



# Town of Westerlo Newsletter



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



## Longtime Supervisor Richard "Dick" H. Rapp has passed away

By now, most of you have probably heard that Richard "Dick" Rapp, 87, peacefully passed away on September 1, 2025. He was born on November 26, 1937, in Albany. He graduated from BKW in 1956 and on June 2, 1957, he married the love of his life, the late Patricia Ann. He was the devoted father to Deborah and Susan and proud grandfather to Larry, David, and Amanda.

Dick began his career at Hudson River Construction Co. for 26 years prior to his true passion in public service. He served as the Commissioner of Albany County Dept. of Public Works and was Supervisor for the Town of Westerlo for 41 years from January 1978 until March 5, 2019.

If you knew Dick, you knew he dedicated his life to the service of others, fulfilling his responsibilities with integrity and an unwavering sense of duty. He was known for his compassion, leadership, patience, and devotion to the community.

When it came to his family, boy did Dick love them. Many days, he would come into the office and tell us about how his girls were there to check on him every day and to make sure he ate. He sometimes complained with a devious smile on his face about how they were all on his case about drinking more water instead of soda. He thought that was funny and then continued to disobey. He would tell us of his outings with his son-in-law Brian and all the places they ate that day, which we know he so enjoyed. And as for when he spoke of his grandchildren and great grandkids... he lit up like a Christmas tree. He was so proud of them and looked forward to their visits.

For those of us lucky to have worked with him over the years, he considered us family. He was confident, responsible, and caring to all employees and residents alike. He wanted



Continued on page 7

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

**Supervisor**  
Matt Kryzak

**Confidential Administrator**  
Lisa DeGroff  
Ext. 1014

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

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector**  
Karla Weaver  
Ext. 1011

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday  
7:30 am – 3:30 pm  
Thursday 1 pm – 7 pm  
or by appointment

**Code Enforcement Officer**  
Jeff Pine

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

**Town Assessor**  
Melanie Bunzey  
Ext. 1016

Thursday 4:30 pm – 7 pm  
or by appointment

**Assessor/CEO Clerk**  
To be determined

**Highway Superintendent**  
David Pecylak  
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 hours vary – by appointment  
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!**



What began as a very wet and rainy summer quickly turned into a very hot and dry one. While there currently is no burn ban in effect, I caution everyone to be very mindful of outdoor burning and campfires. While Westerlo does

have a stellar, first-rate volunteer fire company we wouldn't want to have to mobilize them due to careless burning. Please exercise caution.

This season we saw many projects come to completion. We were able to have our tennis courts in Veterans Memorial Park resurfaced and now we have an upgraded tennis court, with new nets and posts and two pickleball courts. We were also able to add a handicap swing and wheelchair swing to the playground equipment at Veterans Memorial Park. In addition, new playground equipment was installed in the Blaisdell White Memorial Park in South Westerlo.

To keep the improvements coming, we have hired a new part-time Building/Park Maintenance employee. Westerlo welcomes Nick DeFrancesco! Nick got quickly to work and re-pointed the brick on the front of the court building, replaced soffits, siding and windows on a highway department building and replaced siding on the garage at Veterans Memorial Park. Nick with the assistance of our summer part-time Park Maintenance Helper Josh Vance and other Highway Department employees were also instrumental in installing the new playground equipment in South Westerlo. Dan Rohrmiller one of our other part-time employees also worked diligently with Josh to keep the lawns mowed and has been regularly rototilling the mulch on the playground in Veterans Memorial Park to help mitigate the weed problem.

Our highway crew has been busy re-paving roads and installing new culvert pipes throughout town. In addition, the crew has been keeping up with the mowing on the sides of the roads and trimming to keep visibility clear. The good weather has been their friend in being able to complete the necessary summer projects. Highway Superintendent, Dave Pecylak was also able to auction old, unused equipment and put money back into the highway budget in order to update old equipment.

On another positive note, our accountant has completed our Annual Financial Report as required by the New York State Office of the State Comptroller and this report has been filed with that agency. The highlights of this report are:

- Significant fund balance accumulation for both the general fund and highway fund, which will allow us to continue to fund improvements to Town facilities and infrastructure.
- In 2024 the general fund expenses were kept within \$60,000.00 of anticipated costs despite continued inflation and an overall budget of \$3,715,000.00.

Continued on page 9

## **Boards and Committees**

### **Town Board**

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

### **Broadband Research Committee**

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

Chairperson

Carrie Wallace

tow.brc.chair@gmail.com

### **Local Law Review Committee**

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

Chairperson

William Hall

WesterloLawReview@gmail.com

### **Museum Board**

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

Director/Curator

Mary-Jane Araldi

museum@townofwesterlony.com

### **Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals**

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month @ 7 pm

Chairperson

William Hall

zba2@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

**Please check the Town's website for upcoming Town meetings, events and community news!**

**Legal notices can be viewed in the Altamont Enterprise.**

## Transfer Station

Transfer Station Permits are required for all town and seasonal residents for \$25 annually. Permits are not available to vacant landowners. The 2026 annual permits can now be purchased for anyone who wishes to get them ahead of January. 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.

## 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 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

Hunting season is approaching. If you have not purchased your hunting license yet, feel free to stop by. Please practice safety and be aware of your surroundings.

Property tax bills will be going out in January. If your mailing address has changed, please contact us.

## Water Committee

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

Please see the Town of Westerlo website for updates.



We had another fantastic Fall Festival under our belts this year! There were many attendees from all over the hilltowns and beyond. This is truly an event Westerlo can be proud of, and we are already excited for what next year will bring.

We had some great vendors this year. Laura Tenny and Gerry Boone from Golden Acres Charolais were here again to sell honey, sunflowers, and cornstalks. They also generously donated cornstalks to decorate the town park as well as provided tractor pulled hayrides which is always a hit. We had the very entertaining Hilltown Hags dancing again which is always a crowd pleaser. The Moonshine Mules came back to sing their hearts out. We just love them! The Westerlo Fire Co. made sure everyone was well fed. Also in attendance were the Westerlo Heritage Museum, Historical Society and Library. Other vendors this year included:

Catherine Latham & Leslie Kudlack, Delores Durfee, Grammy Pammy's Labor of Love, Haven in the Hollow Farm, Hooked with Love, Busy Bee Crafts, New Scotland Spirits, Nicole and Gianna Spinnato, Three Chickadees Bakery, Albany Stratton VA Medical Center, Bank of Greene County, BKW School, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Albany County Sheriff's, balloon twister Emma Olson, Reptile Adventure, and the lovely Stellar-NY face painter. New to the Fall Festival this year was Jennifer Si Tung a tarot card reader as well as Chris and Eileen Testo from Weston Kennels who put on a jaw dropping dog obedience demonstration.

We would also like to thank our donors who provided items and gift certificates which made this event possible. Hewitts, previous Highway Superintendent Jody Ostrander and PB/ZBA Chair Bill Hall donated pumpkins for our pumpkin painting area. Story's Nursery donated mums again this year to make the pavilion pretty and ready for fall. Boehm Farms donated cider and donuts which is always delicious. Hannaford donated apples, toppings, gords, and mums. Hannaford is a huge supporter of our town and when all else fails, they always come through for us and we are so thankful to them. Tops Friendly Markets donated a gift certificate for supplies. Dollar general donated helium for balloons. Stewart's Shops donated ice cream gift certificates. Hi-Way Drive-In, Kuhar Farms, WildPlay, Greenville Café, Lou's Moving & More all donated gift certificates for our giveaways and Candy Kraft donated candy corn.

