
TOWN OF STAFFORD

FALL NEWSLETTER 2023



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STAFFORD TOWN GOVERNMENT

Town Supervisor

Robert Clement

rclement@rochester.rr.com

(585) 344-0672

Town Councilmen

Robert Pacer

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(585) 507-6856

Edmund Schramm

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(585) 813-2578

James Duyssen

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(585) 993-4088

Ronald Panek

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(585) 815-9321

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Barbara Radley

(585) 344-1554 Ext. 104

townclerk@townofstafford.org

Deputy Clerk

Jane Scott

Zoning Board

Michael Lathan

Jacki Ali

Crista Boldt

Leslie Krajewski-Johnson

Jim Balonek

Tim Thomas-Alt.

Walt Kershenski-Secretary

Planning Board

William VanAlst

Sharon Valyear Gray

Carol Queal

Lindsay Yoder

Anita Taylor

Paul Tenney

Richard Squires

Lucas Torrey-Alt.

Walt Kershenski-Secretary

Board of Assessment Review

David Kent

Carol Queal

John Muehlbauer

Assessor

Lori Frongetta

Assessor@townofstafford.org

(585) 344-1554 Ext. 106

Town Historian

Colleen O'Connor

(585) 344-1554 Ext. 108

Post Office

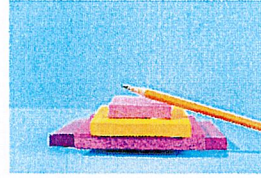
Hours: Monday-Friday

9:45-1:45, 2:45-4:45

Saturday

10:00-12:00

A Note from our Assessor, Lori Frongetta



It's that time of year again!

ALL EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS must be filed with me by Taxable Status Date, MARCH 1, 2024.

ENHANCED STAR EXEMPTIONS REMINDER

On the state's Office of Real Property Services website, www.tax.ny.gov, you will see that the maximum income to be eligible for the Enhanced STAR exemption, for the 2024-2025 school year, is \$98,700. Resident property owners, who are at least 65 by the end of 2024 (born on or before December 31, 1959), whose 2022 Federal Adjusted Gross Income (minus any taxable IRA distribution) fits into this category, must apply by March 1, 2024. If a husband and wife, or siblings, own a property together and at least one of them is 65 and is a resident property owner, you may be eligible.

For those who are currently Enhanced STAR recipients, renewal notices are no longer required. You no longer need to bring your tax information to the Assessor's office.

First time Enhanced STAR applicant (meaning you already have the Basic STAR, and you believe you're entitled to the Enhanced STAR) you will need to file an Enhanced STAR application with the Assessor. This is a one-time application that gets you into the IVP program.

New residents who wish to apply for the Basic or Enhanced STAR will need to apply online at www.tax.ny.gov/star or call (518)-457-2036.

Residents who are delinquent with their NYS Taxes NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance will instruct me to remove your Basic or Enhanced STAR exemption.

LIMITED INCOME SENIOR EXEMPTION CHANGES (This is NOT STAR)

As of the 2024 Calendar year, there have been some changes to the Limited Income Senior Exemption income calculations. NYS has tried to restructure the income calculations to be more like the STAR exemption, but of course with exceptions:

- Your New York State tax return is no longer required or needed – just the Federal tax return. However, if your full Social Security is not shown on the tax return, then your Social Security 1099 form will be required. This is also the case with non-taxable interest and IRA distributions, as well as income from a deceased spouse.
- If you do not file a tax return, there will be a new Income Worksheet that needs to be filled out.

- There is a limitation on losses:

\$3,000 net loss per Schedule C, D, E, F

\$3,000 net loss per “any other separate category”

Provided – “the Aggregate amount of ALL losses shall not exceed \$15,000”.

The “Mandate” Calculations from Form 1040

FAGI (Federal Adjusted Gross Income)	Line 11
+ Tax-exempt interest and dividends	+Line 2a
- Any Taxable IRA Distributions	-Line 4b
+ Social Security not included in AGI	+(Line 6a – 6b)
Limiting Losses	SEE Lines 7&8

= INCOME

Now with all that information comes the fact that the amount of the exemption you will receive is based on what income level each taxing jurisdiction (County, Town, and School) has adopted.

