



Town Times

ISSUE
19 Quarter 3
2024

Upcoming Events:

October 12th –
Electronic Waste
Recycling Event

October 14th –
Columbus
Day/Indigenous
People Day - Town
Offices Closed

November 2nd –
Pumpkin Collection
Event

November 2nd –
Ontario County Rabies
Prevention Clinic

November 9th –
Pumpkin Collection
Event

November 11th –
Veterans Day - Town
Offices Closed

November 28th –
Thanksgiving - Town
Offices Closed

***Please check website
and/or facebook for
updates!**



this issue:

- Updates from Departments and Committees
- Finger Lakes Railway Corporation
- e-Notification information
- Upcoming Events

From Supervisor Mark Venuti

Hello Town Residents, Business Owners and Friends,

Happy Fall! I hope you enjoyed the summer.

Geneva Reuse Systems, Inc. has been approved as a charitable organization eligible to receive grants and tax-deductible donations. Work groups continue to investigate sites and work on a business plan and fundraising. We hope to soon be in a position to hire a full-time director to help move the project forward. If you're interested in participating, email supervisor@townofgeneva.com.

Website and Email Changes Coming. The Town is changing its website and email addresses to .gov because .gov, which is reserved for government entities, is more secure. Stay tuned.

We are grateful to town staff and the many volunteers who make our events successful, including the recent Free Stuff Day and Fix-it Clinic. Let us know if you'd like to get involved. We have these standing committees always open to new members: Economic Development, Communications, Sustainability, Kashong Conservation Area, and Parks and Recreation.

We welcome Kyle Bunce to the town's building department. Kyle joins Code Enforcement Officer Floyd Kofahl and will help with inspections while learning the ropes from Floyd. Kyle is a town resident and an Eagle Scout.

The proposed town budget for 2025 has been approved by the town board and is available for inspection at the town hall and on the website. A public hearing on the budget will be held on November 12 at 6:00 p.m.

(continued on next page)

Stay Informed!

Email users, give us your email address and we'll include you on periodic messages about important town and area events. Send an email to supervisor@townofgeneva.com or visit <https://townofgeneva.com/contact/index.php> to sign up! Your email address will never be shared with others, and you can be removed from the list at any time by hitting the unsubscribe button at the bottom of town messages.

From Supervisor Mark Venuti (cont'd)

We welcome Lorie Peck as town clerk. With the resignation of town clerk Lorrie Naegele, the town board appointed Lorie Peck town clerk at its July 9 meeting to serve until the end of the year. Lorie served as a deputy town clerk for fourteen years prior to this appointment and has held various positions with the Town for twenty-three years, including water and sewer clerk and nine years as town assessor.

If you have thoughts about whether the Ontario County landfill should close at the end of 2028 or remain open, let me know.

We have been closing Slate Rock Road to vehicle traffic in the winter months to reduce wear and tear on the bridge for the past three years, and we are considering closing it year-round to vehicle traffic to avoid the expense of a new bridge. If you have an opinion about this, let us know.

The town and Geneva City School District collaborated on converting the old tennis courts behind the high school to eight pickleball courts. The courts are open to the public when school is not in session and they are not being used for district programs.

With the help of the Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District, two large stormwater retention basins are being installed on property west of Carter Road that should reduce flows to residences in the watershed east of the basins.

Because at this time we could not obtain a quote for fixed rate electricity that was competitive with the NYSEG rate, the town is going to let the current contract under its Community Choice Aggregation program expire at the end of the year. Those in the program will not experience any change in service and will not need to do anything when the change occurs; there should just be notice of the change from NYSEG. If and when fixed rates improve, we may request proposals and offer fixed rate options for renewable supply again.

The NYS Comptroller has again found the town, based on 2023 data, not susceptible to fiscal or environmental stress.

Our heartfelt thanks to town resident Mary Ann Bell for twenty years of service on the town Planning Board, including service as chair of the board.

Building Department

- From Floyd Kofahl, Code Enforcement Officer

You may have noticed the construction work being done on the long vacant building at 833 Route 5 and 20, formerly known as the “Old Alison’s” Building. This site will be the home of the new Rochester Regional Health Geneva Destination Center. The current building is being renovated and a number of services will be available, including radiology, infusion, a pharmacy, a PT gym, and more.

Cold weather is on its way and with that comes several concerns that need to be addressed.

- First, for all property owners who have sidewalks in front of their property, remember that you are required to keep these sidewalks clear of any snow and ice. The sidewalks are to be maintained within 24 hours of snow fall. This also includes after plow trucks go by and throw snow on to the sidewalks. This is a safety issue for walkers.

- Second, if you are thinking of doing any construction with a concrete element involved, be aware that during cold temperatures there are specific requirements to protect the concrete applications. This includes the use of thermal blankets, straw covering, and other applications.

Please remember, if you are looking to do any type of construction, or you are unsure if you need a permit, you can call the Building Department and ask questions prior to designing your project or starting construction.

Our email address is codeenforcement1@townofgeneva.com and the phone number is 315-789-3922 x 303, if you have any questions or concerns you would like to have addressed.

I look forward to working with you on all your future endeavors.

From the Town Clerk’s Office

Town of Geneva
2025



RECYCLING PERMIT - BLUE

**New 2025 Recycling stickers (for town residents only) will go on sale at the beginning of November
At the Town Hall Open Mon-Thurs 8-4**



Town of Geneva Bike Park and Box Field Closing



Just a reminder that both the bike park and box field will be closing by mid-November. This is to prevent any damage being done to the facilities during the cold weather!