Our monetary donors included: Hannay Reels, Shell Inn, Nolan Propane, Ingalls, Rick's Tire, HL Gage, Haight, River Valley Radio, Tifco, Preville, JH Consulting, Crossroads Ford, Finke Equipment, and Greenville Dental.

Thank you to all who sponsored this event, as it wouldn't be possible without you.

We must also thank our volunteers. A huge thank you to Josh Austin and Josh Vance from the highway department, Claire and Marybeth Marshall, Town Councilman Peter Mahan and wife Elise, the Town Clerk's office; Michelle Rose, Jaimee Motschmann, Kathleen Spinnato, Karla Weaver and her mother Sharon.

If anyone is interested in volunteering or donating to future events, please contact the Town Clerk's office at (518) 797-3111 opt 2 or email [townclerk@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:townclerk@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

## What's Going on in Town Government...

4

1. The tennis and pickleball court facelift are complete. Please check them out!
2. At the July 15<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting, the Town Board advertised for an opening on the Museum Board, passed a resolution to exempt the Library and Museum from zoning fees, requested a blinking light for the intersection of CR 401/404 due to recent accidents, appointed Nick DeFrancesco to the building and maintenance position, appointed Catherine Hannay, Angela Carkner and Gaye McCafferty as Library Trustees, approved training for a few PB/ZBA members, appointed Daniel Vincent Dawdy-Navarez to the PB/ZBA, and the Town joined the National Fitness Campaign.
3. At the August 19<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting, the Town Board approved training for the Historian, PB/ZBA members and Dog Control Officers, approved the purchase of a new mower, requested a Linear Speed Limit study on CR 401/404 from the county, approved advertising for an RFP for an engineer for the Water District, awarded the parking lot paving bids to Callanan Industries, appointed Lisa DeGroff as RAO to replace Town Attorney George McHugh, engaged Tabner, Ryan and Keniry to review any and all F.O.I.L. requests at a cost of up to \$400/hr. The Supervisor also presented resolutions to terminate Claire Marshall from her positions of Clerk to the Assessor, Clerk to the CEO and Clerk to the PB/ZBA as well as to require the Town Clerk to take multiple training courses.
4. At the September 16<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting, the Supervisor presented procedures and regulations regarding F.O.I.L., suggested posting meeting audio on the Town website, accepted a bid for mini splits at the Town Court, appointed PB/ZBA Member Sean Leary to the Local Law Review Committee, appointed Amy Austin to the Museum Board, and approved the water relevy report. The Supervisor also requested that the Town Board review quotes for switching from a .com to .gov website per new regulations, quotes for new payroll companies, and a quote for additional park cameras.
5. The Town employees are still waiting on Union negotiations with the Town of Westerlo.  
Please come to meetings to learn more and to ask questions.

### Local Law Review Committee

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

The community is encouraged to submit comments/suggestions/questions to:  
[WesterloLawReview@gmail.com](mailto:WesterloLawReview@gmail.com)

### 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!)

### Upcoming Rabies Clinics

Colonie Town Hall – 534 New Loudon Rd.,  
Latham, NY 12110

October 25<sup>th</sup> – 10 am – 1 pm

**Suggested donation \$8 per animal. All pets must be leashed or in a carrier and at least 3 months old to receive a vaccination. Distemper vaccines are also available.**

Prior registration is not required but is helpful!

You can register online up to one month prior to each clinic by visiting  
[albanycountyny.gov/departments/health/rabies-clinic-schedule](http://albanycountyny.gov/departments/health/rabies-clinic-schedule)



# The Westerlo Heritage Museum & Richard H. Rapp

The Westerlo Heritage Museum acknowledges the fact that if it weren't for Mr. Richard Rapp and his love for our community, there probably wouldn't be a museum in our town. Dick whole heartily supported the museum from its inception. Thank you, Dick, for ensuring the history of our town is being preserved. Another important piece of Westerlo's history that Dick was instrumental in developing is the fraternization of Westerlo, NY, USA and Westerlo, Belgium. In 1988, Dick traveled to Westerlo, Belgium to officially begin this "friendship" that has lasted 37 years. Thanks to him, we hope this friendship will continue for many years to come.

As an honor to Dick and his remarkable achievements over the years, the Museum would like to share a little history on the Town of Westerlo and Westerlo, Belgium.

In July 1983, three young men from Westerlo, Belgium came to the Town Hall in Westerlo, NY. From that first visit, friendships were formed, and the two towns declared an official friendship in January of 1988. Every five years the official Friendship is celebrated in alternating towns and gifts are exchanged.

## Comparison between Westerlo Belgium and Westerlo, NY

Westerlo, Belgium was established in 994 AD

Westerlo, NY was established in 1815.

Both are agriculture communities

Both have libraries

The Town Hall in Westerlo, Belgium was formerly a castle.

The Town Hall in Westerlo, NY was formerly a school.

Westerlo Belgium has 7 sub-villages, Westerlo, NY has 3

Population of Westerlo Belgium is 25,288

The Population of Westerlo, NY is 3,300

Westerlo, Belgium is located in the Province of Antwerp

Westerlo, NY is located in Albany County

The primary language in Westerlo, Belgium is Flemish.

Westerlo, Belgium has a nice sports center with an indoor pool.



## Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinics and Other Services

There are many options for low cost spay and neuter clinics in the area as well as vaccinations, microchipping, deworming and humane euthanasia.

Some local options are:

### **Mohawk and Hudson Humane Society**

You can schedule online  
at: [www.mohawkhumane.org](http://www.mohawkhumane.org)

### **Upstate Spay and Neuter Services**

This is a mobile clinic that is located in the Advanced Auto Parts parking lot in Catskill. To schedule visit the following website:

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

## Westerlo Historical Society

The Westerlo Historical Society meets the third Monday of each month in April, May, June, September, October and November. June is our annual picnic meeting at the Veterans Town Park, and we have a "Post Holiday Party" in January and specially scheduled programs and trips. Regular meetings are at 7 pm at the Westerlo Reformed Church Hall.

**New members and ideas are always welcome!**

If you would like to reach someone from the Historical Society, please contact Roland Tozer (518) 797-3050  
[Rolandtozer@msn.com](mailto:Rolandtozer@msn.com)

## On the Road with the Highway Department

The highway department has been patching roads and are currently preparing for winter. They are servicing trucks, hauling in sand, and filling the salt shed.

The Superintendent expressed the need to replace a 1-ton dump truck and a 10-wheeler and received permission from the Town Board at the September meeting to begin the shopping process.

They will be assisting Callahan in paving the Town Hall, Court and Highway parking lots starting October 1<sup>st</sup>.

## News from the Assessor

6

The Assessor's office has been busy preparing for school tax bills which will have been mailed prior to this newsletter. Please contact the Assessor's office at (518) 797-3111, ext. 1016 with any address updates. Also, if your tax bills have been sent to a bank escrow account and your mortgage is now paid off, please inform the Assessor so that bank information can be removed and your tax bills sent directly to you.

Information regarding an exemption for the construction of Accessory Dwelling Units ("ADUs") on existing residential parcels will be forthcoming.

Before the next newsletter is schedule to be sent in January, exemption renewal forms will be mailed, but no earlier than sometime in November. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us.