Low Income Senior Citizen exemption renewals were mailed in September. You must be 65 before the end of 2024 and meet the income requirement, which includes Social Security, including Medicare.

STAR check program. Basic STAR has a maximum income requirement of \$250,000. New Basic and Enhanced STAR applicants (not those that are receiving an exemption already) who qualify for STAR will need to register with the New York State Tax Department (www.tax.ny.gov or call (518) 457-2036 instead of applying with the assessor. If you qualify, you will receive a STAR credit in the form of a check, rather than receiving a property tax exemption directly on your school tax bill.

Agricultural, Clergy, Non-Profit, and Disabled with Limited Income renewal applications were sent out in September.

If you have questions, and I can be of assistance, please give me a call at the town hall –

344-1554 extension 106.



From the Desk of Supervisor Clement

The Town is a very busy place. There is always something going on, we are in the process of wrapping up 2023. That is so hard to believe, it seems like it just started. Water District #12 has begun! The pipes are being laid as I write this, and it is such a great feeling to have this project underway. Many other activities daily, we have a new Assessor who is working out very well and have added an additional Code Officer as well.

Enjoy this wonderful weather and stay well. Please contact the Town Offices; we are happy to serve you.

Town Clerk News Fall 2023

What a beautiful time of the year! I love the colors of Fall. We have had a very busy and productive year thus far.

Something is always going on and never a dull moment. The planters are purchased and will be so pretty with the mums this fall and pretty flowers in the spring and summer.

I am sad for my office, but so glad for Michelle; she has resigned herself to doing much bigger and better things for herself. I wish her all the best in the future!

The next project I took on is to have Christmas Trees purchased for Illette Park. I am currently looking for a source for the trees; I hope to have only a limited supply this year and if it is well received, there may be more next year. I will update the website when I find the right source and have information about the purchase, decorations and taking down the trees. Thank you for your patience.



Highway News Fall 2023

The Highway Dept paved Griswold from Rt33 to LeRoy Line, Ivison Rd, Waterman Rd and Sweetland Rd from Roanoke to LeRoy Line. We worked on Prepping Sweetland Rd. from Roanoke Rd. to Clipnock Rd. for next year's paving. We performed surface treatments on Roanoke Rd. from Sweetland Rd. to Rt 5, Griswold Rd. from Rt33 to Rt 237 and section of Prentice Rd. We will be working on Road name replacement signage.

Water sales are still available at the Highway Garage. Brush and tree limbs can still be taken to the Highway Garage out back. Please call ahead and let us know if you are coming in, we have closed it a few times because of out-of-town people coming in. We only take limbs, leaves and grass clippings. No bags, Lumber, Rocks, Chairs, Tires!!!! You need to be a Taxpayer of Stafford.

The Highway Dept. had hoped to do more road work this year, but with the high rate of inflation the costs of all supplies are crazy high if you can even get the supplies to do the job. We can only hope inflation and the supply chain gets fixed.

If you need to report a deer hit, please call 343-5000, not the Highway Garage or Town Clerk.

Steve Boldt

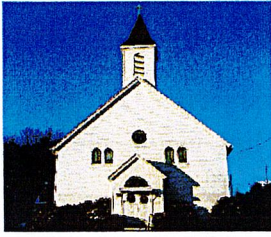


Stafford Garden Club News

Each year the Stafford Garden Club awards a graduating Genesee County senior the five-hundred-dollar Jean Ianni Memorial Scholarship. This year the scholarship goes to Michael Marchese, a 2023 graduate of Batavia High School, who plans to attend Paul Smith's College to earn a degree in environmental science. Congratulations to Michael.

For the club's community service project this year, members weeded and mulched the plantings at Ilette Park, and selected planters for the front of the town hall. These planters hold mums for the fall season, and plantings will change in the spring.

NEWS FROM STAFFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



On November 10 from 11-2 the Stafford United Methodist Church will be hosting a Christmas Card signing for our Veterans in Batavia Nursing Home and Hospital. Cards are provided as well as light refreshments. We are collecting the following for our veterans 2024 calendar, books of crossword puzzles, word searches, etc. Any donation is greatly appreciated.

St. Paul's Church News



On August 29th St. Paul's Church held a school supply give-away in the parish hall. There were backpacks, earphones, crayons, pencils, markers, notebooks, and other items available at no cost to the families that attended. This event was made possible by a grant from Trivent Financial and generous donations from St. Paul's Church members. The remainder of the school supplies, as well as books for all ages, and non-perishable food items are available for free in the church's Little Library located in the front of the parish hall.

