria Town Hall
- * Posted on our website: www.townofcambria.com
- * Sanborn –Pekin Library, 5890 West St., Sanborn, NY
- * Ransomville Free Library, 3733 Ransomville Rd., Ransomville, NY



BUILDING INSPECTOR ~ James P. McCann

It's our goal to ensure our town is a safe and pleasant place to live. However, it takes the efforts of all residents to maintain their property in accordance with the Town of Cambria Zoning Code. We routinely patrol our town noting violations and notify property owners of existing violations, requesting they correct the matter in a timely manner. A good deal of our department's time is devoted to enforcing a section of the Town's Zoning Ordinance that deals with "Junkyards". One or more abandoned, disabled, dismantled, non-registered or non-inspected automobiles, trucks, trailers, etc. accumulated outside, including those used for storage purposes, shall constitute a junkyard. Our Building Department has received numerous complaints during the last 2 years, concerning properties that have buildings and barns that are dilapidated or partially fallen down. Another issue I have seen is the use of trailers for storage areas. These situations are violations of the NYS Building Code or the Town of Cambria Zoning Ordinance, or both. This summer, our department will begin citing the property owners that have these violations, to correct them so they may come into compliance.



Swimming Pools, Above Ground & In-Ground, require Building Permits. A listing of "**Requirements for Swimming Pools**" is available from our office. Before starting a construction or remodel project you should check with our department to see if a Building Permit is needed.

TOWN CLERK ~ Tamara J. Cooper

We are pleased to announce the Town Clerk's Office will be accepting credit cards beginning in May! Credit cards may be used for payments at the Town Clerk's Office for things such as dog licensing, Recreation & Baseball registrations, Community Room reservations, copies of vital records, marriage licenses, Town Park shelter reservations, hunting and fishing licenses. There is a fee for using a credit card.



****Please Note** WE CANNOT ACCEPT WATER BILL PAYMENTS BY CREDIT CARD AT THIS TIME**

HANDICAPPED PERMIT HOLDER:

A reminder for residents who have a **permanent** (blue) Handicapped Parking Permit: renewal letters are mailed out for your convenience. Upon renewal your expired permit must be returned to our office to be destroyed. These permits are not transferrable. Applications for a parking permit are available in our office or can be printed from our website, www.townofcambria.com and click on the Town Clerk page.

WATER DEPARTMENT

As always conservation of our natural resources is important. You can play an important role in conservation by checking for small water leaks in your home. A faucet with a small drip or a toilet that leaks can waste several gallons of water as well as increase your water bills. We will continue to review quarterly meter readings that reflect a leak; however, a periodic check of your home's plumbing issues, by the homeowner, is also a good idea. We sometimes find it necessary to contact our customers regarding water service issues. This can only be accomplished if we have your current contact information in our files. Please contact our office to update phone numbers, if necessary.

SELLING YOUR HOME:

Our water department continues to practice procedures that ensure the public safety of our customers. The Town of Cambria Water District Rules & Regulations states that all water services must be equipped with a double check valve. If you are planning to sell your home, call the water department office to schedule a compliance inspection. This inspection must be completed before the home is sold. **Failure to schedule this appointment can affect your closing date.** Final readings are scheduled close to your closing date. We will need the name and address of the individual responsible for payment of the final bill and, if possible, provide us with the name of the new owner.

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 at 433-2468. Office hours for the Water Department are Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. If you have any questions or concerns, we are always happy to help you.

CAMBRIA TOWN PARK MEMORIAL TREE GROVE

The Memorial Tree Grove is a designated area within the Town of Cambria Town Park. It originally began as an Eagle Scout Project; the Town now handles the tree planting, staking and placement of the memorial plaque at the base of the tree. The plaque will read "IN MEMORY OF" and includes the name, year of birth and year of death. Anyone interested in purchasing a memorial tree honoring a loved one should fill out the application form and submit payment in the amount of \$300 to the Town Clerk's Office. Forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office or on our website www.townofcambria.com, click on the Town Park/Recreation page. If you have any questions please contact George Bush at 731-9352.



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 10th - 90 West
(High Energy Country Music)
Sunday, July 17th - Boogie Monsters
(Rock)
Sunday, July 24th - Gimme Buffet!
(Party Music)
Sunday, July 31st - East of Eden
(Classic/Southern Rock/Alternative Country)
Sunday, August 7th - The New Direction Band
(Polka, Polka, Polka!)



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-Friday from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm. Forms are also available online from our website, 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.



