July 2023 Issue 7



Town of Westerlo Newsletter



Sign up for the Town's e-newsletter at

TownOfWesterloNY.com



Westerlo Belgium Friends Coming...

In July of 1983, three young men from Westerlo, Belgium stopped at our Town Hall as they wanted to see Westerlo, USA. There are only two Westerlo's in



the world! That visit lead to several visits back and forth between the two Westerlo officials. Finally in 1988, an official agreement of fraternization was established. Every five years the friendship has been renewed with trips alternating either in Belgium or here. This year marks the 35th anniversary of the two Town's friendship! Representatives from Westerlo Belgium will be visiting us the first week of July. Come meet our guests at 7 pm on July 6th at the Westerlo Town Hall. Refreshments will be served.

(Above photo: Gifts of Friendship from our sister city/town of Westerlo Belgium. Display located at Town Hall)





Newsletters are available by mail by special request. Please contact the Town Clerk's office!



WESTERLO TOWN HALL 933 COUNTY ROUTE 401 WESTERLO, NY 12193 (518) 797-3111

> Supervisor Matt Kryzak

Confidential Administrator

Lisa DeGroff Ext. 1014

Monday – Thursday 8:30 am – 4 pm or by appointment

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Karla Weaver

Ext. 1011

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

7:30 am - 3:30 pm

Thursday 2 pm – 7 pm

or by appointment

Code Enforcement Officer

Jeff Pine

Ext. 1017 or cell (518) 410-5232

Thursday 5 pm – 7 pm

<u>Town Assessor</u>

Melanie Bunzey

Ext. 1016

Thursday 4:30 pm – 7 pm

or by appointment

Assessor/CEO Clerk

Claire Marshall

Ext. 1019

Monday-Wednesday~8~am-1~pm

Thursday 2 pm - 7 pm

Highway Superintendent

Jody Ostrander

Highway Garage

671 County Route 401

(518) 797-3205

Winter Hours: Monday – Friday

7:30 am - 4 pm

Summer Hours (May 1st-Oct 1st):

Monday - Thursday 6:30 am - 5 pm

Transfer Station

88 Annabelle Rd

Westerlo, NY 12193

(518) 797-3536

Saturday 8 am - 3:45 pm

Sunday 8 am - 11:45 am

Tuesday 8 am - 3:45 pm

Justice Court

671 County Route 401

Westerlo, NY 12193

(518) 797-3239

Tuesday 4 pm - 6 pm

Wednesday 4 pm - 7 pm

Court Session

Wednesday 7 pm

All Town Offices are CLOSED on HOLIDAYS

From the Supervisor's Desk



Westerlo is financially sound and STRONG. With the filing of the Annual Update Document (AUD) with the New York State Comptroller, it only proves what we already knew coming into fiscal year 2023, Westerlo is in the best financial

health that we have ever been in.

The AUD, as prepared by independent accountants, BST and Co., LLC documented Westerlo's general fund balance as \$2,389,403.00. In addition, we reported Reserve Funds for the Highway Department, Park Improvement, Water District, and Library Capital Repair Fund. All of which reported healthy reserve balances on the heels of unprecedented inflation and interest rate hikes that we haven't seen in over 40 years.

This aligns perfectly with the multi-year financial plan being carried out by the Supervisor's office. What does this mean to Westerlo residents and why is it important? We all know how volatile and unpredictable our economy can be when disaster or pandemic strikes. In tough times, this means the Town is healthy and able to maintain "business as usual" if disaster strikes. It also means that when a highway vehicle breaks down and is no longer repairable (as happened this winter), we can replace the truck without incurring debt with a bank loan or bond subject to interest and fees. It also means we can move forward with planned Capital Improvement projects to update and renovate town buildings, some of which include the highway garage, justice court, salt shed, town hall, and park facilities. It also means that moving forward we can maintain property taxes below the New York State tax cap — surely a benefit to all residents.

Additionally, the Reserve Funds exist to designate funding for their intended and specific purpose. For example, an informal committee exists to evaluate our parks. The members have already conducted site visits of both and are in the process of creating a report of their findings to present to the town board. With the healthy Park Improvement Reserve Fund, the town will be able to initiate repairs and updates to both parks without the need to borrow funds subject to interest and fees.

I am also pleased to report that the budget vs. actual reports for all departments indicate two things. Each department is keeping their spending within their designated budgets and therefore the budget is reflective of actual and anticipated spending needs. A healthy and accurate budget plays a strong role in a town's stability and Westerlo's budget and spending indicate we are financially responsible and healthy.

All items considered; it indicates sound fiscal management for the benefit of the Westerlo taxpayer. All residents can take pride in knowing their town is fiscally sound and financially independent.

- Supervisor Matthew Kryzak

Boards and Committees

Town Board

Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 6 pm

Broadband Research Committee

Meets 3rd Monday of the month @ 7 pm
Chairperson
Carrie Wallace

tow.brc.chair@gmail.com

Local Law Review Committee

Meets 3rd Monday of the month @ 6 pm Chairperson Bill Hall

WesterloLawReview@gmail.com

Museum Board

Meets 2nd Thursday of the month @ 6 pm Director/Curator Mary-Jane Araldi

museum@townofwesterlony.com

Planning Board

Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 7 pm Chairperson Beau Loendorf

b.loendorf.pb@townofwesterlony.com

Water Committee

Meets 3rd Monday of March & October @ 6 pm Chairperson Jim Loux

louxjames@gmail.com

Westerlo Hometown Heroes

Meets 4th Tuesday of the month @ 6 pm Chairperson Amie Burnside

WesterloHometownHeroes@gmail.com

Zoning Board of Appeals

Meets 4th Monday of the month @ 7 pm Chairperson George Spahmer

g.spahmer.zb@townofwesterlony.com

Please check the Town's website for upcoming Town meetings, events and community news! You can view legal notices in the Altamont Enterprise.







On the Road with the Highway Department

The Highway Department has quite a few things to celebrate this quarter. We are happy to report that the truck that was ordered over a year ago has finally arrived! The guys also are responsible for placing the topsoil at the Veterans Monument site at the Town Park, as well as hanging 66 banners this year for the Hometown Hero Committee.

We would also like to give a shout out to Rick Rupeka for the construction of the new south entrance at the Town Hall. It looks amazing! Rick is thrilled to welcome new part-time employee Blake Shaver who was hired to help with his never ending to do list. Among other things, Blake has helped Rick hang several items recently from Westerlo Belgium in the meeting space which looks great.

What's to come...

- The Highway Department plans to pave Beckman Rd. & Maple Ave. this summer.
- Jody applied again for the Albany County Soil and Water Grant for stream bank erosion. If the grant is awarded, he hopes to receive \$40,000 to fix the Basic Creek at the Town Park.
- We are expecting the second 10-wheeler to arrive sometime in July.

Since we get a lot of questions about this, we thought we would provide the correct spelling of Annabelle Rd. for those that are interested.

Water Committee

The Town Board recently appointed Gerry Boone as a member of the Water Committee after the resignation of previous member Bill Slaver. Gerry will finish the remainder of Bill's term which is set to expire on 12/31/2024. Welcome Gerry!

The Water Committee will hold an additional meeting on August 16th for the purpose of drafting a procedure to address billing issues and new users on the system. The document will then be provided to the Town Board for their review and potential adoption. Please feel free to attend these meetings to provide your input!

Town Clerk's Corner

Fishing, hunting and marriage licenses may be obtained at the office of the Town Clerk, 933 County Route 401. The Town Clerk's office also issues dog licenses, parking permits for persons with disabilities, Certificates of Residence, transfer station permits (residents only), birth/death/marriage certificates and copies of vital records. They can also assist with genealogy searches, Freedom of Information (FOIL) requests as well as free notary services. Acceptable forms of payment include: cash, check, money order, credit/debit card. ***Please note: there's a fee for credit/debit cards however, they're NOT accepted for NYS DEC transactions***

NEW INFORMATION

- Due to an issue with Central Hudson's billing, the Town Clerk has been trying to sort through years of bills.
 It's a work in progress but she has already had over \$16,000 in bills reversed!
- The Clerk's office is responsible for updating the website and has been working on posting all town laws for public view.
- 2023 Transfer Station permits are required to dispose of your waste at the Transfer Station. Applications are available at the Town Clerk's office, Transfer Station and online.
- The Town Clerk's office is working hard to make this year's Fall Festival even better than last year! We are always looking for suggestions and volunteers. There are also many other events organized by the Town Clerk's office throughout the year. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to the Town Clerk's office!
 - The Farmer's Market is every Thursday through September 28th from 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm. If you are interested in becoming a vendor, please reach out!
 - Days are filling up fast for park reservations. Call us now if you would like to make a reservation!

Broadband Research Committee (BRC)

We finally have an update! Bids have gone out for the Tonko grant. The Town will be receiving proposals from utility providers for the expansion of broadband services in Westerlo by August 7th. Stay tuned!

The BRC needs volunteers to assist the Chair. If you need internet, please consider helping. Anyone interested in joining should contact the Town Clerk's office or email:

tow.brc.chair@gmail.com

The BRC meets the 3rd Monday of every month at 7 pm for anyone interested in attending.