## From the CEO

Per NYS Residential Code Section 319, the address identification shall be legible and placed in a position that is visible from the road.

In the event of an emergency, this is especially important and can mean the difference between life and death.



## DEC Hunting and Fishing Info

Hunting licenses are required for any person over the age of 12 while fishing licenses are required for anyone 16 and over.

### Hunting licenses:

\$22 (ages 16-69), \$5 (70+), \$5 (ages 12-15)

### Bowhunting:

\$15 (ages 16-69), FREE (70+), \$5 (ages 12-15)

### Muzzleloading:

\$15 (ages 14-69), FREE (70+)

### Turkey:

\$10 (ages 12+)

### Fishing:

\$25 (ages 16-69), \$5 (70+)

### **FISHING THE BASIC CREEK RESEVIOR**

NYS DEC requires a regular fishing license to fish the Basic Reservoir. You must also purchase a permit from the City of Albany to fish there from dawn to dusk.

City of Albany residents: \$10

Non-city residents: \$20

Kids 16 and under: Free

Call (518) 434-5300 for more info.

DEC is offering FREE online Guide Licensed exams for individuals over 18.

Visit this website for more info!

<https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/permits-licenses/fish-wildlife-plant/licensed-guide-program>



## Local Business

# The Sweet Spot Eatery



Custom Cakes, Baked Goods & More  
(518)618-8090

Location: 4847 SR 81, Greenville, NY 12083

Email: TheSweetSpotEatery@gmail.com

Continued from page 1.

people to feel free to speak and for their concerns to be heard.

In 2019, the Town honored him by naming the Town Hall, the Richard H. Rapp Municipal Building. Quite fitting since it really was his second home.

One of his greatest joys was frequenting the local dining establishments with his son-in-law Brian, which created an opportunity to connect and build friendships for life. He loved to talk about his family, politics, weather, and sports.

Dick was humble, simple and honest. He never sought the spotlight but always left a quiet impact on those around him. His presence was a gift, and his memory will remain a blessing to all who were fortunate enough to know him. He was a remarkable leader and a genuine good guy.

We hope his family finds peace knowing he was loved by the Westerlo community as well as the employees to which he was closest. We will miss him dearly. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to his wonderful family and all his close friends.



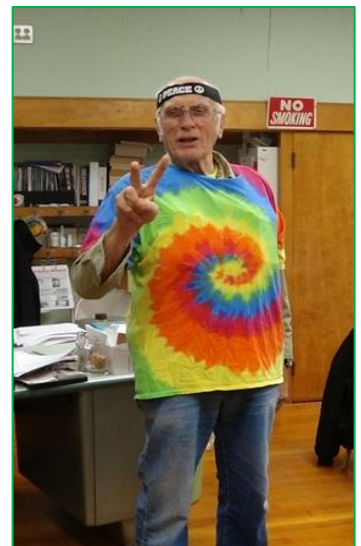
## Past and Present Town Employee Memories of Dick

From Town Clerk Karla Weaver

I had known Dick for many years prior to coming to work for the Town in 2015. It's always so nerve wracking starting a new job, but for me, I only felt excitement as growing up he was like the grandpa of Switzkill Rd. He was so comforting and welcoming and genuinely happy to have me here which I'll never forget. I enjoyed every day working alongside him, Kathy, Trudy, Patty and Claire. We were a family.

A fond memory of mine is that Dick never argued when the staff dressed him up in ridiculous costumes for Halloween, he just went along with it. He also never turned down a meal and always enjoyed when we made him food or had employee lunches. His presence always made us feel like we were at our home away from home. When he asked you how your day was or how you were feeling, he genuinely wanted to know, listened and enjoyed the conversations. The Town Hall has not been the same since he retired but I will always remember him as the greatest Supervisor in Westerlo and the best grandpa in town.

Continued on page 8.



On September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, Westerlo lost one of its great sons, Richard “Dick” Rapp. Dick was a town employee for over a half century spending 10 years as Town Assessor and 41 years as Town Supervisor retiring in 2019.

He was remembered as a “man of principle”, who could “get the job done”. He was also known for his compassion, leadership and patience. These characteristics were repeated by many who worked with him both at the town hall and from his tenure as the chairman of the Westerlo Democratic Committee (as stated in past local newspaper articles).

His confidential administrator, Patty Boice, remembered him as a “caring and compassionate guy who fostered fun and a positive workplace at the town hall” which she called “his second home”. Patty also stated that he was a good sport dressing up every Halloween under different themes along with the town hall staff.

Dick’s biggest accomplishments in Westerlo were the establishment of the Westerlo Library after Harold Bell donated the corner store in honor of his wife, Helen Bell. He also oversaw the establishment of the first municipal water system. Dick was integral in the establishment of the Westerlo Museum after the purchase of our oldest building, The Percy home on route 401. He was also the main force behind the purchase of the Westerlo Elementary School and its conversion into our current Town Hall. To ensure his legacy, the town named the new town hall in his name.

As we reflect on Dick’s contributions, it’s clear that his legacy is not just in his years of service that he gave to our town but in the lives that he touched and the improvements he initiated in our town that will be enjoyed for years to come. Thank you, Dick, for your foresight. Thank you for your leadership. Thank you for your unwavering sense of duty to our town. You will be missed.

- Gayle Hannay, Town Historian

## Past and Present Staff Memories of Dick Rapp Continued...

### From Deputy Town Clerk Kathleen Spinnato

Dick, I remember would recount many stories of the things and the people he knew and admired such as the NYS Police, Highway Department and residents with both previous Town Clerk Gertrude Smith and me. We enjoyed listening to his stories and the history and events he had been involved with over his many years of public service. He was an honest, kind and fair friend and human being and he will be dearly missed.

### From Previous Clerk to the Assessor Claire Marshall

I met Dick when the Town needed a third assessor, and a friend encouraged me to apply. I figured with three young kids the town would not be accommodating. Dick was thrilled and became one of the few people my kids would talk to other than real close family. They would run in and tell him things and make sure he had enough snacks. After the town board decided to go to a sole assessor, Dick asked me to stay on to answer the phones and make sure the office was covered. He was a fantastic supervisor who cared more for the people of the town no matter what political party. He was a great boss, a friend, and a father figure. I think of him a lot. He always told me to try to help everyone, treat people with respect, and listen to people even if you disagree. We had some great times and some wonderful memories.



### From Previous Transfer Station Employee Charles Benninger

Dick was a stand-up man and a pillar to the community. He was more than just a boss he was a friend to myself and my family. He will be missed greatly by the community.

### From Previous Highway Superintendent Jody Ostrander

It’s hard to put in words what a man who gave so many years as a servant of Westerlo means to people. As someone who worked with him for over 25 years, I can easily say he was the epitome of kindness. Most people felt that. He was always fair to me and the rest of the highway department which made him highly respected. I remember picking him up for dinners and during the car rides he told me stories and how old-time politics used to work. I was also fond of him for always having Town of Westerlo taxpayers in mind in making decisions. I really enjoyed working with him.



## Westerlo Hometown Heroes Committee Gears Up For a Busy November

It is a busy time of year for the Westerlo Hometown Heroes Committee. On November 1<sup>st</sup> at 2 pm we will be hosting our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hometown Heroes Banner Closing Ceremony at the First Baptist Church of Westerlo and on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm we will be hosting our annual Veterans Day Sunset Service.

