



# Town of Westerlo Newsletter



Sign up for the Town's e-newsletter at  
[TownOfWesterloNY.com](http://TownOfWesterloNY.com)



## CPR/AED/NARCAN TRAINING

The Westerlo Town Board passed a resolution on September 20<sup>th</sup> to rent three automated external defibrillator (AED) machines to be housed at the Town Hall, Highway Department and Justice Court. The rental cost is \$349 per unit per year and will be fully maintained by the providing company. Now that the Town has these state-of-the-art AED machines, you're probably wondering who will be trained to operate them.

The Confidential Administrator organized a hands-on training session on December 7<sup>th</sup> for any employee who signed up for CPR, AED, and Narcan training. Training was provided by Patrick Kervin, EMT-P, ALS, Education Coordinator from the Albany County Sheriff's Department of Emergency Medical Services Unit. The training was very well received by the 21 employees who attended and are now all fully certified!

The initial costs for training were covered by Albany County Sheriff's and any additional costs associated with recertification will be the Town's responsibility but an expense that is absolutely worth it. These things save lives and it's so great that so many employees expressed an interest in learning.

Thank you to the Supervisor's office, specifically Lisa DeGroff for setting all of this up, to Albany County Sheriff's for covering the costs, the trainers and all the Town employees who took the time to be a part of this monumental day.



**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 1 pm – 7 pm  
or by appointment

**Code Enforcement Officer**  
Jeff Pine

Ext. 1017 or cell (518) 410-5232  
Thursday 5 pm – 7 pm

**Town Assessor**  
Melanie Bunzey  
Ext. 1016

Thursday 4:30 pm – 7 pm  
or by appointment

**Assessor/CEO Clerk**  
Claire Marshall  
Ext. 1019

Monday – Wednesday 9 am – 2 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 1<sup>st</sup>-Oct 1<sup>st</sup>):  
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*



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



## From the Supervisor's Desk



The Holidays are behind us, and we are full steam ahead into 2024. I would like to take a few moments to highlight some of the Town's accomplishments in 2023. First, I would like to report that we are financially strong, and we

were able to keep our standard operating costs below the anticipated 2023 budget. This will allow us to roll all unused funds into their respective fund balances in order to continue to build the Town's financial reserves. With nearly 2.4 million in reserve funding, we anticipate setting aside 1.2 million for capital improvements to the Town's infrastructure. This funding will allow for much needed improvements to our parks, buildings, and equipment. Listed below are some of the highlights of 2023. Let's make 2024 another financially strong year for the Town of Westerlo.

- Current capital improvement projects are in process at both the Town Hall and Highway Department.
- We are setting aside 1.2 million of the current 2.4 million fund balance to be used for capital improvement projects for Town facilities and replacement of aging equipment over the next four years. The multiyear financial plan and multiyear capital improvement plans are essentially financial roadmaps for financial planning and town wide improvements over the next four years.
- We are hoping in the near future to transfer 3 acres of vacant land that sits behind Town Hall to the Westerlo Fire Company so that they can build a new Fire Station to serve the Town of Westerlo. The transfer of land is a tax benefit and cost savings for residents.
- The Town has also received several grants for projects and initiatives. One of those projects is making our Local Laws current and searchable on an online platform. The Town of Westerlo will receive a \$10,000 grant to cover the expense of the review and codification of our Town laws.
- Restoration of the Basic Creek along Veterans Memorial Park has been completed and financed with grant funding from Albany County Soil and Water. Thank you to our highway department for all their restoration efforts. Our park is now better protected from further erosion and flooding along the Basic Creek. The Town has been awarded \$35,000 in grant funding for the completion of this project.
- A Senior Lunch and Learn series was initiated by the Supervisor's Office, in partnership with the Hilltowns' Community Resource Center. The programs address topics of interest for seniors in our community and provide a free lunch. In addition, seniors have an opportunity to socialize with their neighbors.
- The Town held several community events in 2023. Pictures with the Easter Bunny, The Annual Fall Festival, and Tree Lighting were coordinated by the Town Clerks Office along with volunteers

Continued on page 5

## Boards and Committees

### Town Board

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month @ 6 pm

### Broadband Research Committee

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month @ 7 pm

Chairperson

Carrie Wallace

tow.brc.chair@gmail.com

### Local Law Review Committee

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month @ 6 pm

Chairperson

Bill Hall

WesterloLawReview@gmail.com

### Museum Board

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month @ 6 pm

Director/Curator

Mary-Jane Araldi

museum@townofwesterlony.com

### Planning Board

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month @ 7 pm

Chairperson

Beau Loendorf

b.loendorf.pb@townofwesterlony.com

### Water Committee

Chairperson

Jim Loux

louxjames@gmail.com

### Westerlo Hometown Heroes

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month @ 6 pm

Chairperson

Amie Burnside

WesterloHometownHeroes@gmail.com

### Zoning Board of Appeals

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> 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.**



Sign up for the Town's e-newsletter at [TownOfWesterloNY.com](https://TownOfWesterloNY.com)



## 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

- **The Clerk's office is responsible for updating the website and hopes to have a historian page available soon.**
- **Keep in mind, park reservations can only be reserved up to 1 year in advance. Make sure to call us soon if you would like to make a reservation. Dates book up quickly. Applications and a list of fees can be found on our website.**
- **Just a reminder that Town of Westerlo Property Tax bills were mailed out the first week of January. Bills can be paid without penalty through January 31<sup>st</sup>. There is a 1% penalty if paid February 1<sup>st</sup> through February 29<sup>th</sup> and a 2% penalty if paid March 1<sup>st</sup> through April 1<sup>st</sup>. You can submit payment by mail, in person, or at the Bank of Greene County (Westerlo or Greenville branches only)! More tax information is available on the Town's website. If you have questions about back taxes, please contact Albany County Department of Finance at (518) 447-7082. They will have the most up-to-date information.**
- **If you are mailing tax payments, it's recommended that you ask the post office to post mark the envelope with a date stamp before mailing, as the date on the envelope, is the date used to determine penalties. Please note, we do not accept metered mail date stamps for tax payments. Mail sent with a metered machine will be accepted the day the mail is received in this office, not the date on the envelope. Please call if you have questions.**

## Code Enforcement Officer

Trying something different this quarter. Take the quiz and the first one to submit the correct answers in person to the building department wins free taxes for a year. Just kidding!!!

You win a \$10 Dunkin Donuts gift card. Answers and winner to be revealed in the next newsletter.

Thanks for playing along– Jeff Pine CEO

### What needs a permit?

1. Re roofing without any structural work  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ no
2. In kind (same size as original) replacement window and doors  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ no
3. Solid fuel heating appliance (wood, pellet)  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ no
4. 300 sf shed set on a gravel base  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ no
5. New siding  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ no
6. Remodeling of kitchen or bathrooms in same location with no new plumbing or electrical  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ no
7. 36-inch-deep portable swimming pool  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ no
8. In kind furnace or boiler replacement, same fuel source  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ no
9. With a new fuel source  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ no
10. Fences  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ no

## Transfer Station

Transfer station applications for 2024 are now on sale for \$25 for the year. Permits are required for all town residents and seasonal residents. Permits are not available to vacant landowners. To apply, pick up an application at the Transfer Station, Town Clerk's Office or print one from our website! If you need one mailed, please call us at (518) 797-3111 opt. 2.

Thanks to Highway Superintendent Jody Ostrander, as of December 19<sup>th</sup>, there is no longer a cost to dispose of televisions, monitors, washers, dryers, stoves or hot water heaters at the transfer station.

## Citizens Committee

The Citizens Committee on park improvement will resume meetings soon. If you have any suggestions, comments, or concerns about any of the Town parks, please email [ConfidentialAdmin@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:ConfidentialAdmin@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

The Committee will add your input to their next meeting agenda.

## News from the Assessor

- Any property owner turning 65 years old this year may be eligible for the Enhanced STAR exemption. The March 1<sup>st</sup> 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**  
**New office hours:**  
**Monday – Wednesday 9 am – 2 pm & Thursday 2 pm – 7 pm through May 2024.**

The Assessor's office has been busy preparing for the upcoming property tax bills. We are also preparing to mail exemption renewal forms which will be due back to the Assessor's office by March 1, 2024. The income levels for the Enhanced STAR; Aged-All (Low Income Seniors); and Disabled with Limited Income have been raised. If you were denied any of these exemptions in the past, you may now be eligible. Contact the Assessor's office for an exemption application form if you feel you may now be eligible.

## Local Law Review Committee

Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 6 pm and are open to the public if anyone has input.

The Committee is still reviewing the Town's 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](mailto:WesterloLawReview@gmail.com)

## Water Committee

Meetings are normally held the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of March and September at 6 pm however, there will be a special meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm for anyone who would like to attend.



## On the Road with the Highway Department

The Highway Department has been up to a lot the last few months. Some things worth mentioning are they've completed the additional bays at the highway garage to house the two new trucks, completed the stream work along the Basic Creek at the park, helped with holiday decorations at the Town Hall, and Superintendent Jody Ostrander switched fuel providers to save the Town some additional money.

On December 18<sup>th</sup>, we were also hit hard with flooding. I'm sure many of you felt the impact as it reminded us of hurricane Irene. The Town Hall basement flooded, several roads were washed out and there were lots to clean up after. It's always good to have a great crew of guys to help in these serious situations.

What's upcoming? Snow! We hope everyone stays safe and off the roads whenever possible, during bad storms. Make sure to leave plenty of room when passing or following a plow truck for everyone's safety.



from other town departments and the community. Thank you to the Town Clerks Office and our volunteers for their hard work.

- The Westerlo Rural Cemetery Committee held their annual Trunk or Treat at Westerlo Veterans Memorial Park. It was packed from the beginning to the end. Thank you to the cemetery committee for providing a safe and friendly atmosphere for all of Westerlo to enjoy.
- The Westerlo Fire Company held multiple fireman's breakfast's, Chicken BBQ's, hosted the Haunted Hall, provided food for the Fall Festival, directed traffic at the Fall Festival, and was present at all town events in 2023. Thank you to Westerlo Fire Company for your support of the community!
- Westerlo Hometown Hero's held several events in town during 2023. The sixth annual Westerlo Hometown Heroes Closing Ceremony was attended by over 150 guests. The event honored our veterans, and for the first time ever a dog who served in the military, as well as Westerlo first responders. The Committee also hosted it's first annual Veterans Day Service in Veterans Garden, at Westerlo Veterans Memorial Park.

These are just a few of the many highlights from 2023. Have a Happy New Year!

-Supervisor Matthew Kryzak

## Farmers Market

The Town of Westerlo Farmer's Market is finished for the season. A sincere thanks to all who stopped by to support our local farmers and vendors this year. It was a success because of the support of the community.

Next year, the Farmers Market hopes to bring live music and food vendors in. Starting on January 1<sup>st</sup>, we will be accepting applications for our 2024 market season. The hours will be changing to 4:00 pm – 6:30 pm and will run from June – September at the Westerlo Veterans Memorial Park.

Anyone wishing to become a vendor should reach out to the Town Clerk's office or can email us at [WesterloFarmersMarket@gmail.com](mailto:WesterloFarmersMarket@gmail.com)

Follow our **Westerlo Farmers Market** page on Facebook for seasonal updates and vendor products!



The Town of Westerlo held a Swearing in Ceremony on December 27<sup>th</sup> at the Westerlo Town Hall where family, friends and coworkers came out to celebrate and congratulate newly elected and re-elected officials. Congratulations to all the incumbents, Supervisor Matthew Kryzak, Highway Superintendent Jody Ostrander, Town Clerk Karla Weaver and Town Council Members Peter Mahan and Amie Burnside. All of us wish to welcome newly elected official Joshua Ostrander (Jody's son) who took on a Town Justice position for a 4-year term. We are all excited for him to join our team and wish him luck in this new adventure.

Thank you to all those who ran in the election and to everyone who came out to celebrate a memorable night.



