



# Town of Westerlo Newsletter



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[TownOfWesterloNY.com](http://TownOfWesterloNY.com)



## Beloved Highway Superintendent retires after 30.5 years!

After 30 ½ years of service to the Town of Westerlo, Highway Superintendent Jody Ostrander is officially retiring! Over these many years, Jody has been a real asset to our treasured Town and the surrounding area for many reasons. At this time, we would like to honor and highlight a few of Jody's extraordinary accomplishments as an employee for 23 years and Superintendent for the past seven years.

First, we would be remiss to only say that Jody has been an instrumental benefit in Westerlo because of his exceptional leadership but he should be recognized for his handling of many remarkable feats, such as in guiding the Town through multiple natural disasters and even an unprecedented pandemic!

During his time as Superintendent, Jody completed the stream bank erosion project where he had to assist the Town with applying and ultimately receiving grants for the project, not only once but twice! Following Winter Storm Stella on March 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Jody was responsible for submitting FEMA paperwork for reimbursement after the Town had spent an unexpectedly large amount of money for the cleanup of the community. For several years now, he and his crew have generously hung the Hometown Heros banners throughout town and he oversaw clearing for Dig Safes for the water system.

As for his time during the COVID-19 pandemic, Jody not only worked 7 days a week, operated the transfer station, hauled garbage to Albany landfill but also took care of his normal Superintendent duties without the regular assistance from his staff and with no complaints.

On top of all these numerous tasks, Jody has served the Town for 17 years as the driver of the emergency vehicles for EMS and the Fire Company along with

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

**Supervisor**  
Matt Kryzak

**Confidential Administrator**  
Lisa DeGross  
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



There are so many positive things happening in Westerlo right now that I don't know where to begin. Here are just a few.

As I mentioned in our previous newsletter, the Town has started a Capital Projects

Improvement Plan and set aside money in a special reserve fund. I am pleased to announce we are off and running and will soon be replacing the roofs on the Justice Court and Town Hall. Staying ahead of maintenance and repair is crucial to preserving the Town's assets.

Park Clean Up Day was a success. Volunteers gathered and painted all four dugouts and picnic tables at the Blaisdell White Memorial Park as well as picking up trash strewn about. Volunteers at Veterans Memorial Park spread mulch and planted flowers as well as dug out the horseshoe pits. Many thanks to the volunteers, especially those who came from the Bank of Greene County! At some point over the summer the park employees and highway department will be installing new swings, a new slide, and a new set of bleachers and basketball nets in the Blaisdell White Memorial Park. A toddler swing and wheelchair swing and new basketball nets will be installed in Veterans Memorial Park. We are also actively working on a plan to re-do the tennis courts. The "remodel" will include one tennis court, one pickleball court along with new posts and nets.

The opportunity for our Hilltown seniors to socialize, hear a guest speaker and enjoy a free meal at our Town's Lunch and Learn series – co-hosted by the Hilltowns Community Resource Center – continues to be a tremendous success. The programs planned for the summer include July - Wills, Trusts and Estate Planning, August - Veteran Suicide Prevention, September - Planning for a Funeral/Memorial Service and Purchasing a Burial Plot and October - Navigating Medicare Enrollment. Thanks for organizing this lecture series go to Confidential Administrator, Lisa DeGroff and Marybeth Peterson, Director, Hilltowns Community Resource Center. For reservations for any or all the lecture series you can call (518) 966-7380 or email [Marybeth@cocalbany.org](mailto:Marybeth@cocalbany.org).

Our veteran services in Westerlo is going strong! Not only do we have a representative from Albany County Veteran Service Bureau attending and an opportunity for veterans to socialize over coffee, pastries and/or bagels but we have now added a representative from the Stratton VA! If any veteran in town is not sure if they are receiving all the benefits and perks that go along with having served or currently serving our great country, you should stop in and see these folks! You never know what you might be missing out on. Additionally, thanks to the generosity of the Veterans Miracle Center in Albany, Westerlo has been designated as a food drop location. Whenever the supply is sufficient, they will be delivering goods to Westerlo for any Hilltown veteran to come and "shop." All items are free, and it does not depend on your financial status.

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto:WesterloLawReview@gmail.com)

### Museum Board

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

Director/Curator

Mary-Jane Araldi

[museum@townofwesterlony.com](mailto:museum@townofwesterlony.com)

### Planning Board

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

Chairperson

Beau Loendorf

[b.loendorf.pb@townofwesterlony.com](mailto:b.loendorf.pb@townofwesterlony.com)

### Water Committee

Chairperson

Bill Bichteman

### Westerlo Hometown Heroes

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

Chairperson

Amie Burnside

[WesterloHometownHeroes@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.**



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taking on the job of Dog Control Officer (DCO) for 15 years' time!

Over the years, Jody has been dedicated to saving the Town money where he can, for example: he was able to piggyback off other awarded contracts; he suggested the Town Board create an equipment fund for new vehicles to be purchased regularly to keep the burden from being transferred to the taxpayers; instead of projects being hired out to contract companies, Jody and his staff have done many in-house renovations and mechanical work on vehicles. In fact, when the Town Hall was purchased and needed to be converted from its original school setting to an office/meeting space, Jody and his team were able to complete all the upgrades necessary along with those needed at the Highway Department and Court facilities.

More recently, Jody has been heavily involved and extremely supportive of all Town events and functions. He is always willing to lend a hand and assist however is needed; whether that be bringing big trucks down for Fall Festival for kids to explore, sending staff to help decorate or being there for the planning, set up and clean up afterward.

As Superintendent, Jody, should be extremely proud of his ability to maintain a solid crew in the highway, transfer station, park, and maintenance departments, all of which helps keep our community safe and well-kept. Many other towns, villages, cities, counties have struggled to maintain a full workforce.

Jody was kind enough to leave us with these parting words, "it's been an honor to serve the Westerlo Community in all aspects of my career. I've had the pleasure of working with incredible people who have become friends and have always supported me. I'm glad I was able to help many residents of Westerlo over the years and can only hope that my replacement will carry on what I'm proud to have implemented and accomplished here. It has been fun but I'm looking forward to what's next."

Congratulations Jody!! We wish you all the best in your future endeavors! You will be sorely missed!!

### 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 tax collection period has ended for 2024. If you need to make a payment for delinquent taxes, please contact Albany County Department of Finance at (518) 447-7082.**
- **If you stop by the Town Hall, be sure to stop in and meet the Michelle Rose, the new Deputy Clerk.**

### Water Committee

Meetings are normally held the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of March and September at 6 pm. See website for updates.

### Code Enforcement Officer

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer. With the warmer weather many of you are entertaining home improvement projects. One common project, exterior decks can be a challenge for DIYers. To help with that I would like to share a great resource. It is the proscriptive residential deck construction guide. It is a free download from the American wood council website. If you use this design to build your deck you will be code compliant. So have fun this summer and if you build a deck remember they do require a building permit. – Jeff Pine CEO

### Farmers Market

The Town of Westerlo Farmer's Market is back! Please visit the Westerlo Veterans Memorial Park on Thursdays now through September 26<sup>th</sup>. There will **not** be a market on Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> in observance of the holiday. Please stop by from 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm to support your local vendors.