The Closing Ceremony began in our initial year of displaying banners. As part of our agreement with Central Hudson, they required us to remove our banners by November. Since we weren't able to keep them up year-round the committee decided to turn what initially appeared as a negative into a positive and began plans for an "end of season" celebration and the Closing Ceremony was born. The day features musical entertainment, speakers, drill team performance and a presentation of the new banners to the recipients or family members. Recipients also receive citations from the New York State Assembly, a flag flown over the New York State Capitol and a citation from Albany County Executive Daniel P. McCoy. This year's ceremony will also feature a special medal award ceremony. Two Vietnam Veterans will be formally recognized and receive medals that were not previously awarded. The event ends with a free meal for all who attend.

If you have never attended, it is worth sharing the afternoon with the committee as we honor Westerlo's Heroes.

The Veterans Day Sunset Service is a brief, respectful way for our community to honor and pay tribute to all who have served and are currently serving our country. The event usually lasts 30 minutes and is celebrated in Veterans Memorial Park in Veterans Garden. The community joins to engage in patriotic tribute and hear from a special guest speaker. Seating is available and we encourage those who attend to dress warmly as it is usually chilly.

Our committee and Westerlo's heroes hope you will join us for these events in November. If anyone has any questions or would like more information, please email the committee at: [WesterloHometownHeroes@gmail.com](mailto:WesterloHometownHeroes@gmail.com)



## Continued From the Supervisor's Desk... Continued from page 2

- The overall financial position of the Town is healthy and able to continue improving services for our residents.

For 2025 we look to be on track for similar excellent financial health.

I'm sure you would all agree, Westerlo is a great little Town with many benefits for all ages. Tax dollars are used wisely, and maintenance, repair, replacements and services continue to benefit residents.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, concerns or ideas, please email me at [Supervisor@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:Supervisor@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

- Supervisor Kryzak

# Read Up on the Library



**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](mailto:director@WesterloLibrary.org)**

**2025 Trustee Meetings** – 7 pm in the Hannay Community Room  
Wednesday, October 8, 2025  
Wednesday, November 12, 2025  
Wednesday, December 10, 2025

All Trustee meetings are open to the public!

Policy Committee Meetings – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month – 6 pm at the library.

## Fax Machine Service

Our fax machine is available for public use both for sending and receiving faxes.

Charges are generally \$0.20 per page.

## LIBRARY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS FOR 2025

**Thursday, November 27 - Thanksgiving Day**

**Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**

**Thursday, December 25 – Christmas Day**

**Wednesday, December 31 – New Year's Eve**

## Museum Passes

The Westerlo Library has museum passes to check out!

We have a museum pass for the Clark Art Institute and Empire pass (NYS Parks).

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

## ANCESTRY.COM

We have Ancestry for use by patrons in the library. Use a library computer or bring your own device to do genealogy research. Library staff can help. This includes Ancestry International. Stop by and get started on your family tree!

## 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.

## Gallery Space

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

## Regularly Occurring Youth Programs

**Tuesdays 2 pm – 4 pm** – Maker Space/Messy Play Activities for All Ages with a featured activity each week.

**Tuesdays 3 pm – 4 pm** – Coffee Connect for Caregivers – Connect with others while the kids create and play

**Tuesdays 6 pm – 7 pm** – STEAM presentations and activities each week.

**Wednesdays 10:30 am – 11:30 am** – Storytime

**Thursdays 5 pm – 6 pm** – Drop-in STEAM/Maker Space with featured activity each week

**Financial Literacy games (board and electronic) are available to check out.** The games are suitable for the age of 5 and up.

Bicycles and helmets for check out – balance bike (no pedals) for 2-4 yr olds, 12- inch bike with training wheels for 5-7 yrs old and a 16- inch bike for older children.

## Digital Collection

Educate Station is a Home School resource available online in the library and remotely with a library card. It covers curriculum for preK-5<sup>th</sup> grade with lessons, activities and worksheets. Find it linked on the Library website ([westerlolibrary.org](http://westerlolibrary.org)).

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.

**First Tuesday Coffee with Neighbors** – 2-4 pm – Stop in and have a beverage and a snack and meet your neighbors. October 7<sup>th</sup>, November 4<sup>th</sup>, and December 2<sup>nd</sup> are the next dates.

**Spice Sampling** – October – Cumin, November – Allspice, & December – Sage

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



## 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

### Cemetery Contact Information

#### Westerlo Rural Cemetery

Betty Filkins  
(518) 275-2935

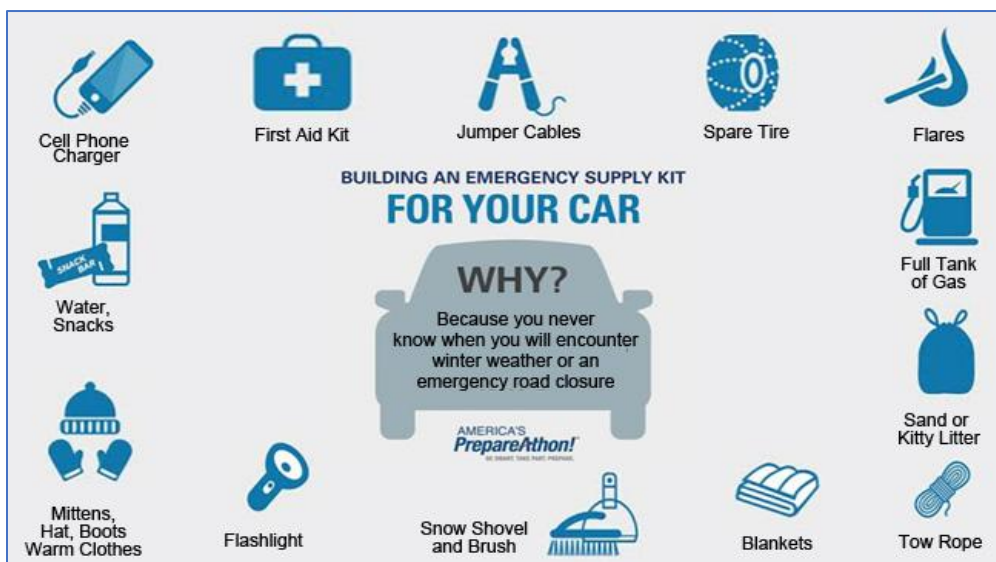
[BettyFilkins@protonmail.com](mailto:BettyFilkins@protonmail.com)

#### Hannacroix Cemetery

Linda Smith  
(518) 928-3428

#### Westerlo Central Cemetery

Dennis Boomhower  
(518) 488-2285







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: Scott Leslie

#### New Address:

420 Western Ave

Albany, NY 12203

**Phone:** (518) 447-7710

**Email:** [veteransbureau@albanycountyny.gov](mailto:veteransbureau@albanycountyny.gov)

**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** 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 – Thurs 9 am – 4 pm  
Fri 9 am – 3 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:

*Appointment only – Free Covid Vaccines*

*Albany Co. Dept. of Health (518) 447-4589*

*175 Green Street, Albany*

*Every Thursday 6 pm Sweat with a Vet Hot Yoga*

*1475 Western Ave, Albany*

*Every Wednesday 9 am – 11:30 am Veteran's Coffee Club*

*Mike's Diner 3737 Carman Rd., Schenectady*

*Every Friday 9 am – noon Arts4Vets*

*Am. Legion Zaloga Post, Albany*

*Every Friday 8 am Veterans & Friends Breakfast*

*Gateway Diner, Albany*



2nd Thursday of the month!

