

# MIDDLEPORT'S ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

MAY 2017

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## YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor:	Richard Westcott	email: MayorWestcott@villageofmiddleport.org
Dep. Mayor:	Thomas Conley	email: TrusteeConley@villageofmiddleport.org
Trustee:	Wayne Blumrick	email: TrusteeBlumrick@villageofmiddleport.org
Trustee:	Dennis McAvoy	email: TrusteeMcAvoy@villageofmiddleport.org
Trustee:	Diane Edwards	email: TrusteeEdwards@villageofmiddleport.org

## NOW YOU CAN PAY BY CREDIT/DEBIT CARD

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that credit/debit card payments are now being accepted for water/sewer bills, tax bills, and other payments, such as renting the Scout House. Payments may be made by card at the Village Hall, online, or by telephone. We accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express cards.

To pay online, visit the Village's website at [www.villageofmiddleport.org](http://www.villageofmiddleport.org). At the bottom of the column on the left on the home page you'll see "Pay by Credit Card." Click on that and simply follow the directions. It's that easy. If you would rather pay by phone, call 1-888-604-7888. For water/sewer bill payments use Pay Code A000uh. For tax bill payments use Pay Code A000uf. (Yes, those are zeroes in the code). **Please note that there is a fee for this service that the user pays. This fee is non-refundable.** The fee schedule is available online or at the Village Hall.

## ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Annual Water Quality Report is available online at the Village's website: [www.villageofmiddleport.org](http://www.villageofmiddleport.org). Just click on the link for it in the left-hand column of the homepage of the website. Copies are also available at the Village Hall, 24 Main Street, Middleport, NY 14105.

## A NEW FACE AT THE LIBRARY

Have you stopped into the Royalton Hartland Community Library to meet the new director? Village resident Gretchen Schweigert was hired as Library Director in April of this year to replace Sonora Miller, who moved to be director of the Youngstown Library, a move that puts her closer to home. Gretchen grew up in Middleport and is eager to serve the residents of the Royalton Hartland School District with new ideas and programs at the community library.

**HERE'S A TIP TO DETERMINE IF PROPERTY IS WITHIN THE VILLAGE LIMITS.....** If a Middleport address is 3 or fewer digits (numbers), its in the Village. If an address has 4 or more digits, you are in the Middleport mailing area but you are not within the Village limits. Did you know that the Middleport mailing area falls into one village, four towns, two counties, and two school districts? Phew! It's no wonder people get confused when trying to determine if property is within the Village limits or not!!!!

## MIDDLEPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESCRIPTION & OTC DRUG DISPOSAL POINT

Have you been doing some spring cleaning and found old prescription or over the counter (OTC) medicine and dietary supplements and you're not sure how to dispose of them? Old drugs should never be thrown out or flushed as they wreak havoc with the environment. The Middleport Police Department is now a drop off point for all of these items. Drop off is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Stop in at the Police Office (22 Main Street) or if they're not available, visit the Clerk's Office (next door at 24 Main Street), and they'll assist you with depositing these items in the secure drop box in the Police Office. This drop off point is open to any Niagara County resident, not just Village residents. Please note that sharps (such as needles) are not accepted. Niagara County Sheriff's Department personnel pick up the items on a regular basis and destroy them following environmental protocol procedures.

## STREET SWEEPER PURCHASED

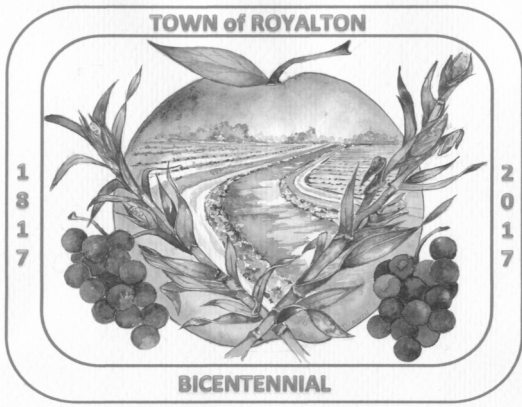
The Village was able to purchase a used street sweeper so the old sweeper could be retired. The old sweeper dated from the 1940s and could no longer keep up with the work. The newer model is able to vacuum up debris as it sweeps the streets, which is a plus. We were fortunate to snag this purchase at auction for a very reasonable price!