This year's vendors are:

- ANS Jams and Goodies LLC** who sells salsa, pickled items, marinated mushrooms, and homemade jams.
- Van-Dale Farms** sells maple and honey products, lamb, beeswax candles, sheep and goat milk soaps, vegetables, fruits, flowers, and country craft items.
- At First Bite**- Food truck (not at every market)
- The Sweet Spot**- sells bread and baked goods.
- Fresh Start Family Farm**- chicken, pork, eggs, produce

Farmers Market applications are available now if you would like to become a vendor!

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)

Visit us on Facebook!

**Town of Westerlo Farmers Market**

## News from the Assessor

The Town of Westerlo 2024 tentative roll was completed on May 1, 2024. Board of Assessment Review hearings were held on Wednesday, May 29, 2024. The hearings were not held on the typical fourth Tuesday of May because the Assessor is the assessor for another municipality and the Town Board approved the change of date for that reason.

The 2024 final roll will be completed on or before July 1<sup>st</sup>. Please report any change of address so that upcoming school tax bills will be delivered to the correct address without delay.”

## Local Law Review Committee

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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***

## Recently Passed and Proposed Local Laws

Earlier in the year, the Town of Westerlo Assessor proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2024 to change the date of grievance day to Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> as the regular date of May 28<sup>th</sup> was a conflict for her as she is also an Assessor in the Town of Berne. The Town Board passed the Law unanimously to change the 2024 date.

For the last year or more, there has been a lot of discussion regarding a nuisance fence in the hamlet that stands between two neighbors. One of the neighbors has been attending meetings regularly to see if the Town Board could do something to assist him with the issue. Local Law No. 2 of 2024 was finally proposed, to amend Article 12 of the Westerlo Town Code entitled “Supplementary Regulations” and add section 12.130, which will establish rules, regulations, policies and code for the enforcement of the construction and maintenance of Fences throughout the Town of Westerlo. There has been some debate at recent meetings regarding this from both the Town Board and the public. Many people believed it was a matter for the police but in the end, it was passed with a 3-2 vote.

Most recently, near the end of the May 21<sup>st</sup> Town Board meeting, proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2024 was introduced by Supervisor Kryzak to abolish the Town’s Planning Board and transfer its functions to the Zoning Board of Appeals, which is to be known as the “Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals”. This came as a surprise to most people attending the meeting. The Town Board held a Public Hearing on June 18<sup>th</sup> to hear residents for or against the proposal. The room was packed, and the Town Board mostly heard opposition from the public, except for Robert Nolan and Joseph Cinque, members of the Town of Coeyman’s Planning Board/ZBA who were invited to speak by Mr. Kryzak to explain why combined boards works in Coeyman’s. Councilmen Beers and Mahan expressed they were not in favor of abolishing the Planning Board. Supervisor Kryzak provided his reasons for wanting to combine boards such as streamlining the process for applicants and creating cost savings for the Town. The Town Board did not vote on proposed Local Law No. 3 at this meeting as Mr. Kryzak mentioned, he was awaiting a response from Albany County Planning Board on the matter. The Supervisor has since called a Special Town Board meeting on Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup> where he is proposing to pass a resolution to combine boards. Please keep an eye on the website for updates in the meeting minutes.

## Transfer Station

Transfer station applications for 2024 are still 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.

A new Solid Waste Recycling Coordinator has been hired. His name is Gary Davis. Please say hi next time you’re at the Transfer Station!



## On the Road with the Highway Department

There’s not much to report this quarter with the Highway Department, but please note that there is a county road closure. County Route 412 is closed over Hannacroix Creek at the Westerlo Town Line and the intersection of Udell Rd. The road will be closed to all vehicles, including emergency vehicles, however, a signed detour is in place during the closure. The county is not expecting to have the project complete until September 1<sup>st</sup>. Please be sure to plan for an alternate route.

Speaking of veterans, our Westerlo Hometown Heroes Committee, chaired by Councilwoman Amie Burnside is having a stellar year. This year the committee is displaying 90 banners throughout town! There are 22 new veteran banners and 10 new first responder banners. I encourage you to take a drive through Town and view them all! Please save the dates, and plan to attend the banner Closing Ceremony on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm at the First Baptist Church of Westerlo and the committee's Veterans Day Sunset Service at Veterans Memorial Park.

Finally, our Grant Writer, Lisa DeGross has been especially busy these past few months securing monies for the Town. She was able to receive a grant of \$1,000 from the Bank of Greene County which assisted in the purchase of a new set of bleachers for the Blaisdell White Memorial Park. She was also successful in securing \$40,000 from Albany County Soil and Water Conservation for the highway department to continue the project of shoring up the banks alongside the Basic Creek in Veterans Memorial Park and on Tan Hollow Road. Lisa secured donations of \$6,000 from Callanan Industries and GNH Lumber for fireworks and additional funds from Carver Companies to hire the band Double Barreled, a rock/country band. The fireworks and the band will be part of an "After Party" at the close of this year's Fall Festival on September 21<sup>st</sup>. The band will begin at 6:30 with fireworks at 8:30. Finally on behalf of Westerlo Hometown Heroes, she reached out to Home Depot for a donation for the installation of a fire pit in Veterans Garden and was successful. Home Depot will be donating the fire pit materials and labor for a total cost of \$1,569.00 Additionally, she was able to secure \$915 from Albany County Veteran Service Bureau for an American Flag Disposal Receptacle for the Town's transfer station. The grand total of successful grants received this quarter is \$50,484.00. Thank you, Lisa, keep up the great work!

I think you will all agree it is great to be a Westerlo resident!

-Supervisor Matthew Kryzak

## Museum News



The Museum Board has been busy fundraising for the Museum Carriage House - a building to house the larger museum articles. Thank you for all who attended and contributed at the Easter Event, Brunch for Mom and the Town Wide Garage Sale Days. We are working on a zoning variance and building permit in order to start building.

The Museum Board has also been discussing some grants that might be available to us.

Remember that the museum is open the first Sat. of the month from 9 am – 11 am. Be sure to stop by!

### Albany County Road Closure!

County Route 412 is closed over Hannacroix Creek at the Westerlo Town Line and the intersection of Udell Rd. The road will be closed to all vehicles including emergency vehicles however, a signed detour is in place during the closure. The county is not expecting to have the project complete until September 1<sup>st</sup>. Please be sure to plan for an alternate route and drive safely!