## CHAIR YOGA

WITH:



FOR: ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY, VETERANS AND THEIR GUESTS  
PROGRAM INCLUDES: MONTHLY **FREE** CHAIR YOGA CLASS THROUGH 2025

A Fully Seated Movement Experience for All Abilities.  
Set to the Music You Know and Love – from the 50s, 60s & 70s

Take a trip down memory lane through music and movement! This adaptive dance class is designed for seniors and individuals of all mobility levels - offering a safe, fun, and nostalgic way to stay active and connected.

STARTING JUNE 12, 2025 | WESTERLO TOWN HALL  
1:00PM CLASS | 933 CO. RD. 401  
(PLEASE ARRIVE FOR CLASS AT 12:45) | WESTERLO, NY 12193

No dance or yoga experience needed - just come as you are and enjoy the rhythm, memories, and sense of community.

EACH CLASS INCLUDES: ✓ Gentle chair yoga & stretching ✓ Light aerobic movement  
✓ Simple, joyful choreography to timeless tunes

### BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- ▶ Improved flexibility, circulation & coordination
- ▶ Boosted mood & mental wellness
- ▶ A sense of connection through shared music and movement
- ▶ A joyful, inclusive environment

CLASSES WILL BE THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

To Register: Email ConfidentialAdmin@TownofWesterloNY.com or call (518) 797-3111 Ext. 1014  
Walk-ins also welcome.



Daniel P. McCoy  
Albany County Executive

ALBANY COUNTY  
Cares about our Veterans



Albany County Veteran Service Bureau | 420 Western Avenue, Albany, NY 12203 | (518) 447-7710

**TO ALL Albany County VETERANS  
AND ACTIVE MILITARY MEN AND WOMEN**

## Veteran Services

Any veteran and/or family member who has questions, needs assistance and/or would like more information on benefits available are strongly encouraged to stop in and speak with representatives from  
**Albany County Veteran Service Bureau and  
Albany Stratton VA**

**3rd Wednesday of every month  
9 am - 11 am  
Westerlo Town Hall  
933 County Route 401, Westerlo**

Made with PosterMyWall.com

## Discounts and Free Stuff

**NY Lifetime Liberty Pass:** For qualified NYS Veterans, Gold Star Parents, Spouses and Children. 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

GET READY FOR AN EPIC NIGHT OF FUN, COMPETITION, AND CAMARADERIE WITH FELLOW VETERANS! WHETHER YOU'RE A SEASONED PRO OR JUST STARTING OUT, THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO SHOW OFF YOUR SKILLS, MEET GREAT PEOPLE, AND HAVE A BLAST!



## JOIN THE ULTIMATE VETERANS CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT!

EVERY WEDNESDAY | 6:00PM - 10:00PM  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, SHEEHY-PALMER POST 6776  
525 DELAWARE AVE, ALBANY, NY 12209

- ▶ FREE ENTRY
- ▶ No RSVP Needed (First Come, First Served)
- ▶ Open to All Veterans! VFW & Legion members are welcome, as well as any veteran. Non-veterans may attend as guests of members.



ALBANY COUNTY VETERANS  
PEER TO PEER PROGRAM: BRINGING  
VETERANS TOGETHER FOR GOOD TIMES  
AND SUPPORTIVE ENGAGEMENT.



Daniel P. McCoy  
Albany County Executive

ALBANY COUNTY  
Cares about our veterans

Albany County Veteran Service Bureau | 100 Heritage Lane, Rm. 500, Albany, NY 12211 | (518) 447-7710



## Proctors

**October 4<sup>th</sup> – Dylan Scott:** A powerful vocalist with a deep, unmistakable drawl, an old-soul songwriter with a young spirit and a family man with a tender heart. The multi-Platinum singer has notched six No. 1 singles.

**October 28<sup>th</sup> – Whispering Bones: An Evening of Ghost Stories:** 8<sup>th</sup> Step Fall Series – Chilling Ghost Stories.

**October 29<sup>th</sup> – November 9<sup>th</sup> – Wicked:** A “popular” musical, looks at what happened in the Land of Oz...but from a different angle. Long before Dorothy arrives, there is another young woman, born with emerald-green skin—smart, fiery, misunderstood, and possessing an extraordinary talent. When she meets a bubbly blonde who is exceptionally popular, their initial rivalry turns into the unlikeliest of friendships...until the world decides to call one “good,” and the other one “wicked.”

**Tickets will not be available until the MONDAY BEFORE the scheduled performance.**

**October 18<sup>th</sup> – November 13<sup>th</sup> – Just The Tricks: A Magic Show:** Join us for an unforgettable night as we take a trip down the rabbit hole of deception. Just The Tricks is an unpredictable ride through Michael’s quick-witted and mind-bending take on sleight-of-hand. Forget the top hats, this is magic that moves fast, hits hard, and keeps you guessing. Some of it is planned. A lot of it isn’t. Either way, you’re in for a sharp, playful, and wildly entertaining night where the laughs come as fast as the surprises. Bring your curiosity, your sense of humor, and maybe a friend to confirm—did this really just happen?

**December 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> – Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical:** THE GRINCH broke box office records for two consecutive years on Broadway during its holiday engagements at the St. James and Hilton theatres in New York. Since then, more than 2.1 million theatre-goers across America have been delighted by this heart-warming holiday musical, which *The New York Times* praised as “100 times better than any bedtime story” and the *Gannett papers* hailed as “A genius of a show! A total delight for both kids and adults.”

**December 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> – Northeast Ballet’s Annual the Nutcracker:** Brings you international guest artists and the best of the best that regional talent can offer. Our cast reaches over 100 to entertain and welcome the holiday season. Become a traveler in Clara’s magical dream through the glistening snowfall to the Magic Kingdom of Sweets. Experience all the thrilling variations from the various countries she visits.

**December 31<sup>st</sup> – The First Night of Funny:** A Proctors Theater tradition returns! This New Years Eve say GOODBYE to 2025 with a hilarious night of laughter that everyone will enjoy, but that won’t break the bank! The annual “First Night of Funny” event showcases four professional comedians with four unique and hilarious perspectives on the world. This is your last chance to laugh in 2025 and has something for everyone!

**For a full list of programs visit:**

**<https://www.atproctors.org/shows/>  
432 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305  
(518) 346-6204**

## 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. It features approximately 20 miles of multi-use trails that are marked and considered easy to moderate.

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

**October 4<sup>th</sup> @ 2 pm – Smokey Bear Day:** Smokey Bear will be visiting the Pine Bush Discovery Center to teach visitors about prescribed fire and wildfire prevention. There will be games, interactive exhibits, fire trucks and equipment to see and try out and Smokey goody bags for visitors to take home. **This program will meet inside the Discovery Center.**

**October 12<sup>th</sup> @ 11 am – Fox Trot:** Join us for a short, indoor presentation on the two species of fox that live here in Albany Pine Bush. We will then continue outside for a 0.9 mile hike over rolling sand dunes to look for signs that foxes are here. We will meet inside the Discovery Center. Suggested donation: \$5.00

**October 21<sup>st</sup> @ 7 pm – Drop-In Bird Banding Observation:** Stop by the Albany Pine Bush to see wild birds up close as Albany Pine Bush Preserve scientists capture them and fit them with uniquely coded leg-bands. Bands are provided by the US Geological Survey to licensed bird banders so scientists can identify individuals; this allows us to study how long birds live, where they breed, and when and where they migrate. While in-hand, banders carefully take measurements that can indicate a bird’s health, age, and breeding condition.