News from the Assessor

- Any property owner turning 65 years old this year may be eligible for the Enhanced STAR exemption. The March 1st exemption deadline does not apply in some instances. Contact the Assessor for more information!
- The Assessor will continue to drive around town to take pictures of new structures when a Certificate of Occupancy has been issued to building permit holders. There will be a Town of Westerlo magnetic sign on the side of the vehicle used to accomplish this task. Do not hesitate to contact the Assessor's office if you have any questions.
- The Assessor's regular office hours are Thursdays from 4:30 pm to 7 pm however, this does not mean she is not in the office other times. The set hours from 4:30 pm to 7 pm are for the public to come to this office for assistance without an appointment. Please contact the Assessor if you need to make an appointment outside the set hours. Voicemail messages are checked daily, and calls will be returned promptly. In most circumstances, calls are returned when the Assessor is in the office so that she can reference information only available at the office.
- The 2023 Final Assessment Roll was filed on July 1, 2023. It can be viewed on the Town's website.
- Reminder: Can your house #'s be seen? This is very important for emergency services!
- If you need assistance, contact Claire Marshall, Clerk to the Assessor at (518) 797-3111 x 1019
 Monday Wednesday 8 am 12 pm & Thursday 2 pm 7 pm.
- Please note, the Assessor will be out of the office on the following dates: August 12th August 19th and September 3rd September 12th.

Citizens Advisory Committee

The Town Board recently advised there are a group of individuals who are now part of an informal Citizens Advisory Committee. Their goal is to gather community input regarding our town parks. They are investigating what needs to be addressed and would love to also receive suggestions on what you would like to see in the future! Please contact Lisa with recommendations:

ConfidentialAdmin@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Code Enforcement

Summer is finally here, and it is prime season for installing new pools. You may or may not know that the Town's zoning code and the State building codes require a building permit for any pool capable of holding water at a depth of 24 inches or more. Existing pools must have a barrier to prevent entrance to the pool by young children. Did you know that 82% of drownings among children occur in home pools? Pool owners and prospective pool owners can always contact the building department if they have questions concerning proper pool safety.

Be safe and enjoy your summer. - Jeff Pine

Local Law Review Committee

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6 pm.

The first law being reviewed is the Zoning Law, Local Law 1 of 2020. This document is available for review on the Town's website.

The community is encouraged to submit comments/suggestions/questions to:

WesterloLawReview@gmail.com

Westerlo Historical Society

The Westerlo Historical Society meets the third Monday of each month September – June at 7 pm at the Westerlo Reformed Church Hall.

New members welcome!

Pavers Westerlo Hometown Heroes

The Hometown Heroes Committee is still accepting applications for engraved pavers. These pavers are available for any Veteran, living or deceased, no matter where they live/lived. The cost is only \$100 (including engraving) while supplies last. Our first order is almost done and will be delivered and installed soon. We are hoping to place a second order and install another batch before summer is over. Applications can be found on the Town's website, at Town Hall or can be emailed upon request to the email address below.

Save the Date

This year's Closing Ceremony will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2023, 2:00 pm at the First Baptist Church of Westerlo. This event honors all new banner recipients and is a moving ceremony in tribute to *all* our veterans and banner honorees. The ceremony is free and open to the public.

Questions or Need More Information?

Email: WesterloHometownHeroes@gmail.com

Phone: Amie Burnside: (518) 396-8787

or Lisa DeGroff: (518) 396-0350

"Fill Up the Floor for the Square"

Westerlo History

Written by George J. Lockwood, circa 1950

Edited by Gayle Hannay, Town Historian

The favorite type of entertainment in the country is the square dance. It has continued to be the most practiced dance in rural areas to the present day (1950) and Westerlo is no exception.

Granddad danced the same squares that I have danced and so it has remained down through the last century and a half. The squares have varied little during the years and the old timers still get as much a kick out of "do-si-do-ing" as do the younger generation.

Back in the early period of Westerlo, square dances were called on different occasions. Instead of holding the dances every Saturday night, as is now the custom, they were held in a rotation manner at the young folk's houses during the winter months. The young people didn't wait 'til the weekends to hold their hoe down and mid-week festivities were not uncommon in the homes of the Chesterville natives.

Usually, a fiddler provided the music with an occasional cornet or drummer. Nor were the dances exclusively for the youngsters, for gramp and grandma would always be on hand as well as many other couples that were nearby. During the cold months, sleighs were the modes of travel, and the boys made it a point to pick up as many young girls as the sleigh could hold. Refreshments (milk, cake, and sandwiches) were served during the evening and if the people weren't busy dancing, they were surely visiting.

Some of the old timers didn't believe in dancing (against their religion) and in place of the square dance they substituted hymn singing for the younger set. Of course, this form of entertainment was all right for a time, but one by one, after a while, the couples would sneak off into the parlor to smooth according to the old timers. And they should know.

Whenever a new family moved in, a housewarming dance and party had to be held to make them feel part of the neighborhood. Or during the fall, dances were held for the hop pickers. Hops were a rounded vegetable, grown on poles, and picked by hand. They were used in beer and other beverages and around the locale of Westerlo and Schoharie County, hops were raised in large quantities by the natives. Numerous of these hop dances were held throughout the autumn months.

Corn husking bees were a favorite gathering for the old timers. Here work and pleasure were combined to make an interesting afternoon. Before the time of mechanical corn pickers and siloes, corn was left to harden in the fields and was drawn into the barns long after the frost had first turned the bright green leaves to brown.

About November it was time to husk the corn and store it away for the long winter ahead. When over 1,000 bushels had to be picked by hand, it was a bit of a chore and so the whole village helped out with a corn husking bee.

The women folk would prepare the "spread" early in the morning and all hands would be on hand in the afternoon to start husking corn. If any tradition of the rural remains in the minds of the story book writers, this was certainly it. Children, men, women, old folks, all the community was there and the most visitin' went on than any other social function.

Westerlo Historical Society

The Westerlo Historical Society is happy to report that Westerlo Belgium will be here July 6th at 7 pm at the Town Hall!

The Westerlo Historical Society meets the third Monday of each month September – June at 7 pm at the Westerlo Reformed Church Hall.

New members welcome!

More From the Historian...

"A Barn Raising Adventure"

Written by George J Lockwood circa 1950

Edited by Gayle Hannay, Town Historian

Collective effort is perhaps the best term to be used in defining the type of work that farmers did together. And there were many jobs that required a substantial gathering to complete them successfully.

One of these which no longer finds itself in the village activities, is barn raising. When a new barn was to be built, the whole village turned out to join the sides, put on the roof and lay up the stonework.

One such barn raising was related to me by my grandmother. Back in 1904, a new barn was being built on the Lockwood farm. During the year preceding the actual completion of the barn, five men had worked continuously getting the lumber, pouring cement for the floors, laying stone for the barn bridge (an inclined roadway that leads to the second story of the barn where hay is stored), and putting up the huge framework of the barn. I might add that this barn is one of the largest single structures in the county.

On July 13, 1904, the finishing touches were to be put on the barn. This comment is an understatement for the final completion consisted of putting on the roof, securing the sides as well as many interior repairs.

"Land! What a crowd of people there was there!" according to Grandma. "There must have been over 100 people from all over to either help raise the barn or to look on." The actual raising took a day and a half but huge numbers that were required to join the sides and put on the roof were there only one day.

The women folk prepared a mammoth meal for round 50 men and after the barn was completed there just had to be a "barn warming" to let the whole community celebrate the building of the new Lockwood barn. Square dancing was in order and refreshments were served.

"The final celebratin' ended far into the wee hours of the morning" Grandma concluded, "and it was a good thing that the men didn't have to get up the next morning to milk."

Another such event was held on the Lockwood farm several years later when a new roof had to be put on my present home. This experience had a flavor of country humor that is hard to beat.

As the story goes, the old roof had been raised four feet and the rafters had been secured. The only thing that needed to be scheduled was the date. Since Grandpa Lockwood was the established weather prophet of the family his advice was sought. "Fair day tomorrow" was great Grandpa's prediction and with that in mind, the roof raising was set for the next day and the roof was removed.

Day broke in a shower of rain drops and the open roof soaked up the water. The men worked desperately to roof over the opening with loose lumber while buckets were placed in convenient places. "The harder they worked, the harder it rained" Grandpa related.

When the rain had let up a little Grandpa went over to where the men were working. "Now boys," he exclaimed, "the rain be through in a short time and it's going to be nice weather."

Barn raising was indeed a cooperative effort among the villagers and has since ceased to be with the introduction of mechanical devices and labor-saving tools. But the tradition wears on in the mind of the old timers who spin tales to their grandchildren of how it was "done in the old days".

Museum News





The Museum has been busy sorting through all the things moved that were stored upstairs at the library. This is a daunting task but with the help of the Museum Board members, we are tackling it a little at a time.