# VETERANS SERVICES

Sponsored by Albany County  
Veteran Service Bureau and The Town of Westerlo

Third Wednesday of the month.  
9:00 am - 11:30 am

Westerlo Town Hall 933 County Route 401  
Westerlo

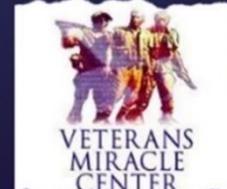
Providing information and services to veterans living in Albany County.

Assistance with state and federal entitlements such as:  
 \* Medical Care \* Disability and Compensation \* Pension  
 \* Education benefits \* Burial assistance \* VA Home Loans  
 Help with getting copies of veterans' medical & personnel records, including Certificates of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214)

Other assistance and resources include:  
 \* VA Claims \* Obtaining documents \* Determining eligibility for services \* Veteran Events \* Veteran Organizations \* Newsletter  
 \* Honor a Veteran \* Return the Favor Discounts \* Crisis Services  
 And more!

**Also available on Veteran Services Day will be assorted food and other items provided by the Veterans Miracle Center.**

Any veteran is welcome to select what you want/need while supplies last. Supplies will vary each month.



[www.VMCAlbany.org](http://www.VMCAlbany.org)



MORE INFO: Albany County Veteran Service Bureau 518-447-7710  
Town of Westerlo 518-797-3111 ext. 1014

with PosterMyWall.com



On December 1<sup>st</sup>, the Museum participated in the Town’s Third Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony with a chance auction. It’s always lots of fun and any money raised goes toward the Museum’s building fund. For those who don’t know, the Museum Board is planning to have a new building constructed behind the current Museum which will eventually house much of the larger displays that visitors do not currently have the ability to view or learn about as they are being stored at other locations. Thank you to anyone who came and donated. We appreciate you!

Christmas Wreaths have been hung on all the Town of Westerlo signs coming into town. This is something that is done by Mary Jane Araldi herself year after year, and this year, resident Ding Boomhower volunteered to help her. Thank you so much to both of them for donating their time to make the town a bit more festive.

At the December Museum meeting, the Museum Board voted to reappoint current Museum Director Mary Jane Araldi. She does an amazing job keeping the Museum going and organizing events and fundraisers. We are not sure if anyone else would put as much effort and heart into this much-loved treasure in our small community. If you are a resident and haven’t already visited the Museum, make sure to stop by when it reopens in April. Visitors are also welcome and encouraged to come by. There’s always something for everyone to enjoy!

In other news, on December 16<sup>th</sup> Mary Jane along with many volunteers including the Westerlo Vol. Fire Police laid wreaths at Westerlo Rural, Westerlo Central and Hannacroix cemeteries as part of Wreaths Across America. It was a great day for an amazing cause. If you don’t already know about Wreaths Across America, you can read about it at

<https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/>. It’s a great organization whose mission is to remember the fallen, honor those who serve and teach the next generation the value of freedom. If you want to be a part of this next year, please mark your calendars for October to donate a wreath or December to volunteer to lay them.

## The Heroes We Never Name by M. Lucille Ford

Back of the men we honor  
Enrolled on the scroll of fame.  
Are the millions who go unmentioned -  
The heroes we never name!  
Those who have won us the victories  
And conquered along the way;  
Those who have made us a nation  
A tribute to them I would pay.  
Back of our nation's first leader,  
Of Lincoln and Wilson, too,  
10 Back of the mind directing our course  
Was the army that carried it through.  
Back of the generals and captains  
Was the tramping of rank and file,  
And back of them were the ones at home  
Who labored with tear and with smile.  
And what of the "everyday" heroes  
Whose courage and efforts never cease!  
Toilers who struggle and labor and strive  
And hope for a future of peace?  
Hats off to the worthy leaders;  
Their honor I'd ever acclaim  
But here's a cheer for the many brave,  
The heroes we never name

### Town of Westerlo Heritage Museum’s 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Garage Sale Day

Dormansville, South Westerlo, Westerlo

**Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**8:30 am-3:30 pm**

Maps and directions will be available at the  
Westerlo Town Hall, 933 CR 401, Westerlo after 8:00 am.

Refreshments, Bake Sale and Restrooms are also available  
at this location.

If you would like to participate, please complete the registration form  
at the back of this newsletter or stop by the Town Clerk’s office  
or visit the Town’s website [www.townofwesterlony.com](http://www.townofwesterlony.com).

**Come join us!**

Thank you for your support!



## Westerlo History

As Town historian, my job is to make local history accessible and interesting to the community. Every historian has taken on their own points of interest during their appointment years. This can be seen in Dennis Fancher's interest in military history, Bob Duchow's interest in genealogies, Junior Bishop's documentation of every known cemetery in Westerlo (amongst lots of other contributions)!

What will be my contribution? Well, I'll tell you! I've been working with Town Clerk, Karla Weaver, for close to a year now to establish a "Westerlo History Tab" on our Town website. This will be a place we can all go to view (and share) old pictures of people and places in Westerlo's past. We will also be able to view maps dated back to 1854 and 1866 as well as more current maps. It will also feature an online library of sorts that will include digitized copies of Junior Bishops volumes of local cemetery inscriptions. These books have been a wealth of information for the last 3+ decades in hard copy form at the library and in the Town Clerk's office. Now they will be available for the whole world to see!

The site will also feature the invaluable works of Margaretta "Peg" Tozer. She was never a Town historian but did extensive genealogical research compiling her findings in scrapbooks that I have digitized and will make available through this site. Peg would research a Westerlo family and write their complete multi-generational genealogy including pictures, newspaper articles, wedding invitations and anything else she collected. The Hannay book alone includes at least 50 other Westerlo families!

I have been working very hard over the last few years to take Junior's data and build out the cemeteries on an Ancestry.com site called FindAGrave.com. I've located and built out over 40 Westerlo cemeteries thus far and will provide links on the website to each cemetery which also features (or will in the future) generational links which will eventually replace the need for Bishops 7 volume set. This will not only allow the whole world to be able to access all of that data, but it also allows for anyone knowledgeable of their own family history to update it directly!

We're hoping to have the ability to be able to query a database that town resident Susan Cunningham has created where you can simply put in your family name (i.e. Hannay) and it will list all family members buried in town as well as the location of their burial. I hope this encourages our community to revisit their ancestry and figure out the link between the different generations. I also hope that as the community spends more time looking up their ancestor's we will all take more interest in better maintaining our more than 70 cemeteries in town.

I hope for this site to be an impetus for more interaction with the community because we all hold pieces of Westerlo history, some for our few years here and some for generations! How cool would it be to dust off those old photos or written family history to share with the whole town through this future site! So be on the lookout for this new tab! I'm certain that there will be something of interest for everyone in town!

Gayle Hannay

### 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!**

### Broadband Research Committee (BRC)

There is no update currently on broadband. Keep an eye on the Town Board's agenda to see if anything comes up before spring.

The BRC is looking for volunteers to assist the Chair. Anyone interested in joining should contact the Town Clerk's office or email:

[tow.brc.chair@gmail.com](mailto:tow.brc.chair@gmail.com)

***The BRC normally meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month at 7 pm for anyone interested in attending. Since there is no information to report, meetings have been cancelled the last few months. Please check the Town's [website](#) to see if meetings are cancelled.***

## Town of Westerlo's Third Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony

8

December 1<sup>st</sup> marked the Town's Third Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony where Santa, Mrs. Claus, Elf and the Gingerbread man were all in town to visit with Westerlo children. There were lots of great activities including arts and crafts, photos with Santa, and letters to Santa which he and Mrs. Claus took back with them to the north pole to prepare for making kids wishes come true.

This event is one that raises money for Westerlo children in need for the holiday to make sure they have the very best Christmas even when times are tough for their families. All proceeds from the sale of food went directly toward this purpose. We sold hot dogs, mac and cheese, popcorn, hot pretzels, coffee and hot chocolate. Kelley from Kelley's Kitchen generously donated desserts for us to sell which was a huge hit of course! (Keep a lookout for ordering options from Kelley's Kitchen in an upcoming issue of the newsletter!)

The Town has been busy collecting donations where anyone who wished to drop off clothes, toys, or monetary donations were able to do so at the Town Clerk's office right up to and during this event. A huge thank you to Town Councilmen Joshua Beers and Peter Mahan who were our biggest donors and helpers and to Mr. and Mrs. Witt who provided donations for an entire family and the many others who contributed. The Town was also lucky to receive additional toys from Veterans Miracle Center in Albany. Without all of you this wouldn't be possible.

Thanks to everyone who visited with Santa and enjoyed a great night with Town employees, friends, and family.

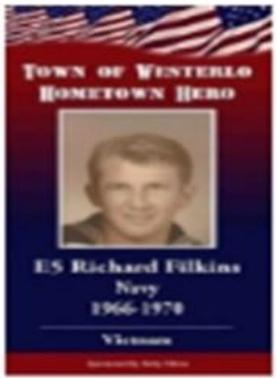
This event is so special for the little kiddos of Westerlo. We, who work like elves at the Town, are very happy to host such great events year after year. Next year we hope to bring more great events and activities to our wonderful community.

If you are looking for something specific or have any ideas on how we can bring more fun to Westerlo, please reach out to the Town Clerk's office anytime! We would love to hear from you!

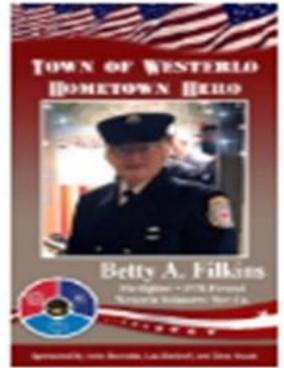




# Honor your Veteran or First Responder in 2024!



The Westerlo Hometown Heroes Committee is now accepting applications for new banners for both Veterans and First Responders as well as those who would like to re-hang a banner from a previous year.



We are also in need of sponsorships. Any donation is greatly appreciated.

All forms can be found on the Town's website, our Facebook page or by email.

Contact information is listed below.



## ALL forms due by April 1st.



### Westerlo Hometown Heroes

Armed Forces & First Responders

WesterloHometownHeroes@Gmail.com  
Amie Burnside - 518-396-8787 Lisa DeGross - 518-396-0350  
Facebook - Westerlo Hometown Heroes

TownOfWesterloNY.com

(Click on Town Offices, Committees and Hometown Heroes for information or Click on Documents and Forms and scroll down to Hometown Heroes for forms)

# What's Hot with the Westerlo Fire Company

TOWN OF WESTERLO  
VOL. FIRE CO.

presents:

**PANCAKE  
BREAKFAST**



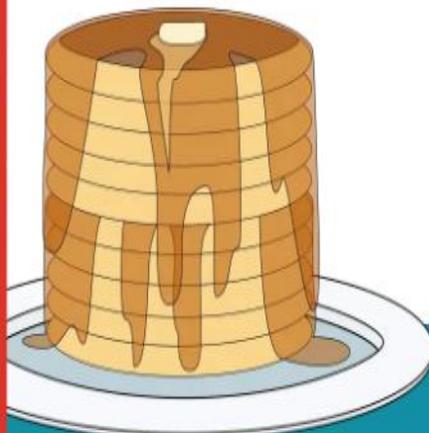
**SATURDAY** **SATURDAY**  
**February** **March**  
**24th** **23rd**

**SATURDAY** **8-11 am**  
**April**

**Menu**

- pancakes
- scrambled eggs
- sausage
- bacon
- sausage & gravy & biscuits
- juice
- milk
- coffee

**Donations  
accepted**



**Woodman's Hall  
Westerlo**



## SNOWMOBILING COMMUNITY

Trails open January 1<sup>st</sup>!