We and the USGS use this information to evaluate the health of bird populations and the habitats they rely on during the breeding and non-breeding seasons. Tracking the distribution and abundance of species that depend on our fire-dependent inland pitch pine-scrub oak barrens can also help guide the management and restoration of this globally rare habitat. Meet at Trailhead #1 Karner Barrens at the rear of the Discovery Center building.

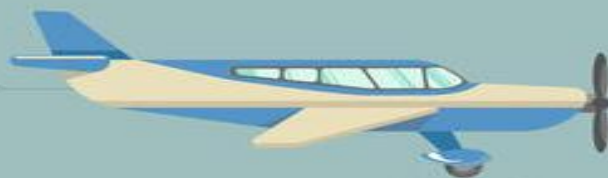
**October 27<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am – Save a Spider:** Spiders can have a bad reputation, but they’re important members of the ecosystem! Join us for a short presentation about the fascinating features of spiders and to make your own “Spider Rescue Kit.” This program will take place inside the Discovery Center. Suggested donation: \$5.00.

Please see the website for more information.

For a full list of activities, please visit [Albanypinebush.org](http://Albanypinebush.org).



## 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!

Hours: Monday – Friday 10 am – 4 pm.

Location: 566 NY 143, Westerlo, NY 12193

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. 24 Martin Rd., Voorheesville  
(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/)

**Dormansville thrift store is open**

**Tuesdays, Fridays**

**10 am – 2 pm**

**Across from church**

**P.A.T.S. thrift store 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.utalbany.org](http://www.utalbany.org) for more information.



**AFTER-SCHOOL AT THE  
WESTERLO LIBRARY**  
Beginning September 4  
Mondays and Thursdays  
3-5 pm



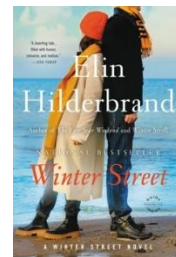
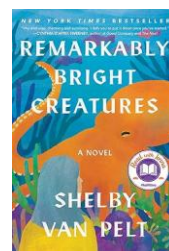
Registration required  
email [youth@westerlolibrary.org](mailto:youth@westerlolibrary.org)  
call (518)797-3415

## Upcoming Book Club Picks

October 8<sup>th</sup>  
The Children on the Hill  
By Jennifer McMahon

November 12<sup>th</sup>  
Remarkably Bright Creatures  
By Shelby Van Pelt

December 10<sup>th</sup>  
Winter Street  
By Elin Hilderbrand



## Other Adult Programs

October 21<sup>st</sup> – 6 pm – Ancestry Workshop with Gayle Hannay.  
November 18<sup>th</sup> – 6 pm – Ancestry Workshop with Gayle Hannay.  
December 16<sup>th</sup> – 6 pm – Ancestry Workshop with Gayle Hannay.

# CYPRESS RESUME



*The smart way to go places!*

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WWW.CYPRESSRESUME.COM

## 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.

## 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?

Stop by the circulation desk for assistance!

## Technology

Have questions about technology? We can help! Successful, 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.



## Berne Public Library October 2025 Newsletter

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

Phone - 518-872-1246

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

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



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

for children ages 1 to 5 years

Oct. 7— Clouds  
Oct. 14— Acorns  
Oct. 21— Pumpkins  
Oct. 28— Spooky Fun



## Special Events



Bring your Carved Pumpkin to the library for judging! Sat., Oct. 18 @ 2pm.

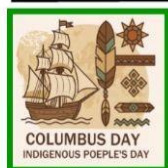
## MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Friends of the Library - Wed., Oct. 1 @ 7 pm  
Book Club—Sun., Oct. 5 @5pm *Pecan Man*  
Library Bd. of Trustees mtg. Thurs., Oct. 9 @ 6:30 pm  
Homeschool Hangout—1st and 3rd Wed. @11-12 noon



**Gathering Hope Food Pantry.** Drop off non-perishable food donations at the library. Items will be brought to the Gathering Hope Food Pantry in East Berne.

**Barb Via and Barb Duclos** will have their artwork displayed for the month of October.



The Library will be closed in observance of **Columbus/ Indigenous People's Day**, Mon., Oct. 13.

**Creepy Night at the Library, Fri., Oct. 24 @ 6:30—8:30 pm.**

An ancient, cursed manuscript has mysteriously disappeared in the library. Legend says anyone who reads it uncovers secrets that awaken restless spirits. Who will find it????



**Trick or Treat at the Library! Fri., Oct. 31 @ 2-6pm.** Come in costume.

## Adult Craft Night

**Monday, Oct.27 @ 6:00 pm**

Register at 872-1246 or  
Sign up at the library



# Greenville Public Library Upcoming Programs

19

## Toddler Time

**Tuesdays 10:00 11:00**

**Infants ~ Toddlers ~ Preschoolers**

**Just Drop In!**

I am so excited to be spending Tuesday mornings with you and your child! We will have lots of fun! The following Tuesday dates in **red** are the days we will be meeting. **If Greenville Schools are closed due to weather or running on a 2 hour delay, we will not meet.**

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

If you have any questions please call the Greenville Library 966-8205

October '25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November '25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December '25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January '26						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February '26						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March '26						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April '26						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May '26						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

*SAVE the DATE*

Elizabeth Hirsch & Anna Kostro  
Greenville Library Gallery, Sept. & Oct. 2025  
Open House: Sept 6 & Sept 27 - 3-5pm

MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM  
66 Libraries • Great Community

## Download our new app!

- Manage multiple cards
- Store barcodes digitally
- Browse, search, make lists, & request items
- Track reading sessions
- Geolocate nearby public libraries
- Get push notifications about your account
- Scan any book to see if the library has a copy
- Find library events, hours, & directions
- Access eBooks, eMagazines, free language learning, & many more digital resources

SCAN ME

or go to: [innovativemobile.net/Mid-HudsonLibraries](http://innovativemobile.net/Mid-HudsonLibraries) or search "mid-hudson libraries" in your app store

## Berne Public Library Programs

Manager/Director: Kathy Stemple

**All programs below are free of charge unless otherwise stated.**

### Storytime

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

### Book Club for Adults

First Sunday of the month at 7 pm

### Knit Wits

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

**The Berne Public Library is located at  
1763 Helderberg Trail, Berne, NY 12023**

**Phone: (518) 872-1246**

**Hours are as follows:**

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



"Berne Public Library"

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



Greenville Public Library Director: Barbara Flach

**The Greenville Public Library is located at  
11177 SR 32, Greenville, NY 12083**

**Phone: (518) 966-8205**

**Hours are as follows:**

Monday 9 am – 5 pm

Tuesday 9 am – 6 pm

Wednesday 9 am – 5 pm

Thursday 9 am – 6 pm

Friday 12 pm – 5 pm

Saturday 9 am – 12 pm

Sunday Closed



"Greenville Public Library, Greenville NY"

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

## 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>

## 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!

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1000644403>



## Saint John the Baptist

Masses at Greenville will go back to their regular schedule as of April 6<sup>th</sup>

Masses 9 am Sunday's

Saturday, 4:30 pm Shrine in East Durham

11 am Sacred Heart, Cairo

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

## South Westerlo Congregational Christian Church

Services begin at 10:30 am on Sundays!

