

Town of Waterford, NY

65 Broad St.
Waterford, NY 12188



SUMMER WATERFORD NEWS 2011



Letter from the Supervisor:

It is hard to believe summer is here! The Town has many great events scheduled throughout the summer including a weekly Farmers market held at our Visitor's Center, Steamboat meet in July, and boating safety classes, just to mention a few. In the warm summer days ahead, I invite all town residents to use the town's pool, hike along the Heritage Trail or visit Peebles Island, a State Park in our own back yard. I encourage everyone to take advantage of these wonderful events and activities. For a full list of scheduled events visit our website at www.town.waterford.ny.us

I am very proud to announce our Town was assigned a bond rating of **A1** from the Moody's Investors Service. This rating allows the Town to borrow money to fund Capital improvements at a low interest rate. The favorable rating is based on sound financial decision making by the Town Board and the continued strong accounting practices followed within the Town's administration.

Most of what we do in town government is driven by the needs and wants of our Town residents. My policy is, and always has been, an open door policy and we welcome suggestions for improving the delivery of town services. There are many ways to keep informed of government activities within the Town; attend our monthly Town Board meeting held the first Tuesday of each month, review events posted on our website, read our newsletter, or contact me or other Town Board members. Remember, we are all neighbors working together to create a safe place for our families to live now and in the future.

Lastly, please remember our soldiers serving in the military all over the world.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Waterford Town Justice, Hon. Nancy M. Sunukjian



On January 1, 2011, upon the retirement of the Hon. Raymond Galarneau, Nancy M. Sunukjian was officially sworn in as Waterford Town Justice. Born and raised in Colonie, New York, Judge Sunukjian and her family moved to Waterford in 2002. A 1986 graduate of Siena College, Judge Sunukjian received her law degree from Albany Law School in 1990 and was in private practice for three years before joining the Office of Court Administration in 1994. She is now Supervising Counsel at the Office of Court Administration's City, Town and Village Courts Resource Center. The Resource Center serves as confidential law clerks to all the town and village judges presiding throughout the state assisting them in every aspect of administering their local courts, including curriculum development and training.

Judge Sunukjian's position within OCA makes her uniquely qualified for her newly acquired role as Waterford Town Justice. Her unique background has prepared her to handle the varying array of cases that present themselves in Waterford Town Court. From criminal matters to civil, Judge Sunukjian is an expert in not only the law, but in court administration and procedure.

The Hon. David Fusco, Judge Sunukjian's co-judge, recently commented that her qualifications "are an asset not only to the court but to the people of the Town of Waterford as well." The two judges had already acquired a good working relationship based upon her position within OCA.

Having been on the bench since January, Judge Sunukjian has already adjudicated numerous criminal and civil matters within the court. She stated, "I am very impressed with the level of competence and professionalism of not only Judge Fusco, but of the clerical staff as well. Our town is very fortunate to have such dedicated individuals. I welcome the opportunity to continue my role as Town Justice."

Judge Sunukjian and her husband, Alan, have been married for fifteen years, and they have two middle school-aged children, Mary and Michael. She is a member of the Waterford/Cohoes Elks Lodge. Judge Sunukjian will be running for a full four-year term this November.

SUMMER SAFETY

Summer has arrived and our young residents are out of school for summer vacation. The Town of Waterford Police Department would like to pass on some **Safety Rules**.

Remember to:

Wear a Properly Fitted Bicycle Helmet. Protect your brain, save your life. **Adjust Your Bicycle to Fit.** Stand over your bicycle. There should be 1 to 2 inches between you and the top tube (bar). **Check Your Equipment.** Before riding, inflate tires properly and check that your brakes work. **See and Be Seen.** Whether daytime, dawn, dusk, foul weather, or at night, you need to be seen by others. **Control Your Bicycle.** Always ride with at least one hand on the handlebars. Carry items in a bicycle carrier or backpack. **Watch for and Avoid Road Hazards.** Be on the lookout for hazards such as potholes, broken glass, gravel, puddles, and dogs. **Avoid Riding at Night.** It is far more dangerous to ride at night than during the day because you are harder for others to see.

Swimming:

- Swim near a lifeguard
- Never Swim Alone
- Don't dive into unknown water or into shallow end of the pool
- Look For, Read and Obey All Pool Safety Signs and Symbols
- Parents supervise children closely, even when lifeguards are present
- If you are in trouble, call or wave for help
- Follow regulations and lifeguard directions
- Swim parallel to the pool side if you wish to swim long distances
- No glass containers at the pool -- broken glass and bare feet don't mix
- Report hazardous conditions to lifeguards
- If In Doubt, Just Stay Out!

Have a safe summer!