The Museum's second annual "Brunch for Mom" was held on Sunday, May 7th at the Town Hall. We were very lucky to have Karen Neville, an owner from "Flowers and Stuff" there during the event. She generously donated beautiful flower arrangements for all the tables. She also stayed to sell arrangements and take orders for Mother's Day for

anyone interested in placing orders. The food was fantastic as usual all because of the dedicated volunteers. We had a great turnout and want to thank all who came out to celebrate mom and support the Museum.

What's Hot with the Westerlo Fire Company

TWFC CHICKEN

AND RIBS BBQ

Sunday August 6th
11:00 am
TILL SOLD OUT!

Chicken or Ribs Includes: Cole Slaw Baked Potato Roll and a COOKIE!



BBQ DELIGHTS IS COOKING AT THE SOUTH WESTERLO FIRE STATION 2

Next TWFC BBQ will be Oct. 5th at 3:30 pm till gone!

The Fire Co. members play cornhole on Tuesdays & Fridays at 6:30 pm – 9 pm at Woodman's Hall and anyone interested can join! They usually order pizza and split the cost. Feel free to call to confirm they are playing (518) 797-3621. Special thanks to the person who donated 2 new boards to us through the Baptist Church!

The 16th annual Townwide Garage Sale Day was June 10th. We had over 20 families selling throughout the Town of Westerlo. A huge thank you to the Historical Society for volunteering to cook and serve food which was donated by Voorheesville Hannaford. We are very grateful to the Historical Society for graciously donating their food sales to the Museum.

Coming up, the Museum intends to participate in the Town's 3rd Annual Fall Festival on September 16th from 3 pm – 7 pm. Please be sure to add this to your calendars. It's one of the best Town events of the year!

DEC Guidelines on Open Burning

Prohibitions

Open burning is prohibited in NYS, with several exceptions:

- Campfires or any other outdoor fires less than 3' in height and 4' in length, width or diameter are allowed.
- Small cooking fires are allowed.
- Ceremonial or celebratory bonfires are allowed.
 Disposal of flags or religious items in a small sized fire is allowed, if it is not otherwise prohibited by law or regulation.
- Only charcoal or dry, clean, untreated, or unpainted wood can be burned.
- Fires cannot be left unattended and must be fully extinguished.



When you plan a fire, always check for fire danger in your area on DEC's online map. (https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/68329.html the map is updated every week). Also, local governments may have stricter rules than NYS; your fire department will have information about local burning laws.

Upcoming Voting Information

The General Election is November 7th from 6 am – 9 pm at the Town Hall. Local positions include: Supervisor, Town Clerk, Highway Superintendent, two Town Council positions and Town Justice. Early voting will be from Oct. 28th – Nov. 5th (Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays 9 am – 5 pm, Mondays & Wednesdays noon – 8 pm). Early voting locations can be found on Albany County Board of Elections website. The closest location is the Berne Volunteer Fire Company located at 30 Canaday Hill Rd., Berne, NY 12023.

Change to Board of Elections Voting Districts

For those of you that have not heard, District 3 has been eliminated in the Town of Westerlo! Anyone who was previously in District 3, visit the following website to see which district you have been moved to:

https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/

You can also contact Albany County Board of Elections directly at (518) 487-5060

Food Pantry Information



Hilltown Community Resource Center

Hours: Monday – Friday 10 am – 4 pm. Pantries are by appointment only!

New location: 562 NY 143, Westerlo

Contact: Mary Beth Peterson (518) 966-7380

Hugs for the Hilltowns

Hours: Friday 9 am – 12 pm Location: Helderberg Lutheran Church basement Contact: Jean Guarino (631) 626-5191 or Carrie Stewart Needham (518) 273-1568 or Kav Mann (518) 944-4588

Rock Road Community Storehouse

Hours: Wednesdays & Saturdays 7 am – 9 am Location: Rock Road Chapel 96 Rock Rd., Berne Contact: Martha Davis (518) 221-2479

The Little Free Food Pantries

Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week Location: Knox Town Hall and behind Helderberg Lutheran Church

Contact: Ted Kunker, <u>kunker4@hotmail.com</u> H. (518) 872-1724, W. (518) 456-5810, C. (518) 275-9506

Potter Hollow Food Pantry

Hours: 2nd & 3rd Saturday of the month 9:30 am – 12:30 pm
Location: Potter Hollow Union Church
4824 Potter Hollow Rd., Potter Hollow
Contact: Carol Miles (518) 860-3061
(You don't have to live in the town to utilize any food pantry listed!)



Hilltown Community Resource Center

We had our Ribbon Cutting on May 3rd. We want to thank everyone that came out to support us in our new space. We have been busy putting programming together for our communities in the Hilltowns. We are meeting with Trinity Alliance to get counselors to the Center to provide Mental Health Services to those in need. Also, we are working on nutrition cooking and education classes. We had a Saint Patrick's Day Open House and a Mother's Day tea. Both were well attended, and we are enjoying meeting new faces. There is a meditation class on Friday evenings (call the office for dates and times). Stop in and visit with us, have a cup of coffee, and get a tour. Our new address is 560 State Route 143, Westerlo. New signs are up!

If anyone has any suggestions about a service they would like to see in our community, feel free to reach out to Mary Beth Peterson @ 518-966-7380 or marybethp@ccalbany.org. I would love to hear ideas!

The support we have had is amazing and we are blessed to have such wonderful people helping support the mission of Catholic Charities.



Youth Summer Programs (July 11th- August 17th)

Messy Play Tuesdays 10:30-11:30 am (Followed by coffee Connect for Caregivers)

Storytime is Wednesdays at 10:30 am (all year)

STEAM Programs for the Summer- Wednesdays 6 pm-7pm

- July 12th- 4-H Science Experiments
- July 19th- Presentation by Unbridled Horse Rescue Make some horse treats.
- July 26th- Slimetastic
- August programs TBD STEAM Explore and Play -Thursdays at 6-7 pm

ANCESTRY.COM

We are happy to report that we have renewed our subscription with Ancenstry.com!

Please feel free to stop by the library during regular hours and use any computer. If you need assistance, just ask a staff member, all are trained and happy to assist!

Adult Programs

Spice Sampling-Every month the library has a spice take and make, with spice samples and 3 recipes.

The Westerlo Public Library has a Book Club. Meetings are the third Thursday of each month at 4 pm in the library. Copies of the current book are available at the circulation desk.

Coffee Connect for Caregivers following Messy Play on Tuesdays 11:30-12:30 (July 11- August 15).

Digital Collection

There are two ways to get e-books, audiobooks, comics, magazines, television, music, and movies through the library. First, there is Libby, an app that you can download from the App Store (Apple devices) or Google Play (Android) that gives you access to books, audiobooks, and magazines.

We also have Hoopla (another app) that has e-books, audiobooks, movies, television, music, and comics. Stop by the library for help getting started!

Gallery Space

The library has Gallery space that exhibits a local artist every two months.

Technology

Have questions about technology? We can help! If we don't have the answers, we can find them for you. The library has 24/7 WiFi that is available outside. There are charging stations (USB and regular plugs) available around the patio. There are computers available for use in the library.



Westerlo Library 604 NY 143 Westerlo, NY 12193

Hours:

Mon - 2 pm - 7 pmTues -2 pm - 7 pmWed -9 am -2 pm Thurs -2 pm - 7 pmFri – 2 pm – 7 pm Sat - 9 am - 2 pm

For more information call: (518) 797-3415

Sun - Closed

Amy Powarzynski Library Manager

Westerlo Library Community Room

The Westerlo Library has a lovely community room for use by groups

for meetings. Stop by for an application for use, or email director@westerlolibrary.org, for more information.

2023 Trustee Meetings – 7 pm in the Hannay Community Room

Wednesday, July 12, 2023 Wednesday, August 9, 2023 Wednesday, September 13, 2023 Wednesday, October 11, 2023 Wednesday, November 8, 2023 Wednesday, December 13, 2023

LIBRARY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS FOR 2023

JULY

Tuesday, July 4 – Independence Day

SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 4 – Labor Day

OCTOBER

Monday, October 9 – Indigenous Peoples' Day

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 11 – Veterans Day Thursday, November 23 – Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

Monday, December 25 – Christmas Day

TRUNK N TREAT

5th Annual Ruth Savino Trunk N TREAT

WESTERLO TOWN PARK

Saturday, October 28th 4 pm – 6 pm

Vehicles can set up any time after 2 pm.

PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN DECORATING
A TRUNK AND HANDING OUT CANDY
OR BRINGING THE KIDDIES!

PRIZES FOR BEST DECORATED VEHICLE!! (VOTED BY PUBLIC)

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE BY @ FIRST BITE.

Rain or moon shine!

This is to benefit the Westerlo Rural Cemetery and to safely get the kids off the dark roadways on Halloween.

Thanks to the Town of Westerlo for use of the park.





rante with Practical Wolfers

Westerlo Cemetery Info

Westerlo Rural Cemetery State Route 143

The Westerlo Rural Cemetery is located at 771 SR 143 in Westerlo.