## SOME MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Children should be discouraged from playing in the street, no matter where they are in the Village. This is a dangerous practice; obstructing vehicular traffic is illegal, as well. Skateboards should not be used in the streets, either.

Disabled parking permits are available at the Village Hall. Please note that we can issue permits to Village residents only. There is no cost to you for the permit.

Dogs are prohibited from running loose in the Village. Owners of loose dogs will be ticketed for a court appearance and fined.



Winning logo by Royalton resident Donna Aikin

## HAPPY 200TH BIRTHDAY, TOWN OF ROYALTON!

The town was formed on April 5, 1817, and is now the geographically largest and third most populous in Niagara County. As you may (or may not) know, seven-eighths of the Village of Middleport falls in the Town of Royalton, and we're proud to be celebrating this milestone with them! Below is a list of the upcoming events to celebrate Royalton's Birthday!

Visit the Town of Royalton's website for the town's history, including fascinating information about the history of the Village of Middleport. <http://townofroyalton.org/content/History>

## ROYALTON BICENTENNIAL EVENT SCHEDULE

**ROYALTON BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION EVENTS**  
(CUT AND SAVE)

Tues. July 4, 2017

***Veterans & First Responders Independence Day Breakfast***

Join us at the Fire Hall in Gasport to start your Independence Day celebrations with a hearty pancake breakfast. Veterans & First Responders are welcome at no cost. All others \$5, with children 5 & younger free!

Sat. July 22, 2017

***SUMMER SIZZLER 200!!!***

Remember the Summer Sizzlers of the past? An encore Sizzler will be held at the Terry's Corners Fire Hall, with seven bands – including Nerds Gone Wild - and food trucks. Entrance is free! Purchase a \$100 raffle ticket to support the Sizzler (only 350 available! Prizes total \$20,000, with a First Prize of \$10,000!) and get VIP treatment at the event. Tickets are available at the Royalton Town Hall and the Middleport Village Hall. (Food & drink purchases may be made at the event)

Sun. August 27, 2017

***Royalton Community Day***

Stop in at the Royalton Ravine and check out everything that is happening. Starting with a non-denominational church service at 10:30 a.m., there'll be fire companies, craft show, and all the other fun stuff that's been planned for you to do.

Sat. & Sun. Sept. 9 & 10, 2017

***Community Picnic on Sat. & Super Car Cruise on Sun. in the Village of Middleport***

We're closing down Main Street & having a huge 2-day party! On Saturday Nickel City Reptiles will dazzle families from noon to 3 pm. Kiddie rides will be on site, and a sit down picnic on Main Street will be the highlight of the day, featuring food from local restaurants. The picnic cost will be available in the near future. Adult festivities are planned for later in the evening at the Middleport Fire Hall with music and dancing. C'mon back on Sunday to enjoy the Car Cruise sponsored by the Middleport Fire Company, as well. You're sure to find lots of entertainment this weekend!

Sat. October 21, 2017

***Closing Ceremony at Terry's Corners Fire Hall***

Help us bring our celebration to a close with dinner and dancing and fun for all! Tickets will be \$20 per person, pre-sale only, and will be available in the near future at the Village Hall. We will be showcasing local historical figure Belva Lockwood, so feel free to come in period clothing! You have 200 years of choices!

Watch for announcements for other events still in the planning stage. Commemorative calendars and cookbooks are available for purchase at the Royalton Town Hal, the Royalton Hartland Community Library, and the Middleport Village Hall and will be for sale at Bicentennial events. Raffle tickets for blankets and more are also available at Town & Village Halls, as well.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REMINDER

Warmer weather means yard clean up and maintenance. The Village of Middleport Public Works Department reminds Village residents of its yard waste pickup policies:

**BRUSH:** Brush is to be placed at the curb, butt side toward the street, stacked no more than 4 feet high. Please do not place roots, stumps, vines or rose bushes out for chipping. PLEASE PUT NEAT PILES OUT TO THE CURB TO AVOID INJURING A VILLAGE EMPLOYEE. We ask you to follow these rules for the safety of our employees. The DPW may refuse service at properties who ignore these safety requirements. Brush will be chipped each Monday except for the months of January, February and March. When tree or lawn work is performed by a private contractor, they should take away the debris. Please do not put brush out to the curb before Sunday evening for chipping on Mondays.