Trail Coordinator: Robert Korosec  
(518) 624-3849 x 102

### Club Officers

President Gerry Lenseth	(518) 330-7373
Vice Pres Mary Ann Nickloy	(518) 895-2595
Treasurer Tammy Saddlemire	(518) 872-2125
Secretary (vacant)	(518) 555-2368

### Trail Boss Contacts

Matt Lord	Thacher Park	(518) 334-8214
Brian Buchardt	East Berne	(518) 872-1878
Tom Goodman		(518) 649-3320
Don Bauer	Warner Lake	(518) 337-1985
Zach Simeon	Knox	(518) 860-2325
Justin Bates		(518) 698-3994
Skip Murrell	Township	(518) 867-1235
Vacant	Wright	
Rob Howard		(518) 859-0091
Bob Tanner		(518) 242-9745
Casey LeClair	Duanesburg	
Bryan Schaeffer		(518) 852-3473
Eric Dubb		(518) 545-6666
Tom Rullson	Esperance	(518) 875-9229
Lance Martineau		(518) 895-5404
Laudy Hoyenga	Sloansville	(518) 868-2092
Mark VanWoert	Mariaville	(518) 376-0063
Josh Nellis		(518) 410-8950
Yancey Zimmer	Charleston	(518) 657-9588
Chris Teahen		(518) 577-1355
Scott Claus		(518) 848-0524

To view their newsletter, visit:

<https://www.frontiersno.com/images/pdf/2023/frontier%20Sep23.pdf>

## 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 7 am – 9 am & Saturdays 9 am – 11 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, [kunker4@hotmail.com](mailto:kunker4@hotmail.com)

H. (518) 872-1724, W. (518) 456-5810, C. (518) 275-9506

### Potter Hollow Food Pantry

Hours: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month 9:30 am – 12:00 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!)

Sometimes residents call looking for information on different topics. Please note, the Town of Westerlo does not endorse any companies posted in the newsletter, it is for informational purposes only.

**POWDERTECH**  
CUSTOM POWDERCOATED FINISHES

**Commercial and Custom  
Powdercoating**

4779 Duanesburg Rd. Duanesburg, NY 12056

**(518) 356-1322 • (518) 356-7431**

[powdercoatingrv@hotmail.com](mailto:powdercoatingrv@hotmail.com)

[www.powdertech.biz](http://www.powdertech.biz)

CHRIS

RAY

## Hilltown Community

11

### Resource Center

The Hilltowns Community Resource Center had a busy Thanksgiving. We handed out over 70 turkeys and all the trimmings to our families. Our Helderberg Kiwanis provided 24 turkeys and trimmings. We had a very successful Free Clothes store this year at Woodman's Hall. Thanks to the Westerlo Fire Dept for allowing us the use of your hall and the Kiwanis Club for setting up, running the store, cleaning up. They did an amazing job as always. Thanks to all the volunteers that help throughout the process.

We are busy with HEAP applications. If you are in need of assistance with HEAP applications, call the office and we will be happy to help you with that. We had folks from CC move in our office on December 14<sup>th</sup> helping with HEAP applications. If anyone is in need of a food pantry we can deliver, if necessary, call the office at (518) 966-7380.

We wish everyone a Happy Healthy Holiday Season. Thank you to everyone that helps our Resource Center serve the Mission of Catholic Charities.



### Proposed Freese House Demolition

The Town Board has been discussing the proposed demotion of an unsafe building within the Town of Westerlo hamlet. Sealed bids were due back for the demolition and air monitoring on December 28<sup>th</sup>. The Town Board will be holding an executive session on January 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss the bids received and hopes to award the project that evening.

### Proposed Fence Law

There has been some discussion lately regarding a proposed fence law in the Town of Westerlo. The Town Attorney and CEO Jeffry Pine have been working with the Town Board on a draft. They also intend to receive input from both the Planning and Zoning Board's before holding a Public Hearing. Keep an eye on the agenda and attend meetings for further information.

# Read Up on the Library

## Upcoming Programs

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm – Winter Interest in the Garden with Master Gardener Judith Fetterly  
 February 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm – Mardi Gras Dessert Potluck  
 March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm – Finance for Seniors with Cornell Cooperative Extension  
 April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2 pm – Free Fishing Program (in the Town Park) (Rain Date 4/4/24)  
 April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, will bring a total eclipse. Stay tuned for more information!

## Youth Programs resuming with the school year

Lego and STEAM – Mondays 3:30 pm – 5 pm  
 Storytime – Wednesdays 10:30 am  
 Homework Help and STEAM activities – Thursdays 3:30 pm – 5 pm

## Adult Programs

Coffee with Neighbors – Wednesdays 12 pm – Come to the library to meet and chat with your Westerlo neighbors.  
 Fiber Arts Group – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month 12 pm – 2 pm  
 Spice Sampling – Every month the library has a spice take and make, with spice samples and a recipe.

Book Club – **NEW DATE AND TIME** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month 4:30 pm.  
 Copies of the current book are available at the circulation desk.

## 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!



**Westerlo Library**  
 604 NY 143  
 Westerlo, NY 12193

### Hours:

**Mon – 2 pm – 7 pm**  
**Tues – 2 pm – 7 pm**  
**Wed – 9 am – 2 pm**  
**Thurs – 2 pm – 7 pm**  
**Fri – 2 pm – 7 pm**  
**Sat – 9 am – 2 pm**  
**Sun – Closed**

**For more information call:**  
**(518) 797-3415**  
**Amy Powarzynski**  
**Library Manager**

## 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.

## LIBRARY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS FOR 2024

**Monday, January 1 – New Year's Day**  
**Monday, January 15 – MLK Day**  
**Monday, February 19 – Presidents' Day**  
**Monday, May 27 – Memorial Day**  
**Wednesday, June 19 – Juneteenth**  
**Thursday, July 4 – Independence Day**  
**Monday, September 2 – Labor Day**  
**Thursday, November 28 – Thanksgiving Day**  
**Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**  
**Wednesday, December 25 – Christmas Day**  
**Tuesday, December 31 – New Year's Eve**

## Gallery Space

The library has Gallery space that exhibits a local artist every two months. In March and April of 2024 there will be local students' art on exhibit. Both from Greenville and BKW.

## 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](mailto:director@westerlolibrary.org), for more information.

## **ANCESTRY.COM**

We have Ancestry for use in the library, either on your own device or one of the library laptops. Stop by and get started on your family tree!

## 2024 Trustee Meetings – 7 pm in the Hannay Community Room

Wednesday, January 10, 2024  
 Wednesday, February 14, 2024  
 Wednesday, March 13, 2024  
 Wednesday, April 10, 2024  
 Wednesday, May 8, 2024  
 Monday, June 12, 2024  
 Wednesday, July 10, 2024  
 Wednesday, August 14, 2024  
 Wednesday, September 11, 2024  
 Wednesday, October 9, 2024  
 Wednesday, November 13, 2024  
 Wednesday, December 11, 2024

WESTERLO RURAL CEMETERY'S

# SPRING CLEANUP

**APRIL 13TH 10AM**

**771 SR 143, Westerlo**

*Rain date April 20th!*



Made with PosterMyWall.com

## 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](mailto:BettyFilkins@protonmail.com)



### Cemeteries in Albany County

Visit [https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery-browse/USA/New-York/Albany-County/Westerlo?id=city\\_105189](https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery-browse/USA/New-York/Albany-County/Westerlo?id=city_105189) to search Westerlo Cemeteries

### Cemetery Records In Greene County

There is a wealth of information to be found in the old cemeteries that are located throughout Greene County. Many Westerlo residents may have family buried in Greene County and may find information about their ancestors by visiting this website:

[https://sites.rootsweb.com/~nygreen2/cemetery\\_records\\_greene.htm](https://sites.rootsweb.com/~nygreen2/cemetery_records_greene.htm)

### 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. 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](mailto:BettyFilkins@protonmail.com)**

#### Hannacroix Rural Cemetery

Linda Smith  
(518) 928-3428

#### Westerlo Central Cemetery

Dennis Boomhower  
(518) 488-2285

# VETERAN INFORMATION

Helderberg Heroes Project



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 associated with.

**For more information or questions email:**

[Connect@HelderberaFCO.com](mailto:Connect@HelderberaFCO.com)



HELDERBERG  
FAMILY + COMMUNITY  
ORGANIZATION

## 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 Services Bureau Monday – Friday 9 am – 4 pm. Download the application at <https://www.albanycounty.com/departments/veterans-service-bureau>

## 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 <https://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](mailto:kenneth.secor@albanycountyny.com)

**Website:** <https://www.albanycounty.com/departments/veterans-service-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!

## 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.gov](http://www.VA.gov) and check the status of their claim!



## 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

<https://pgrny.org>

## 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/](http://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 10<sup>th</sup>.
- You can learn more about the PACT Act by visiting [VA.gov/PACT](http://VA.gov/PACT) or by calling 1-800-MyVA411.

## 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](http://www.VMCAlbany.org)

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

## 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.

<https://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](http://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](http://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*

## Albany County Veterans Peer Support Program (ACVPSP)

This program was started last year with the mission of helping Military members transition to civilian life and help with Veterans physical and mental wellbeing. Below are some of their programs that are FREE to all Veterans:

- Sweat with a Vet Hot Yoga Sessions:
  - Free yoga sessions for Veterans. Move at your own pace, no prior experience required. Register at [www.thehotyogaspot.com/sweat-with-vets](http://www.thehotyogaspot.com/sweat-with-vets)
  - Classes: Tuesdays at 7:15 pm at Hot Yoga Spot (Latham), Crossroads Center, 7 Johnson Rd., Latham, NY 12210 and Thursdays at 6 pm at Hot Yoga Spot (Albany), Stuyvesant Plaza, 1475 Western Ave, Albany, NY 12203 (518) 219-8112
- Walking Club – Wednesday mornings 9 am at the Colonie Crossings. There are walkers of all abilities so you can get some exercise and have a good conversation with fellow Veterans and their families. There is no cost for this.
- Cornhole League – Wednesday evenings 7 pm at the Weininger VFW Post #8692 building located at 140 VFW Dr., Albany, NY 12205. Players of all abilities welcome. If you can't make every week, you can attend when you can and be a substitute player. There is no cost for this.
- Veterans Mental Health First Aid Course – this course teaches how to identify, understand, and respond to the signs of mental health and substance abuse challenges among Veterans. A course will be planned later in the year. Be on the lookout at [www.AlbanyCounty.com/veterans](http://www.AlbanyCounty.com/veterans) or call (518) 447-7710 for more information.

## Discounts and Free Stuff

NY Lifetime Liberty Pass: Free vehicle entry to state parks and DEC-operated day-use areas, as well as numerous state boat launch sites, historic sites, arboretums, and park preserves; free golf at 28 State Park golf courses; free swimming pool entrance at 36 State Park pools, and discounted camping and cabin rentals at all 119 State Park & DEC campgrounds.

Veterans, Gold Star Families Lifetime National Parks Pass: Free entrance to national parks for Veterans and their families. The pass gives free access to about 2,000 public locations spread out across more than 400 million acres of public lands.

Intrepid Museum: Free admission for active military and Veterans. 20% off on individual, Dual and Family memberships. Special programs also available.

*For more information, contact Albany County Veterans Service Bureau at (518) 447-7710*



## Respectful Flag Disposal Information

There are flag disposal locations throughout New York State. Did you know the local Veterans of Foreign Wars or VFW Posts, American Legion locations, and Boy and Girl Scout organizations will accept your tattered and worn American Flags? Many locations have bins inside their posts.

The closest location to dispose of a flag is the American Legion Post 291.

54 Maple Ave, Greenville, NY 12083

Town of Westerlo  
PRESENTS

Including photos  
with the Easter  
Bunny!

17



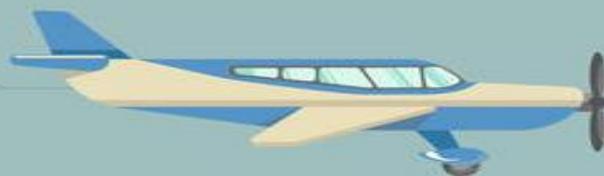
# EASTER EGG HUNT & MORE!