If you need to contact someone at the Westerlo Rural Cemetery, please call:
Betty Filkins, President:
(518) 275-2935

Email: BettyFilkins@protonmail.com



Westerlo Central Cemetery Route 401

If you need to contact someone at the Westerlo Central Cemetery, please call:
Dennis Boomhower, President:
(518) 488-2285
Diane Carl, Treasurer/Secretary:
(518) 527-7850

Hannacroix Rural Cemetery Route 411

The Hannacroix Cemetery is located on Rt 411 in Dormansville/Westerlo.

A special thanks to all who have contributed to the cemetery in the past. We are now starting to collect for the 2023 mowing season. Whether you have a loved one buried there or would just like to give a donation, it would be greatly appreciated. We need your help to keep the cemetery maintained. Contributions can be sent to:

Hannacroix Rural Cemetery C/O Linda Smith, Treasurer 115 SR 143, Westerlo, NY 12193

Many thanks to all who have helped in the past.

Cemetery Contact Information

Westerlo Rural Cemetery

Betty Filkins (518) 275-2935

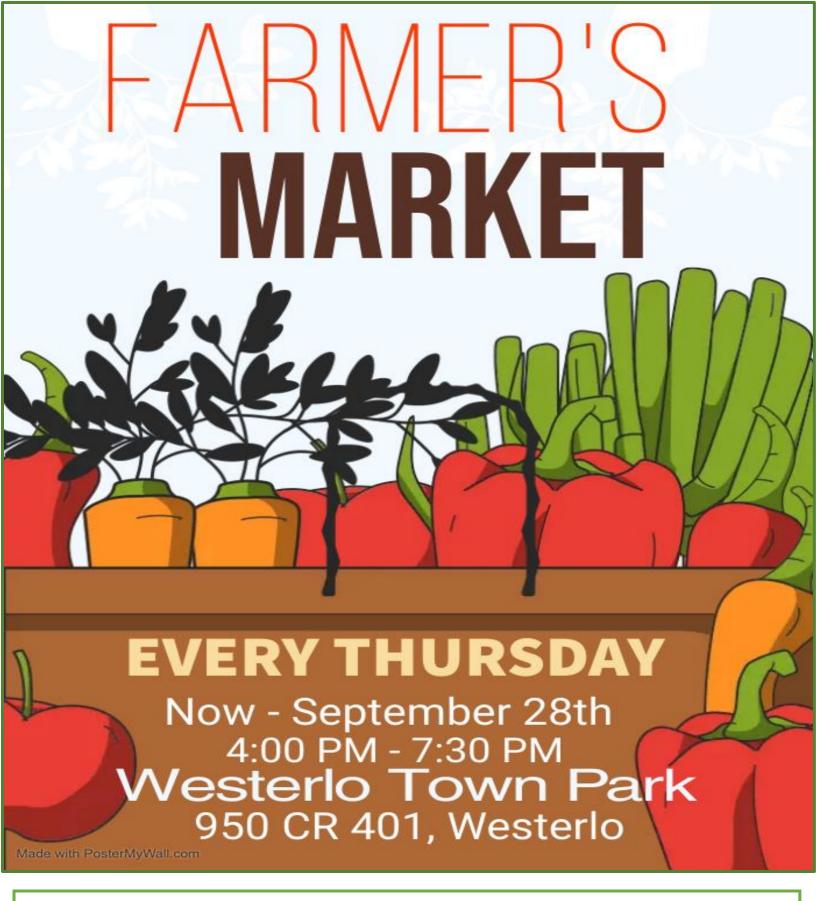
BettyFilkins@protonmail.com

Hannacroix Rural Cemetery

Linda Smith (518) 928-3428

Westerlo Central Cemetery

Dennis Boomhower (518) 488-2285



Please consider coming out to support local vendors at this year's Farmers Market. We currently have New Scotland Spirits (alcohol), Fresh Starts Family (farm raised chicken, pork and some veggies), Peep's Perch (honey and eggs), and LegitSkin (homemade skincare, gifts, dry goods, soaps and more)

We are also searching for new vendors to join our market! Please email us if you are interested!

WesterloFarmersMarket@gmail.com

The Town Clerk's office is responsible for planning the Fall Festival. We are always looking for suggestions and volunteers. Please contact us at the number below or feel free to email us at townclerk@TownOfWesterloNY.com



Free Tennis Lessons

Free Tennis Lessons for Hilltown kids aged 7-18 with professional coach Jim Neal. Lessons will be held at the Rensselaerville village playground court 10:30 am, Saturdays July 8^{th} , 15^{th} , 22^{nd} , 29^{th} & August 5^{th} , 12^{th} , 19^{th} .

Please contact: tennisforkids@forpr.net

VETERAN INFORMATION



Helderberg Heroes
Project is a grass roots, all
volunteer effort to
support the courageous
men and women who are
serving our country. Their
goal is simple, express
gratitude and provide

encouragement by sending care packages of "goodies," letters and cards to deployed soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines around the world. A little bit of kindness goes a long way for a lonely soldier away from home.

Helderberg Heroes Project is an ambitious project which will require the support of many caring individuals, organizations and businesses. All donations will go directly to the benefit of our active duty military service personnel. The success will depend on the generosity of others.

Ways You Can Help

- Monetary donation: Make a donation to facilitate the purchase of supplies and mailing fees.
- Donate supplies: Donate or organize a collection of needed volunteers at one of our packing events. Register to be notified of future packing events.
- Register the name of a deployed soldier, airman, sailor or Marine. Write letters or cards: host a letter writing or card writing event.
- Share the word with family, friends, co-workers, your church or other groups you may be ss associated with.

For more information or questions email: Connect@HelderbergFCO.com



Albany County Veteran Services Bureau



Albany County Veterans Service Bureau can help veterans with many items such as medical care, disability, and compensation, pensions, education benefits, burial assistance, VA home loans, job referrals, return the favor card and more!

Please note, The Albany VA Medical Center is providing COVID-19 and flu vaccinations. If you are a veteran, please call (518) 626-7228, option 2 to schedule an appointment. They are also providing COVID-19 booster shots for veterans 65 and older. More information can be found at www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Albany County Veterans Service Bureau Attn: Ken Secor, Director New Address: Shaker Place 100 Heritage Ln. Albany, NY 12211 Phone: (518) 447-7710

Email: kenneth.secor@albanycountyny.com

Website: <u>www.albanycounty.com/departments/veterans-service-</u> bureau

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Help, Options, Prevention & Education (HOPE) App

Albany County's suicide and warning prevention app for your smartphone. This is a great source of information if you need help or if you know someone that does. It provides warning signs, what to say, help for Veterans, teens/young adults and adults by providing resources, contacts and assessments. Available through iTunes and Google Play!

Return the F.A.V.O.R. Discount for Veterans

Return the F.A.V.O.R. (Find & Assist Veterans of Record) is a merchant discount program for eligible Albany Co. Veterans. The program provides veterans with discounts on services or purchases at participating merchants. To enroll, bring your DD-214 to the Albany Co. Veteran Serices Bureau Monday – Friday 9 am – 4 pm. Download the application at www.albanycounty.com/departments/veterans-service-bureau

Access Disability Claim Decisions online!

Veterans can now access their disability benefit claim decisions on VA.gov instead of waiting for a mailed copy to be delivered.

To access your decision letters, veterans can login to www.VA.govand check the status of

their claim!

VETERAN INFORMATION

Patriot Guard Riders New York

PGRNY is a diverse group of patriots who come together to show respect and support to US service members, veterans, first responders who die in the line of duty, and their families by standing flag lines and providing escorts at memorial services, only at the request of the family. They also stand flag lines for other events honoring veterans and military personnel by request.

PO Box 637 Wappingers Falls, NY 12590 (585) 866-1747

pgrny.org

Veterans Miracle Center

The Veterans Miracle Center is a special place for Veterans and active-duty military personnel, as well as their immediate families, who are in need of receiving daily life necessities absolutely free.

10 Interstate Ave. Albany, NY 12205 (518) 486-8398

www.VMCAlbany.org

Hours: Mon – Fri 9 am – 5 pm By appointment only

VA Burial Benefits & Memorial Items

VA burial benefits can help service members, Veterans and their family members plan and pay for a burial or memorial service in a VA national cemetery. Family members can also order memorial items to honor the service of a Veteran. Find out how to apply for burial benefits you've earned, and how to plan for a burial in advance or at time of need.

Call the National Cemetery Office @ (800) 535-1117 or visit

www.va.gov/burials-memorials/

Pact Act

The VA is ready to implement the PACT Act and deliver for toxic-exposed Veterans and their survivors. If you think you might be eligible for PACT Act benefits, here's what you need to know:

- You can apply for PACT Act benefits now by filing a claim.
- As President Biden announced at the bill signing, all 23 presumptive conditions in the PACT Act are eligible for benefits effective August 10th.
- You can learn more about the PACT Act by visiting
 VA.gov/PACT or by calling 1-800-MyVA411.

Veterans/Military Crisis Line (800) 273-8255 press 1

Connects Service Members and Veterans in crisis, as well as their family members and friends with qualified, caring VA responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat or text messaging service.

This free support is confidential and available every day, 24/7 to all Veterans, Service Members, National Guard & Reserve, family members & friends.

www.veteranscrisisline.net

Honor a deceased Veteran!