St. Paul's Church has had a presence in Stafford for over 180 years, and now has a presence on Facebook as well. Check out our page for church news. As always, all are welcome to attend Sunday service at 9:00 and join us for an informal coffee hour after the service.

FROM OUR TOWN HISTORIAN COLLEEN O'CONNOR

James Kimball and Karen Canning will be the presenters at the September 27th monthly Stafford Historical Society meeting. The meeting is held in the Stafford Town Hall from 7:00 – 8:30 pm.

James Kimball is Lecturer of Music and Conductor of String Band at SUNY Geneseo. In his 40+ year career at SUNY Geneseo, ethnomusicologist James W. Kimball has documented traditional master musicians of New York State, specializing in the Eastern square dance tradition.

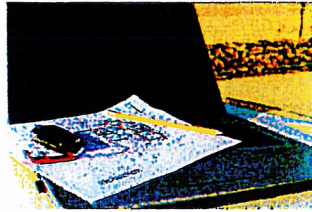
The James W. Kimball Traditional Music and Dance in New York State Collection is a curated selection of Kimball's significant research recordings between 1976-2008 as well as earlier materials from various sources. It includes unique interviews and community performances of notable fiddlers, square dance callers, dance musicians, and community members whose knowledge bridges 19th-century repertory to contemporary practice of the tradition. The interviews and recordings recount changes that impacted rural areas of New York since the 1950s. The project has been created in cooperation with the GLOW Traditions and the SUNY Research Foundation.

Karen Canning is the founding Director of GLOW Traditions, founded in 1997. GLOW Traditions supports our area's living cultural heritage through documentation and public programming of traditional arts. It operates collaboratively among the Arts Council for Wyoming County, Livingston Arts, and the Genesee-Orleans Regional Arts Council.

Karen Canning is an ethnomusicologist, folklorist and educator. As GLOW Traditions Director, she frequently collaborates with community, educational, business and civic entities to document and present diverse folk arts of our region such as Hispanic holiday traditions, American folk music, world dance traditions, Native American arts, and occupational folklore. She holds a Masters degree in Ethnomusicology from Wesleyan University, with a specialty in indigenous Mexican popular music. Canning is also a cellist, strings instructor and a member of Panloco Steel Band.

Please join the Historical Society this month for what looks to be a very interesting presentation.





STAFFORD PLANNING BOARD NEWS N' NOTES Fall-Winter 2023

We would like to welcome Lucas Torrey as the Planning Board's new Alternate Board member. Lucas was appointed in June, 2023, following interviews with several very well qualified candidates, and takes the place of Richard Squires, who was elevated from his former role as Alternate to full Board member. Welcome aboard, Lucas!

Wonder what your Town Planning Board does? Well, we do quite a variety of things: on a monthly basis, we meet and review applications for development in the Town, which could include land separations, subdivisions, commercial and industrial site plans, PUDs (Planned Unit Developments), etc.

Any development in the Town other than a single family or two-family dwelling is required to undergo site plan review, even changes in use of an existing commercial or industrial site. If you are contemplating doing business in the Town, or even just splitting off a parcel of land from your lot, please check with our Zoning Enforcement Officer to make sure you follow the proper procedures and obtain proper approvals ahead of time!

The Planning Board reviews and approves Special Use Permits for certain designated activities (the others are under Town Board jurisdiction) and also makes recommendations to the Town Board for Special Use Permits that they issue, and on proposed new Local Laws or other actions as requested by the Town Board.

Our Board meets every 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall, except for November & December, when the meetings may be shifted to accommodate the holidays. The full schedule is posted on the Town website and at the Town Hall Bulletin Board. Feel free to stop by and watch us in action!



A NOTE FROM EMERY PARK

Another great season is soon ending at Emery Park. The Recreation Program was a huge success again. The travel girls 16 under soccer program used the soccer fields for practice and hosted a Tournament. Many great comments about the park from visitors were greatly appreciated. The park will be closing by the end of October. Next years' reservations will start January 1, 2024. See you next year. Terry Young

TOWN OF STAFFORD

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STAFFORD, NY 14143