Food sales to benefit  
the Museum

**30** March | **11:00 AM**  
2024 | **1:00 PM**

Hop on down and  
join the fun!

## 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 or stop by. They are happy to help!



<https://www.facebook.com/Hilltowns>

### 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](mailto: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

<https://www.divisiononaddiction.org/>

### 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**

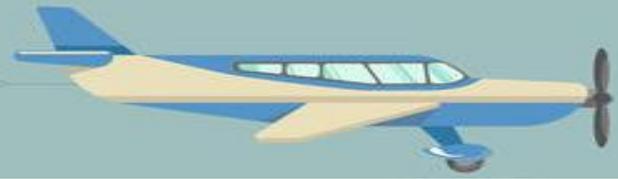
### Disposal of Used Motor Oil

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!**

## HELPFUL RESOURCES



### Single Point of Entry (SPOE)

Serving Women, Teen Girls, Children and Families.

The Single Point of Entry (SPOE) is a way for women, teen girls, children and families to connect with programs available through Albany County and community agencies. The SPOE serves as a point of information for families in need of help. Community agencies may also access the SPOE for information and resource connections.

An operator is available to offer assistance and support in areas including:

Health Insurance	Child Development
Pregnancy Support	Breast Feeding
Health Care	Parent Education
Domestic Violence	Addiction Support
Supportive Counseling	Healthy Relationships
Nutrition Education	Social Services

To speak with a SPOE operator, please call (518) 447-7777, Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm.

A confidential Referral Form may be electronically completed and confidentially faxed to (518) 447-2515. Forms are available on the Albany County website.

<https://www.albanycounty.com/home/showpublicdocument/8898/637602600712630000>

### Turn in your old electronics for a Walmart eGift Card!

Walmart offers a Gadget to Gift Card exchange.

You can visit [Walmart.cexchange.com/online/home/index.rails](http://Walmart.cexchange.com/online/home/index.rails) to see what your electronic device may be worth.

You will need to ship the device to them, free of charge, and will receive an eGift card in exchange after the product is evaluated.

The gift card can be used at either Walmart.com or SamsClub.com.

### Big Brothers Big Sisters

Consider becoming a Big Brother or Big Sister. Bigs serve as supportive, positive role models and mentors to our youth. Kids are usually aged 6 and up.

To become a Big Brother or Big Sister, you can register at

[www.bbbscr.org/home-page/get-involved/](http://www.bbbscr.org/home-page/get-involved/)

Want to enroll a child? Age requirement to enroll is 6 – 14 years.

For more information and to enroll, visit

[www.bbbscr.org/home-page/enroll-a-child/](http://www.bbbscr.org/home-page/enroll-a-child/)



Please note, P.A.T.S. is closed until April however, donations can be dropped off anytime.

### Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

Emergency HEAP can often help people who are confronted with heat-related emergencies, such as a lack of fuel, a utility shut-off, or inoperable/unsafe heating equipment.

Check HEAP income limits at:

[www.otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/](http://www.otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/)

Applicants who have no power or less than ¼ tank of fuel should appear at the DSS office at 162 Washington Ave. between 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday.

You can find more information & apply for HEAP at:

<https://www.ny.gov/services/apply-heating-and-cooling-assistance-heap>

### United Tenants of Albany, Inc. (UTA)

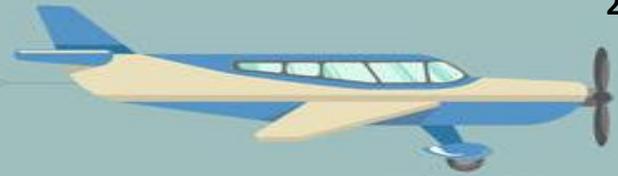
UTA's Emergency Financial Assistance service assists tenants at-risk of homelessness by directly addressing arrears, utility delinquency, security deposits and/or 1<sup>st</sup> months' rent costs to prevent displacement. This service, in combination with crisis intervention and case management, allows low to middle income tenants in Albany County who are imminently at-risk of eviction and homelessness to stabilize their housing situations, and to avoid the traumatizing loss of their home.

UTA is restricted to provide financial assistance to tenants within Albany County who meet the income limits of 20-80% of the area median income.

Need housing assistance? All requests for assistance are handled through the Housing Hotline. Tenants seeking assistance can reach out to at (518) 436-8997 x 3. A housing counselor will return your calls in the order they are received. You may also send a request to [hotline@unitedtenantsalbany.org](mailto:hotline@unitedtenantsalbany.org)

Visit [www.utalbany.org](http://www.utalbany.org) for more information.

## HELPFUL RESOURCES



### YMCA (Guilderland) Programs

**Tae Kwon Do – Martial Arts:** Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> Sundays, 10:45 am – 12:15 pm. Fee is \$90 (member) or \$135 (non-member). Learn balance, power, focus, speed, and control through punches, blocks, and kicks. Ages 5+, adults welcome.

**Adult Ballet:** Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm. Fee is \$90 (member) or \$180 (non-member). 14 years old and up. Learn the basics of ballet! Warm up at the barre, stretch, learn combinations across the floor, and improve center work. Class focuses on proper alignment, technique, flexibility, strength building, and stamina.

**Winter Swin Lessons:** Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> Thursdays, 9:40 am – 10:10 am. Fee is \$87.00 (member). This class is for adults who are looking to improve their skills. The class will cover learning and or improving all swimming skills and basic body positioning. Advanced swimmers will develop all five strokes at a comfortable pace. Ages 18+. There are also classes available for swimming at different times.

**Emotional Eating Nutritional Workshop:** Begins Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 9 am – 10:15 am. Fee \$60.00 (members) or \$120 (non-members). Join Lisa Battisti, MS, RDN, RYT-500, C-IAYT for this workshop to learn what emotional eating is, how to recognize triggers, and how to manage it. This 75-minute workshop includes two 45-minute support group meetings. Workshop is 1/03/24 from 9:00 - 10:15am and support group is 1/17/24 and 1/31/24 from 9:30 - 10:15am. Ages 18+.

**Indoor Triathlon Training – Treadmill:** Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> Friday's 5:45 pm – 6:30 pm. Fee \$84.00 (member) \$168.00 (non-member). Training for a triathlon? Let's break in those running shoes together with this inclusive 6-week running program designed for beginners. Ages 18+.

**Boxing for Teens & Beginners:** Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> Wednesday's 4:15 pm - 5:15 pm (teens 14-17) and 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm (adults 18+). Fee \$70.00 (member) or \$140.00 (non-member).

### YMCA (Bethlehem) Programs

**Learn to Skate:** Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> Sundays, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm. Fee is \$105.00 (member) or \$158 (non-member). Whether you've never skated before, or are an intermediate skater, this program is perfect for any adult. Adults participate in 30-minute group lessons and optional 30-minute practice sessions. Perfect for ages 16+. There is also a class for kids aged 12-16.

**Social Emotional Needs of Teens and De-Escalation Wellness Workshop:** Apr. 24<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm. Fee: Free for members & non-members.

Research has shown that the brain is still maturing during the adolescent years, with significant changes continuing into the mid-to-late 20s. In this workshop, Sheryl will provide an overview of the latest research on teenage brain development and will examine special challenges faced by this age group, including vulnerability to substance abuse, high-risk peer influences and mental illness. We will discuss how parents, educators, and other youth serving professionals can help teens engage in activities that will lead to healthy, strong, and well-developed brains. Sheryl Kaplan is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Credentialed Prevention Professional with over 30 years of experience providing individual, family and group counseling for children, adolescents, and adults. Kaplan was a school social worker employed by Capital Region BOCES for over 26 years. During that time, she worked as a Student Assistance Counselor and Prevention Program Provider in elementary, middle, and high schools across the region. Ms. Kaplan is now a full-time trainer and consultant who specializes in the application of brain-based research for social work and related professions.

Great for ages 12-16 years.

Visit [cdymca.org](http://cdymca.org) for more locations or for additional information and programs.  
Phone: (518) 456-3634 (Guilderland) or (518) 439-4394 (Bethlehem)

## Albany County Parks and Recreation Upcoming Programs for Youth

**Drama Club:** Watervliet Civic Center – located at 14<sup>th</sup> St. & 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Watervliet, NY 12189. Enroll by date 2/5/24, sign up online now. (Classes will explore character-based theater games that build basic acting skills and intentional self-expression. Through their creativity and imagination, students will foster teamwork, interpersonal skills, and much more.) Please call (518) 273-5922 for more information.

**Dance:** TOAST Elementary School – located at 94 Delaware Ave., Albany, NY 12202. Enroll by 1/18/24 for ages 6-8. (Whether you are new to dance, a seasoned dancer or interested in learning more about hip-hop dance specifically, Dance Club is the perfect environment to develop your skills, build self-confidence and improve your technique while utilizing self-expression and creativity in an art form.) Please call (518) 475-6875 for more information.  
\* There is also a class for kids aged 9-12.

**Check Mate:** Watervliet Civic Center – located at 14<sup>th</sup> St. & 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Watervliet, NY 12189. Enroll by 2/26/24, sign up online now for ages 8-17. (Whether you are new to chess or a seasoned chess player, Check Mate! is the perfect environment to develop your skills, improve your technique and learn new strategies to best checkmate your opponent! Remember, every chess master was once a beginner! Make your move!)

**Athletics NFL Flag Football Clinic:** Russell Sage College Armory – Turf – located at 130 New Scotland Ave., Albany, NY 12208. Enroll by 2/8/24 for ages 8-13.

For a complete list of programs, please visit [albanycounty.recdesk.com/community/page?pagelid=33150](http://albanycounty.recdesk.com/community/page?pagelid=33150)

## John Boyd Thacher State Park & Thompson's Lake

1 Hailes Cave Rd., Voorheesville, NY 12186

**John Boyd Thacher State Park** – This is a winter day trip destination for adventure seekers. Throughout the frosty months, explorers can cross-country ski, snowshoe, hike, mountain bike and snowmobile on designated trails through snow-covered forests and past icy waterfalls.

\*\*\*\*\*

68 Thomspson's Lake Rd & Rte 157, East Berne 12159

**Thompson's Lake** – During the winter, visitors can cross-country ski and ice fish.

Nearby, the Emma Treadwell Thatcher Nature Center offers snowshoe rentals, subject to availability. (87 Nature Center Way, Voorheesville, NY 12186)

## Albany County Parks and Recreation Upcoming Programs for Adults

**Outdoor Education - Snowshoeing:** Lawson Lake – located at 293 Lawson Lake Rd., Feura Bush, NY 12067. Enroll by 1/11/24 for ages 18+. Want to try a new winter sport? Just looking to keep fit this winter? Get outdoors with their beginner snowshoeing classes! These offer an introduction to safe and enjoyable winter travel for the beginner. It is designed for people who want to get a taste of snowshoeing and pick up solid foundational skills. Topics of instruction will touch on foundational elements of winter travel, such as the use and care of proper equipment (shoes, poles, packs, etc.; safety and snow conditions; winter travel tips and techniques; weather conditions; and choosing an outing. Sign up now!) Equipment provided at no cost, or you can bring your own. Please dress warm! Please contact (518) 768-2560 for more information.

**Winter Festival Pond Hockey Tournament:** Lawson Lake – located at 293 Lawson Lake Rd., Feura Bush, NY 12067. Enroll by 1/14/24 for ages 18+. Join us at the Albany County Winter Festival for a 3 Versus 3 Round Robin Tournament. 6 players per team (Each player on your team needs to register)  
15 min games  
Championship: 20 min game.  
BYO EQUIPMENT

## Tour the NYS Capitol or NYS Museum

As a resident of Albany County, if you haven't already toured the NYS Capitol, what are you waiting for? It's a magnificent structure and is a testament to architectural grandeur. The Capitol, completed in 1899, houses the NYS Legislature and offers free guided tours, which offer insights into the building's rich history, remarkable architecture, and legislative process.

