

Town of Cambria 2020 Spring Newsletter

visit our website www.townofcambria.com



From the desk of Wright H. Ellis, Supervisor

Greetings from the pages of our semi-annual newsletter! We are easing into the last month of winter, with snow falling and a few days of bitterly cold weather ahead. Not sure what to make of this season with little snow accumulation and constant shifting between cold and unseasonably warm.

Saunders Settlement Road Waterline Replacement. The Town Board advertised for bids and awarded the contract to 4th Generation Construction, Inc., out of Niagara Falls, in the amount of \$689,710. Work is expected to commence in April and will take approximately twelve (12) weeks. The project involves replacing the 8-inch line on the north side of Saunders Settlement Road between Baer and Shenk Roads with 12-inch pipe. The up-sizing of the waterline will improve transmission capabilities, including pressure and flow, within our system.

It will directly improve fire protection for the Niagara County Community College campus and dormitory, the BOCES campus, as well as residents in Sanborn. It will also provide for future demand from anticipated residential and economic development in that area of our Town. We were not successful (twice) in our attempts to obtain a grant through the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) which would have covered up to 60% of the cost. Payment will be made out of the Water Construction Reserve Fund and a five-year Bond Anticipation Note (BAN).

Niagara County is scheduling a county-wide Hazardous Material Collection event on Saturday, April 18th, 9:00 am to noon, 1445 Swann Road, Lewiston, DPW Garage. Town of Cambria residents are eligible to participate. These events are very expensive to host due to the many precautions which must be taken when handling and disposing of hazardous materials. Please take advantage of this opportunity since these events are not held frequently. More details inside.

The Bear Ridge Solar Project is nearing the end of the Stipulations phase. We continue to challenge the developer on many of the Stipulations which impact the Town and/or its citizens. We anticipate that a Public Notice will be published soon, announcing the beginning of a thirty-day public comment period, during which the Stipulations can be challenged before a final draft is compiled for filing with the Siting Board. Our more immediate concern is with Governor Cuomo's recently announced 30-day Budget Amendment creating an Office of Renewable Energy Permitting. It would replace the Article 10 process for renewable energy projects, speed up the regulatory review and remove what little input the local community has at present.

Instead of the developer having to prove that the zoning is, "unreasonably burdensome or restrictive," the burden of proof would now be on the municipality to demonstrate that its' zoning is NOT "unreasonably burdensome or restrictive." Thus local zoning could routinely be ignored, land could be purchased by the State through NYSERDA, permitted by the State regulatory agencies through an expedited procedure and financing arranged before being turned over to a developer for construction and operation. That would be a major headache for all of us. And on that note...

There is a lot of information inside these pages, so please take the time to read the articles. Our purpose is to serve the best interests of the Town and its citizens, so keep us informed.



"Life is like a bowl of ice-cream, it melts very quickly so enjoy it while it lasts."

~Unknown~

TOWN BOARD

Wright H. Ellis

Supervisor
433-8523

Matthew P. Foe

Councilman
433-3370

Jeffrey S. Hurtgam

Councilman
791-4146

Benjamin Musall

Councilman
277-5390

Randy M. Roberts

Councilman
433-0183

Monthly Meetings

Begin at 7:00 pm

Planning Bd. ~ 3rd Monday
Town Bd. ~ 2nd Thursday
Zoning Bd. ~ 4th Monday

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 x127

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.

2020 FREE RABIES IMMUNIZATION CLINIC DATES

FOR CLINIC RELATED QUESTIONS, CALL THE NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT
716-439-7511

Saturday, June 6th from 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Hyde Park Oasis/Centennial Pavilion (behind Ice Arena)
911 Robbins Drive, City of Niagara Falls
Phone: 716-286-4940

Saturday, July 11th from 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Town of Wilson Highway Garage
3356 Wilson-Cambria Rd., Town of Wilson
Phone: 716-751-6704

Saturday, September 19th from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Town of Lockport Highway Department
6560 Dysinger Road, Town of Lockport
Phone: 716-439-9524



2020 DOG ENUMERATION

*** ATTENTION DOG OWNERS ***

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 current rabies vaccination in addition to proof if the dog has been spayed/neutered.

