

Town of Cambria

2011 FALL NEWSLETTER



Cambria Town Board

Wright H. Ellis, Supervisor
433-8523

Robert E. Blackman, Councilman
434-7116

George J. Bush, Councilman
731-9352

Randy M. Roberts, Councilman
433-0183

Joseph Ohol, Councilman
433-8243

Town Hall Office Hours

Town Hall

Mon. - Fri. 8 am - 4 pm

Town Clerk

Mon. - Fri. 8 am - 4 pm

Assessor

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

Building Inspector

Mon., Wed., Thurs.
8 am - 4 pm

Highway Department

Mon. - Fri. 9 am - 3:30 pm

Monthly Meetings

Planning Board

3rd Monday at 8 pm

Recreation Committee

1st Wednesday - 6:30 pm

Town Board

2nd Thursday at 8 pm

Zoning Board

4th Monday at 8 pm

FROM THE DESK OF WRIGHT H. ELLIS, SUPERVISOR

Greetings from the pages of our fall newsletter! Since our last newsletter, a lot of construction activity has occurred in our Town. I expect that most of you have noticed the construction activity on Saunders Settlement Road, just east of Shawnee Road. Niagara Professional Park is a 48,000 square foot facility, initially housing Western New York Urology Associates, Inc. and Cancer Care of Western New York (radiation oncology). However, work has commenced on additional office spaces and examination/treatment rooms for another tenant, Great Lakes Medical Imaging. It is anticipated that Great Lakes will move in by the end of the year. Total project cost was estimated at \$11.3 million, with employment projected at about 30 people, including physicians, radiologists and administrative staff. We are fortunate that these businesses are locating in the Town of Cambria, in the center of Niagara County. As you may or may not know, portions of Niagara County have some of the highest rates of cancer-related illnesses among the general population in New York State. Now, our family, friends and neighbors, who are in need of this special care, will have easier access and less travel time to receive quality treatment.

The construction along Lockport Road, just east of Comstock Road, will extend waterlines on both Lockport and Comstock Roads, supporting Niagara County's project to achieve pre-approved "shovel ready" certification for approximately 152 acres in the southeast portion of our Town. In 1997, the Town of Cambria Comprehensive Plan identified that area for long-range business and commercial development. "Shovel Ready" certification, under the Build Now-NY Initiative Program, gives official recognition to sites that have completed intensive state and local government review, necessary to accelerate future investment and development. Businesses are provided the opportunity to break ground on a new facility in a greatly expedited process. The focus is on high technology commercial and light manufacturing uses. It is important that we encourage business development in Cambria, which will add to the tax base and offset the cost of services for increased residential development.

The Niagara Wine Trail continues to grow as we welcome "A Gust of Sun Winery & Vineyard", situated at 4515 Baer Road. This brings the total number of wineries on the Trail to fourteen...half of which are located in Cambria! This new winery joins *Arrowhead Springs Vineyard*, 4746 Cambria-Lockport Townline Road, *Freedom Run Winery*, 5138 Lower Mountain Road, *Eveningside Vineyards LLC*, 4794 Lower Mountain Road, *Niagara Landing Wine Cellars*, 4434 Van Dusen Road and *Honeymoon Trail Winery* at 4120 Ridge Road. Opening soon will be *Long Cliff Winery* at 3617 Lower Mountain Road. It is important to remember that, even though there are many, each winery has its' uniqueness and offers a specialized product different from the others. Please support these local businesses as they expand and build on the long tradition of agriculture in the Town of Cambria, with their venture into agri-tourism. Agri-tourism is the link that influences tourists, visiting the scenic wonder of Niagara Falls, to stay overnight and explore all that the rest of Niagara County has to offer, thus bringing people into our Town.

As always, enjoy the articles herein and remember that our purpose is to serve the citizens of our Town. We are always ready to address your concerns and provide assistance.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE ~ *Janelle L. Kroening*

Exemption season is here again in the Assessor's Office. The Enhanced Star renewals have been mailed for age 65 and over, unless you have signed up for the optional income verification program. Please return the application, along with your 2010 supporting income documentation.