The NYS Museum may also be of interest and is located at 222 Madison Ave., Albany, NY 12230 and is open Tuesday – Sunday from 9:30 am – 5 pm. It is free to visit however there is a suggested donation of \$5 per individual or \$10 per family. For more information call (518) 474-5877!



## 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



"Berne Public Library"

<https://www.bernepubliclibrary.org/>

## 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"

<http://greenville.lib.ny.us>

## Greenville Public Library Seed Library

# Our Seed Library is Now Closed Until Spring 2024



- It's getting close to harvest time! Save seeds from your harvest and consider returning some to the Seed Library at the end of the growing season.
- If you have leftover commercially-purchased seeds that you would like to donate, we will gladly accept them. Please donate these in their original packaging if possible. Donations of seeds are welcome at any time
- Donated seeds make our seed library possible!

Thank You!

## Greenville Public Library



## Westerlo Public Library Information & Upcoming Programs

### Winter Interest in the Garden

Find out how to plant for  
winter interest in your  
garden  
with  
Master Gardener Judith Fetterly

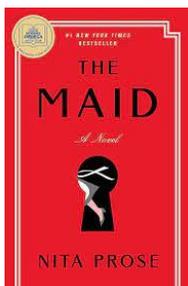
Thursday, January 11th  
7 PM

Westerlo Public Library  
604 SR 143, Westerlo  
for more information call  
(518)797-3415 or  
email [director@westerlolibrary.org](mailto:director@westerlolibrary.org)

LEGO and STEAM  
after school  
at Westerlo Public Library



**Mondays 3:30-5 pm**  
**Contact Miss Lee at**  
**[youth@westerlolibrary.org](mailto:youth@westerlolibrary.org)**  
**to register**



#### Book Club

The book club meets the third  
Wednesday of every month at  
4:30 pm. On January 10<sup>th</sup>, come  
discuss *The Maid* by Nita Prose.

Copies are available at the  
circulation desk.

#### Museum Passes

The Westerlo Library has museum passes to check  
out!

We have a pass for one free adult admission to The  
Clark Art Institute, a Family Pass to the Destroyer  
Escort Museum (2 adults, 2 children), a Family Pass  
to the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art (2  
adults, 4 children), An Empire Pass (for parking in NY  
State parks) and a pass for a 50% on museum  
admission for the Museum of Innovation and  
Science (2 adults, 4 children). Please call ahead to  
reserve passes (518) 797-3415.



### Coffee with neighbors

Join your neighbors at the  
Library for a warm beverage  
and conversation

**Wednesdays noon-2 pm**  
**Westerlo Public Library**  
**604 State Route 143**  
**Westerlo**



Continued...

WESTERLO PUBLIC LIBRARY  
PRESENTS

HEALTHY HABITS  
FOR THE  
NEW YEAR



Presented by



Jill Martin, MSN, FNP  
Savannah Wagoner, MS, FNP  
of  
Hilltown Healthcare

Wednesday, January 17, 2024  
5 pm  
604 SR 143, Westerlo  
call (518) 797-3415 for more info

**MARDI GRAS  
DESSERT  
POTLUCK**

Bring a dessert to share,  
try some others.

Tuesday, February 13  
6:30 PM

Westerlo Public Library  
604 State Route 143  
Westerlo, NY

Get Started with  
Ancestry  
With Gayle Hannay  
Westerlo Town Historian

Learn to use  
Ancestry for Libraries  
and build your family tree.  
January 25, 2024  
6:30 pm



Westerlo Public Library  
604 State Route 143  
Westerlo, NY  
(518) 797-3415  
call for computer reservation and  
more information

Resumes & Cover Letters

The library has access to Cypress Resume Builder. Cypress can be accessed on the public computers at the library or on your home computer.

Visit the Westerlo Public Library's website to read the quick guide on how to access Cypress Resume.

Spice of the Month

Every month, the library has a spice take and make. Stop by the library to pick up a sample of the spice, along with 3 recipes.

Storytime

Join Miss Lee for stories, music, movement and play on Wednesday's at 10:30 am.

If you do not already have a library card, you can register for one online at [Greenville.Lib.ny.us](http://Greenville.Lib.ny.us)

### Donations

To donate books and other materials to the library please call (518) 966-8205

While they welcome donations, they don't always have the room to store them before their next sale so it is always best to call before dropping items off.

The library is always seeking financial donations to help provide the best possible service to the community. Checks can be made out to "Your Public Library" and mailed to the Greenville Public Library at PO Box 8 North Street, Greenville, NY 12083 or in person along with a donation form which is available on their [website](#).



With Samantha Hudock

## Welcome to Toddler Time!

*I am so excited to be spending Tuesday mornings with you and your child!*

*We will have lots of fun with stories, songs, and more.*

The following Tuesday dates in **red** are the days we will be meeting.

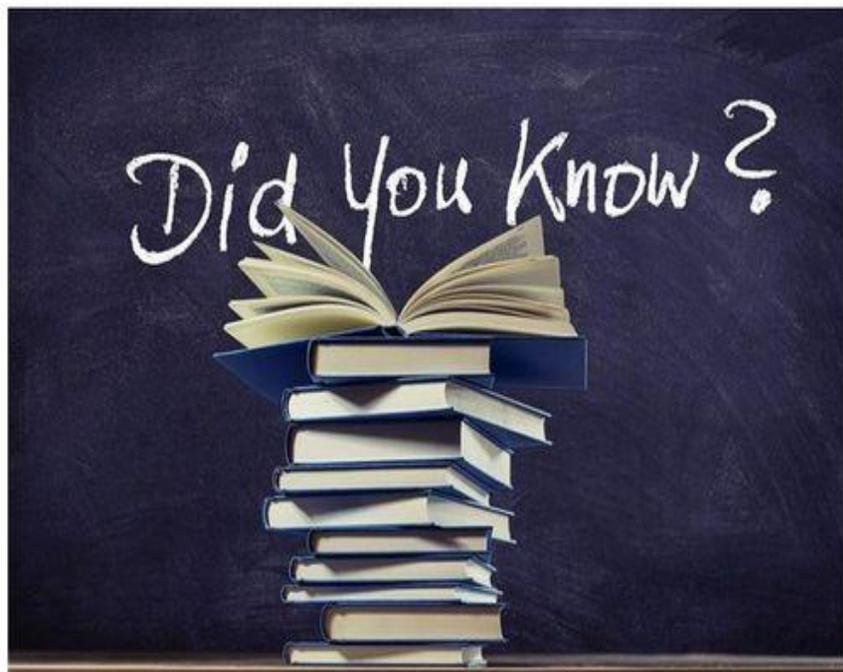
If Greenville Schools are closed due to weather or running on a 2-hour delay, we will not meet.

Health & Safety Policy: Please do not bring your child to group if he/she has been ill with fever, vomiting, diarrhea, flu like symptoms, pink eye, unexplained rash or skin infection, croup, any childhood contagious diseases. Children should not attend if they have exhibited any of the symptoms within 24 hours of group. Children must be fever free without the use of Tylenol or Motrin for 24 hours prior to coming to group.

THANK YOU!!!

*Looking forward to a great year!*

If you have any questions, please call the



# Just Bring It Back! No More Late Fees

Starts September 1, 2023

The Greenville Public Library has eliminated fines for most overdue materials, except for special collections such as Museum Passes and American Girl Dolls. Items checked-out at other libraries may continue to be subject to overdue fines.

Patrons will still be responsible for returning library materials and for payment of lost and damaged items. Once fees have reached \$10 or more, the patron will not be able to borrow any more materials until it is paid down.

Patrons with overdue materials will still receive a printed reminder listing overdue items. Unreturned materials will continue to be billed to the borrowing patron.

### Toddler Time with Samantha Hudock

**Tuesdays 10:00-10:45am**  
**Infants~Toddlers~Preschoolers**  
**Just Drop In!**

March 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



Need help with your resume, preparing for an interview or with a job search? Get assistance with test preparation for High School Equivalency Test, U.S. citizenship preparation, writing assistance and study tools for math, reading and writing. Visit the Greenville Public Library's website. On the home page click on this picture. You can login with your library card information to receive help with all of the above and more!

Universal Class brings libraries lifelong learning courses in over 30 subject areas, many of which offer continuing education units. More than 500 courses are available, and all are designed and led by professional instructors to build deeper understanding and mastery of subject matter. Universal Class includes videos, assignments, quizzes, tests, and options for social media interaction with other learners. You can take multiple classes and learn at your own pace. A huge range of courses are available such as Digital Photography, Babysitting 101, Exercise and Fitness, Entrepreneurship, Arts and Music, Home and Garden Care, Cooking, Computers and Technology, Health and Medicine, Homeschooling, Job Assistance, Law and Legal, Parenting and Family, Pet and Animal Care, plus hundreds more. To learn more, visit the Greenville Public Library's website. On the home page click on this picture and then click on the link below this information.



**Ages 3 & Up 3:00 – 4:00**

<b>September 26</b>	<b>February 13, 27</b>
<b>October 10, 24</b>	<b>March 12, 26</b>
<b>November 7, 21</b>	<b>April 9, 23</b>
<b>December 5, 19</b>	<b>May 7, 21</b>
<b>January 2, 16, 30</b>	<b>June 4</b>

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!**

### Become a Friend of the Library

Join the Friends of the Library! The library needs the support of the friends to help maintain its high standards. There are many opportunities to help by volunteering.

Friends' membership dues buy books, materials, computers and help bring programs to its patrons and the public.

Friends have fun – Luncheons, Outings, Book Clubs, After-school activities, Children's Programs, and Workshops.

Help the Library by becoming a Friend. Visit their website to complete the form and to see membership levels.

# Berne Public Library

## January 2024 Newsletter



[www.bernepubliclibrary.org](http://www.bernepubliclibrary.org)

Phone - 518-872-1246

Email - [director@bernepubliclibrary.org](mailto:director@bernepubliclibrary.org)

All programs are free, open to the public, and held in the community room of the library unless otherwise noted.



**Tuesdays**  
**10:30 a.m.**

for children ages 1 to 5 years

Jan. 2 - NO STORYTIME  
Jan. 9 - Winter Sports  
Jan. 16—Snow People  
Jan. 23—NO STORYTIME  
Jan. 30—NO STORYTIME



## MONTHLY PROGRAMS

**Friends Of the Library** - Wed., Jan 3 @ 7 pm  
**Book Club** - Sun., Jan 7 @ 5pm  
**Library Bd. of Trustees mtg**, Thurs., Jan 11 @ 6:30 pm  
**Journeys on the Page** - Fri., Jan, 12 @ 7:00 pm

### Homeschool Hangout

Wed., Jan. 3 and 17  
at 11 am.



**Adult Craft Night**  
**Button heart or**  
**wreath**

**Monday, Jan. 22 @**  
**6:30**

**Please sign up.**



Library will be closed  
on Mon., Jan. 15 in  
observance of Dr.  
Martin Luther King  
Day.

## Special Events

**Open Mic Cafe, Fri., Jan. 5 @ 6:00pm.**

All talents welcome!

Register at the library by Jan. 4.



**9th Annual Photo Contest.**

Submit photos to the library by  
Wed., Jan. 31.

Categories:

- Generations
- Natural Beauty
- Awesome Animals
- Architectural Delights

[Click here for entry form and more info](#)



**Watercolor Class, Sat., Jan. 20, 1-3 pm.**

Class taught by Diane Steele.  
Register at the library. Art project  
will be a small winter landscape.

Diane is the featured artist in the Community  
Room Art Gallery.

**STAMPING WITH KIDS—SATURDAY, JAN. 13 @ 11–12.**  
Make cards using stamp pads and a variety of stamps.  
Geared toward ages 8-9.



**Happy New Year!** Library is closed January 1

Director's Note: Did you know you can borrow board games, video games, STEM kits, and puzzles at the Berne Public Library?