## Congratulations to Blake!

Congratulations go out to the Town of Westerlo Buildings Department seasonal employee Blake Shaver. Blake is a 2024 graduate of BKW. In the fall, he will be attending SUNY Cobleskill for Agricultural Engineering. On awards night Blake was the recipient of quite a few awards; the Garrett Barton Memorial Award, Helderberg Award, New York State Comptroller's Student Award and the Robert Bishop Athletic Scholarship Award. He also received the Peter M Becker award, in memory of Peter Becker a lifelong Berne resident, given to students with an interest in Firematics, EMS, Auto Mechanics, Agriculture or Welding and the James Wyatt Spencer Memorial award, in memory of Wyatt Spencer Class of 2014. This award is given to seniors who are actively committed to extracurricular activities and who demonstrate strong leadership abilities, will be a community minded citizen and demonstrate a stance against bullying. Blake played soccer, basketball and baseball and was in the National Honor Society. All Town employees wish him well and much success in his next chapter at SUNY Cobleskill. Westerlo is proud of you!

## Westerlo Receives Three Grants

Westerlo was fortunate to have received three grants from the Bank of Greene County in June. The Citizens Committee on Park Improvement received funds to be used toward the purchase of a new set of bleachers for Blaisdell White Memorial Park. The Westerlo Volunteer Fire Company also received money that will be used toward an extractor for washing their gear after fires in order to remove the carcinogens as a result of fire. Money was also awarded to the Westerlo Public Library. They will be using their award toward the purchase of bicycles for young children that the community can check out. Westerlo is grateful for the support of the Bank of Greene County's Charitable Foundation. Our Town has had the privilege of benefiting from their grant program for many years.



## Westerlo Historical Society

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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!**

### Westerlo Historical Society Interests include Hannay Reels Tour

Wednesday, May 22, 2024, was a busy day for the Historical Society, beginning with a fascinating tour of the Hannay Reels plant led by President Eric Hannay. Established in 1933 by Clifford B. Hannay and briefly his partner, Ken Morrissey, this plant has been a family-owned mainstay in the town ever since. Morrissey reportedly sold his interests early on for \$250 feeling there was “no future in hose reels”, and the business went on to become Clifford B. Hannay & Son. Eric showed us many of the processes from beginning to end, including new technology laser parts manufacturing and robotics. Materials receiving, quality controls, shipping and finishing were just some of the activities we saw up close. What a huge, busy plant!

When the factory tour ended, we were given access to the plant museum, contained in Building #1, the original site of Clifford's activities. It contains a wide range of items relevant to the history of the operation. Many familiar names and faces were displayed, as well as artifacts and documents showing the growth and advancement of the facility. The Hannay family is obviously rightfully very proud of its heritage. Reel #33, built in 1933, was displayed as well as several later evolutions of the reels. They certainly have come a long way! Thousands are now shipped all over the USA and the world.

After our time at the museum, we went to the site of the recently placed historical marker for the “Public Garage” (now Building #3). This building was the site of a dealership run by Orlo Stewart and Gerald De Laverne selling and repairing Chrysler and Plymouth cars as well as Allis Chalmers tractors in the 1930's and 1940's. Lots of happiness and photos celebrated the new marker.

The group then went to the Hometown Deli, the newest eatery in town, for a delicious lunch and comradery.

At 1:00PM, we met at Westerlo Rural Cemetery for the traditional placing of Memorial Day flags on the gravesites of our veterans and continued to Westerlo Central Cemetery and Hannacroix Cemetery to do the same. Flags and flowers were also placed on the memorial sites at Town Hall, South Westerlo and Dormansville.

Finishing in the late afternoon, all in all it was an exciting, proud and memorable day.

Again, many thanks to the Hannay family for permitting us to visit the facility and for their contribution for the historical marker.

Anyone interested in joining the Historical Society is more than welcome. Please call (518) 797-3050 or email [rolandtozer@msn.com](mailto:rolandtozer@msn.com) for more information.



Photo taken by Dennis Fancher



Above photo taken by Eric Hannay of Westerlo Historical Society members gathering at the new “Public Garage” historical marker were Toby Nevins, Elaine Nevins, Donnette Paoletti, Dennis Fancher, Skip Lovegrove, Sue Fancher, Roland Tozer and Alliene Applebee

## The History of Shepard Farm

# Westerlo History

The Shepard family that originally hailed from Plainfield, Connecticut, moved to the Greenville area in 1791. It's unclear when the family moved to South Westerlo but by 1854 James Shepard appears on a town map. The original farmhouse was occupied by William and Nancy Shepard and their 4 children, James was their youngest son. In 1859, James died, and the farm passed on to James' nephew, Darwin P. Shepard. Darwin built a new farmhouse on the property which eventually was expanded into the hotel while his grandmother and her sisters occupied the original farmhouse. Upon Darwin's death in 1880, his son Frank took over the farm. Frank's son Augustus took over the farm after Frank.

By the 1920's the farm was struggling financially and the Shepard's opted to rent their house for the summer months "to a few couples looking to escape the New York City summer heat and pollution". The Shepard farm was one of the first resorts that would begin to spring up as the popularity of the area for city visitors grew. Some of these resorts included Ingleside Farm, The Knowlton, Edgewood Farm, Shady Hill Farm House and the Balsam Shade which was also run by the Shepard's until it's sale in 1938.

Augustus was so successful that he expanded his grandfather's farmhouse and property to accommodate a larger number of guests while still running the property as a functioning farm. It functioned as today's "farm to table" experience! By 1925 the resort claimed it could accommodate seventy-five guests! He also added a dance pavilion and space for tennis and lawn games. He also utilized their farm pond for swimming, bathing and canoeing.