If you, or your spouse, were born in 1947 or before, you are eligible for the Enhanced Star for the 2012 school tax, as long as you meet the income and residency requirements using your 2010 income tax return. Please call 433-8161 ext 22 for the application, or stop by our office for a form.

The other exemption renewals, such as agriculture and low-income senior, will be mailed at their normal times.

The **deadline** continues to be taxable status date, **MARCH 1, 2012** for ALL exemptions.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Town Board will conduct a public hearing on November 10, 2011 at 8 pm at the Town of Cambria Town Hall, 4160 Upper Mt. Rd., to hear and consider any objections to the assessment roll in any of the following districts: Cambria Drainage District, Cambria Refuse & Garbage District, Cambria Water District, Cambria Sewer District #1, Cambria Fire Protection District. The Town Board will consider those objections and reject, correct, amend or affirm the new assessment roll on or before December 31, 2011.

TAX COLLECTOR ~ *Debra A. Littere*

Residents who have questions concerning their SCHOOL TAX BILLS, may call their **SCHOOL DISTRICT** at the number below:

STARPOINT	210-2313
LOCKPORT	439-6744
NEWFANE	778-6858
WILSON	751-9341
NIAGARA WHEATFIELD	298-9209

If your taxes were in escrow and you have paid off your mortgage, please notify the Assessor's office at 433-8161 ext 22. It is the responsibility of **all** landowners, including those who own vacant land, to advise the Assessor's office, in writing, of any changes of address.

TOWN PARK PROGRESS ~ *Jon T. MacSwan*

The summer of 2011 is now coming to a close and the warm, dry weather is changing as autumn rapidly approaches. It was a very eventful summer for the Town Park and some major headway was achieved. The baseball diamond had its opening game and is continuously being played on. It is a beautiful field! If you haven't had a chance to stop by and see it, we encourage you to do so. The soccer fields have been re-fertilized and nets have arrived. Games will, hopefully, be scheduled starting in the spring. A bike/walking path (4,360 ft.) has been dug up and stone rolled. It will most likely be blacktopped in the spring, as well. Future plans include the addition of pavilions and other structures. We are very excited to see the plans for our Town Park come to fruition.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT ~ *Jon T. MacSwan*

A few road projects were completed this year and we have several more to complete; but, continuously rising petroleum costs make it difficult to repair as much per budget year as we have in the past. We appreciate your patience as we assess the condition of these roads and schedule them according to priority.

We have resumed chipping brush and will continue to do so until the snow begins to fly. We have had many calls this year from taxpayers about brush. Please be reminded that we **DO NOT** chip brush during July and August when we are paving roads. September 1st we begin chipping again and encompass the entire town.

The Town of Cambria's Winter Parking Ordinance will take effect November 1st and remain in effect until April 1st, 2012. There is no parking permitted on town roads between the hours of 1 am and 7 am. Please be sure to keep vehicles off the roadway during these hours so we can plow for the morning commute. This will be especially important in any subdivision where plowing is already a challenge.

We are here to assist you in any way that we can. If you have any questions or concerns, please call our office.

TOWN HISTORIAN ~ *Brooke A. Genter*

In April, we welcomed Gail Reinbird as our new Deputy Town Historian. Her knowledge and input has been a tremendous asset to the Historian's office as we plan for upcoming presentations, promote participation in the Historical Society and work to preserve Cambria's historical heritage. If you see the door open at the Historical Museum, chances are we are inside; so, please don't hesitate to stop in!

The Cambria Historical Society is growing! The Historical Museum has been seeing a lot of improvements and changes since the spring. We have been hard at work remodeling, painting, organizing and planning for a new exhibit area that is scheduled for unveiling in spring 2012. Of course, if anyone is interested in seeing what we have been up to or want to find out how they can become a part of our enthusiastic team, our monthly meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. We are located at the Cambria Historical Museum, 4153 Lower Mountain Road, at the intersection of Route 425 and Lower Mountain Road.