## Albany Pine Bush Preserve

Located at 195 New Karner Rd., Albany, NY 12205

Phone: (518) 456-0655

The Albany Pine Bush Preserve is open year-round with free admission and is an excellent place to go cross-country skinning in Albany. It features approximately 20 miles of multi-use trails that are marked and considered easy to moderate. Although trails aren't groomed, many skiers use the preserve. Snowshoers are also welcome, but they should stay to the sides of the ski tracks as a courtesy to other visitors.

### Upcoming special activities that we think you might like:

**Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am – Morning Meander (for Adults):** Start your day outdoors and join us for a hike along the blue loop at Karner Barrens. We will meet at the Discovery Center and if snowshoes are needed, we will provide them. We plan to hike approximately one mile. *Suggested donation: \$5.00, please register online.*

**Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am – Pine Bush Pups: Sleeping, Sleeping All Winter Long (for ages 6 and under with caregiver):** Sleeping all winter long may sound like an easy way to deal with the cold, but hibernation comes with its own challenges and risks! We will explore hibernation through story, song and play and learn what hibernation means and which animals of the Pine Bush hibernate. *Suggested donation: \$5.00, please register online.*

**Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am – Pine Bush Pups: Winter Birds (for all ages 6 and under with caregiver):** Fluff up your feathers and join us for a program on winter birds! Many birds stay here, just outside our window, all year long. We'll explore which birds are year-round residents and learn some of their names and sounds as well as how they survive the winter. We'll also make a take-home bird feeder and discuss how we can observe our feathered friends. Please come prepared to go outdoors. **This program meets inside the Discovery Center.** *Suggested donation: \$5.00, please register online.*

**Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm – Science Lecture Series: How you can help NY's breeding birds (for adults):** Learn from Coordinator Julie Hart about the third Breeding Bird Atlas in NY and how you can help this community science project. Atlasing is a great way for birders of all abilities to learn about birds while directly contributing to science and conservation. This year is the final year of the Atlas. Can you help us fill in a gap for your favorite species? Do you like to bird somewhere unique or remote? The Atlas is a statewide survey and you can participate at any time using the free eBird app. While atlasing, you will explore new areas, search for clues into the secret lives of birds, and expand your understanding and appreciation of birds. Whether you have been sitting on the fence about contributing to the project or have never heard of the Atlas before, now is your chance to contribute to the largest community science project in the state. There won't be another atlas until 2040! Attend this talk to find out how you can participate and make an impact for bird conservation. *This is a hybrid program (in person or virtual). Suggested donation: \$5.00, please register online.*

**Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> @ 11 am – Deep Freeze (for tweens, teens and adults):** Frogs are silent during these cold and snowy months, the curved shape of turtles can't be seen on the logs in the wetland, and no snakes can be heard moving through the brush. Amphibians and reptiles have unique ways to survive through the winter weather. Join us for this program and learn why we call it "deep freeze." We plan to hike approximately one mile. In case of snow, we will provide snowshoes. This program meets inside the Discovery Center. *Suggested donation: \$5.00, please register online.*

**Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm – Full Moon Hike (for adults):** Enjoy the Pine Bush at night with a hike under the full moon. We will walk approximately one mile over rolling topography stopping intermittently to explore the night sky and to learn about nocturnal animals that live in the Pine Bush. Snowshoes will be provided if needed. This program meets inside the Discovery Center. *Suggested donation: \$5.00, please register online.*

**Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> @ 11 am – CSI Pine Bush: Critter Scene Investigation (for ages 6-10, tweens, teens and adults):** How are your detective skills? Do you have what it takes to be on a team of nature investigators, solving Pine Bush mysteries, by examining evidence? Join us for a 30-minute indoor introduction followed by an approximately one-mile outdoor trek to look for clues and evidence of what lives in the Pine Bush. *Suggested donation: \$5.00, please register online.*

**Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm – Winter's Eve Nature Journaling (for teens and adults):** During this indoor, evening program we will spend time appreciating living and once-living objects and photographs of the Pine Bush Preserve while we exercise our creativity through nature journaling. *Suggested donation: \$5.00, please register online.*

For a full list of programs, please visit their website and view their calendar at: [www.albanypinebush.org](http://www.albanypinebush.org)

## Sledding Options

Capital Hills at Albany Golf Course – 65 O’Neil Rd., Albany, NY 12208

Tawasentha Park, Guilderland – 188 NY 146, Altamont, NY 12009

Elm Ave. Park, Bethlehem – Elm Ave, ¼ mile south of the Delmar bypass (Rt 32) behind small pavilion A and at Maple Ridge Park.

## Downhill Skiing/Snowboarding

Maple Ski Ridge is a great local place for families to learn to ski and ride from highly qualified instructors. Designed for skiers of all ages and abilities.

For tickets, passes and more information, visit [mapleskiridge.com](http://mapleskiridge.com)

2725 Mariaville Rd., Schenectady, NY 12306  
(518) 381-4700

## Indoor Play Centers

**The Children’s Museum at Saratoga** – 65 S Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 Phone: (518) 584-5540

**Albany Ninja Lab** – 161 Washington Ave. Ext., Crossgates Commons Suite 104B, Albany, NY 12205 Phone: (518) 608-4725

**Albany’s Indoor Rock (A.I.R.) Gym** – 4C Vatrano Rd., Albany, NY 12205 Phone: (518) 459-7625

**Get Air Trampoline Park** – 1 Crossgates Mall Rd., Albany, NY 12203 Phone: (518) 217-4474

**Apex Entertainment** – 1 Crossgates Mall Rd., Albany, NY 12203 Phone: (518) 426-8666

**Billy Beez** – 1 Crossgates Mall Rd., Albany, NY 12203 Phone: (518) 313-0100

**Rollarama** – 2710 Hamburg St., Schenectady, NY 12303 Phone: (518) 355-2140

## All In Adventures Escape Rooms

Located at 1 Crossgates Mall Rd., Albany, NY 12203  
Pricing: \$29.89 per person, other options available.  
Great for ages 6 – 99!

## Great Winter Activities (Indoor and Outdoor)

### Pine Hollow Arboretum

*34 Pine Hollow Rd., Slingerlands, NY 12159*

Pine Hollow Arboretum located in Slingerlands, is a winter wonderland. Spend the day exploring the wintery trails with the winter Tracking & Activity Guide! Learn how to track wildlife such as white tail deer, red foxes, Eastern gray squirrels coyotes and a variety of birds. The guide also provides details on how to identify trees and plants commonly found in the arboretum. Pick up the guide at the kiosk, along with binoculars and magnifying glasses.

There is a suggested donation of \$5.

### MVP Arena Upcoming Events

Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> – Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live Glow Party

Mar. 24<sup>th</sup> – Fall Out Boy Concert

Apr. 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> – Monster Jam

Apr. 15<sup>th</sup> – Bruce Spingsteen & The E Street Band

Apr. 19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> – Cirque du Soleil

For a full list of events, visit [mvparena.com/events](http://mvparena.com/events)

### Ice Skating

If you are looking for places to learn how to ice skate in the capital region, look no further.

Albany Figure Skating Club’s mission is to provide members with quality instruction in basic skating skills with opportunities to grow and develop as advanced skaters, as well as, well-rounded individuals.

The Learn to Skate USA program introduces skaters age 3 through adult the fundamental basic skills and moves of skating through small group lessons where skaters are grouped by appropriate age and skill level. For more information, visit [albanyfsc.org/page/home](http://albanyfsc.org/page/home)

Another skating option is in the Town of Bethlehem. Open daily until 9:30 pm when the ice is 4” thick. For more information, call (518) 439-4955 opt. 7.

Keep in mind, the Town of Westerlo Veterans Memorial Park should be flooded again this year for ice skating, weather permitting. If you need to borrow a set of skates, please reach out to the Town Clerk’s office.

## 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 had a nice Thanksgiving dinner at the Shell Inn and a fun filled Christmas luncheon with a sock gift exchange.

Trips we are considering for 2024 are:

A trip to Landcaster is planned for May to see Daniel at the Sight and Sound theater and shopping of course!

\*\*\*\*\*

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!***

## Caregiver Support Programs

Caregiver support programs assist informal caregivers – spouses, adult children, other family members, friends and neighbors in their efforts to care for older persons who need help with everyday tasks such as:

- Information, Assistance, and Referral
- Counseling and Support Groups
  - Caregiver Training
  - Transportation
- Personal Emergency Response Systems\*
  - Short-Term Respite\*

\*These services require an in-home assessment to determine eligibility

Contact NY Connects: (518) 447-7177

## 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

## 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!

## 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

<https://www.albanycounty.com/departments/aging>

## Silver Sneakers

The Healthways SilverSneakers Fitness program is an insurance benefit included in more than 65 Medicare health plans. Through SilverSneakers, health plans and group retirement plans provide a gym membership to their insured, usually at no additional cost.

For more information and to check eligibility: visit [tools.silversneakers.com](https://tools.silversneakers.com)

## 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 at (518) 239-4225

**There is no cost for this service!**



## Albany County Parks and Recreation Upcoming Programs for Seniors

**Winter Pickleball Tournament:** Green Island Union Free School – located at 171 Hudson Ave., Green Island, NY 12183 for ages 40+. (We are excited to announce the Albany County Winter Pickleball Tournament! This is a double elimination tournament with up to 20 teams. All skill levels are welcome.) Register starting 2/1/24.

**Martial Arts – Taekwondo for Seniors:** Guilderland Senior Center – located at 141 Bavarian Way, Altamont, NY 12009 for ages 55+. (Martial arts are a great way to get the body and mind moving in harmony. Taekwondo for Seniors will focus on guiding participants through basic patterns of gentle movement to promote overall health and well-being.) Register now.

For a complete list of programs, please visit [albanycounty.recdesk.com/community/page?pageId=33150](http://albanycounty.recdesk.com/community/page?pageId=33150)

## THE ACCESS TO HOME PROGRAM

The Access to Home Program provides funding to make the home accessible, including ramps, widening doors and alterations that enable Albany County residents with disabilities to remain or return to their own home, rather than enter or remain in more costly and restrictive institutional settings.

For more information, contact:

### Albany Community Action Partnership's Access to Home

333 Sheridan Avenue (518) 463-3175, ext. 2.  
Albany, NY 12206

## Senior Lunch & Learn

Please be advised, there will **not** be a senior lunch & learn during the months of January, or February. Lunches will resume in either March or April. Please keep an eye on the Town's website and Facebook page for updates or contact Confidential Administrator Lisa DeGroff at (518) 797-3111 x 1014.

If anyone has any suggestions on programs offered, please email:

[ConfidentialAdmin@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:ConfidentialAdmin@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

## 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:

<https://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.

## Looking for Housing?

Housing options for Senior Adult Housing and care facilities in Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer and Saratoga Counties, can be found by visiting:

[albanyguardiansociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2020\\_housing-directory.pdf](http://albanyguardiansociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2020_housing-directory.pdf)

You can also search statewide for senior and disabled housing by visiting: [hcr.ny.gov](http://hcr.ny.gov)

If you are a senior who does not need 24-hour skilled nursing and want to remain in your home, and are looking for alternatives to a Nursing Home in Albany County, visit:

[albanycounty.com/departments/aging/alternatives-to-a-nursing-home](http://albanycounty.com/departments/aging/alternatives-to-a-nursing-home)

## IN-HOME CONTACT & SUPPORT

Programs are for seniors who are able to stay in their home unassisted but feel isolated or lack adequate support systems. The programs give seniors a sense of security in knowing that someone will check on their safety or will assist them with weekly grocery shopping.

### Friendly Visitor and Shopping Assistance Program

Senior Services of Albany: (518) 465-3322

Volunteers are matched with Albany County seniors to provide weekly socialization and shopping assistance to those who are generally homebound, isolated, and lack adequate support systems to obtain those services.

**Friendly Visitor, Telephone Assurance, Shopping Assistance, Transportation to Appointments, Meal Preparation, Assistance with Paperwork, Yard Work, and More**

Community Caregivers: (518) 456-2898

Community Caregivers is a volunteer organization which also assists seniors in the towns of: Altamont, Guilderland, Bethlehem, Voorheesville, Berne, Knox, and New Scotland.