Each month Albany County honors a deceased Veteran with a ceremony at various locations throughout the County. Anyone may submit a nomination form and resume for consideration. Visit www.albanycounty.com/veterans or call (518) 447-7710 for more info!

YETI Discounts

Yeti offers special pricing for military members and veterans, first responders, nurses and government employees with the ID.me network. Learn more at www.yeti.com/id-me.html

FREE Request for Honors

Honor guard detail is available for free for the burial of an eligible veteran. Families should make requests to the funeral director. This service is provided to veterans with an Honorable Discharge.

Reoccurring Veteran related events:

Mon-Fri 9 am – 3 pm Covid Vaccine Clinic (Walk-In)

Albany Co. Dept. of Health

Mon-Fri 9 am – 3:30 pm Covid Vaccine Clinic (By Appt.)

Albany Stratton VAMC

Every Tuesday 9 am – 11 am Veteran Services Remote Site

Veterans Miracle Center, Albany

Every Friday 9 am – noon Art4Vets @ Am. Legion Zaloga Post, Albany
Every Friday 8 am Veterans & Friends Breakfast
Gateway Diner, Albany

HELPFUL RESOURCES



Hilltown Community Resource Center

The Hilltown Community Resource Center is a great resource for anyone in need of FREE grocery items, assistance applying for SNAP or HEAP and many, many, other things!

The Community Center recently moved from behind the Reformed Church to 562 SR 143. There is a beautiful new sign in the front of the building.

Feel free to call them at (518) 966-7380 they are happy to help!





www.facebook.com/Hilltowns

Free Water Testing Kits

Would you like to know what's in your water?

Stop by the Albany County SWCD Office to receive a FREE Home Water Analysis Kit!

Kit includes tests for:

1-Bacteria 1- Lead
2-Nitrates 2-Nitrites
2-Chlorine 2-Iron
2-Copper 2-pH
2-Alkalinity 2-Hardness

1-Pesticide

Please call before stopping by to ensure staff availability.

(518) 765-7923

Healthy Homes Program

The Healthy Homes Program is brought to you by Cornell Cooperative Extension for residents living in Berne, Knox, Rensselaerville and Westerlo.

They will supply free products such as:

- Home safety products smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, and fire extinguishers
- Child safety products cabinet locks, shock stoppers, doorknob covers, and corner protectors
- Asthma control Items in conjunction with Asthma Education Program - allergen barrier mattress and pillow covers
- Cleaning supplies wipes, baking soda and vinegar
- Safety products flashlights and nightlights
- Pest management products to control mice

To schedule a Healthy Home visit:

Call: (518) 765-3512 Email: dfp46@cornell.edu

Division on Addictions

Division On Addictions is an organization that helps vulnerable NY residents who are addicted to drugs or alcohol locate proper treatment options. Alcoholism and drug addiction are terrible crises affecting all ages in our communities – from teenagers to senior citizens.

Finding treatment facilities that are able to understand the underlying causes of the addiction, and that are able to cure an individual so as to prevent any relapse, is often a very hard task. This is where we come in. We help those in greatest need to find addiction treatment options that are the best for each individual situation. Our services are 100% free.

For more information, please visit their website at www.divisiononaddiction.org/

Disposal of Used Motor Oil

Did you know you can dispose of used motor oil at Home Depot? They will accept up to 15 gallons, **free of charge**, as long as they have the space! You may want to call ahead to make sure they're not full.

Drop off to the tool rental area of the store!

NYS law requires numerous service and retail locations to accept used motor oil from households for recycling.

They must accept up to 5 gallons per day at no charge. Call your service location to confirm!

Nearby Library Information





Berne Public Library Programs

Manager/Director: Kathy Stemple

All programs below are free of charge unless otherwise stated.

Storytime

Tuesdays at 10:30 am for pre-school children and their caregivers

Book Club for Adults

First Sunday of the month at 7 pm

Knit Wits

Third Sunday of the month at 7 pm for knitting or crocheting

The Berne Public Library is located at 1763 Helderberg Trail, Berne, NY 12023 Phone: (518) 872-1246 Hours are as follows:

Monday 2 pm – 8 pm
Tuesday 10 am – 8 pm
Wednesday 12 pm – 8 pm
Thursday 2 pm – 8 pm
Friday 2 pm – 6 pm
Saturday 9 am – 3 pm
Sunday Closed

A

"Berne Public Library"

www.bernepubliclibrary.org/

Greenville Public Library



Greenville Public Library

Director: Barbara Flach

The Greenville Public Library is located at 11177 SR 32, Greenville, NY 12083 Phone: (518) 966-8205 Hours are as follows:

Monday 9 am – 5 pm Tuesday 9 am – 6 pm Wednesday 9 am – 5 pm Thursday 9 am – 6 pm Friday 12 pm – 5 pm Saturday 9 am – 12 pm Sunday Closed



"Greenville Public Library, Greenville NY"

greenville.lib.ny.us

Greenville Public Library Seed Library

Our seed library provides a way to start growing food and flowers for free, simply stop by and check out the seeds that you would like We are offering a wide variety of seeds including vegetables, herbs and flowers!

How does it work?

The seed library is housed in an old library card catalog. Patrons may visit the library and select up to 5 packets of seeds per visit. Seeds are arranged in alphabetical order. Check out your seeds at the Circulation Desk. Grow your plants and enjoy the harvest. Save seeds from our harvest and consider returning some to the Seed Library at the end of the growing season.

Do you have any seeds you want to share?
We're accepting donations of seeds for flowers, vegetables and herbs that are less than 3 years old. Loose seeds should be donated in a sealed plastic bag or envelope. To donate, please fill out the Seed Donation Form available at the Circulation Desk. Provide information such as name of plant, color and variety, annual or perennial and harvest year.

Our Seed Library is About...

Encouraging our community to dig in and garden, recommending our community to the traditions of growing tasty, healthy food and creating a free and reliable local seed collection at our Library.

Greenville Public Library Upcoming Programs

PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS AT GREENVILLE LIBRARY 2023

(Registration Required)

Grab & Go Kits will be available throughout the summer for Kids!

Lego Fun! July 11, 18, 25 Main Floor Library Ages 3 & up August 1, 8, 15, 22 3:00 - 4:00

Do you love to imagine and build? Do you enjoy the rush of satisfaction when you find the perfect piece in a pile of colorful plastic bricks? Do you love the satisfying snap of a well-placed Lego? Do you feel little pain when you step on a scattered Lego brick? If you answered yes to these questions then this program is meant for you! Bring your imagination, we'll provide the Legos! Just Drop In!

Summer Wreaths July 11 Instructor - Carolyn Travers Young Adults (13) - Adults 6:30 - 8:30

Design and create a summer wreath with silk flowers, butterflies and pots. Carolyn brings everything with her including chocolate - to get the creative juices flowing! **Registration required.**

Hot Diggity Dog July 11 Instructor - Carolyn Travers Ages 5 - 8 1:00 - 2:30

Celebrate National Hot Dog month! The program includes stories, games, goodies to eat & drink and all craft supplies for a craft kids can take home. **Registration required.**

Watercolor Tricks & Kandinsky July 18 - 20 Instructor - Natalie Boburka Ages 15 - Adults 6:00 - 8:00

Play with a variety of fun easy ways to work with watercolor. We'll use uncommon art tools, and combine techniques to come up with unique textures and effects. Then we'll examine the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky for inspiration in adding lines & structure to create 1-2 floating musically inspired paintings. All materials will be provided. **Registration required.**

Pressed Flower Lanterns July 19 Instructor - Carolyn Travers Ages 8 & up 1:00 - 2:30

Make a beautiful lantern with pressed flowers & a light. Enjoy games, listen to stories and of course have some treats. Fun for all! **Registration required.**

One in a Melon July 20 Instructor - Carolyn Travers Ages 5 - 8 10:00 - 11:30

Watermelon stories, crafts & a delicious watermelon snack. You'll also enjoy games & stories. Fun for all! Registration required.