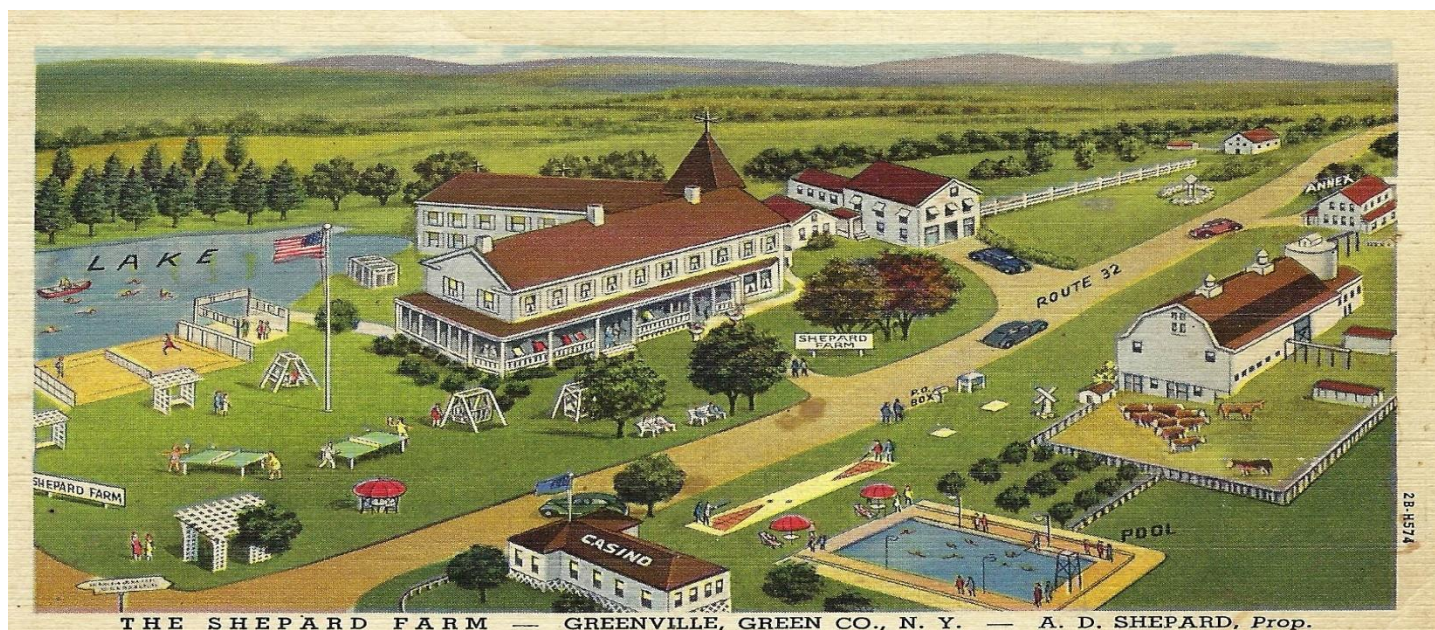
Over the years buildings were added and some burned down. Modern electric lighting was added along with powered pumps for two drilled wells along with periodic renovations. They eventually added a movie theater, an inground pool, handball court, baseball diamond and a shuffleboard court.

The resort reached its peak in popularity between the late 1940's and into the early 1960's. In 1957 Augustus Shepard died and likely just his wife Gladys, niece Eleanor R, and her husband Ernest J. Moak became proprietors of the resort. The Moak's would run the resort until it closed in the early 1980's. The property changed hands a few times and currently is found under the ownership of John Dolce and Steve Haaland.

There is a small family cemetery on the west side of Route 32 where three generations of Shepard's are buried. There are eight graves well represented on the property.

Taken from Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc 2017 report

- Gayle Hannay



## 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!)

## From the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation Hunting and Trapping Newsletter

By August 1<sup>st</sup>, the paper used for sporting licenses and carcass tags will change from special stock (Valeron) to plain paper. This change will modernize the license purchasing process by allowing easier, quicker access to licenses and tags and offering at-home license and tag printing options for the increasing number of people who purchase their licenses online. You can still purchase your license in-person at the Town Hall.

Lifetime license holders can expect to receive their licenses and tags on plain paper by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Hilltown Community Resource Center

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Happy Summer! The Hilltowns Community Resource Center has been very busy the past few months. Our food pantries have increased 30% over the winter and spring months. We are gearing up for summer. We have been doing “the backpack” program for a couple of years now. It has been a great success! We are happy to announce that we will be having another “backpack” program this Summer! This program is generated for kids during the summertime, with having some nutritious snacks in a bag to take home. For more information, call our Pantry Office at (518) 966-7380 for information to come! Also, we will be having some free summer learning programs this summer! To name a few, there will be soccer lessons, cake decorating and art and crafts! All programs are run by Volunteers! Keep a look out!



## WIC is here for you!

Did you know WIC offers the following?

### **Healthy Food & Nutrition Tips:**

We help you feed your children nutritional meals. We provide:

- Monthly benefit packages available through an electronic debit card (e-WIC) to purchase healthy foods
- Tips on how to shop for healthy food, how to cook it and how to encourage your children to eat it
- A larger food package if you breastfeed exclusively, to help you stay healthier

### **A Community of support**

We offer a network of experts and peers for education and guidance:

- Nutritionists to help you and your children eat well
- Breastfeeding specialists to help you breastfeed successfully
- Other moms for sharing experiences and for moral support

### **Referrals**

We introduce you to care beyond WIC, including:

- Healthcare professionals such as pediatricians and dentists
- Immunization services
- Other social services

Call (518) 432-4033 for more information.



## The Banners Are Up!

The Volunteers of the Westerlo Hometown Heroes Committee are excited to announce all Hometown Heroes banners are displayed. Many, many thanks to County Executive Dan McCoy, Albany County DPW Commissioner Lisa Ramundo, Albany County DPW Westerlo Workers, Jody Ostrander, Westerlo Highway Superintendent and Dave Pecylak Westerlo Highway Department for the hard work installing the banners by Memorial Day. This year we placed 90 banners! This is double what we normally display. We are honored to have 22 new Veteran Banners and 10 new First Responder Banners.

The committee is grateful for the support of our community and the family and friends who sponsor banners for their loved ones. We also need to give a huge thank you to our sponsors as well! These individuals sponsor banners to make it possible for everyone who wants a banner to have one. Whenever possible, please thank these individuals and most importantly please support their businesses. This year's sponsors were 518 Realty.Com, Cottonwood Creek Veterinary Services, A. J. Cunningham Funeral Home, Eastern Mutual Insurance Co., Grace Roofing, Hometown Deli, Kelly's Pharmacy, Matt Kryzak, Maple on the Lake, McDermott Auto, Sperry's Auto Repair, STS 5 Petroleum, Inc. (otherwise known as M&B's), Sunset Hill Labrador Retrievers, The Tasting Lab, Town Line Auto and Town Line Motorsports.

Please enjoy a scenic ride through Westerlo to view all the banners. The banners are displayed on State Route 85 at Flood Rd., heading toward M&B's, left onto State Route 143 into Town, a few to the right on County Route 1, straight down County Route 401, left on County Route 405, left on State Route 32, left onto State Route 143, a few on County Route 312 on the right, straight down State Route 143 into Town.

Families and friends are welcome to share pictures of their loved one's banners. If you are able to safely get a picture of your loved one standing with their banner we would love you to share them with us on our Facebook page (Westerlo Hometown Heroes).

Lastly, please save the following dates. This year's Closing Ceremony, will be on Saturday November 2, 2024, 2:00 pm at the First Westerlo Baptist Church in Westerlo. This is a fantastic event open to the public honoring all Hometown Heroes and our Veterans Day Sunset Service at Veterans Day, November 11, 2024 at Veterans Memorial Park in Westerlo.

God Bless Our Hometown Heroes and God Bless America!