## FREE ZOOM CLASSES FOR SENIORS THROUGH ALBANY GUARDIAN SOCIETY

### Chair Yoga with Judi

Breathe and gently stretch your way to a comfortable body and more relaxed mind. No previous yoga experience is needed to gain the benefits of this centuries-old practice. Chair yoga is a fun, accessible way to short-circuit stress and build flexibility, balance, and strength. Appropriate for all levels and ability and challenges.

**What you need: An armless, straight-backed chair, a yoga tie (or a necktie, belt, or a piece of fabric), and comfortable clothing.**

**Presenter: Judith England, RN, Health Educator, Kripalu Yoga Instructor**

**When: Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm**

### “Seniors on the Move”

This presentation will highlight simple ways to be more active and incorporate exercise into your daily routine. Wear comfortable clothing and be prepared to do some low impact exercises that will help build muscle and maintain flexibility and balance.

**Presenter: LaToya Taitt, Certified Fitness Instructor and Wellness Coach**

**When: Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> 10 am – 11 am**

### Top 10 Reasons to Plan Your Estate

Life is uncertain. There are numerous reasons to create an estate plan that have absolutely nothing to do with how wealthy you may or may not be. Planning for minor children asset protection and beneficiaries, tax planning, and even end of life planning is included. To help you plan your estate, we will discuss some critical issues that should be at the forefront of your estate planning discussions.

**Presenter: Phillip Vacchio, Esq. Herzog Law Firm**

**When: Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm**

**There are many, many more zoom classes available! For a calendar of classes, please see next page!**

**Please visit the below website for more information and to join these classes for FREE!**

**Questions: (518) 434-2140 Website: [albanyguardiansociety.org/classes/](http://albanyguardiansociety.org/classes/)**

## FREE ZOOM CLASSES FOR SENIORS THROUGH ALBANY GUARDIAN SOCIETY

### Calendar for January-March

*\*Please note, this information was taken from their website and can change at any time\**

Jan 8<sup>th</sup> – What is the “Cloud”

Jan 9<sup>th</sup> – Chair Yoga with Judi

Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> – Winter Interest in the Homegrown Garden & “Secrets to a Great Night’s Sleep”

Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> – “Seniors on the Move”

Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> – Veteran Benefits – the Basics

Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> – Top 10 Reasons to Plan Your Estate

Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> – Writing for Wellbeing – Part 1: Writing to Gain Perspective & Strength and Balance

Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> – Book Discussion – Weyward by Emilia Hart

Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Essentrics Aging Backwards: A Dynamic Stretch Workout

Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Enriching Your Life with Podcasts

Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> – Writing for Wellbeing – Part 2: Unsent Letters & Chair Yoga with Suzanne

Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> – Preventing Burnout from Caregiving: Expectations, Goals and Limits

Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> – The Rights of Residents and Their Loved Ones in a Nursing Home

Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> – Seated Tai Chi Flow

Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> – Fall Prevention Program – On Your Feet and Independent

Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> – Writing for Wellbeing – Part 3: Expressing Joy and Gratitude & Buying and Selling on the Internet Using eBay, Craigslist & Amazon

**Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> – I think I’m Financially Ready – What Should I Know Before I Retire?**

**Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> – Improving Your Heart Healthy Diet**

**Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> – Seated Tai Chi Flow**

**Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> – How to Identify and Stop the Most Common Financial Tricks and Scams & How to Troubleshoot your Computer/Mobile Devices**

**Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> – “Seniors on the Move” & Sound Medicine for Spirit, Body, and Mind**

**Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> – A User’s Guide to Mindfulness Techniques & Book Discussion – Yellowface by R.F. Kuang**

**Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> – Chair Yoga with Judi**

**Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Eccentrics Aging Backwards: A Dynamic Stretch Workout**

**Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> – The Hudson: The Story of a River**

**Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> – Dealing with Stressful Communication**

**Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> – Tips, Tricks, and Features of the iPhone & iPad**

**Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> – Strength and Balance**

**Feb. 29<sup>th</sup> – Book Discussion – Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner**

**Mar. 4<sup>th</sup> – Seated Tai Chi Flow**

**Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> – Effectively Using Your Apple Watch**

**Mar. 6<sup>th</sup> – Chiropractic Care for Optimal Health and Movement & Balance and Falls: Strategies and Exercises to Prevent Falling**

**Mar. 7<sup>th</sup> – Understanding the Difference between Palliative Care and Hospice Care & “Seniors on the Move”**

**Mar. 13<sup>th</sup> – Chair Yoga with Suzanne**

**Mar. 14<sup>th</sup> – Book Discussion: The Matrix by Lauren Groff**

**Mar. 15<sup>th</sup> – 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease and How to Recognize the Signs**

**Mar. 18<sup>th</sup> – Protecting Yourself from Online Healthcare Scams**

**Mar. 19<sup>th</sup> – Get Started with Libby**

**Mar. 20<sup>th</sup> – Chair Yoga with Judi**

**Mar. 21<sup>st</sup> – Book Discussion – The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride**

**Mar. 25<sup>th</sup> – Essentrics Aging Backwards: A Dynamic Stretch Workout**

**Mar. 27<sup>th</sup> – Taking, Editing, Storing, & Viewing Photos Using Your Apple iPhone or iPad**

## Expanded In-Home Services to the Elderly Program (EISEP)

### What is EISEP?

The program is for Albany County seniors 60+ years of age, who need assistance with activities of daily living. An assessment will determine if the person is eligible. Seniors who are eligible to receive similar services under Medicare, Medicaid, or other government services, are not eligible for EISEP.

### Will there be a cost?

The initial assessment for EISEP is free regardless of income. EISEP is a cost share program. Cost is determined by the senior's monthly income and specific housing deductions. The cost can range from no cost to a specific per hour charge. Case management is provided free of charge.

### Am I eligible?

To arrange for an assessment, call (518) 447-7177. A caseworker will take the identifying information. The case will then be assigned to a caseworker. The senior will be contacted so an appointment can be set up in their home.

### What services are provided?

#### Case Management

- Screening and assessment
- Care Plan development
- Arrangement of services
- Information and referral
- Client monitoring and follow up

#### In-Home Services

- Cleaning and laundry
- Meal preparation
- Grocery Shopping
- Bathing, grooming and dressing
- Ambulation and transfers
- Respite

## AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program

Get help with FREE Tax Assistance

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides in-person and virtual tax assistance to anyone, with a focus on taxpayers over 50 and have low to moderate income. Tax-Aide volunteers are located nationwide and are trained and IRS-certified every year to make sure they know about and understand the latest changes and additions to the tax code.

Tax-Aide locator will launch in mid-January and sites will open early February.

Get started and find out what documents you will need to help prepare your tax return with regards to income, payments, deductions, adjustments, credits, health insurance, etc. before your appointment.

Email: [taxaide@aarp.org](mailto:taxaide@aarp.org)

Phone: (888) 227-7669

## Health Insurance Information and Counseling (HIICAP)

Through seminars, one-on-one counseling sessions, and the Information & Assistance Line; the Department's HIICAP program provides unbiased information, education, and counseling regarding Medicare (including Part D), New York State EPIC, Long Term Care insurance, and other insurance issues. Trained HIICAP staff and volunteers can help you:

- Compare private insurance plans that will best fit your needs
- Find ways to help you afford coverage and to fill Medicare's gaps
- Understand what the 1% per month penalty for late enrollment means for you
- Solve issues and problems with your current plan

If you would like to access a one-on-one counseling session, contact (518) 447-7177.

## Helderberg Family & Community Org.

The HFCO welcomes caring adults to share their hobbies and talents with our community's children. If you are interested in volunteering to present a workshop, please contact HFCO at [connect@helderberggco.com](mailto:connect@helderberggco.com) or call Maryellen Gillis at (518) 872-1899

With Valentines Day approaching, remember to visit Flowers & Stuff for your flower orders!

Location:  
276 CR 405  
Greenville, NY 12083

Phone:  
(518) 291-6565

Email:  
[FlowersAndStuffGreenville@gmail.com](mailto:FlowersAndStuffGreenville@gmail.com)  
[www.FlowersAndStuffGreenville.com](http://www.FlowersAndStuffGreenville.com)



## Home Health Agencies

Deliver in-home health and medical services and medical supplies as well as homemaker and personal care services.

Some of the nursing services include:

- **Physical therapy**
- **Occupational therapy**
- **Respiratory therapy**
- **Speech therapy**
- **Nutritional guidance**

Non-medical services include:

- **Bathing**
- **Grooming**
- **Ambulation**
- **Shopping**
- **Cooking**
- **And other similar help**

For a long-term care assessment or a medical evaluation, contact Albany County NY Connects Information and Assistance Line at (518) 477-7177

**You can also inquire about Respite Care, Adult Day Care and Hospice Care.**

## More Senior Housing Local Options

### Assisted Living

**Terrace at Beverwyck** – Full Service Assisted Living Community located in Slingerlands, NY with 41 private one and two bedroom senior apartments. Also offers Short-term Respite Care. For more information, call (518) 280-8385

**Teresian House** – Long term care available on Washington Ave. Ext., Albany. For more information, call (518) 724-2703

### Independent Living

**Beverwyck** – Located on 80 beautiful acres in Slingerlands, NY with 177 one and two bedroom senior apartments as well as 29 two bedroom cottages. For more information call (518) 280-8385

**Glenmont Abbey Village** – One and two bedroom apartments with amenities located in Glenmont, NY.

**There are many other alternatives available locally. For a Housing Directory, visit [albanyguardiansociety.org](http://albanyguardiansociety.org)**

## EPIC

The Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) program is a New York State program for seniors administered by the Department of Health. It helps more than 325,000 income-eligible seniors aged 65 and older to supplement their out-of-pocket Medicare Part D drug plan costs. Seniors can apply for EPIC **at any time of the year** and must be enrolled or eligible to be enrolled in a Medicare Part D drug plan to receive EPIC benefits and maintain coverage.

EPIC provides secondary coverage for Medicare Part D and EPIC-covered drugs purchased after **any Medicare Part D deductible is met**. EPIC also covers approved Part D-excluded drugs once a member is enrolled in Part D.

EPIC helps pay the **Medicare Part D drug plan premiums** for members with income up to \$23,000 if single or \$29,000 if married. Higher income members are required to pay their own Part D premiums, but EPIC provides premium assistance by lowering their EPIC deductible.

EPIC has two plans based on income. The **Fee Plan** is for members with income up to \$20,000 if single or \$26,000 if married. The **Deductible Plan** is for members with incomes ranging from \$20,001 to \$75,000 if single or \$26,001 to \$100,000 if married.

It is easy to join the program. Just complete the application and mail or fax it to EPIC. No documentation is required. EPIC verifies information with the Social Security Administration and the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

For more information: visit [health.ny.gov/health\\_care/epic/](http://health.ny.gov/health_care/epic/)

## Legal Counseling and Assistance

The program is staffed by the **Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York Inc.** The attorney provides advice and representation and/or referrals as appropriate to Albany County seniors age 60+. The attorney may assist on a variety of legal topics including: Social Security, SSI, Pensions, Medicare, Nursing or Adult Home Issues, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Utilities/HEAP, Tenants Issues, Home Repair & Consumer Fraud, Grandparents' Rights, Financial Abuse, and Elder Abuse.

Group presentations are given at Albany County senior centers and congregate sites; topics include: wills, powers of attorney, health care proxies, and estate matters. (The attorney does not provide direct representation on these issues.)