Still Life Drawing
Ages YA (13) - Adults

July 24, 25, & 27 Instructor – Ruth Leonard
3 Day Class
1:00 – 3:30

Using ordinary objects as drawing subjects, participants will consider volume, texture, line and light to dark values using pencil, charcoal and ink. The still life objects will be lit to create contrast of values on the object as well as cast shadows. This is a basic drawing class for novices or those with more experience who would like to continue developing more skills and experiment with new materials. **Registration required.**

Birds & Feeders July 12 Instructor - Carolyn Travers Ages 8 & up 10:00 - 11:30

Make some birds & a bird feeder for outside. Also, enjoy games, stories, & snacks. Fun for all! **Registration required.**

Chinese Brush Painting July 13 Instructor – Alice Tunison Ages 7 – Adults 6:00 – 8:00

This technique is taught while working with a large bristled brush, a bamboo handled Chinese painting brush, and black Sumi ink. It is a beautiful ancient art form. Students in this class will learn to paint blossoms on rice paper. All materials will be provided. **Registration required.**

Wild Things July 17 Instructor – Ruth Leonard Ages 5-8 10:30 -12:00

This project is based on the Maurice Sendak book "Where the Wild Things Are". We will read the story aloud and examine the characteristics of the "wild things". Using a large sheet of paper, paint, colored paper, fabric and yarn, each child will construct and design their own "wild thing". A wire clothing hanger will serve as an armature and display devise so the creations can be hung from the ceiling or wall. **Registration required.**

Pen Pals for Peace July 18 Greenville Rotary Ages Grades 3-6 (by Sept. '23) 10:00 – 12:00 & Adults

Would you like to do your part toward world peace? This fun program offers you the opportunity to connect with a new friend on the other side of the world through the traditional pen pal letter. You write about yourself, your interests, your hobbies and decorate your letter. There is no cost. We provide all art supplies, translation and postage of your personalized pen pal letter to Italy. Parent participation welcome. **Registration required.**

Icon in Acrylic Paints July 25 Instructor – Alice Tunison Ages 7 – Adults 6:00 – 8:00

This is an icon of the Black Madonna, Byzantine in origin from the 13th or 14th century Italy. Either dark faced when painted or darkened from the constant long burning of church candle wax. Original icons are done with egg tempera and gold leaf for the shining halos. This adaptation is painted with acrylics but not the less lovely. The traditional image begins with tracing paper. All materials will be provided. **Registration required.**

Stained Glass - Mushrooms July 27 Instructor - Connie Pruiksma Adults 6:30 - 8:30

The instructor will supply a variety of multi-colored parts for the project for participants to choose from. Each person will be able to foil their own piece. Once the pieces have been foiled students will solder their creations together. If anyone is uncomfortable soldering, the instructor will do it for them. The instructor will also provide a brief history of stained glass. She will show where glass comes from, have a few examples of different textures and colors of glass and she'll also bring some stained-glass books. **Registration required.**

Collage Art July 31 Instructor – Alice Tunison Ages 7 – Adults 6:00 – 8:00

Collage is so much good fun to create with free choice assembly of materials to create new images. Balance and color selection, textures and shape are key. The finished piece is framed at the close of class. All materials will be provided.

Registration required.

Beads, Beads, Galore! August 1 Ages 5 & up 1:30 - 3:00 Instructor - Barbara Flach

Don't worry bead happy! Join us for an afternoon of creative fun using various types of beads. There is no such thing as "enough beads"! Make something with extra sparkle for yourself or for a special friend. We'll provide the beads you supply the imagination. **Registration required.**

Greenville Public Library Upcoming Programs Continued...

Botanical Art August 1-3 Ages 15 - Adults 6:00 - 8:00

Instructor - Natalie Boburka

Learn about the Botanical Artists of the past and become a botanist for a day! We'll dissect flowers, draw the parts, and complete at least one botanical illustration using watercolors, micron markers, and calligraphy. All materials will be provided. Registration required.

Ginkgo Leaf Painting Adults

August 7 6:00 - 8:00 Instructor - Ruby Silvious

Learn how to paint on dried, pressed ginkgo leaves using acrylic gouache and fine markers. Composition, color and shapes will be considered to create beautiful patterns and designs All materials included. Registration required.

Nature Drawings Ages 8 and up

August 8 10:00 - 12:00 Instructor - Ruth Leonard

On brown paper children will draw from a mounded collection of items from the forest floor such as; plants, leaves, branches, pine cones and more. We will approach the drawing by layering materials such as, graphite, charcoal, ink pastel, white gouche and watercolor, allowing its development through the experimentation of materials. Many of the objects will be suggested in texture, color, line, values of light and dark, allowing the larger grouping to take on form of its own. Registration required.

Climbing Wall & Bubble Fun All Ages

5:00 - 7:00

Just Drop In!

Come to the library and have some fun! Climb Times massive 24' rock wall has 4 sides and offers 20 different climbing routes, of varying difficulty, that can all be used at the same time. It's great for all abilities and all ages.

Also, enjoy some bubble fun! Join us for bubble making, chasing and popping, bubbles will be everywhere. Fun for all ages. Bubble solution and bubble wands will be provided.

Junk Journal Adults

August 15 6:00 - 8:00 Instructor - Ruby Silvious

In this workshop, participants will experiment with a range of unusual and interesting materials - handmade papers, found objects, junk mail, magazines, etc. to create a 5x7 mini collage book. Composition, color, texture, shape, and pattern will be considered to create the pages. Bring any collage materials that are meaningful to you, such as photos or fabrics. All other supplies will be provided. Come and have fun! Registration required.

Painting Flowers

August 16

Instructor - Alice Tunison

Ages 7 - Adults

6:00 - 8:00

In this class participants will be guided to mix colors from the primary red, yellow and blue. There will be bouquets of fresh flowers for inspiration in vases on every work table, along with brushes, acrylic paints, and 8 x 10 canvas boards. All materials provided. Registration required.

Painting Tea Cups on Tea Bags August 21 Adults

6:00 - 8:00

Instructor - Ruby Silvious

This used tea bag painting class is perfect for beginners, whether you have painted before or not. Participants will learn a step-by-step technique to paint tea cups on used tea bags, using watercolor, gouache and fine- point pens. Art supplies included. Come and impress yourself. Registration required.

Pizza Fun Ages 5-8 August 22 1:00 - 2:30 Instructor - Carolyn Traver

A party with stories, a craft & create a candy pizza! You will also enjoy games & goodies to eat and drink. Fun for all! Registration required.

Stained Glass - Mushrooms Young Adults (13) - Adults

August 9 6:30 - 8:30 Instructor - Connie Pruiksma

The instructor will supply a variety of multi-colored parts for the project for participants to choose from. Each person will be able to foil their own piece. Once the pieces have been foiled students will solder their creations together. If anyone is uncomfortable soldering the instructor will do it for them. The instructor will also provide a brief history of stained glass. She will show where glass comes from, have a few examples of different textures and colors of glass and she'll also bring stained glass books. Registration required

Grapevine Wreath

August 10

Instructor - Alice Tunison

Ages 7 - Adults

6:00 - 8:00

This class will teach the twisting, shaping and decorating of grapevines to create a beautiful wreath using dry flowers and other nature grasses - nothing synthetic - all very real and perfectly lovely. A keeper. All materials will be provided. Registration required.

Watercolors from the Landscape August 14, 15 Instructor - Ruth Leonard Age YA (13) - Adults

& 17

1:00 - 3:30

3 Day Class

This class is an outdoor series of three watercolor painting classes for adults and teens. Working outdoors from scenes around the library participants will be asked to initially make thumbnail sketches. This is used to compose a painting by looking for simple shapes in the landscape. Ms. Leonard will demonstrate basic watercolor techniques such as, washes, color layering, wet on wet, dry brush, color resist and paint additives. We will spend time looking at the work of each person in order to learn from each other and solve challenges that may occur. Encouraged throughout the workshop will be: accepting the elements of chance, improvisation and trusting one's intuition. In order to see the range of watercolor painting approaches we will look at the work of Lois Dodd, John Marin, Charles Burchfield, Georgia O'Keefe, Berthe Morisot, Emile Nolde, J.M. Turner, Milton Avery and others. The class is open to all levels, encouraging an open-minded and non-judgmental approach. Registration required.

Cutting Board Creations

August 22

Instructor - Carolyn Travers

Young Adults (13) - Adults 6:30 - 8:30

Make a sign using a cutting board. Decorate it for the holiday or season of your choice. Carolyn brings everything with her including chocolate - to get the creative juices flowing! Registration required.

Kindness Rocks

August 23

Instructor - Carolyn Travers

Ages 8 & up 10:00 - 11:30

Paint rocks with kind words & make a basket. Leave your rocks for those who need a friend. Enjoy games, listen to stories and of course have some treats. Fun for all! Registration required.

Corn Husk Dolls

August 24

Instructor - Alice Tunison

Ages 7 - Adults

6:00 - 8:00

This class has been scheduled for late summer, after corn is harvested for husks to make the dolls. You will learn about the history of corn husk dolls, be shown examples and instructed how to create individual and unique dolls. All materials will be provided. Registration required.

Rustic Wooden Snowman

Adults

August 23

Instructor - Genn Howley

6:00 - 8:00

Join Genn from GNH for a fun filled evening where you'll create your very own rustic snowman. This project will be the envy of all your friends and you'll do it yourself with our help. GNH will provide the materials. Registration required.

Senior Happenings

Hilltown Senior Citizen

Have you signed up with the seniors yet? We meet the second Saturday of each month at the Community and Senior Services Center at 1360 Helderberg Trail in Berne. At which time we share a covered dish and go over events and news that may be of interest to the senior crowd. We usually have a speaker each month unless we are holding a special event like we did at Christmas when we had a lot of laughs and enjoyed a buffet from the Babbling Brook!

Trips we are considering for 2023 are:

- Boothbay Harbor in Maine (3 days) in July!
- MacHaydn Theatre in August!
- Yellowstone, Mount Rushmore (14 days)
- Lake George Dinner Theatre in October!
- Sight and Sound Christmas Show Lancaster
 in November!

There will be a few one-day trips as well!

