



# 2014 Town of Cambria Fall Newsletter

Visit our website [www.townofcambria.com](http://www.townofcambria.com)

## FROM THE DESK OF WRIGHT H. ELLIS, SUPERVISOR

Welcome again to the pages of our Town Newsletter! Cambria, as with many rural communities and towns, is experiencing an unsatisfactory level of service by the Public Service Utility companies who are franchised to operate in those communities as well as their reluctance to extend their services. Our concerns are particularly acute regarding broadband service and natural gas. Town wide broadband service, through the telephone companies and Time Warner Cable, is sporadic and limited. Basic cable TV service is not available on many roads which forces people to invest in satellite technology. The Town of Cambria is participating in an initiative with Niagara and Orleans counties to attract more broadband carriers to the area, thereby introducing some competition in the marketplace to extend coverage in rural areas, along with pressure to lower cable rates. Natural Gas service is complicated due to the fact that our town franchise is divided between National Fuel, to the West, and New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG), to the East. We are seeing the extension of natural gas service by National Fuel eastward along Upper Mountain Rd. from Shawnee Rd. Tentative plans are to continue extension to Cambria Rd. and then southward on Cambria Rd. A possible extension westward along Upper Mountain Rd. toward Subbera Rd. by NYSEG has apparently been cancelled. Requests for extension of utility services are routinely answered by referring to the New York State Public Service Commission (NYSPSC) formula for minimum number of homes per statute mile and the statement that, "... extension would be a large capital expense for the company." The alternative is for the individual homeowners to pay a substantial up-front installation fee, with possible pay back in the future as more homes come on line and hook up. Large utility companies have considerable inertia, but we are trying to generate some movement in expansion of their services.

Random acts of vandalism continue to be a problem in the Town Park, with property damage requiring the expenditure of time and financial resources to rectify. Much of the damage is from ATVs and other wheeled vehicles. The Town Board is exploring the installation of a security camera system to monitor ingress and egress from the Park and installation of additional fencing on both sides of the gate at the park entrance. We are aware that there is much interest in access to the Park during the winter for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and walking. We will try to figure out a way to accommodate those interests.

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.

### Cambria Town Court

Justice Amel S. Jowdy ~ 433-3088 x113 & 139  
Justice Henry J. Peters ~ 433-3088 x117 & 144

### Cambria Town Board Meets 2nd Thursday at 8pm

Wright H. Ellis  
Supervisor  
433-8523

Matthew P. Foe  
Councilman  
433-3370

Jeffrey S. Hurtgam  
Councilman  
791-4146

Joseph Ohol  
Councilman  
433-8243

Randy M. Roberts  
Councilman  
433-0183

### 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  
8am-4pm

Hours vary for each  
office.



## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Town Board will conduct a public hearing on November 6, 2014, at 8 pm at the Town of Cambria Town Hall, 4160 Upper Mountain Road, to hear and consider any objections to the assessment roll in any of the following districts: Cambria Drainage District, Cambria Refuse 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, 2014.

### ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

Our collection site is located in the small building directly behind the Municipal Garage. It will be accessible Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:30 am and 3:00 pm. You must check in with the Highway Department Clerk for registration and directions. Her office is located on the west end of the Municipal Garage. Please call 433-8829 with any questions.

### JON MACSWAN, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

We have resumed chipping brush and will continue to do so until the snow begins to fly. Please note we do not chip brush during July & August when we are paving roads. September 1<sup>st</sup> we begin chipping again & encompass the entire Town. Please remember beginning November 1<sup>st</sup> the Town of Cambria's Winter Parking Ordinance will take effect & remain until April 1, 2015. There is no parking permitted on Town roads between the hours of 1 am & 7 am. Please be sure to keep vehicles off the roadway during these hours so we can plow for the morning commute.