The Town Clerk's office will be conducting a dog enumeration this spring/summer.

Please get your dogs licensed before May 8th to avoid the enumeration fine.

CAMBRIA TOWN COURT

Justice Jowdy Jr. ~ 433-3088 ext. 139
1st Tuesday at 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm, 2nd &
5th Tuesday at 7:00 pm
Justice Jowdy III ~ 433-3088 ext. 144
3rd & 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm

2020 HOLIDAYS ~ TOWN HALL CLOSED

Good Friday, Friday, April 10
Memorial Day, Monday, May 25
Independence Day, Friday, July 3
Labor Day, Monday, September 7
Columbus Day, Monday, October 12

CAMBRIA TOWN PARK MEMORIAL TREE GROVE

The Memorial Tree Grove is a designated area within the Town of Cambria Town Park. 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. The plaque will read *IN MEMORY OF* and includes the name, year of birth and year of death.

Forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office or on our website www.townofcambria.com, click on the Town Park/Recreation page.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Conservation of our natural resources is important and you can play an important role 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 bill. 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 state 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 x114. If you have any questions or concerns, we will be happy to help you!

2019 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

[http://www.townofcambria.com/ContentPages/Documents/2019\(1\).pdf](http://www.townofcambria.com/ContentPages/Documents/2019(1).pdf)

Copies will be available at the following locations:

~ Town of Cambria Town Hall ~ Sanborn & Pekin Library, 5890 West St., Sanborn, NY

~ Ransomville Free Library, 3733 Ransomville Rd., Ransomville, NY

Posted on our website: <http://www.townofcambria.com/>

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ~ Jon T. MacSwan



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 contact our office and we will look into rectifying it as soon as possible. April 15, 2020, 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** take 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 make sure to notify us in advance. **We DO NOT chip brush in the months of July and August.** We utilize the warm summer months to repair our roads.

On September 14th, 2020, we will resume chipping brush, and will continue until October 20th, 2020. Should you have any questions or concerns, you may call the office at 433-8829, Ext. 127/124. Enjoy the summer!

TAX COLLECTOR ~ Debra A. Littere

The last day to pay taxes is **Tuesday March 31st, 2020**. From 8:00am-12:00pm 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 2020**. 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 31ST 2020!** We have started to accept payment of taxes by credit/debit card. If you wish to pay your taxes with a card, **you must come in to pay**. There is a convenience fee of 3% of the bill. We hope this will appease homeowners who wish to pay their taxes this way. Tax bills/receipts are available online! On the Town of Cambria website, www.townofcambria.com, under the Tax Collector tab, the link <http://egov.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!

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 notifying property owners of existing violations and request that they correct the issue 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 "**Junk Yards**". 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 "**Junk Yard**". We receive numerous complaints during the year concerning properties that have buildings & barns that should be torn down or refurbished. 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. Legal action will be taken if they do not come into compliance.

Before starting a construction or remodel project you should check with our department to see if a building permit is needed. Swimming pools, above ground & in-ground, require building permits. A listing of "**Requirements for swimming pools**" is available from our office.

ALSO, IF YOU HAVE PLANS TO BRING IN FILL FOR ANY PARCEL YOU MUST CHECK WITH OUR BUILDING INSPECTOR!!

ASSESSOR~ Debra A. Littere

Our Town, as well as much of Western New York, continues to experience an upsurge of sales in the real estate market. This is great news for homeowners! The value of your property & your most valuable asset & has continued to grow. This office continues to monitor the trends that impact our values, as well as gathering data to reflect correct inventory on all parcels. As the weather breaks, we will again be out photographing the real property, including improvements from recent building permits.

As the March 2nd deadline for exemptions has passed, we thank everyone for getting their paperwork to us in a timely manner. This includes the many new enhanced STAR exemptions that were processed this year. 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 ~ Gail Reinbird

Gail Reinbird is the new Historian for the Town of Cambria. The former Historian, Brooke Morse is now the deputy. Research inquiries and appointments to visit the Cambria Historical Hall may be arranged by contacting the Town Historian at townhistorian@townofcambria.com.