Come sign up and see what might interest you!

Lunches are served for seniors every Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm. Doors open at 11 am.

Please call (518) 937-5963 the day before by 11 am to reserve a lunch!

We are concerned they will stop the service for the Hilltowns if we don't have enough folks to come and enjoy a free lunch so please sign up!

Senior Transportation Available

Are you a senior who needs transportation to doctor's appointments or to the Westerlo Food Pantry? If so, we can help!

To make arrangements, please call the Town of Rensselaerville Town Clerk's office

(518) 239-4225



There is no cost for this service!

Hilltown Senior Summer News!

The Hilltown Seniors are now up to 93 members and counting! Wow, what a great group of fun seniors who enjoy good food, great trips and all the fun that await them each month when they arrive at the senior center.

Our trip leader, Mary Jane Araldi is doing a fantastic job in organizing our day and over-night trips. Many thanks go out to her in this new endeavor.

We are excited to say that this month we are celebrating our anniversary and another year to celebrate and enjoy the many things life has to offer. With that being said, we look forward to next year when we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary! WOW!! Be sure to read about what we will be planning and perhaps you might like to join in on the fun that awaits! So, put on your sun glasses, pick up a good book, eat some chicken BBQ and feel excited about the warm days ahead!

YOUR PRESIDENT - ALYCE GIBBS

Department for Aging

Older residents who are home-bound and in need of day-to-day assistance, including home-delivered meals, should contact Albany County NY Connects

@ (518) 447-7177 or visit

www.albanycounty.com/departments/aging

Recipes needed for the Resource Center!

We have an excess of beans (kidney, pinto and black)!

If you have a good recipe with these ingredients, we would love to share them with the community we serve.

Please email recipes to: marybethp@ccalbany.org

Or, feel free to drop them off at the Town Hall or Resource

Center. Thank you!!!

DID YOU KNOW?

Most Medicare Supplement insurance plans include using the YMCA for free! There is a YMCA in Delmar and Coxsackie. Call them and they can tell you if you can get a free membership. Delmar even has a pool and free classes for older adults!

Hours vary so call before you go!

Bethlehem YMCA- (518) 439-4394

Coxsackie YMCA- (518) 731-7529

Senior Happenings

New businesses in town!





Be Aware of Gift Card Scams!

Gift card scams can take many forms, but are often phone calls and emails targeting consumers, particularly the elderly, stating that they owe money and payment is required by gift card. Please never give money over the phone or email. Call us and we can provide you more information!

If you would like to receive this newsletter by mail, please contact the Town Clerk at (518) 797-3111, opt. 2





Hours: Wednesday & Saturday

9 am – 1 pm.

Location: 112 Church Road, Berne

The Gathering Place
50 Plus Community Center
127 Kenyon Rd.
Cobleskill, NY

Monday – Wednesday & Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Thursday & Friday 9:00 am – 7:00 pm Closed Sunday

Their mission is to provide cultural, social, and recreational activities and help meet the needs of the 50 plus community in Schoharie County and surrounding areas.

Call (518) 823-4338

Member and Non-Members can join for all activities!

Silver Sneaker classes, trips, learn to play the casino, play cards, games, join book club, pool table available, learn how to use your computer and MORE!

Visit The Gathering Place at: www.schoharieseniors.com/community-center

Find applications online.

Memberships are \$25 a year which gives you access to all programs, amenities and services.

Please note: there are small fees for some of the classes to cover costs.

Upcoming Town Events & Items of Interest

- Take advantage of the Westerlo Library's spice of the month. Comes with three recipes! For anyone interested, please consider joining their book club! Join Hoopla for FREE to access audiobooks, eBooks, comics, movies, TV, magazines or music everywhere you have a computer, phone, TV and even your car! They also have an Ancestry.com account where you can search your family tree for FREE! See the Library page for more information on all of these great things!
- Are you a Greenville Public Library card holder? Do you like magazines? Card holders have access to over 3,200 popular digital magazines to download with the OverDrive website or the Libby app. Contact the library for more info!
- If you are 65 or older, you may qualify for the Enhanced STAR exemption. Contact the Town Assessor to inquire!
- The Town of Westerlo Fall Festival will be Saturday, September 16th 3 pm – 7 pm!

Got Teens?

Every Friday Night is Youth Group

When: Friday Nights 6:30-8:30

Where: Westerlo Baptist in the Gym and Youth Room What: Games, Friends, Bible Study, Music, & Snacks Why: To Pursue God and His Will for our Lives



Join us for our Opening night Sept 16th!

Call or Txt Pastor Jeff Diehl for Details (518) 776-8890

Come, join us as we begin an exciting new year at Pioneer Clubs & Stockade!



Community Kids WEDNESDAY Night Program

for

Girls: Preschool thru 12th grade Boys: Preschool thru 6th grade

Weekly Activities Include:

Recreation Time Snacks Crafts Bible Time

WELCOME TO CLUBS!

Runs Sept. 28th through March 29th

Registration/Membership Fee \$8 per child/ per year

9/28 Kick-Off Night: Bonfire, Singing & S'mores !!!

Westerlo Baptist Church

618 SR 143, Westerlo, NY 12193

We will begin our time change to Summer Hours: Meet at 10 am until the Sunday after Labor Day, then we will return to our traditional 9:30 am time.

Summer Sunday Worship Service
10 am

(June – July – August)
Fellowship Time following the 10 am service

Sunday Worship Services outside of the above months 9:30 am

Sunday School 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

1st Sundays of the Month

Evening service, Hymn Sing & Refreshments @ 6:30 pm Come join us... All are welcome!

Outside Services on the Lawn

Each Sunday in the month of July @ 10 am & the 1st two Sundays in August (weather permitting, no livestream)

BYOC – Bring your own chair!

VBS – Vacation Bible School

JOIN THE FUN IN THE SUN

August 14-19, 2023

@ Westerlo Baptist Church

Mystery Island – Tracking down the One True God!

Community BBQ & Pre-Register for VBS:

Sunday, August 13th

Saint John the Baptist

4987 Rt 81 Greenville, NY 12193 (518) 943-3150

Masses are back on normal schedule at 9 am on Sundays!

Visit sholkweebly.com for mass updates for Holy week schedule.

South Westerlo Congregational Christian Church

Services begin at 10:30 am on Sundays!

Our Sonday begins with Sonday School hour 9:20 am - 10:20 am and our worship service begins at 10:30 am. Our worship service can be seen on Facebook by searching:

South Westerlo Christian Church

Sonday night youth group 5:30 pm – 8 pm

Our Senior lunch is every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month starting at 11 am with appetizers and lunch is at 12 noon.

Our Ladies Bible Study every Wednesday starts at 1 pm (Becoming spiritually mature 10 weeks series started 3/7/23)

Our Trail Life USA ministry for boys and American Heritage Girls for girls every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:30 pm – 8 pm

Our men's breakfast and devotional is every 1^{st} Saturday of the month 8 am - 9 am

Our men's Bible study every Saturday morning except for the 1^{st} Saturday of the month 8 am - 9 am (Finding Jesus in every book of the Bible)

282 CR 405, So. Westerlo, NY 12083 Pastor Will Balta (518) 966-5094

www.facebook.com/SouthWesterloChristianChurch

Westerlo Reformed Church

564 SR 143, Westerlo, NY 12193 Pastor Chris Allen Home: (518) 797-9203

Services begin at 9 am on Sundays!

Donations are welcome toward senior care. Please make checks payable to "Westerlo Reformed Church" and write "For Senior care" in the memo and mail to address above.

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064837502467

Dormansville United Methodist Church

21 CR 312, Westerlo, NY 12193 Contact Betty-Jean Mueller Cell: (845) 532-0057

Services are 8:45 am – 10 am Sundays! Thrift store: open Tuesday's and Friday's

10 am – 2 pm from June – September

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064440321582

Chicken and Rib BBQ

Provided by Barbeque Delights

Thursday, July 20th & Sept. 21st

Mark your Calendars 3:30 p.m. until sold out at

The Westerlo Reformed Church

564 State Route 143, Westerlo Across the road from Hannay Reels



-----Drive Through-----



Chicken Dinners \$15 Rib dinners \$16

Thank you for your support!



Post 291 American Legion Auxiliary



Community dinner open to everyone and available for eat in or take out every 2nd Friday of the month at the post located at 54 Maple Ave, Greenville from 4:30 pm -7 pm from September through April!

Greenville Post 291 is always looking for new members. Please contact Dave Raffo at draffo1@hotmail.com if you are interested or have questions.

www.facebook.com/groups/113946418652124

Yoga classes every Tuesday at the Greenville Legion @ 7 pm. Contact Tina (631) 374-0928

Greenville
American Legion
Post 291
meets on the first
Thursday of the
month at
7 pm!

98th New York FFA Convention



Congratulations to Hailie Lounsbury of Westerlo. At the 98th New York FFA Convention, Hailie was elected to serve as New York State's District II President. Hailie, a sophomore at Greenville High School, has been a member of the Greenville AG Education and FFA for the past 7 years.

From our local Veterinarian...