Grilling Safety:

- Place the barbecue grill away from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. It is also unsafe to use grills in a garage, porch or enclosed area that could trap carbon monoxide. Never grill on top of anything that can catch on fire.
- When grilling, have a fire extinguisher, a garden hose or at least 4 gallons of water close by in case of a fire.
- Keep children away from fires and grills. Establish a safety zone around the grill and instruct the children to remain outside of the zone. A chalk line works great for this purpose.
- Never leave the grill unattended.

WATERFORD SENIORS

The Waterford Senior Center is located at 35 Third St. in Waterford. The Waterford Senior Center is open Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday for cards. On Tuesday the center is open for Bingo. The seniors enjoy numerous shopping trips and trips to the Saratoga Racino as well as picnics during the summer. New members are always welcome. Transportation for Medical appointments is available to Waterford Senior Citizens as well as transportation to the grocery store on Wednesdays. For more information please contact the director at the senior center at 235-8500.

WATERFORD HARBOR VISITOR CENTER

The Waterford Harbor Visitor Center re-opened for the season on Monday, May 2nd. This year, thirty-five dedicated volunteers will once again man the dock office, taking turns for a shift of 3 hours or more once a week. Several of our "Visitor Center Ambassadors" volunteer for more than one shift. The Waterford RiverSpark Canal Festival kicked off the season on Saturday, May 7th and the Waterford Harbor Farmers Market opened on June 5th. Steamboat Meet will be held on Saturday, July 2nd. Always a perfect way to enjoy the July 4th weekend, the Meet will once again be a day-long festival featuring steamboats of all shapes and sizes, music, food and craft vendors. The day will finish up with Waterford's fantastic fireworks display at 9:00. Tugboat Roundup will take place on September 9th-11th. A three-day event featuring Tugboats from all over the northeast, the event draws thousands of people to see the impressive Tugboat Parade on late Friday afternoon, the excitement of the tug competitions, the continuous musical entertainment and learn about maritime history. The ultra-fantastic fireworks display kicks off at 8:30 on Saturday evening. For a complete events schedule, go to www.town.waterford.ny.us and click on Visitor Center. If you are interested in becoming a Visitor Center volunteer, call 233-9123.

DOG DAYS

On June 22, 2010, the Governor signed into law a measure that moves all dog licensing functions from New York State Department of Agriculture to the individual Towns. All municipalities had to assume these functions on January 1, 2011. The Town Board has signed into law the new dog licensing rules. The State Law requires that all dogs over the age of four months be licensed in each municipality. Proof of rabies vaccination must be presented to the Town Clerk at the time of licensing. Some of the changes will include changing from a one year license to a two year license, fee increases to cover the mandated costs and an enumeration of dogs, basically a door to door survey. There will be a \$50.00 special assessment on any dog in the Town of Waterford over 4 months old who is unlicensed. The dog enumeration (census) began on June 1, 2011. Animal control officers are going door to door to determine the number of dogs in the Town and that each dog is vaccinated against rabies and licensed. Please cooperate with the Officers and if you have any questions, you can reach police Commissioner John Tanchak at 237-3341 or Town Clerk Darlene Dziarcak at 235-8282.



From Police Commissioner John Tanchak: “CAR BREAK-IN” PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Town of Waterford, like other cities and towns around the country, has in the past had larcenies from parked autos. While the reduction of violent crime has to take priority, crimes like this often lead to a perception of disorder in a community. This can give the impression that a neighborhood or a community is out of control which adversely affects businesses and commerce, making an area less attractive for investment and for families. Left unchecked, a crime like larceny from autos can lead to larger, more serious crime and quality of life problems which can eventually destroy a neighborhood.

A review of larceny from auto crime reports for the year revealed that the larcenies are occurring on streets during the day and in quieter residential areas during the night. We also learned that the owners of most of the targeted autos had left doors unlocked and valuables in open view in the vehicle. The most common items left in plain sight were GPS, iPods, packages, handbags, cell phones, luggage and loose change, even an empty GPS bracket is an invitation for a thief to break into a car. Basically, the victims made their autos very attractive targets for thieves. However, the most alarming fact is that many of the autos were left unlocked; in some cases, the windows were open. Simply put, many of these crimes were not “car break ins” at all. The thief merely had to open the door and help himself to the valuables in the vehicle.