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

*South Westerlo Christian Church* <https://www.facebook.com/SouthWesterloChristianChurch>

Sunday night youth group

5:30 pm – 8 pm

Our Senior lunch is every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month starting at 11 am for appetizers and lunch is at 12 noon.

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

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



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

Our men's Bible study every Saturday morning except for the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 8 am – 9 am  
(Finding Jesus in every book of the Bible)

282 CR 405, So. Westerlo, NY 12083

Pastor Will Balta (518) 966-5094

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



We have a second round of tickets available for WildPlay at Thacher Park. The Town of Westerlo purchased a limited number of tickets recently which are only good through October 26<sup>th</sup>! If you don't know what WildPlay is, please check out their website below. It's an adventure course in the trees that we know kids will love!

Below is the important info:

- Tickets are free to children of Westerlo on a first come, first serve basis.
- Parents will need to stop by the Town Clerk's office during regular office hours to provide us with the parent's name, address, kids name, kids height and kids' weight. This information must be exact so please come prepared as there are two types of tickets available for different courses.
- Parents can apply for up to 2 free tickets per household but the child must reside at the residence. If there is only 1 child, only 1 ticket will be offered.

Please note the following:

- We will not be providing tickets to children outside of Westerlo.
- There are specific rules for clothing attire. Please be sure to visit the website so you know how to be prepared.

We hope children love this new adventure and that we can continue offering programs like this to our residents as often as possible. If you have any ideas of other programs or discounts for activities, please reach out to the Clerk's office. We are happy to look into any possibilities for our residents. (518) 797-3111 opt 2.



## WildPlay Thacher Adventure Park

Voorheesville, NY



**FRIDAY, DEC. 5**

5 PM - 7 PM

## WESTERLO MUSEUM'S CHANCE AUCTION

@ THE TOWN OF WESTERLO'S 5TH ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY!

**DON'T MISS OUT & COME BID ON GREAT RAFFLE ITEMS!**

*More info*

ALL FUNDS BENEFIT THE MUSEUM'S CARRIAGE HOUSE!

TOWN HALL  
933 CR 401  
WESTERLO, NY 12193

Made with PosterMyWall.com

## Christmas TOY DRIVE

**TOYS FOR KIDS**

Collecting  
Now - Dec 20, 2025

In need of toys for children 8+

Westerlo Town Hall  
933 CR 401, Westerlo

Made with PosterMyWall.com

## 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.

For more information, visit [huyckpreserve.org/visit.html](http://huyckpreserve.org/visit.html)

Location: 5052 Delaware Turnpike, Rensselaerville

Phone: (518) 797-3440

## 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>

## **Westerlo Library 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.

## Senior Transportation Available

Come join us for a great time with the community, designed to help older adults get out and dine in the community. The purpose of this is to provide young-hearted adults the ability to interact with friends and other companions outside of their living facility.

- Must be 60+ and a resident of Albany County to participate.
- Meal vouchers will be distributed each month to participating Albany County residents
- Vouchers are limited and can only be used by participants of the program. To view participating restaurants, please visit [www.albanycounty.com](http://www.albanycounty.com)

Call (518) 447-7198 or email: [aging@albanycountyny.gov](mailto:aging@albanycountyny.gov)

## 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!**

## 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)

## 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.

## 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)



## WESTERLO CONGREGATE MEALS!

Join us every **Thursday at 11:30 a.m.** for an opportunity to socialize, make new friends and enjoy a nutritious meal!

**Reservations must be made by 1 pm the Wednesday before the meal by calling 518-797-3111 ext. 1014**

**WESTERLO TOWN HALL  
933 COUNTY ROUTE 401  
WESTERLO, N.Y. 12193**

No Cost to residents 60+ years old of Albany County  
suggested meal contribution - \$3.00  
Guests are welcome, call to learn more!!

**TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AVAILABLE\*  
CONTACT ELDER SERVICES FOR DETAILS AND TO SCHEDULE: 518-437-5161**



## 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.**

## 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**

## Hilltown Senior Citizen

The **Hilltown Seniors** continue to be an active, caring, fun loving, travel-ready group. Our travel organizer stays busy planning trips from April to October.

This year our plans included:

- Washington, D.C. to see the war memorials, Embassy Row, Lincoln Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian Institution, and a tour of the White House in April.
- "Cruising through the 50's" at the Lobster House at the Log Cabin Lobsterfest in Holyoke, MA in June.
- Lake George Dinner Theatre to see "Guys on Ice" with a stop at Grant Cottage in July.
- August 21<sup>st</sup> Martin VanBuren Home, lunch at White Stone Cafe, and MacHaydn Theater to see "Escape to Margaritaville" in August.
- September 17<sup>th</sup> Hudson River Cruise and lunch at Cornell Restaurant.
- **Upcoming on October 14-17<sup>th</sup>** Lancaster Sight and Sound Theater to see "Noah" and visit Amish roadside stands, famous Lancaster Outlets and Kitchen Kettle Village, and Hershey Farm Restaurant, and Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre featuring "Chorus Line".

We meet every second Saturday of the month at 11 am at the Senior Center at 1360 Helderberg Trail in Berne. Come join us if you or your spouse are at least 55 years old. Bring a pot lunch dish to share for lunch. To qualify for a discount on trips and dinners:

- Pay \$5 a year for dues
  - Attend 3 meetings a year
  - Work on the kitchen committee once a year
- We have informational speakers and/or entertainment and acknowledge upcoming local events at every meeting. Come join us for a fun experience. Never a dull moment!

This year our monthly programs included:

January- Quilt display by our expert crafter, Karen Sigond, music by Jim Czebiniak

February- speaker Erik Carman, DPT, from Altamont PT about spine pain

March- Avery Stempel from Collar City Mushroom

April- local author, Nancy Haack spoke about her journey to publish her books, "A Day to Remember", "A Night to Remember".

May- Katie Dievendorf, Atty, about estate planning, wills, trusts, Living Wills, POA

June- Kate Bailey, diabetes educator

July- Mark Hansen, tour guide at Grant Cottage

August- Chair Yoga, sponsored by Albany County Veteran Service

September- JoEllen Lampman, Cooperative Extension, everything about ticks

October- Entertainment by Kathy Walls

November- Thanksgiving dinner.

December- Christmas party



## Westerlo Baptist Church

618 SR 143, Westerlo, NY 12193

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

*We invite you to join us as we worship and serve the Lord together in Westerlo.*

### Sunday Morning Worship Service

Sundays – 9:30 am

Childcare Provided: Nursery: 0-2yrs. Tot-K: 3 yrs.-K and  
Children's Church: Grades 1-3

### Fellowship

Following the morning worship service  
10:45 am – 11:15 am/Library Open

Everyone is invited for coffee & fellowship in the gymnasium following this morning's worship service

### Library

10:45 am – 11:15 am



### Sunday School

11:15 am – 12:15 pm for all ages

### Church Office Hours

Mon-Fri 9 am – 3 pm



### Sunday School Classes

We offer classes for All ages from 11:15 am-12:15 pm.

Plan to stay, join a class and grow in the Lord!