**VETERAN SERVICES**

*Army: "Army Strong"*  
*Marines: "The Few, The Proud"*  
*Coast Guard: "Born Ready"*  
*Air Force: "Aim High, Fly-Fight-Win"*  
*Navy: "Forged by the Sea"*

**WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM:**

**Albany County Veteran Services Bureau**

**Albany Stratton VA**  
 Depending on staff availability.  
 Call day before to confirm.

**Any Veteran and/or family member who has questions, needs assistance and/or would like more information on what benefits they are eligible for, are strongly encouraged to stop in to speak with representatives from Albany County Veteran Services and Albany Stratton VA.**

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

Westerlo Town Hall, 933 County Route 401, Westerlo  
 518-797-3111 ext 1014



**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**

**director@WesterloLibrary.org**

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

Wednesday, July 10, 2024  
 Wednesday, August 14, 2024  
 Wednesday, September 11, 2024  
 Wednesday, October 9, 2024  
 Wednesday, November 13, 2024  
 Wednesday, December 11, 2024

**LIBRARY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS FOR 2024**

**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**

**ANCESTRY.COM**

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

**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.

**Gallery Space**

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

**July & August** – Bente Hirsch

**September & October** – Greenville student artists

**Youth Programs (July 9<sup>th</sup> – August 15<sup>th</sup>)**

**Tuesdays – 10:30 am** – Messy Play For the Littles followed by Coffee Connect for Caregivers

**Tuesdays – 6 pm**

July 9<sup>th</sup> – STEAM with 4H – Dairy/Ice Cream

July 16<sup>th</sup> – STEAM Slime

July 23<sup>rd</sup> – STEAM with 4H – Insect Program

July 30<sup>th</sup> – STEAM Kitchen Chemistry

August 6<sup>th</sup> – Visit with Reptile Adventure!

August 13<sup>th</sup> – STEAM Arts and Crafts

**Thursdays – 5:30 pm** – Drop in STEAM

**Upcoming Programs**

July 2 – 6 pm – Summer program Kick-Off featuring “Take a Tromp Through the Swamp” with musician Tom Sieling. Ice Cream will be served.

**Special Collection**

Need a fishing pole? You can borrow, for a two-week loan period, a fishing pole with reel, line, hooks, bobber and sinkers. NYS DEC has provided the fishing poles, and they are available at other libraries in the system too.

**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 using your library card.

We also have Hoopla (another app) that has e-books, audiobooks, movies, television, music, and comics.

Stop by the library for help getting started!

**Regularly Occurring 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** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month 4:30 pm. Copies of the current book are available at the circulation desk.

July Book – *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict

August Book – *Every Summer After* by Carley Fortune

September Book - TBD

**Coffee Connect for Caregivers**

On Tuesdays after Messy Play, there will be a social program for caregivers. Toys and games will be available to distract children while caregivers have a chance to sit, relax and chat.

**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.

## 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)

## 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.*

# Westerlo Cemetery Info

11

## 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)



## 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

# WESTERLO RURAL CEMETERY

The cemetery is always in need of volunteers to help clean as well as work on head stones for families that have moved away or are deceased.

**TO VOLUNTEER,  
CONTACT PRESIDENT  
BETTY FILKINS BY  
TEXT 518-275-2935**



As always we could use donations to buy the special chemical to clean stones without doing harm which is called D2 and it costs \$50 a gallon. Donations are tax deductible as we are a 503 (c) non for profit.

**Donations can be sent to:**  
**Westerlo Rural Cemetery**  
**PO Box 29**  
**Westerlo, NY 12193**



## 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

## 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@HelderbergFCO.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** 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*



Westerlo Hometown Heroes Banner Committee

**SAVE THESE DATES!**

November 2, 2024 - 2pm  
Westerlo Hometown Heroes Banner Closing Ceremony

November 11, 2024 - Sunset  
Veterans Day Sunset Service

HONORING ALL WHO HAVE SERVED AND ARE CURRENTLY SERVING

Visit our Facebook page - Westerlo Hometown Heroes  
Contact us with any questions - WesterloHometownHeroes@gmail.com  
Amie - 518-396-8787 or Lisa 518-396-0350



## Dispose of Flags in Westerlo

At the Town Board meeting held on June 18, 2024, Supervisor Matthew Kryzak mentioned that a flag receptacle would be available at the transfer station for anyone who needs to respectfully dispose of flags. A resident wondered who would be disposing of the flags and Confidential Administrator/Hometown Heroes Committee Member Lisa DeGroff responded that the Committee would honorably dispose of flags. A resident did not believe it should be located at the transfer station and instead suggested the Town Hall and that the VA handle the disposal.

It was mentioned that Home Depot donated funds for the supplies and installation of a fire pit to be placed in the Veterans Garden at the Town Park. Mrs. DeGroff suggested that the flags could be properly disposed in this fire pit. No decisions were made, but you can check for updates in the meeting minutes on the Town's website or in the next newsletter as they become available.

## 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

## NYS's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration

NYS's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration is recognized as the biggest and best in upstate NY! This event features an exciting program filled with incredible live music by Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers, a flyover by the 109AW NY Air Guard, great food and beverages, pony rides and a bounce house for the kids, and the best firework display in the region!

5 pm – Naturalization Ceremony

6:15 pm – Soul Session

7:30 pm – Sponsor remarks and Military flyover

8 pm – Bruce Hornsby & the Noisemakers

9:15 pm (approximately) – Fireworks

Where: Empire State Plaza

Presented by



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

**John Boyd Thacher State Park** – The climbing area is open as of March 30<sup>th</sup>. Climbing permits are required and can be obtained online or in the office.

1 Hailes Cave Rd., Voorheesville, NY 12186

\*\*\*\*\*

### Thompson's Lake

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

Nearby, the Emma Treadwell Thatcher Nature Center is open Tuesday through Sunday from 9 am – 4 pm and offers educational programs. For more information, visit [parks.ny.gov/environment/nature-centers/8/details.aspx](http://parks.ny.gov/environment/nature-centers/8/details.aspx) (87 Nature Center Way, Voorheesville, NY 12186)

## Albany County Parks and Recreation

### Upcoming Programs for Youth

*Programs are FREE to all children and teens residing in Albany County!*

Are you interested in chess, baseball, basketball, comic books, or karate just to name a few? There is something available for everyone!

*For a complete list of programs, more information and to sign up, please visit*

*[albanycounty.recdesk.com/community/page?pagelid=33150](http://albanycounty.recdesk.com/community/page?pagelid=33150)*

## Adirondack Animal Land

This is a family owned and operated wildlife park designed to provide a home in all natural settings for over 500 animals. Home to llamas, camels, zebras, deer and a variety of hoof stock.

Cost: Adults \$20, Kids (2-12) \$16, kids under 2 are FREE!

Cash only!

Open: July & August 10 am – 4 pm

Located at 3554 State Highway 30, Gloversville, NY 12078

## Local Ice Cream Spots!

### Tastee Treat

2070 New Scotland Rd., Slingerlands, NY

Open: 12 pm – 9 pm 7 days a week!

### Jim's Tastee Freez

58 Delaware Ave, Delmar, NY

Open: Mon-Thurs & Sun 11 am – 9 pm & Fri & Sat 11 am – 9:30 pm

### Guptill's Ice Cream & Roller Skating

1085 New Loudon Rd., Cohoes, NY

Open: 11 am – 10 pm 7 days a week!