A Reason To Be "Ticked Off"

By Dr. Rebecca Kryzak

Ticks are not just gross and annoying. They carry many diseases dangerous to people and pets that we need to be aware of. Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis and Ehrlichiosis are all diseases carried by ticks in the Northeast US and all can wreak havoc on both human and animal health.

Here are a few tips to help minimize potential exposure to ticks and tick-borne diseases. First and foremost, let's talk about our furry friends. It is very important that dogs and cats are treated appropriately with a flea and tick preventative to decrease the probability of contracting a tick-borne disease. These products come in many forms such as collars, topical liquids and tablets. Make sure to talk to your veterinarian to determine which product is suitable for your pet. Utilizing appropriate flea and tick control also decreases the probability of disease transmission from ticks that are brought indoors by pets to people in the household. After spending time outdoors, make sure you take a few minutes to check your pets and yourself for any ticks that may be crawling or have attached themselves to clothing or hair from time outdoors. For our pets, checking for ticks includes carefully combing through their fur. Ticks can be very tiny and evasive.

If our first-line defenses fail and you are suspecting your pet may have a tick-borne disease, contact your veterinarian as soon as possible. Symptoms of a tick-borne disease may include fever, lethargy, decreased appetite, intermittent lameness and overall malaise. Unfortunately, symptoms for humans are very similar. The good news is that when tick-borne diseases are caught early, they may be readily treated with antibiotics. This summer, be safe and vigilant!

Newsletter Information

The newsletter is created in the Town Clerk's office. If you are interested in submitting information for an upcoming newsletter issue, deadlines are as follows:

September 1, 2023

For October 2023 Newsletter

<u>December 1, 2023</u> For January 2024 Newsletter

March 1, 2024

For April 2024 Newsletter

June 1, 2024 For July 2024 Newsletter

For newsletter comments, suggestions, and submissions contact:

The Town Clerk's office @ (518) 797-3111 opt 2

WesterloNews@gmail.com

We will do our best to accommodate your suggestion as space allows. We reserve the right to edit articles for grammar, spelling, spacing and content based on available space.

**The newsletter is usually posted the first week of the

Justice Court

Location: 671 County Route 401, Westerlo, NY 12193

Phone: (518) 797-3239 Fax: (518) 797-3598

Court Session Hours: Wednesday @ 7 pm

Town Justice – Kenneth Mackey Sr. Email: KMackey@NYcourts.gov

Town Justice – Robert A. Carl Email: RACarl@NYcourts.gov

Court Clerk – Jaimee Motschmann

Email: Jmotschmann@NYcourts.gov

Clerk to the Justices Hours: Tuesday 4 pm – 6 pm Wednesday 4 pm – 7 pm

Forms of payment: cash, money orders, personal check or credit card

Closed on holidays

Check out these Facebook pages

Town of Westerlo Government News
Westerlo Hwy Dept
Westerlo Public Library
Westerlo Heritage Museum
Westerlo Hometown Heroes
Westerlo Rural Cemetery
Official BKW Alumni Page

Helderberg Family Community Organization- HFCO

Contact Us

Supervisor Matt Kryzak

supervisor@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Confidential Administrator
Lisa DeGroff

confidentialadmin@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Town Clerk/Tax Collector
Karla Weaver

townclerk@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Town Board

Amie Burnside

a.burnside.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Josh Beers

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Lorraine Pecylak

I.pecylak.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com

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p.mahan.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Highway Superintendent **Jody Ostrander**

highwaydepartment@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Code Enforcement

Jeff Pine

codeenforcement@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Assessor

Melanie Bunzey

assessor@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Stay up to date with the latest news and meeting announcements by visiting the Town website

www.townofwesterlony.com



933 County Route 401 Westerlo, NY 12193 Phone: (518) 797-3111

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2023

July

- 1st Westerlo Museum open 9 am 11 am
- 4th NYS Fireworks @ the Plaza, Albany
- 5th Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 5th 7th & 10th 11th HFCO Learn to swim program 4:30 pm – 7 pm for students k – grade 6 @ Knox Town Park. Apply at BKW!
- 6th Historical Society Westerlo Belgium Presentation 7 pm
- 6th Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm
- 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th Tennis Lessons 10:30 am @ Rensselaerville Village Playground
- 11th Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 12th Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 13th Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 13th Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm
- 17th LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 17th 21st HFCO Summer Soccer Camp 6 pm 6:45 pm students pre-K - 1st grade, 6 pm - 7:45 pm grades 2 - 12 @ Knox Town Park. Apply at BKW!
- 18th Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 20th Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm
- 20th Westerlo Reformed Church Chicken and Rib BBQ 3:30 pm
- 24th ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 25th Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm
- 27th Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm
- 31st HFCO Summer Art Camp grades
 - 3 8 @ Knox Town Park. Apply at BKW!

September

- 5th Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 7th Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm
- 8th Greenville Legion Post 291 Dinner 4:30 pm 7 pm @ 54 Maple Ave, Greenville
- 12th Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 13th Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 14th Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 14th Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm
- 16th Fall Festival @ Westerlo Veterans Memorial Park 3 pm – 7 pm "Save the date!"
- 18th LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 18th Historical Society Mtg 7 pm @ Reformed Church
- 19th Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 21st Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm
- 21st Westerlo Reformed Church Chicken and Rib BBQ 3:30 pm until sold out
- 23rd Greenville Day
- 25th ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 26th Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm
- 28th Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm

August

- 1st Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 1st 4th HFCO Summer Art Camp grades 3 8 @ Knox Town Park. Apply at BKW!
- 3rd Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm
- 5th Westerlo Museum open 9 am 11 am
- 6th TWFC Chicken and Rib BBQ 11 am
- 6th Wheels of Time Car Show 10 am 3 pm
- 8th Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 9th Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 10th Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 10th Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm
- 12th & 19th Tennis Lessons 10:30 am
 - @ Rensselaerville Village Playground
- 13th Pre-Register for Westerlo Baptist Church's Vacation Bible School
- 14th 19th Westerlo Baptist Church's Vacation Bible School
- 15th Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 16th Water Committee Mtg 6 pm
- 17th Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm
- 21st LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 22nd Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm
- 24th Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm
- 27th Wheels of Time Car Show
- 28th ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 31st Farmers Market 4 pm 7:30 pm

October

- 3rd Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 5th TWFC Chicken and Rib BBQ 3:30 pm
- 7th BKW Alumni Banquet @ Italian American Community Center
- 10th Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 11th Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 12th Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 13th Greenville Legion Post 291 Dinner 4:30 pm 7 pm @ 54 Maple Ave, Greenville
- 16th LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 16th Historical Society Mtg 7 pm @ Westerlo Reformed
- 17th Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 18th Water Committee Mtg 6 pm
- 19th Learn the signs of identity theft 11 am @ Library
- 23rd ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 24th Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm
- 28th TWFC 5th Annual Trunk N Treat 4 pm 6 pm (See flyer)

FIREWORKS - JULY 4th!!!

New York State's 4th of July Celebration at the Plaza, Albany!

November

- 4th Westerlo Museum open 9 am 11 am
- 4th Hometown Heroes Closing Ceremony 2 pm
- 7th General Election @ Westerlo Town Hall 6 am 9 pm
- 8th Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm (Wednesday)
- 9th Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 10th Greenville Legion Post 291 Dinner 4:30 pm 7 pm @ 54 Maple Ave, Greenville
- 14th Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 20th LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 20th Historical Society Mtg 7 pm @ Westerlo Reformed Church
- 21st Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 27th ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 28th Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm

December

- 5th Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 8th Greenville Legion Post 291 Dinner 4:30 pm 7 pm @ 54 Maple Ave, Greenville
- 12th Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 13th Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 14th Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 18th LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 18th Historical Society Mtg 7 pm @ Westerlo Reformed Church
- 19th Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 25th ZBA Mtg 7 pm cancelled may be rescheduled
- 26th Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm

Westerlo Car Club's Annual Car Show Sunday August 6, 2023

10:00am - 3:00pm





Trophies: - Favorite 20
Plus Best of Show 50/50 Raffle
Door Prizes for registered cars
All Vehicles Welcome

Participant Judging – (Car Club members don't vote or win prizes - but can display their vehicles!!)

Admission: Vehicle Registration still only \$10

Spectators still \$2

Westerlo Town Park, 950 County Route 401 Westerlo

Spectators: Noon 'Til completion of prizes

Gates Open @ 10 am for Vehicle Registration and for Vendors to set up - Registration Ends @ 12 pm

Awards, Trophies & 50-50 drawing @ 2 pm- and music!

Vendors - Looking for Vendors to set up to sell their merchandise - NO CHARGE TO VENDERS!

Food available! NO PETS PLEASE

If your business would like to sponsor a trophy It's STILL only \$35 – Please call or text Tom Kropp ASAP so we can get the trophies printed!! 518-369-5119. Your business is acknowledged and announced with the winning vehicle(s)! Yes- you can do more than one trophy!!

We also have a **Cruise in the Country**

on the 3rd Wednesday of the month May thru September! Rain date the following (4th) Wednesday!

Ready to get that vehicle out you have been working on? (Cars, trucks, rods, bikes, tuners, tractors, boats, gas engines- ANYTHING you want to show off!)