Has anyone traced their roots back to the Town of Cambria? Our office is interested in copies of Cambria related genealogical records and family histories. As always, if you have a Cambria related story, photo or artifact to share or donate, do not hesitate to stop in or give us a call at 433-0387.

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

The Friendship Club ~ meetings are held every other Tuesday at the Town's Community Room. Join us for euchre and a potluck dinner at noon. For more information please contact Loanne McCollum at 434-7296.

The Dale Association ~ 315 Bewley Building, Lockport, NY 433-4440. Offers a variety of services for Seniors.

The Sanbornites ~ Contact Susan Letourneau, 731-4550.

REFUSE/ RECYCLING COLLECTION HOLIDAY PICK-UP SCHEDULE

Thanksgiving Day

Collection will be on Friday, November 25, 2011

Christmas Day

Collection will be on Friday, December 30, 2011

New Year's Day

Collection will be on Friday, January 6, 2012



All items must be at curbside by 7 am. Each household is allowed six containers or bags of trash and no container should exceed 60 pounds. One large item is allowed each week (appliance, furniture, mattress, etc.). Construction materials **ARE NOT** accepted at curbside. For disposal of these items and computer related equipment please contact Niagara County Landfill/Recycling at 434-6568.

AGRICULTURAL PLASTIC DISPOSAL

Collection of agricultural plastics is scheduled between Monday, Nov. 14 - Friday, Nov. 18th. A roll-off container will be located at Coulter Farms, 3871 North Ridge Road.

PASSENGER/OVERSIZED TIRE DISPOSAL

Tires may be dropped off by residents on Saturday, October 29th from 8 am until 12:00 noon at the Town Municipal Building. BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCY. Roll-off containers will be provided for passenger and truck tires, as well as oversized agricultural tires. A permit for oversized tires is required and is available at the Town Clerk's office (limit of eight per year). There is no fee for this permit.

TOWN CLERK ~ Lou Ann Murawski

Each year the Town Clerk's Office receives several dog complaints. The Niagara County SPCA, acting as our Dog Control Officer, will provide their services in resolving issues relating to complaints in violation of our local law regulating dogs. Their telephone number is 731-4368.

In compliance with NYS Agriculture and Markets law, our office will continue with our efforts to ensure dog owners are licensing their dogs. The complete Dog Control Law is available on the Town's website: www.townofcambria.com under the Town Clerk tab. A copy is also available from our office, upon request. Please feel free to contact the Town Clerk's office if you have any questions.

RABIES IMMUNIZATION CLINIC



The last free clinic for this year will be held on **Saturday, December 3, 2011, from 2 pm - 4 pm**
City of North Tonawanda Department of Public Works
758 Erie Ave., North Tonawanda, 695-8585

ELECTION DAY ~ NOVEMBER 8, 2011

All voting will take place at the Cambria Fire Hall, 4631 Cambria-Wilson Road. Polls are open from 6 am-9 pm.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Looking ahead to the fall season, we will again schedule appointments for the "Automatic Meter Read" meters. We hope to have all the meters changed out soon. Until that time, we continue to stress to our customers that have to read their water meter, to continue to be prompt in remitting the meter reading when you receive the meter card. Estimated water bills result in inaccurate customer usage and poor accounting to the customer, as well as the Water District.

Periodically, we find it necessary to contact our customers regarding water service problems. If you have changed your telephone number, we would appreciate your calling us to update your record.

In today's tough economic times, conservation of all our utilities is important. Malfunctioning toilets, that may quietly continue to run after flushing, are a major contributor to high water bills. We have been able to alert many of our customers, who now have the AMR water meter, that a leak in their household plumbing has been detected. Most often, the problem relates to a leaking toilet. If you find your toilet is in need of repair, you might want to consider replacement with a water conserving, "low flow" toilet.

Another easy strategy for saving water would be the installation of a "low flow" showerhead. Typically, low flow showerheads have multiple settings that allow you to adjust the flow of water, as well as the water pressure.

As always, our Water Department personnel are here to help you with your drinking water problems and concerns.