RECREATION ~ Sally Marotta-Reed



The Town of Cambria will host its annual Summer Day Program beginning **Tuesday**, June 28th and ending Friday, August 5th. 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. As always we have many fun field trips and Fort Niagara Swim trips planned. Our counselors are trained in CPR, First Aid, and AED use. We also have counselors with additional lifeguard training for our ever-popular Fort Niagara swim trips. We will be returning to our former Tuesday/Thursday field trip days, with the exception of the Fantasy Island Wednesday trip.

PLEASE NOTE: In order to participate in our program, all children must be five years old **NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2016**. 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



The Town of Cambria will be offering a 10-week "Soccer Shots" program. The program will run on Saturdays from April - June 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 also uses the sessions to teach children important concepts such as teamwork and respect. To register, visit www.soccershots.org/buffalonorth.

14th ANNUAL TOWN WIDE YARD SALE

SATURDAY, JULY 16 AND SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2016

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. The Town of Cambria provides the brochure (which includes the sale sites, as well as a map), a sign for your location (limited quantities available) 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 13, 2016**

Return to:

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

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
ZIP _____ PHONE _____
EMAIL _____

- MULTI FAMILY CHILDREN'S ITEMS
 HOUSEHOLD ITEMS VARIETY

*** Please choose one ***



2016 FREE RABIES CLINICS

For directions call the specific clinic site. For any other clinic related questions call 439-7511.

Saturday, April 9 ~ 9:00 am-11:00am

Town of Porter Highway Garage
1800 Braley Road ~ 745-3730

Saturday, July 16 ~ 9:00 am-11:00am

Town of Royalton Highway Garage
5316 Royalton Center Road ~ 772-2431



Saturday, June 11 ~ 9:00 am-11:00am

Hyde Park-Oasis/Centennial Pavilion
911 Robbins Drive ~ 286-4940

Saturday, September 17 ~ 9:00 am-11:00am

Town of Lockport Highway Department
6560 Dysinger Road~ 439-9524

CAMBRIA VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY EVENTS

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

25 Week Dinner ~ Saturday, May 7th
Tractor Pulls ~ Aug. 26th -27th
(rain date Aug. 28th)

For more information on these events and hall rentals,
please visit our web site at:

www.cambriavolunteerfire.com



PEKIN FIRE COMPANY EVENTS

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

Wine, Chocolate and Cheese ~ Saturday, April 9th at 11:00am
Spring Gun Raffle ~ Saturday, April 23rd
Meat and Cooler Raffle ~ Saturday, May 7th

For more information on these events and hall rentals,
please visit our web site at:

www.pekinfire.com



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

2016 ELECTIONS

Please note this year several elections will be taking place:

April 19th ~ Presidential Primary
September 13th ~ State & Local Primary

June 28th ~ Federal Primary
November 8th ~ General Election

To register for a political party or register to vote you must complete the New York State Voter Registration Form. This can be found at the Town Clerk's Office. For more information regarding the elections, obtaining an absentee ballot or volunteering, please visit the Niagara County Board of Elections, 111 Main Street Suite 100, Lockport, NY 14094 or call 438-4041 or 438-4040.



MT. VIEW CEMETERY MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Residents are invited to join in the observance of a Memorial Day service on Monday, May 30, 2016. 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.

AGRICULTURE & THINGS TO DO

Niagara County and the Town of Cambria are home to many types of farms. Support your local farmers, visit www.ceniagaracounty.org or www.niagara-usa.com for updated listings of local farmers & markets.

There are so many things to do in the Town of Cambria and in Niagara County.
In the summer there are concerts, fairs, festivals, fishing, boating and so much more!
The Town of Cambria is home to 7 wineries on the Niagara Wine Trail.

**Visit www.niagarawinetrail.org for a complete listing of all the wineries in Niagara County.
Whatever the time of year, there is always something to do!**



ASSESSOR'S OFFICE ~ Debra A. Littere

As Cambria continues to maintain growth, the Assessor's office is continuing the process of gathering data to reflect correct inventory on all parcels. As the weather breaks, we will again be out photographing real property, including improvements, from recent building permits.

Beginning in April of 2016, letters will be mailed regarding the reassessment project for 2017. There are details in the letter that provide information on timelines and how to provide inventory verification through our website.

Appreciation in the local real estate market since the 2011 assessment update has caused our assessments to reflect a value inconsistent with the true value of our properties. As you may have noticed on your 2015-16 school tax bill, the Uniform Percentage of Value in Cambria is now 94%, and going down. I have been tracking sales and it has been determined that an adjustment is necessary to reflect increases and/or decreases in the market.