Roller skating available Fridays 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm &

Saturdays 1 pm – 4 pm & 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm

## Lake George Expedition Park

It's unlike anything you've ever experienced. Walk trails and learn about dinosaurs in Dino Roar Valley. At The Forest, experience the thrill of rides and games. Open 7 days a week from 10 am – 5 pm. Admission: \$39.99 (tickets available online) [www.lgepark.com](http://www.lgepark.com)

1912 US 9, Lake George, NY 12845

(518) 668-ROAR

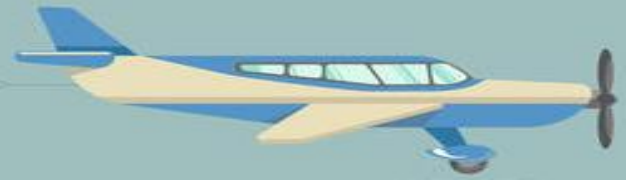
## Great Local Parks and Preserves to Visit!

**Albany Pine Bush** – This local park was formed between 12,000 and 15,000 years ago after the drainage of a large glacial lake. This lake stretched all the way from Glens Falls down to Newburgh. It consists of roughly 18 miles of trails used for hiking, jogging, mountain biking and birding and is home to a vast array of plant and animal life.

**Tawasentha Park** – located at 188 SR 146, Guilderland

**Washington Park** – located a few blocks away from the Empire State Plaza in downtown Albany, between Central Ave and Madison Ave. Free admission. Open from May – October from sunrise to 11 pm and November – April from sunrise to 10 pm. This is a dog friendly park.

## 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)

### 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**

### 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/>

### Disposal of Used Motor Oil

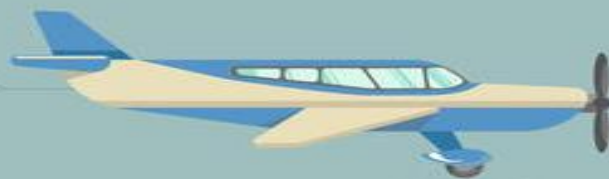
Did you know you can dispose of used motor oil at Home Depot? They will accept up to 15 gallons, **free of charge**, as long as they have the space! You may want to call ahead to make sure they're not full.

*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/)



**P.A.T.S. is now open!**  
**Wednesdays & Saturdays**  
**9 am – 1 pm**  
**112 Church Rd., Berne, NY 12023**

### 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.utsalbany.org](http://www.utsalbany.org) for more information.



## 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



## WESTERLO PUBLIC LIBRARY



## FISHING POLES AVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT

604 State Route 143  
Westerlo  
(518)797-3415



### Coffee with ACCORD

The ACCORD program, officially launched by Albany County in the Hilltowns in June 2021, consists of two response teams made up of social workers from the County's Mobile Crisis Team and paramedics from the Sheriff's Office, who have been trained to handle situations involving mental health and nonviolent emergency cases where law enforcement is not essential.

August 21<sup>st</sup> at 12 pm

### Storytime

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

### Borrow large print books now!

Is it hard for you to see small print? Did you know that the library has large print books available for you to sign out?

### 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.

### 4H Summer Program Info

July 9<sup>th</sup> – As part of our Dairy Education grant, youth would learn about the importance of the dairy industry and the role of agriculture in putting food on the table. One hands-on activity would involve the youth making ice cream.

July 23<sup>rd</sup> – Insects: Join a 4-H educator to learn about the hidden world of insects! Through activities and observations, we will discover the different types of insects and foster a sense of appreciation for these fascinating creatures.

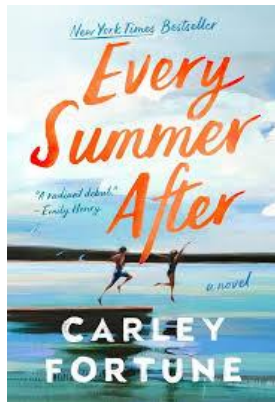
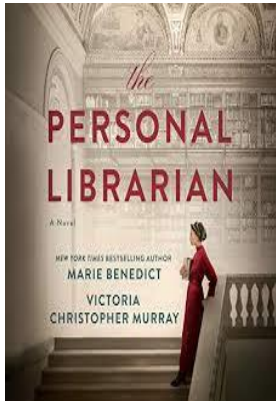
### Museum Passes

The Westerlo Library has museum passes to check out!

We have a Family Pass to the Destroyer Escort Museum (2 adults, 2 children), An Empire Pass (for parking in NY State parks).

Please call ahead to reserve passes (518) 797-3415.

Continued...



Book Club

The book club meets the second Wednesday of every month at 4:30 pm. Copies are available at the circulation desk.

July Book – *The Personal Librarian*

by Marie Benedict

August Book – *Every Summer After*

by Carley Fortune

September Book - TBD

WESTERLO PUBLIC LIBRARY  
SUMMER BOOK BINGO



Pick up a Card  
Complete Card  
Win Prizes

ALL AGES  
Beginning  
June 27  
thru  
August 17



WESTERLO PUBLIC LIBRARY  
604 STATE ROUTE 143  
WESTERLO  
(518)797-3415

Homebound Delivery!

Homebound delivery is a free library delivery service provided to the residents of the Town of Westerlo who are unable to visit the library. If you think this service might be right for you, or a friend or family member, please call (or visit) the library during regular business hours.

Fax Machine Service

Our fax machine is available for public use both for sending and receiving faxes. Charges are generally \$0.20 per

Color Print/Copy Machine

Do you need something printed or copied? Our machine can be accessed wirelessly from your own devices. Prints/copies are \$0.20 per page.

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.

## 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.

## Starry Summer Garland

Learn how to fold your own origami stars! Loop them together into a beautiful summer garland perfect for brightening up your home. Choose from a variety of paper designs to create your very own masterpiece.

Materials are provided. **Registration required.**

**July 10<sup>th</sup> 6 – 7 pm**

**Ages 12- adult**

*\*For a full list of activities, see the Greenville Library website*

## Stained Glass Hummingbird

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

**July 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

**Young Adults (13)**

*\*For a full list of activities, see the Greenville Library website*

## Climbing Wall

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

**Registration required.**

**August 7<sup>th</sup> 5 – 7 pm**

**All Ages**

*\*For a full list of activities, see the Greenville Library website*

## 2024 Seed Library Now Open

With spring just around the corner, it's time to start planning this year's garden! We are pleased to be able to offer our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual seed library to our community! Our seed library provides a way to start growing food and flowers for free, simply stop by and check out the seeds that you would like. We are offering a wide variety of seeds including vegetables, herbs, and flowers! We would like to thank everyone who donated seeds making our seed library possible!

How does it work?

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

Our seed library is about....

- Encouraging our community to dig in and garden
- Reconnecting our community to the traditions of growing tasty, healthy food
- Creating a free and reliable local seed collection at our library for the community

Do you have any seeds you want to share?

- We're accepting donations of seeds for flowers, vegetables and herbs that are less than 3 years

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>

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.