### SALLY MAROTTA REED, DIRECTOR DAY PROGRAM



#### Day Recreation

The 2014 Summer Recreation program continued its tradition of daily arts and crafts, site activities, and field trips. Although the summer was "wet" at times, the program continued on with exciting games and activities to keep children occupied (and dry)! Thanks to all those who made this year's program a success. Please "friend" us on Facebook (Cambria Recreation) to keep up-to date on upcoming events and programs!

#### Soccer

We will be continue to offer a 10-week Saturday "Soccer Shots" program 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. Soccer Shots teaches children important concepts such as teamwork, sharing and respect. To register, visit [www.soccershots.org/buffalonorh/](http://www.soccershots.org/buffalonorh/).

### PASSENGER/OVERSIDED TIRE DISPOSAL

Tires may be dropped off by residents on Saturday, October 18th, from 8 am until 12 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.

### AGRICULTURAL PLASTIC DISPOSAL

Collection of agricultural plastics is scheduled between Monday, Nov. 10th through Sunday, Nov. 16th. A roll-off container will be located at Coulter Farms, 3871 North Ridge Road.

### DOG ENUMERATION

Article 7 of the NYS Agriculture & Markets Law requires all dogs older than 4 months to be licensed within the Town they reside. Licensing ensures that all dogs have been properly vaccinated against rabies for the protection of both you & your neighbors. The Town Clerk's office will be conducting a dog enumeration in the Spring of 2015 by mail AND random house visits. If at this time you haven't returned the proper information or are found to be harboring any unlicensed dog(s) you will be subject to possible court fines per dog as well as one-time census fee of \$10 per dog that will be added to the dog license base fee. Any dog living with you for more than 30 days must be licensed. **\*\*If you FOSTER dogs & they are in your care for more than 30 days they are required to be licensed.\*\***



### DEBRA A. LITTERE, ASSESSOR

We are wishing the best for Janelle on this new chapter in her life. I am honored to have learned the ropes from someone as knowledgeable and as fair as Janelle, and it is my hope to continue in the same tradition.

As the leaves are changing color, we know exemption season has arrived. The Enhanced Star renewals have been mailed for age 65 and over, unless you have signed up for the optional income verification program. The low-income senior and agricultural exemptions will be mailed in December. If you, or your spouse, were born in 1950 or earlier, you are eligible for the Enhanced Star exemption.

## WATER DEPARTMENT



Our 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 district 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.

Periodically it is necessary to contact our customers regarding water service issues. This can only be accomplished if we have your current contact information on file. If you have changed your telephone number recently, please call our office to update your phone number.

Fire Hydrant damage is a common problem for all seasons. Accidents involving hydrants sometimes go unreported. For everyone's safety, it is critical that these damaged hydrants be repaired as soon as possible. If you notice a fire hydrant that needs repair, please contact us immediately.

## DEBRA A. LITTERE, TAX COLLECTOR



The school district tax bills have been mailed to taxpayers. The following is a list of the School District Tax Collector's telephone numbers:

Starpoint	(716) 210-2313
Wilson	(716) 751-9341
Newfane	(716) 778-6858
NiagaraWheatfield	(716) 215-3000
Lockport	(716) 439-6744

Unpaid school tax bills will be re-levied onto the 2015 Town and County tax bill. If your taxes were in escrow, and you have paid off your mortgage, please notify the Assessor's office at 433-8161 ext. 122. 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. **New Feature:** For your convenience, you may look up your Town and County tax receipts online: <http://egov.basny.com/cambria>.

## JAMES MCCANN, BUILDING INSPECTOR

Fall clean-up can become an issue regarding the burning of leaves and grass clippings. This type of burning emits offensive smoke and odors that can be offensive to your neighbors. The best way to dispose of leaves and grass clippings is to bag them and put them to the road with your regular trash.

After all the outside work is completed, maybe you have a re-modeling project you would like to work on over the winter months. Check with our office to see if a Building Permit is required. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Field work is conducted in the afternoon, so appointments are recommended.

We continually strive to ensure our Town is a safe and pleasant place to live. If you have an issue you wish to discuss, please contact us.