Market values change. If the assessments do not reflect these changes, then some property taxpayers could pay more than their fair share of taxes, while others may pay less than their fair share. Assessment updates are intended to restore fairness throughout the community. We anticipate the cooperation of our town residents in providing the correct data in relation to their property.

High School Seniors interested in applying for a scholarship from the Niagara County Assessor's Association should inquire at their high school guidance office.



HISTORIAN ~ Brooke Morse

The Cambria Historical Society has announced its Summer and Fall Meeting/Speaker Schedule. Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm, followed by refreshments. The following is a schedule of guest speakers at

7:30 pm:

June 15th: Whole Plant Medicine Herbalist: Herbs, their uses for health and enjoyment with Kristin Gregory

July 20th: Bee Keeper: The challenges for bees and bee keepers today, with Paul Trowbridge

August 17th: Blackman Farms: The Farm Today

September 21: The Underground Rail Road in the Cambria Area, with Deputy Town Historian Gail Reinbird

October 19: Crops and Equipment of Farms on the South Ridge, with Hollis Demmin

The Cambria Historical Hall, is also open on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm or by appointment.

For more information, please visit the Cambria Historical Society's website at www.cambriahistoryniagara.org or "Like" us on Facebook. You may also contact the Town Historian at historian@townofcambria.com.

New members are always welcome and donations of historical items both old and new related to the Town of Cambria are appreciated. Please contact the historian via email for details.

TAX COLLECTOR ~ Debra A. Littere

The last day to pay taxes is **THURSDAY, March 31st 2016** from 8:00 am-12:00 pm and 1:00pm-3:30pm. If you can't make it on that day, please drop your payment at the post-office. It must be postmarked **March 31st, 2016**. There is also a drop box outside the front door to the town hall that is checked daily, and will be checked at 3:30 pm March 31st !

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

It is my pleasure to serve the Town of Cambria residents as your tax collector!

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ~ Jon T. MacSwan



The winter season has been kind to us resulting in a surplus of road salt for use next season. As the snow begins to melt and the ground thaws, flooding can 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 and be sure that the drainage system on your property is flowing, as it should. Several times the only reason for additional water is that there is an obstruction in a ditch or culvert somewhere. If there appears to be a bigger problem, please give our office a call and we will look into rectifying it as soon as possible.

April 15 we will begin chipping brush again. 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 spread out low is preferable to 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 and root balls with a machine at our convenience. Please just make sure to notify us in advance. **We DO NOT chip brush in July and August.** We utilize the warm summer months to repair our roads. September 1 we will resume chipping brush and continue until November 1. We plan on completing the middle section of Baer Rd. this year. We will start at Upper Mountain Rd. and head south to RT. 31, and hopefully move beyond to the Town line. This will depend on the cost of petroleum and weather.

The Highway Superintendent has a new mobile phone number. Should you have any questions, you may call the office at 716-433-8829 or Jon's cell at 716-531-2089. It is our job to help you, should you have a question or concern, please feel free to contact the office anytime. Enjoy the summer!!

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?!

The Friendship Club is an organization for adults age 62 and older who enjoy playing euchre. They meet every other Tuesday at the Community Room located next to the Town Hall from 12:00 pm-3:00 pm.

It is potluck, so bring a dish to pass!
New players are always welcome!

For more information please contact
Loanne McCollum at 434-7296.



Town of Cambria

4160 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD
SANBORN, NY 14132

“NIAGARA COUNTY’S FIRST TOWN”

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



CURRENT RESIDENT OR



TOWN PARK SHELTER RENTAL

There are (5) pavilions available at the Town Park for reservation from May through October. 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.** Please contact the Town Clerk’s Office, 433-7664, for more information.

**2016
HOLIDAYS ~ TOWN HALL CLOSED**

- Good Friday, Friday, March 25
- Memorial Day, Monday, May 30
- Independence Day, Monday, July 4
- Labor Day, Monday, September 5
- Columbus Day, Monday, October 10

**2016
REFUSE/RECYCLING HOLIDAY
SCHEDULE**

Memorial Day Monday, May 30
Delayed until Friday, June 3

Independence Day Monday, July 4
Delayed until Friday, July 8

Labor Day Monday, September 5
Delayed until Friday, September 9

Please note Recycling is every other week.
Please see the website or call 433-2468 for the
pick-up schedule.

Recycle Totes are the property of the Town and were distributed to all residential property owners. These recycle totes have a serial number that is on record in our office. If you sell your home, the Recycle Tote is to remain with the property. Some of our residents have requested additional totes; unfortunately the Town’s policy is one (1) recycle tote per household. If necessary, recyclable items can be placed in clear plastic bags and placed next to your recycle tote. Modern’s Recycle crew will pick them up.