BUILDING INSPECTOR ~ Clifford E. Burch

As the daylight hours begin to fade away and the temperatures begin to drop, our thoughts turn to the fall season. A reminder, keep your family safe! Be sure to check the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

Although the season is about to change, there are always building projects, repairs and improvements to be made. Building permits are required for many projects so be sure to check with our department before you start your building project. Visit our website for answers to many of your questions at www.townofcambria.com. Building permit applications can be picked up Monday - Friday from 8 am to 1:30 pm. Building permits are issued on Monday and Thursday between 8 am and 12 noon, or by appointment. If your project requires a division of land, variance, special permit or a site plan review, the Building Inspector must receive the **completed** applications **no later than the 1st Thursday of the month** that the applicant wishes to have the appropriate board act upon the application. An appointment with the Building Inspector to complete these applications is recommended.

VETERANS' DAY



Commemorating our 14th year, we encourage you to join us as we honor our Veterans at our annual Veterans' Day ceremony to be held at the Town Hall on Friday, November 11th at 11 am. Light refreshments to follow.



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

Town of Cambria
4160 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD
SANBORN, NY 14132

Current Resident or:

“Niagara’s County’s Oldest Town”
~Established March 11, 1808~
Fall 2011 ~ Newsletter

UPCOMING FIRE COMPANY EVENTS

Pekin Fire Company- Phone: (716) 731-4777		Cambria Fire Company- Phone: (716) 434-8949	
Oct. 1st	Gun Raffle	Oct. 22nd	Wine and Cheese Event
Oct. 15th	Craft & Flea Market/ Chowder & Bake Sale 9 am-4 pm	Oct. 29th	Halloween Party 5:30 pm-8 pm
Oct. 30th	Halloween party 6 pm	Nov. 5th	25-Week Club Dinner
Nov. 19th	Turkey Party 7 pm-Turkey, Ham, & Loin Raffles	Nov. 8th	Election Day Chowder Sale (<i>Take out only</i>)
Dec. 10th	Christmas Auction 6:30 auction of new merchandise	Nov. 12th	Turkey Party 6:00 pm
		Feb 24th-Mar 31st	Friday Lenten Fish Fry 4 pm-7 pm



RANSOMVILLE FREE LIBRARY

3733 Ransomville Rd., Ransomville, NY 14131 Phone 791-4073

Monday & Wednesday 2 pm-8 pm
Tuesday & Thursday 10 am-8 pm & Saturday 2 pm-5 pm
October 26th ~ Halloween Stories 6:30 pm

Used books can be dropped off during library hours.

SANBORN/PEKIN FREE LIBRARY

5884 West Street, Sanborn, NY 14132 Phone 731-9933

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 2 pm-8 pm
Tuesday & Friday 2 pm-6 pm & Saturday 10 am-1 pm

Story Hour for ages 3-5 starts October 11, 2011 and runs for five weeks from 1 pm - 1:45 pm.



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING/CAROLING

Our eighth annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Caroling celebration will be held on **Saturday, November 26th, beginning at 3 pm** at the Town Community Room. This annual event offers horse-drawn carriage rides, crafts, caroling, refreshments and a visit from Old St. Nick himself! Join us as we usher in the holiday season with this memorable event.



HOLIDAYS-TOWN HALL CLOSED

2011

Columbus Day (observed)	Monday, Oct. 10
Election Day	Tuesday, Nov. 8
Veteran's Day	Friday, Nov. 11
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, Nov. 24
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, Nov. 25
Christmas Day (observed)	Monday, Dec. 26

2012

New Year's Day (observed)	Monday, Monday, Jan 2
Martin Luther King Day	Monday, Jan. 16
President's Day	Monday, Feb. 20

DEPARTMENT HEADS/OFFICIALS

Assessor ~ Janelle L. Kroening	433-8161
Building Inspector ~ Clifford E. Burch	433-8161
Highway Superintendent ~ Jon T. MacSwan	433-8829
Planning Board Chair ~ William Amacher	731-5277
Tax Collector ~ Debra A. Littere	433- 8161
Town Clerk ~ Lou Ann Murawski	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 ~ John Reardon	434-0414