The Finger Lakes Railway Corporation

- Bob McCarthy, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee

Ontario County is currently working on a Freight Rail Corridor Development Plan in the Geneva and Phelps area. The purpose of this study is to identify industrial development opportunities, address safety concerns, and support planning efforts along the Finger Lakes Railway system. Presently, 77 vacant or agricultural parcels have been identified as candidates for rail-enabled development along this Geneva/Phelps corridor. For more information on this development plan, please visit the project webpage at <https://www.ontariocounty.gov/2060/Ontario-County-Freight-Rail-Corridor-Dev>.

The Town of Geneva is represented on the project's steering committee. The history of rail in the Town goes back 175 years. The Auburn and Syracuse Railroad was chartered in 1834 and completed between these two namesake cities in 1839. By 1850 short line service meant residents of Geneva could travel west to Niagara Falls and east to Albany. In 1853 the name of the company changed to the New York Central Railroad to reflect its larger sphere of travel. Shortly afterwards Geneva residents could also connect to a north-south rail line and to The Lehigh Valley and Pennsylvania Railroad, and travel throughout the Northeast. In 1901 a timetable of the New York Central Railroad in Auburn listed 23 daily passenger trains serving the Finger Lakes. Commercial traffic along the lines surged up to World War II when it peaked. The advent of the interstate highway system coincided with the drop in rail traffic following the end of WW II, and the outlook for the New York Central Railroad became bleak. In 1968 it joined with Penn Central to stave off bankruptcy, but the newly formed joint company failed in 1970. In 1976 the federal government directed the Consolidated Rail Corporation that it created to take control of Penn Central. Rail service in the western New York area dropped precipitously.

In 1995, the Finger Lakes Railway Corporation (FLRC) took over ownership of the old "Auburn Road" line and other short lines from Conrail. The FLRC worked out PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) agreements with six Finger Lakes counties (including Ontario County) and their industrial development agencies. Business boomed. Today the commodities transported by the FLRC include steel, scrap metals, scrap paper, pulp board, sand, industrial chemicals, salt, grain, fertilizer, corn syrup, plastic, clay, soda ash and lumber. Operations have grown exponentially to include 167 miles of track serving 90 customers that generate over 18,000 carloads annually. Some of the businesses in the Geneva/Phelps area that presently depend on service from the FLRC are Guardian Industries, Superior Plus Energy, Seneca Foods Corp, DeLong Grain, Pactiv Corp, Sheppard Grain, Blowers Agra Service, Maybury Farms, Henkel Corp., and Phelps Supply. For more information on the FLRC please contact Janice McNeal, VP of Marketing and Sales, at mjanice718@aol.com.



Communications Committee

- Kim Aliperti, Chair of the Communications Committee

Greetings from the Town Communications Committee. We are excited to announce that we have a new E-notification system set up in conjunction with our Town of Geneva website. You can now sign up to receive e-notifications when we post any new information to the Town website. This includes newsletters and alerts as well as upcoming meetings, agendas, and minutes. It is simple to use and does not require you to create an account or remember a password. Just go to the website and click The ENOTIFY tab at the top of the page. You will then be asked to enter your email address. You also have the option to add a cell phone number if you would like to add text messaging in addition to email notifications. You will see the different page links to which you can subscribe. Simply click the pages for which you would like to receive notifications. This is simply another way to remain informed and engaged with the Town.

Water & Sewer Department

- From Howard Bailey, Water and Sewer Superintendent

The Town of Geneva's Kashong Water Plant project is about 99 percent complete. The new pumps and scada system are working wonderfully. The town's water storage tank is now being sandblasted and repainted with work scheduled to be completed by the middle or end of October.

The town's water and sewer department employees have been busy exercising the water system's valves and hydrants. This is done to make sure everything works properly when need exists, such as during an emergency water main break or fire. Routine flushing of the water mains is also done to keep a chlorine residual to keep it safe for the public to use and drink.

The water and sewer personnel have also been busy flushing the town's sewer mains as well as maintaining the town's facilities. This includes mowing the town hall, conservation area, water and sewer plants, bike park, and box field, as well as repairs to the facilities.

During the upcoming winter months, the water and sewer department employees also plow snow at those facilities and all the town's fire hydrants to keep them accessible for the fire department in case of an emergency. If there is a fire hydrant in your yard and you are able to keep it clear of snow, it would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call the water and sewer department office at 315-789-6727.



Pumpkin Compositing Event!

November 2nd and
November 9th – Town
of Geneva Transfer
Station

Highway Department

- From Bernie Peck, Highway Superintendent

With fall approaching, I'd like to report on the busy summer the Highway Department has had with roadwork. In May we paved Kashong Road and Old Lake Road. In July we paved all of Armstrong Road and Snell Road from County Road 6 to State Route 14. On Pre-Emption Street to the north, we replaced two very deteriorated cross culvert pipes with 15 and 20-inch plastic pipes. This was completed before the Town of Waterloo Highway Department, who installed a new waterline on the east side of the road, paved the whole road due to the edge of the road being broken up from the waterline installation.

Overall, I would like to think that the majority of the roads in the Town of Geneva are in pretty good shape. Next year we are looking at some different options for Carter Road. We are looking at options to try to slow traffic down and make it more pedestrian friendly for all the kids traveling back and forth from school, the Boys & Girls Club, and new housing over that way.

Also, just a reminder, with winter not far away it is a good time to check the condition of your mailbox as the town is not responsible for mailbox damage due to snow load of the plow and wing.

New: Town of Geneva e-Notifications!

Sign up now to receive a notification for specific page updates.

You pick and choose what pages you would like to receive updates about. You can receive notifications via email and/or text message. We suggest everyone sign up for Alert updates.

Visit <https://www.townofgeneva.com/enotify/index.php> to sign up now.

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