### Appointments

The attorney makes monthly visits to senior and community centers. Call the site for an appointment. **Town of Bethlehem Senior Citizens Services**, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, (518) 439-4955

- **Cohoes Senior Citizens Multi-Service Center**, 10 Cayuga Plaza, Cohoes, (518) 235-2420
- **Town of Colonie Senior Resources Department**, 12 Metro Park Road, Suite 103, Colonie, (518) 459-5051
- **Town of Guilderland Senior Citizens Services**, Guilderland Town Hall, Rt. 20, Guilderland (518) 356-1980
- **Senior Services of Albany**, Westview Center, 680 Central Ave. Albany, (518) 482-2120
- **Senior Projects of Ravena**, 9 Bruno Ave. Ravena, (518) 756-8593
- **Whitney Young Jr. Health Center**, Lark & Arbor Dr. Albany, (518) 465-4771, ext. 4496

### Telephone Intake

The telephone intake slots are limited and are first-come first-serve; call **(518) 462-6765 or 1(800) 462-2922.**

The best times to reach intake staff are between 11:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm. (Those who are not homebound are encouraged to sign up at one of the community sites.)

All Albany County seniors are encouraged to take advantage of this program, especially those who: are victims of abuse, neglect or exploitation; or physically isolated; proposed for or under guardianship; reside in nursing or adult homes or assisted living; have chronic health problems; or problems accessing health care; homeless or threatened with homelessness; live on a subsistence income; or limited English proficiency; are proposed for or under guardianship.

**Turning Stone CASINO**  
Join Us For A **BUS TRIP**  
March 13th

**\$35.00** per person

**Price Includes:**  
\$25.00 For Bingo & Slots  
\$5.00 For Food

**Contact:**  
Alyce Gibbs  
Email: [PattyCake219@aol.com](mailto:PattyCake219@aol.com)  
Phone: 518-779-5111

Leaves Westerlo - 7:45 am  
Leaves Berne Senior Center - 8:00 am  
Leaves Schoharie Park & Ride - 8:20 am  
DEPARTS from Casino - 4:30 pm

## Westerlo Baptist Church

618 SR 143, Westerlo, NY 12193

### Sunday Morning Worship Services

Sundays – 9:30 am

### Fellowship

following the morning worship service

10:45 am – 11:10 am

Everyone is invited for coffee & fellowship

Location: Gymnasium

### Sunday School

11:15 am – 12:15 pm

(for all ages)

### Special Evening Service

1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of the Month – 6:30 pm

Hymn Sing, fellowship & refreshments

### Men's Basketball

Mondays – 7 pm – 9 pm

Location: Gymnasium

### Kids Club

Pioneer Clubs & Stockade for boys (ages 4 yrs- 6<sup>th</sup> grade) & girls 4 yrs- 12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Wednesdays – 6:40 pm- 8:15 pm



*Sunday* **SCHOOL**

ROOTED IN GOD'S WORD

*Growing in Faith Together*

**For All Ages - 11:15am-12:15pm**

### Prayer Meeting

Wednesdays – 7 pm – 8 pm

Location: Sanctuary

### Co-Ed Adult Volleyball

Thursdays – 7 pm – 9 pm

### Pursuit Youth Group

(grades 6 – 12)

Fridays – 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

### Ladies Bible Studies

Mondays 9:45 am – noon

Tuesdays 2 pm – 4 pm

Thursdays 7 pm – 9 pm

Location: Room #'s 9 – 11

## Westerlo Baptist Church's

### Annual Sportsman's

### Dinner

Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> 5:30 pm

(no cost)

Welcome to all Men & Boys (14+)

Contact: Church Office

@ (518) 797-3927 for  
tickets and information.



**Good Friday Service**

**March 29<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm**

**Easter Sunday Worship**

**March 31<sup>st</sup> @ 9:30 am**

## South Westerlo Congregational Christian Church

Services begin at 10:30 am on Sundays!

Our Sunday begins with Sunday 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 <https://www.facebook.com/SouthWesterloChristianChurch>

Sunday night youth group

5:30 pm – 8 pm

Our Senior lunch is every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month starting at 11 am for 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month from 6:30 pm – 8 pm



Our men's breakfast and devotional is every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month  
8 am – 9 am

Our men's Bible study every Saturday morning except for the 1<sup>st</sup> 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

<https://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.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064837502467>



## Saint John the Baptist

4987 Rt 81

Greenville, NY 12193

(518) 943-3150

Masses will resume in March. Until then, 9 am mass will be held at the Shrine in East Durham.

Visit [sholk.weebly.com](http://sholk.weebly.com) for mass updates for Holy week schedule.



## 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

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064440321>

See the "Mark Your Calendar Page" for upcoming events! Check the Town [website](#) for updates!

Westerlo Reformed Church's

# Barbecue Delight's Chicken & Rib Dinner

3:30 pm  
until sold  
out!



THURSDAY, APRIL 18th

564 SR 143, Westerlo

Chicken dinners \$15  
Rib dinners \$16



**Post 291 American Legion  
Auxiliary**



Community Spaghetti dinner open to everyone and available for eat in or take out every 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:draffo1@hotmail.com) if you are interested or have questions.

<https://www.facebook.com/ALpost291>

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!

# 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*



## 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:

March 1, 2024

For April 2024 Newsletter

June 1, 2024

For July 2024 Newsletter

September 1, 2024

For October 2024 Newsletter

December 1, 2024

For January 2025 Newsletter

For newsletter comments, suggestions, and submissions contact:

The Town Clerk's office @ (518) 797-3111 opt 2  
[WesterloNews@gmail.com](mailto: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 month but may be delayed\*\****

## 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](mailto:KMackey@NYcourts.gov)

**Town Justice – Joshua Ostrander**

Email: [JOstrander@NYcourts.gov](mailto:JOstrander@NYcourts.gov)

**Court Clerk – Jaimee Motschmann**

Email: [Jmotschmann@NYcourts.gov](mailto: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 Farmers Market

Westerlo Hometown Heroes

Westerlo Rural Cemetery

Official BKW Alumni Page

Helderberg Family Community Organization- HFCO

## Contact Us

Supervisor

**Matt Kryzak**

[supervisor@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:supervisor@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

Confidential Administrator

**Lisa DeGroff**

[confidentialadmin@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:confidentialadmin@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

**Karla Weaver**

[townclerk@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:townclerk@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

Town Board

**Amie Burnside**

[a.burnside.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:a.burnside.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

**Josh Beers**

[j.beers.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:j.beers.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

**Lorraine Pecylak**

[l.pecylak.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:l.pecylak.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

**Peter Mahan**

[p.mahan.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:p.mahan.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

Highway Superintendent

**Jody Ostrander**

[highwaydepartment@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:highwaydepartment@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

Code Enforcement

**Jeff Pine**

[codeenforcement@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:codeenforcement@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

Assessor

**Melanie Bunzey**

[assessor@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:assessor@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

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

[www.townofwesterlony.com](http://www.townofwesterlony.com)



**933 County Route 401**

**Westerlo, NY 12193**

**Phone: (518) 797-3111**

## January

- 9<sup>th</sup> – Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Winter interest in the garden @ Library 7 pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Greenville Legion Post 291 Dinner 4:30 pm – 7 pm @ 54 Maple Ave, Greenville
- 15<sup>th</sup> – LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Historical Society Mtg 7 pm @ Westerlo Reformed Church
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Veteran Services @ Town Hall 9 am – 11:30 am
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Water Board Mtg 6 pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Healthy Habits for the New Year @ Library 5 pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Learn to use Ancestry.com @ Library 6:30 pm
- 31<sup>st</sup> – Last day to pay Town of Westerlo Property taxes without penalty

## February

- 6<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Greenville Legion Post 291 Spaghetti Dinner 4:30 pm – 7 pm @ 54 Maple Ave, Greenville
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Westerlo Baptist Church Sportsman's Dinner 5:30 pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Mardi Gras Dessert Pot Luck @ Library 6:30 pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 19<sup>th</sup> – LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Historical Society 7 pm @ Westerlo Reformed Church
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Veteran Services @ Town Hall 9 am – 11:30 am
- 24<sup>th</sup> – TWFD Breakfast 8 am – 11 am @ Woodman's Hall
- 26<sup>th</sup> – ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Hometown Heroes Mtg 7 pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Last day to pay property taxes with 1% penalty

## March

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Enhanced STAR exemption deadline
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Westerlo Baptist Church Annual Sportsman Dinner 5:30 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Greenville Legion Post 291 Spaghetti Dinner 4:30 pm – 7 pm @ 54 Maple Ave, Greenville
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Turning Stone Casino Bus Trip (See flyer on pg 36)
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Finance for Seniors @ Library 2 pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Historical Society 7 pm @ Westerlo Reformed Church
- 18<sup>th</sup> – LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Veteran Services @ Town Hall 9 am – 11:30 am
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> – TWFD Breakfast 8 am – 11 am @ Woodman's Hall
- 25<sup>th</sup> – ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Hometown Heroes Mtg 7 pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Westerlo Baptist Church's Good Friday Service 7 pm
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Westerlo Easter Egg Hunt & Photos with Easter Bunny 11 am – 1 pm
- 31<sup>st</sup> – Westerlo Baptist Church's Easter Sunday Worship 9:30 am

## April

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Last day to pay property taxes with 2 % penalty
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Honor your Veterans or First Responder Banner Forms Due
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Free Fishing Program @ Town Park 2 pm (rain date 4/4)
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Westerlo Museum open 9 am – 11 am
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Total Eclipse – Stay tuned to Westerlo Library for info!
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Greenville Legion Post 291 Dinner 4:30 pm – 7 pm @ 54 Maple Ave, Greenville
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Westerlo Rural Cemetery's Spring Cleanup 10 am
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Historical Society Mtg 7 pm @ Westerlo Reformed Church
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Veteran Services @ Town Hall 9 am – 11:30 am
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Westerlo Reformed Church's Chicken & Rib BBQ 3:30 pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> – TWFD Breakfast 8 am – 11 am @ Woodman's Hall
- 29<sup>th</sup> – ZBA Mtg 7 pm

With Valentines Day around the corner, another gift giving idea is a gift certificate to Prana Massage!



**Prana**  
Massage Therapy

6844 State Route 32  
Greenville, NY 12083  
Located inside Sage Salon

518.859.5138  
a.gulbrandsenlmt@gmail.com  
FB @pranamassage

Garage  
SALE!



## Town of Westerlo Heritage Museum's 17<sup>th</sup>

(Dormansville, Westerlo, South Westerlo)

Garage Sale

Saturday, June 8, 2024

8:00 AM- 3:00 PM



SIGN  
UP

If you would like to be part of the Town of Westerlo Museum's 17<sup>th</sup> Town Wide Garage Sale, now is the time to sign up! Garage/Yard sales will be held on your own property/location for this event. Space will also be available at the Westerlo Town Hall.

The Westerlo Museum Board is sponsoring this event to raise monies for the Westerlo Heritage Museum's building fund.

We will advertise in local and some capital district newspapers and other media. **YOUR SALE WILL BE MARKED ON A MAP WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE AT 8 AM THE MORNING OF THE SALE AT THE WESTERLO TOWN HALL.**

We will be selling food and baked goods at the Town Hall; therefore, we kindly request that you not sell food at your site.

Please have your site open from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. The cost to you is only \$20.00 per family.

Please make checks payable to **Westerlo Heritage Museum** and mail with the return portion as indicated below to:

**Town of Westerlo Heritage Museum**

**933 County Route 401**

**Westerlo, NY 12193**

Registration forms should be received or postmarked no later than May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The sooner the better. This allows enough time for you to receive your garage sale number represented on the map and instructions for the day of the sale.

Your garage sale number will be emailed to you a day or two before the event.

Refreshments, Bake Sale and Sale of Maps will be available the day of the event at the Westerlo Town Hall 933 County Route 401 starting at 8 am.

Please feel free to contact the Town Clerk's office with any questions:

518-797-3111 option 2 or [townclerk@townofwesterlony.com](mailto:townclerk@townofwesterlony.com)



-----cut here-----

Please print clearly and return this portion to the above address. Please maintain the above for your records.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of location if different from the Mailing address:

Information (Approximate miles from Westerlo Town Park, Color of House, etc.):

Are you going to be open on Sunday\* (circle one): YES or NO      \*It will be advertised on the map if you are.

Description of items being sold: \_\_\_\_\_