18th ANNUAL TOWN WIDE YARD SALE

Friday, July 17th Sunday, July 19, 2020

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 and advertising using various types of media (all at no cost to you)! Pick up signs at Town Hall commencing Wednesday, July 15, 2020, in the Town Clerk's Office. 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: Friday, June 12, 2020

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 ***

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION



Date: Saturday April 18, 2020

Times: 9:00 am to noon.

Location: 1445 Swann Rd. Lewiston, 14092
(Lewiston DPW Garage)

Contact # for information: 716-998-8073 or
recycling@niagaracounty.com

ELECTRONIC WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

Date: Saturday April 18, 2020

Times: 9:00 am to noon.

Location: 4746 Model City Rd. Model City, 14107

No pre-registration required.

Limit 4 CRT devices per vehicle.



CAMBRIA OPPOSITION TO SOLAR

Cambria residents: Across New York State utility size solar installation projects are being proposed. Cypress Creek Renewables, a solar company out of California, is in the preliminary phases of approval for its "Bear Ridge Solar Project" in the Town of Cambria on properties along Saunders Settlement, Upper Mountain, Comstock, Meahl, Lockport and Mapleton Roads. 780 acres of solar panels would be in Cambria with an adjacent 120 acres in Pendleton, producing 100 megawatts of power.

The property under consideration is zoned Agricultural Residential. A project this size would change usage to Industrial, undoubtedly changing Cambria's country setting forever.

The Cambria Town Board, the Pendleton Town Board, and the Niagara County Legislature, through individual resolutions, have gone on record as being against this project along with the Cambria Fire Department. The Starpoint School Board, by way of a letter sent directly to Governor Cuomo, has also voiced its opposition to the project. The Department of Public Service Article 10 passed in 2011 by the New York State Legislature and signed by Governor Andrew Cuomo, gives the state the power to override "Home Rule" in order to ignore local zoning and construct a large power project.

There is a grass roots group, "Cambria Opposition to Industrial Solar" (C.O.I.S.), of very concerned Cambria residents who are working in conjunction with town officials to fight this project. The group is not against solar energy, but is against the conversion of agricultural land to Industrial in order to construct such commercial projects. C.O.I.S. has a Facebook page dedicated to getting information to the public and monthly meetings where factual information and concerns are shared. There is a petition at the Town Hall in opposition to this project which anyone 18 years of age and older may sign.

If this project comes to fruition, not only will the country atmosphere and sense of community be lost here, property values could be affected which in turn could raise taxes and no utility benefits. Get involved and join C.O.I.S.

For more information please call 716-433-5582 or 716-545-5370.

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 5th - 90 West

(High Energy Country Music)

Sunday, July 12th - The New Direction Band

(Polka, Polka, Polka!)

Sunday, July 19th - Dark Horse Run

(Yesterday & Today's Country hits)

Sunday, July 26th - 716 Dance Band

(70's, 80's, 90's, 00's dance)

Sunday, August 2nd - McHenry and Baz

(60's, 70's, 80's 90's)



DAY RECREATION PROGRAM-7 weeks in 2020

Summer Recreation Program: **Monday, July 6th through Friday, August 21st. COST:** the 7 week program will be **\$80** per child for residents and **\$150** per child for non-residents.

PROOF OF RESIDENCY WILL BE REQUIRED.

The staff will provide a fun, safe and enriching experience for children ages 5-15. Children will participate in age appropriate games, physical activities, arts & crafts and explore nature. We have many fun field trips planned. Our counselors are trained in CPR, First Aid, and AED use.

PLEASE NOTE: In order to participate in our program, all children must be five years old **NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2020.**

REGISTRATION: Applications will be available in the Town Clerk's Office ONLY-beginning date -TBD

(please check website for further details)

Last day to register is Friday, June 19, 2020.

Cash or credit card only (service fee of 2.45% for credit/debit cards). Sorry, no personal checks will be accepted.