*"Don't forget to check the batteries in your Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detectors-  
Keep Your Family Safe"*

## BROOKE MORSE, TOWN HISTORIAN



The Cambria Historical Society held a Grand Re-Opening for the Historical Hall on August 24th, officially reopening to the public for the first time in over four years. We received some great feedback and it was great to see close to 100 members of the community come through the doors to see what has been accomplished. Since 2011, the hall has received fresh coats of paint to the interior and exterior, new windows and treatments, has been completely reorganized, and a completely new exhibit space was developed. A huge thank you to those of you who came out, and to those who have pitched in to help along the way.

For more information on location, hours, meetings, programs, and more, please visit the Cambria Historical Society's website at [www.cambriahistoryniagara.org](http://www.cambriahistoryniagara.org) or "Like" us on Facebook. You may also contact the Town Historian at [historian@townofcambria.com](mailto:historian@townofcambria.com). New members are always welcome and historical items both old and new related to the Town of Cambria are appreciated.

## TOWN PARK MEMORIAL TREE GROVE



Memorial Tree Grove applications are available at the Town Clerk's office. The new fee is \$300, please make checks payable to the Town of Cambria. Please contact George Bush (731-9352) with any questions.



## REFUSE/RECYCLING COLLECTION



Thank you all residents for using the recycling carts and so enthusiastically supporting our expanded recycling program! In April through July 2014, the Town recycled 158 tons of material and disposed of 760 tons. This brought the recycling rate up to 17% for that time period; an increase over the same time period the previous year. We all benefit when waste is recycled to the extent that it can be and we dispose less, so keep up the good work recycling!

We still get light bulbs, florescent tubes and polystyrene (Styrofoam) in recycling carts. While these items can be recycled, they are not acceptable in the Town's program and should be recycled through another source or placed in your trash can.

Remember that Recycling Carts are TOWN PROPERTY and must remain with that street address, when selling or vacating your home. Place your cart with the arrow facing the road and three feet of clearance on both sides. Large bulky recyclable items, like cardboard, broken lawn chairs, toddler slides, and other rigid plastic items may be placed next to your recycling cart *on a recycling week* for recycling collection. Flatten cardboard boxes first and you will have more room to fit other recyclables. Put recyclables in your cart or bin loose, not inside a bag. Materials are sorted in a high-speed process so bagged items are a challenge to sort and lead to contamination. See how the process works at [www.ModernCorporation.com](http://www.ModernCorporation.com).

Looking for more ways to cut waste and increase recycling? Here are some ideas:

- ⇒ Pizza boxes are now recyclable. Remove the paper liner and leftover food, fold in half and put right in your recycling cart. If the box is extra greasy, rip off the bottom and put in the clean top. Folding boxes prevents them from getting stuck in your cart when it is emptied.
- ⇒ Don't forget the plastics! Tubs from butter, cream cheese and other foods, beverage bottles as well as shampoo are all recyclable. These plastic items can be turned into pipes, toothbrush handles, bowls, even T-shirts!
- ⇒ First, reuse. Thrift stores, consignment shops, online used goods dealers, garage sales, family and friends are all good ways to donate or sell usable goods and clothing so someone else may reuse them.
- ⇒ For your convenience, many textile recovery companies have collection boxes throughout the region and at least one has a mail-in program in collaboration with the U.S. Postal Service. These companies often accept more than just clothes, like blankets and footwear, and they do not have to be wearable condition as long as the material is clean and dry. What is not reused may be shredded to make rags, auto insulation or other products.
- ⇒ You can return not only your plastic carryout bags to the grocery store for recycling, but also cracker and cereal liner bags, produce bags, pellet and salt bags, case overwrap and clean films, food storage bags and bread bags too.

For even more recycling tips, visit Modern's website at [ModernCorporation.com](http://ModernCorporation.com) or like them on Facebook at [Facebook.com/ModernDisposal](https://www.facebook.com/ModernDisposal).