### 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.

### Transparent Language Online

Begins July 1<sup>st</sup> and provides rich, interactive learning materials in over 120 languages, with additional resources such as: a learning approach that uses all 4 core language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing/typing.

For more information, please visit the library's website or call 518-966-8205.

### Lego Fun!

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 Lego's!

Just drop in!

When: July 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>

August 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>

3 pm – 4 pm

Where: Main Floor Library

## Summer Art Class

July 15-19, 2024 · Monday-Friday

Come learn about native plants and get creative learning new art mediums. We will explore native plants each day and create art work that will be used as seed packet designs for our local seed library.

\*Both classes limited to 15 participants

**Ages 5-9 @ 10am-12pm**  
Parents can stay or drop off

**Ages 10-16 @ 1-4pm**  
Girls only · drop off

**\$50 refundable deposit to register**  
(scholarships available upon request)

For more info, please email:  
surprisehillfarm@gmail.com



\*This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Re-grants Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by CREATE Council on the Arts.\*

### Paddleboard Painting

Paint a paddleboard into a creature of your choice. Enjoy games, listen to stories and of course have some treats.

Fun for all! **Registration required.**

**August 21<sup>st</sup> 10 – 11:30 am**

**Ages 8 +**

*\*For a full list of activities, see the Greenville Library website*

## 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

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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/>



## Great Summer Activities (Indoor and Outdoor)

### Mini Gulf

Take the kiddos on a mini gulf adventure this summer! There are a few great local places to try that also happen to serve ice cream!!!

**All 4 Fun** – Has mini gulf, go-karts, batting cages and ice cream! Located at 1050 Troy-Schenectady Rd., Latham (518) 898-8869 Open 7 days a week 12 pm – 9 pm!

**Pirate's Hide-Out** – Has mini gulf and homemade ice cream! Located at 175 Guidebook Rd., Clifton Park (518) 373-8438 Open 7 days a week 12 pm – 9 pm!

**Space Adventure** – Glow in the dark mini gulf and arcade! Located at Crossgates Mall Monday – Thursday 11 am - 9:30 pm and Friday – Sunday 11 am – 10 pm

### Huyck Preserve

Trails are open from dawn to dusk year-round. Admission is free to walk and hike the trails, picnic, fish and boat (non-motorized) on Lake Myosotis. Motorized vehicles and bicycles are not allowed. Dogs must be on a leash at all times and owners are responsible for cleaning up after their pets. Huyck Preserve is a carry in, carry out preserve. Please help us keep our Preserve beautiful by taking all trash with you. Also, please respect any research sites you may come across while at the Preserve.

There are summer programs available. For more information, visit [huyckpreserve.org/summer-programs.html](http://huyckpreserve.org/summer-programs.html)

Location: 5052 Delaware Turnpike, Rensselaerville

Phone: (518) 797-3440

Email: [info@huyckpreserve.org](mailto:info@huyckpreserve.org)



## 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:

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> @ 2 pm – Turtle Time (for all ages):** Join us for a brief introduction to one of our Discovery Center turtle ambassadors on select Wednesdays and Fridays this summer from 2 pm – 2:15 pm. Don't miss this chance to observe a live turtle and discover something new about these ancient reptiles. Bring your questions and curiosity. Due to health and safety concerns, visitors will not be permitted to touch the turtles. A maximum of 30 individuals will be allowed in the classroom for each program. Please check-in at our front desk upon arrival. Participants will be allowed in on a first come, first served basis. Additional days and times (see website)

**July 12<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am – Karner Blue Butterfly Walk (for all ages):** Don't miss this chance to join Albany Pine Bush Preserve staff on a 0.9-mile hike to see the Karner blue butterfly. Once common in the Glacial Lake Albany sand belt, the Karner blue plummeted in numbers over the past 40 years and is now listed as a federally-endangered species. Come learn about the natural history of the Karner blue and our efforts to rescue this species from the brink of extinction. **We will meet inside the Discovery Center.**

**July 20<sup>th</sup> @ 11 am – Discover the Pine Bush for Families (perfect for families):** An extraordinary journey into the Albany Pine Bush – a globally rare, nationally significant, and locally distinct inland pine barrens. Our experts will guide you along this 0.9-mile hike over rolling sand dunes where you will discover Pine Bush natural history and seasonal surprises and transformations. This program will meet inside the Discovery Center.

**July 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am – Pine Bush Pups: Slither Like a Snake (for ages under 6 with caregiver):** Did you know that snakes live in the Albany Pine Bush Preserve? Join us to learn what kinds of snakes live here, what they eat and how they survive in this environment. Then enjoy a short walk to observe snake habitat and construct a coiled snake. **This program will meet inside the Discovery Center. Reserve a spot for everyone in your party regardless of age.**

**July 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> @ 10 am – Pine Bush Pups: Pond Exploration (for ages under 6 with caregivers):** Ever wonder what lives in a pond? Come and explore this amazing world! We will have a short walk to the pond (Rensselaer Lake) after a brief introduction, story and song. Participants will have the opportunity to sample the pond and look up close at all the specimens we find. Staff will provide nets, hand lenses, and collecting bins. Please wear boots or footwear that can get wet and muddy. **This program will meet at Six Mile Waterworks, 135 Fuller Rd, Albany, NY 12205, not at the Discovery Center. Reserve a spot for everyone in your party regardless of age.**

**August 15<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am – Flowers and Photos (for teens and adults):** Flowers are not only important parts of plant's lifecycles, but they're also some of nature's most unique and beautiful sights. Join us for a short presentation to learn about flowers with tips on how to photograph them followed by a short 0.9 mile hike where we put our skills to use finding and photographing flowers. All experience levels welcome. No special equipment needed, camera phones will work. **This program will meet inside the Discovery Center.**

**August 29<sup>th</sup> @ 11 am – V is for Vulture (ages 6+):** What can smell dead things up to a mile away? Turkey vultures can! Join us for a short indoor presentation followed by a 0.9 mile hike to learn about this amazing giant bird that soars high in the sky. **This program meets inside the Discovery Center.**

### Greenville Drive-In

Visit the Greenville Drive-In this summer with the kiddos and family!

10700 NY 32, Greenville, NY

For a list of upcoming movies, visit: [www.drivein32.com](http://www.drivein32.com)

### Zoom Flume Water Park

NY's #1 Family Waterpark!

Located at 20 Shady Glen Rd., East Durham, NY 12423

Open 7 days a week 10 am – 6 pm

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

## 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

## 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.

## Home Delivered Meals

The Home-Delivered Meal program provides balanced meals to eligible adults aged 60 or older, and spouse regardless of age, delivered right to their home. The home-delivered meal service may be temporary or long term.

The home-delivered program gives priority to the following target groups who have the greatest economic and social needs: minorities, low-income, frail, and vulnerable elderly aged 60 and older.