With this in mind, we formulated the “Car Break-In” Prevention program. The program is designed to raise awareness. Here is how the program works:

- An Officer will be assigned to a specific area. He will be instructed to visually inspect parked and unoccupied vehicles. When the officer observes an auto with valuables in plain view, he completes a two-sided flyer (writes in the date and time and checks off the item that applies), folds the flyer and places it on the windshield of the auto. One side of the flyer documents the date and time of the inspection. It advises the car owner that he/she has left valuables clearly visible making the auto a potential target for thieves. The other side of the flyer reads “Official Notice Town of Waterford Police Department.” This side faces out when placed on the windshield.
- These are team led operations, performed with the patrol supervisor directly involved in the effort. He personally directs the operation thereby taking ownership of the problem and the anticipated solution.
- The supervisor is directed to complete a recap of the operation which is forwarded to my office. The recap summarizes how many cars were notified of having valuables in plain view, open doors or windows, etc and the location of the operation.
- An additional benefit of the program is that it increases uniformed presence and visibility and provides more opportunities for face to face interactions with the community.
- While it cannot be viewed as a “magic bullet” to solve the larceny from autos, we are hoping to curb this behavior and educate the public in regard to your vehicles and valuables.

FRIENDS OF THE WATERFORD RURAL CEMETERY

Have you visited the Waterford Rural Cemetery recently? If so, you have likely noticed the many improvements that have been made thanks to the Town of Waterford and the Friends of the Waterford Rural Cemetery. The most visible and probably the most noticeable is the addition of the flowers along Saratoga Avenue. Dating back to 1774 the cemetery has been maintained by lot owners and members of the board. Due to financial setbacks, there were no other alternatives but to turn ownership over to the Town. On January 1, 2007 the Town hired Ryan Ensel, to take over the task of maintaining the grounds and records. There are over 10,000 gravesites in the cemetery, and now, due to the hard work of Ryan Ensel, we can locate these graves with just a name and a couple clicks of the mouse. The town is currently working on putting the information on the town website. With donations collected by the Friends of the Waterford Rural Cemetery, and the dedication of Ward Patton and Ted Taylor, hundreds of stones, mostly in the lower section and usually have no surviving relatives to care for them have been resurrected to stand as they once did many years ago.



COUNTY WASTE RECYCLING UPDATE

In an effort to be as efficient as possible, instead of sending 2 trucks through your neighborhood to collect trash and recyclables, we'll only use **ONE** truck made specifically to collect both trash AND single stream recycling!

If you notice one truck collecting both items at the same time, have no fear. This new truck is set up with compartments to dump and hold both trash and single stream recyclables separately. Notice the separate compartments in the photos below.

In the true spirit of "Going Green", we are reducing the fuel and emissions of a second 70,000 pound truck that would be driving through your neighborhood.

Please, have faith, we're only "trashing" your trash, but your recyclables are being recycled, just using a much more environmentally friendly method than you're used to seeing. We ask only that you continue to place your trash and recycling out the night before to ensure timely pickup.

We hope you continue to recycle and make this program even more successful than you already have! Thank you for your cooperation!



**Please note our
NEW HOURS:**

Town Clerk:

M: 9am - 4pm
T: 12pm - 7pm
W: 9am - 4pm
Th: 9am - 4pm
F: 9am - 4pm

Assessor's Office:

M: 1pm - 7pm
T: 9am - 2pm
Th: 9am - 2pm
F: 8am - 12pm

Please visit the town website
www.town.waterford.ny.us
for a complete list of
town and village events



Town of Waterford

65 Broad Street
Waterford, New York 12188
www.town.waterford.ny.us
(518)235-8184
www.town.waterford.ny.us

Postal Patron

PRSRT STD
US Postage
PAID
Waterford, N.Y.
Permit No. 33

ECRWSS



Supervisor:

John E. Lawler 235-8184

Councilman:

Elizabeth Callaghan 237-3139
James Boudreau 237-8345
David Ball 237-2884
Laurie Marble 237-7348

Town Clerk:

Tax Collector, Registrar
Darlene Dziarcak 235-8282

Town Justices:

Judge David Fusco 237-6788
Judge Nancy Sunukjian 237-6788

● **Assessor:**

James D. Early 235-9907
Fax: 687-0047

● **Zoning Board Chairman:**

Charles Fusco 235-8282

● **Director Of Planning:**

Richard Hurst 233-9123

● **Planning Board Chairman:**

David Woodin 235-8282

● **Recreation Director:**

Michele Tanchak 527-1740

● **Building Inspector:**

Raymond Carmel 235-3802

● **Police Commissioner:**

John Tanchak 237-3341

● **Highway Department:**

Harold Martel 235-3413

Village Of Waterford

235-9898

Police: Emergency Calls:

911

Non-Emergency Calls 237-3341
Animal Control 237-3341
Library 237-0891
Post Office 235-1733
Senior Center 235-8500
Sewer Plant 235-2033
Visitor's Center 233-9123
Water Works 237-0422
Waterford Swimming Pool 235-4414
Waterford Historical Museum 238-0809
Waterford Youth Council 238-2562
Waterford Rural Cemetery 237-5512