**All items must be at curbside by 7am.** Each household is allowed six containers or bags of trash & no container is to exceed 60 pounds. One large item is allowed each week (appliance, furniture, mattress, etc). Construction materials **ARE NOT** accepted curbside.

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

# DATES TO REMEMBER

## HOLIDAY-TOWN HALL CLOSED

### 2014

Columbus Day (observed)	Mon., Oct 13
Election Day	Tues., Nov 4
Veteran's Day	Tues., Nov 11
Thanksgiving	Thurs., Nov 27
Day after Thanksgiving	Fri., Nov 28
Christmas Day (observed)	Thurs., Dec 25

### 2015

New Year's Day (observed)	Thurs., Jan 1
Martin Luther King Day	Mon., Jan 19
President's Day	Mon., Feb 17

## VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION

Our 17th annual Veterans' Day ceremony will be held at **11 am on November 11, 2014**, at the Community Room. Please join us in honoring our veterans. Light refreshments to follow.



## ELECTION DAY ~ NOV 4, 2014

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

## TOWN OF CAMBRIA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

A committee appointed by the Town Board has been working on updating the Town of Cambria Comprehensive Plan for the past year. Information and input from an earlier public meeting and a Town-wide survey have been incorporated into the document. A Public Information Meeting to present the final draft & receive comments is scheduled for Thursday, 30 October 2014, at 7:00 pm, in the Community Center. All are welcome.

## CAMBRIA FIRE HALL

4631 Cambria-Wilson Road  
434-8948

### October

25<sup>th</sup> - Town Halloween Party

### November

1<sup>st</sup> - 25 Week Dinner

4<sup>th</sup> - Elections 6am-9pm

8<sup>th</sup> - Holiday Craft Fair 11-3pm

15<sup>th</sup> - Turkey Raffle

Check for more information at  
[www.cambriavolunteerfire.com](http://www.cambriavolunteerfire.com) or on  
Facebook at Cambria Volunteer Fire Company.



## RABIES IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

**Saturday, December 6, 2014, from 2 pm - 4 pm**  
City of North Tonawanda Public Works  
758 Erie Ave., North Tonawanda, 695-8585

## CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING-CAROLING

Our 11th annual Christmas Tree Lighting-Caroling celebration will be held **Saturday, November 29th beginning at 4 pm-6pm** at the Town Community Room. This annual event offers horse-drawn carriage rides, crafts, caroling, refreshments and a visit from Santa! Any non-perishable food item brought to our celebration will be donated to a local food pantry.



## HOLIDAY REFUSE PICK-UP SCHEDULE

### **Thanksgiving Day**

Collection will be on Friday, Nov. 28, 2014

### **Christmas Day**

Collection will be on Friday, Dec. 26, 2014

### **New Year's Day**

Collection will be on Friday, Jan. 2, 2015

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

## FLU SHOT CLINIC



The Town of Cambria will be hosting a flu clinic  
Wednesday, October 22, 2014, from  
10AM—1PM at the Cambria Town Hall. Flu and pneumonia shots will be  
available, bring your insurance card and wear a short sleeved shirt!





Town of Cambria

4160 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD

SANBORN, NY 14132

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

CURRENT RESIDENT OR:

*Congratulations on Your Retirement!!*

*Janelle L. Kroening*

*Janelle L. Kroening retired on June 30, 2014, after twenty-two years of public service to the Town of Cambria and its citizens. She served in a variety of positions, including Tax Collector from 1992 to 2009, Deputy Tax Collector from 2010 to the present, Real Property Appraisal Technician from April 2002 to January 2008 and Sole Appointed Assessor from February 2008 to June 2014. Janelle brought a strong work ethic to her tasks, paying great attention to detail and maintaining a high quality in all that she accomplished. She did her homework on EACH parcel of property and was most effective in her interface with the public. Her warm smile was always evident and she conveyed a sense of personal commitment to her work and personal concern for the customer.*

*The Town Board thanks Janelle for her service and wishes her the best in her retirement and future endeavors.*