- Is incapacitated due to accident, illness, or frailty.
- Lacks support of family, friends, or neighbors; and
- Is unable to prepare meals due to a lack of inadequacy of facilities, such as refrigeration, stove, etc., inability to shop, cook or prepare meals safely, or lack of knowledge or skills.

Our registered dietitian ensures that all meals comply with the Older Americans Act and Nutrition Program Standards. Each balanced meal provides essential nutrients with focus on whole grains, fruits and vegetables, lean proteins, and low-fat dairy. Meals are also limited in sodium, saturated fats, and added sugars. Please be advised that therapeutic/special diets and modified consistencies are not accommodated through this program. Persons that have a known significant food allergy are unable to participate in this program.

The home-delivered meal program provides an opportunity for suggested voluntary contribution toward the service which helps expand services.

Referrals can be made by family, friends, or community agencies.

## 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 gaps
- Understand what the 1% per month penalty for late enrollment means for you
- Solve issues and problems with your current plan

For all above services: (518) 447-7177

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



## Hilltown Senior Citizen

Meetings are held 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.

Upcoming Trips for 2024 are:

- Trip to the Log Cabin in Massachusetts to see a Rock and Roll Show – August 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Overnight trip to Lake Placid – September 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Lake George Dinner Theatre – October 8<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*\*\*

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!

## 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 fitness classes (an insurance benefit included in more than 65 Medicare health plans), 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.

## 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!**

## 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  
Albany, NY 12206  
(518) 463-3175, ext. 2.

## 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)

## 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.

## Senior Lunch and Learn

Town of Westerlo and Hilltowns Community Resource Center  
present

## Wills, Trusts and Estate Planning

Thursday, July 18, 2024 ~ 11:30 am

Westerlo Town Hall 933 County Route 401, Westerlo



Planning matters.  
Pre-planning lets your loved ones focus on honoring life instead of hashing out details.

**Wills ■ Trusts ■ Powers of Attorney ■ Advanced Directives**



Presented by:



Complimentary Lunch Served Following the Program

**RSVP REQUIRED BY JULY 16TH**

Call Marybeth Peterson 518-966-7380 or  
Email - marybeth@CCAlbany.org

## 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.

### 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

## 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

## 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

## 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)

# What's Hot with the Westerlo Fire Company

## Westerlo Baptist Church

618 SR 143, Westerlo, NY 12193

R. Scott Boger, Senior Pastor Jeff Diehl, Associate Pastor

### Sunday Morning Worship Services

Sundays – Summer Hours 10:00 am – 11:15 am

We offer childcare for: Nursery Rm #13: (0-2yr) and Tot-Kinder Church Rm #12: (Age 3-K) During the Summer Services.

We will resume back to 9:30 am after Labor Day, on Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>

### Fellowship

Following the morning worship service 11:10 am Everyone is invited for cool beverages & fellowship

### Sunday School

No Sunday School classes during the summer months.

We will resume this fall Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>!

### Evening Services

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month – 6:30 pm  
Hymn Sing, Fellowship & Refreshments.

### Kids Club

Pioneer Clubs & Stockade for boys (ages 4 yrs – 6<sup>th</sup> grade) & girls (4 yrs – 12<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Wednesdays (To begin: Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>) 6:40 pm – 8:15 pm

### Prayer Meeting

Wednesdays – 7 pm – 8 pm  
Location: Sanctuary

### Men's Basketball & Co-Ed Adult Volleyball

Will resume this fall!

### Vacation Bible School

Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>/Community BBQ & Pre-Register for VBS @ 4 pm

FBCW Vacation Bible School August 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>  
Mon. – Fri. 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
For 4 yr./Pre-K - 12<sup>th</sup> grade

Prepare to swing into fun as we head out on "The Great Jungle Journey!"



The Westerlo Fire Company  
Station 2  
\$18  
BBQ DELIGHTS  
AUGUST MENU  
Chicken or ribs, coleslaw, baked potato, roll & a cookie!  
THURSDAY AUG 1, 3:30 PM  
NEXT EVENT OCT 3, 3:30 PM  
FOOD TBD  
UNTIL SOLD OUT  
157 CR 405, South Westerlo 12083

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE  
TIME CHANGE  
10 AM SERVICE ONLY



Month of JULY Outdoor Services (weather permitting) And August 4<sup>th</sup> 10 am. No Livestream! Meet on the side lawn & BYOC – bring your own chair

Childcare available inside for: Nursery Rm #13: (0-2yr) and Tot-Kinder Church Rm #12: (Age 3-K) during the Summer Services.

## South Westerlo Congregational Christian Church

28

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 9 am Sunday's  
4:30 pm Shrine in East Durham until Labor Day  
11 am Sacred Heart, Cairo

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



## 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!

## Newsletter Information

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

September 1, 2024

For October 2024 Newsletter

December 1, 2024

For January 2025 Newsletter

March 1, 2025

For April 2025 Newsletter

June 1, 2025

For July 2024 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\*\****

### **DISCLAIMER**

The Town of Westerlo is not responsible for facts or opinions in this newsletter nor those contained within any links provided.

## 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 29



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

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Highway Superintendent

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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**

## July

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Special Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Farmers Market Cancelled
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Westerlo Museum open 9 am – 11 am
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Book Club @ Library – 4:30 pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> – LLRC Mtg 6 pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> – BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Veteran Services w/ coffee & pastries @ Town Hall 9 am – 11:30 am
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Senior Lunch and Learn @ Town Hall – 11:30 am
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

## August

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Book Club @ Library – 4:30 pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Senior Lunch and Learn @ Town Hall – 11:30 am
- 19<sup>th</sup> – LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Veteran Services w/ coffee & pastries @ Town Hall 9 am – 11:30 am
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> – ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

## September

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Water Board Mtg 6 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Planning Board Mtg 7 pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Book Club @ Library – 4:30 pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

## September Continued...

- 16<sup>th</sup> – LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Historical Society Mtg 7 pm @ Westerlo Reformed Church
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Veteran Services w/ coffee & pastries @ Town Hall 9 am – 11:30 am
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Senior Lunch and Learn @ Town Hall – 11:30 am
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Fall Festival 2 pm – 6 pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Farmers Market @ Vet. Memorial Park 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

# WHEELS OF TIME

## Car Show

Westerlo Veterans Memorial Park - 950 CR 401, Westerlo, NY 12193



**PARTICIPANT JUDGING-CAR CLUB MEMBERS DON'T VOTE!**

**50/50 RAFFLE, DOOR PRIZES, FOOD BY @ FIRST BITE & VENDORS**

**ANYONE WANTING TO BE A VENDOR (NO FOOD) IN THE PAVILION, FREE ENTRY, JUST COME SET UP @ 10 AM!**

**ADMISSION \$10 SPECTATORS \$2 NO PETS PLEASE! ALL VEHICLES WELCOME!**

**SUN DAY**

Show Time: Noon til 3 pm  
Gates Open: 10 am  
Awards & Trophies: 2 pm  
Registration Ends: noon

**AUG 4**