You must register in person at the Town Clerk's Office, first come first served. Space is limited for non-residents and is first come first serve, no exceptions.

FIELD TRIPS: You now have the opportunity to pay for field trips with a credit card AND you may also pay for them when you register your child!

CAMBRIA VOL. FIRE COMPANY EVENTS

4631 Cambria-Wilson Road, Lockport, NY 14094 ~ 434-8948

Lenten Fish Fry ~ Thru April 10th (4:00 pm-7:00 pm)

Spring Meat Raffle ~ April 4th (6:00 pm)

Sportsman Raffle ~ April 25th (2:00 pm)

25 Week Dinner ~ May 2nd (6:00 pm)

Tractor Pull ~ August 29th (10:00 am)

Vendor Show/Raffle ~ October 17th (Noon-5:00 pm)

We are accepting application for membership- AGES:16 & 17

18 and up- If interested contact us at: 716-434-8948

For more information on these events and hall rentals, please visit our web site at: www.cambriavolunteerfire.com or like us on Facebook

SANBORN FIRE COMPANY EVENTS

5811 Buffalo Street, Sanborn, NY 14132 ~ 731-4616

Bingo ~ Friday's (7:50 pm)

Easter Raffle ~ April 11th (10:00 am)

Sanborn Fire Band Spring Concert ~ May 20th (7:00 pm)
at Sanborn Fire Hall

Sanborn Fire Band Summer Concert ~ July 26th (1:30 pm)
at Historical Society/Farm Museum

Gun Raffle ~ September 26th (5:00 pm)

Kids Halloween Party ~ October 31st (6:00 pm)

Sanborn Fire Band Christmas Concert ~ Nov. 29th (7:00 pm)
at Sanborn Fire Hall

For more information on these events and hall rentals, please call or like us on Facebook

2020 REFUSE/RECYCLING HOLIDAY SCHEDULE



Memorial Day Monday, May 25

Delayed until Friday, May 29

Labor Day Monday, September 7

Delayed until Friday, September 11



IMPORTANT RECYCLING NEWS

Modern is changing the recycling week from B to A beginning April 2, 2020 on the following roads:

- Baer Road (Upper Mt. to Lower Mt.)
- Shawnee Road (Upper Mt. to Lower Mt.)
- Stoelting Road
- Cambria Road (Upper Mt. to Lower Mt.)
- Blackman Road (Upper Mt. to Lower Mt.)

Residents will receive their B week collection on Thursday March 26th then on Thursday April 2nd, they will move permanently to A week collection cycle.

All residents impacted by the change will receive a letter from Modern notifying them of the change.



RECYCLE TOTES are the property of the Town and were distributed to all residential property owners and 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. 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. Please see the website or call 433-2468 x114 for the pick-up schedule.

The Town of Cambria offers electronic recycling for Town residents ONLY. **Drop off of equipment is MONDAY'S ONLY FROM 9:00 am-1:00 pm.** Please call 433-8829 x127 with any questions and be ready to provide proof of residency.



Town of Cambria
4160 Upper Mountain Road
Sanborn, NY 14132
öNIAGARA COUNTY, öS FIRST TOWNö

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

CURRENT RESIDENT OR



MT. VIEW CEMETERY MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Residents are invited to join in the observance of a Memorial Day service on Monday, May 25, 2020.

A processional march beginning at the Pekin Fire Hall and leading to Mt. View Cemetery, Upper Mountain Rd., commences at 9:30 am, with services immediately following at the Mt. View Cemetery.



ATTENTION VETERANS!!!

Are you aware of the many programs, benefits and outreach available to you and your family? Please contact the Niagara County Veterans Service Agency (716-438-4090) located at 111 Main Street, Suite 200, Lockport, NY for more information. Also - Check out our website www.townofcambria.com for information regarding events for veterans around Western New York. Did you know you may qualify for an exemption? Please contact the Assessor's Office to find out! Call 433-8161 ext 122 or ext 135.

Cambria Eagle Scout

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:
Patrick Johnson ~ October 20, 2019
Jeffrey William Hannam ~ November 25, 2019