### Evening Services

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month – 6:30 pm

Hymn Sing & Fellowship

### Kids Club

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

Wednesdays 6:40 pm – 8:15 pm

### Prayer Meeting

Wednesdays – 7 – 8 pm

Prayer and Praise Bulletins are available

### Other Ministries

#### \*Men's Basketball

Monday's at 7 pm

#### \*Co-Ed Adult Pickleball

Tuesday's 6 pm

#### \*Co-Ed Adult Volleyball

Thursday's 7 pm

Praise Team

Bible Studies

Sportsmen's Dinner

Ladies Banquet

Youth Retreats

Mission Trips

\*Small Groups

Wednesday  
Evening Prayer  
Meeting

Meet in  
Sanctuary

7-8 pm

Everyone is  
welcome!



*\*These ministries meet September through May*

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

### **\*Pioneer Kids Club (For: prechool-12<sup>th</sup> grades)**

Meets Wednesday  
evenings  
6:40 pm -8:15 pm

**\* Christian Service  
Brigade**  
(Boys grades 3-6 also on  
Wed. Nights)

**Youth Group – Grades 6-12**  
Call Pastor Jeff for details (518)776-8890

## Got Teens?

**Every Friday Night is Youth Group**

When: Friday Nights 6:30-8:30  
Where: Westerlo Baptist in the Gym and Youth Room  
What: Games, Friends, Bible Study, Music, & Snacks  
Why: To Pursue God and His Will for our Lives



**Ladies Bible Studies:**  
**Mondays: 9:45 am-Noon**  
**Tuesdays: 1:30-3:30 pm**  
**Thursdays: 7-9 pm**

## 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:

December 1, 2025

For January 2026 Newsletter

March 1, 2026

For April 2026 Newsletter

June 1, 2026

For July 2026 Newsletter

September 1, 2026

For October 2026 Newsletter

**For newsletter comments, suggestions, and submissions contact:**

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

**WesterloNews@gmail.com**

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

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

**Town Justice – Joshua Ostrander**

Email: JOstrander@NYcourts.gov

**Court Clerk – Jaimee Motschmann**

Email: JMotschmann@NYcourts.gov

Clerk to the Justices Hours:

Tuesday hours vary – call for an appointment

Wednesday 4 pm – 7 pm

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

***Closed on holidays***

## Check out these Facebook pages



Town of Westerlo Government News  
Westerlo Hwy Dept  
Westerlo Public Library  
Westerlo Heritage Museum  
Westerlo Farmers Market  
Westerlo Hometown Heroes  
Westerlo Rural Cemetery  
Official BKW Alumni Page  
Helderberg Family Community Organization- HFCO

## Contact Us

Supervisor

**Matt Kryzak**

supervisor@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Confidential Administrator

**Lisa DeGroff**

confidentialadmin@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

**Karla Weaver**

townclerk@TownOfWesterloNY.com

Town Board

**Amie Burnside**

a.burnside.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com

**Josh Beers**

j.beers.tb@TownOfWesterloNY.com

**Lorraine Pecylak**

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**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**



# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

# 2025

## October

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Water Board Mtg 6 pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Chair Yoga 12:45 pm @ Town Hall
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Historical Society Mtg 7 pm @ Westerlo Reformed Church
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall
- 20<sup>th</sup> – LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Fall Festival 2 pm – 6 pm (See flyer on pg 26)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall
- 27<sup>th</sup> – PB/ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm

## November

- 5<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Chair Yoga 12:45 pm @ Town Hall
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall
- 24<sup>th</sup> – PB/ZBA Mtg 7 pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall

## December

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Town Board Workshop Mtg 6 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Tree Lighting 5 pm – 7 pm @ Town Hall
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Library Trustee Mtg 7 pm @ Hannay Community Room
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Museum Board Mtg 6 pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Chair Yoga 12:45 pm @ Town Hall
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Town Board Mtg 6 pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall
- 15<sup>th</sup> – LLRC Mtg 6 pm & BRC Mtg 7 pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Hometown Heroes Mtg 6 pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Congregate Meals 11:30 am @ Town Hall
- 29<sup>th</sup> – PB/ZBA Mtg 7 pm



Celebrate autumn at the Autumn Glow Festival. Going on now through November 2<sup>nd</sup>! Get your tickets online at <https://autumnglowfestival.com/rotterdam-junction/>

## WINTER SEASONAL HOME PREP



### INTERIOR

#### Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Check / replace detector batteries and make sure fire extinguishers have not expired.



#### Schedule Furnace Maintenance

Change the HVAC filters and ensure your furnace is running optimally.



#### Clean and Inspect Chimney

Chimney soot buildup can lead to fires and critters can nest causing obstructions.



#### Remove Window Air Conditioner Units

Leaving an air conditioner unit exposed to the elements can be hazardous to the unit.



#### Clean Dryer Vents

2,900+ home fires annually are caused by clothes dryers due to lint build up\*. Clean dryer and vent system to prevent fires.



\*According to the U.S. Fire Administration

### EXTERIOR

#### Clean Gutters

Once most of the leaves have fallen, clean outside gutters to protect the roof and siding.



#### Shut Off Exterior Faucets and Drain Irrigation

Leaving garden hoses attached to outdoor faucets can cause frozen pipes if temperatures dip below freezing which is why it's important to shut off exterior faucets and drain your irrigation system.



#### Trim Trees & Bushes

Consider hiring an arborist to prune trees and bushes to avoid falling limbs in winter storms.



#### Seal Gaps

Keep critters out and keep the heat in your home.



#### Pathways/Stairs

Keep exterior walkways in good condition to simplify snow removal and minimize the potential of someone falling from icy conditions.



Sources: <https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/index.html>  
<https://energy.gov/energysaver/do-it-yourself/home-energy-audits> | <https://www.forbes.com/sites/houzz/2015/09/26/your-fall-home-maintenance-checklist/?e=40bac6957243>  
<http://www.kiplinger.com/slideshow/real-estate/1029-5001-12-ways-to-prepare-your-home-for-winter/index.html>

Remember  
the fallen

Honor  
those who served

Teach  
our children

Wreaths Across America (WAA) is a national nonprofit organization founded in 2007 to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery begun by Maine business man Morrill Worcester in 1992.

WAA's mission - *Remember, Honor, Teach* - is carried out in part by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington, as well as at veteran's cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond. There are over 1,200 participating locations.

Every year since 2008, Congress proclaims a date in December as National Wreaths Across America Day. This year, it will be held on Saturday, December 13, 2025.

All three (3) cemeteries in Westerlo will be a Wreath Across America locations this year. There are 120 veterans buried in the Westerlo Rural Cemetery. There are 40 veterans in the Westerlo Central Cemetery and 42 in the Hannacroix cemetery. The cost to sponsor a wreath is \$17.00.

If you would like to sponsor a wreath, please fill out the attached form below and return it to:

Westerlo Heritage Museum  
933 County Route 401, Westerlo, NY 12193

Make checks out to "Westerlo Heritage Museum"

For questions email: [Museum@TownOfWesterloNY.com](mailto:Museum@TownOfWesterloNY.com)

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of veteran(s) you wish to honor: \_\_\_\_\_

# of wreaths you wish to sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**To donate online:** Go to [wreathsasscrossamerica.org](http://wreathsasscrossamerica.org)  
Click on "Sponsor a Specific Cemetery"  
Select the number of wreaths you wish to sponsor  
Write in:

Westerlo Rural Cemetery (NYWLR) 160757

Westerlo Central Cemetery (NYWLCT) 170943

Hannacroix Cemetery (NYHCCW) 167470