**WOOD CHIPS:** Wood chips are available for Village residents' yard use. Please call Bryan Bobbitt at 735-3303 for arrangements.

**GRASS CLIPPINGS:** Cut grass should never be put out to the curb as it washes into the storm sewer and can lead to flooding.

**LEAVES:** In the fall (Oct & Nov), leaves are to be raked to the edge of the street and left in open piles. Any other time they are to be bagged and placed out with garbage.

TO CONTACT THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
24 Main Street, Middleport, New York  
Open Mon - Fri. 7:30 am to 4 pm  
Bryan Bobbitt, Village Coordinator  
Phone: (716) 735-3373 Cell: (716) 560-1154  
Fax: (716) 735-3432  
Email: MiddleportDPW@villageofmiddleport.org

## NIAGARA COUNTY HAZARDOUS WASTE NEWS

The Niagara County DPW is excited to announce that we have expanded our Household Hazardous Waste program to include a downloadable Voucher service AND make all Household Hazardous Waste services available to all Niagara County residents for no additional fee! The NEW Voucher program will allow residents to download a FREE voucher for 50-lbs of common household hazardous wastes to take, at their convenience, to Hazman in Tonawanda. This program will run from May 1 to August 31. Please note that there are exclusions to the program, but Hazman will allow participants to pay additional fees for excluded and/or extra materials. Log onto [www.rethinkyourwaste.com](http://www.rethinkyourwaste.com), select the waste icon and follow the link to "Apply for Voucher."

Niagara County will also host two collection events this year, the first in the Town of Lockport on September 23rd and second in North Tonawanda on October 21st. For each event participants will be required to pre-register online for appointments between 10am and 2pm and appointments will be capped at 420. Registration will open 30 days prior to each event.

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The Board of Trustees updated the Village Code dealing with animals. There is now a ban on farm animals within village limits, which went into effect in January 2017. Household pets are limited to a maximum combination of domestic pets of any kind not to exceed 5, with no more than three dogs, four cats, or three rabbits, although any pets already in the household have been grandfathered in. This code amendment and limit is comparable to laws enacted by municipalities across New York State.

## ANNUAL EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE

**Fish Dinners** sponsored by the Cataract Lodge, 20 Main Street - during Lent and 3 Fridays following Easter

**Maple Weekend** pancake breakfast sponsored by Boy Scout Troop 23 at Middleport Fire Hall. Held on a Sunday in March. Watch for signs.

**Easter Egg Hunt** sponsored by Boy Scout Troop 23 at Rotary Park, 131 Telegraph Road - 9 a.m., Saturday, day before Easter.

**Arbor Day Celebration** - last Friday in April at 9:30 a.m. Location changes annually.

**National Day of Prayer Service** held at the Commons, corner of Main Street & Park Ave. at noon, first Thursday in May. Lunch at the Fire Hall sponsored by the Clute Phillips Legion Post Ladies Auxiliary immediately following the service. Free will donation.

**Village-Wide Garage Sale** - first Saturday in May. No need to sign up! Just have a garage sale!

**Poppy Drive** - during May. Look for Clute Phillips American Legion Auxiliary Unit 938 members throughout the Village. Please support our veterans.

**Memorial Day Parade, Services & Celebration** - Memorial Day, includes the Rotary Club duck race in the canal following the services held by Clute Phillips American Legion Post 938 and the Middleport Volunteer Fire Co. No. 1, Inc. Contact Kathy Kindle (716) 735-6807 to participate in the parade.

**Music in the Park** sponsored by the Royalton Hartland Business Association - usually third Sunday in July at Rotary Park, 131 Telegraph Road. Watch for the signs for date and time. (In 2017, this event will be held on Sun. August 6)

**Classic Car Cruise** sponsored by the Middleport Volunteer Fire Co. No 1, Inc. - Sunday following Labor Day. **Book sale by the Friends of the RHC Library** held during the cruise.

**Veterans' Day Service & Boy Scout Flag Retiring Service** at the Commons, corner of Main St. & Park Ave. - Veterans' Day at 11 a.m.

**Annual Michelle's Memorial 5K** - held the Saturday before Thanksgiving. Proceeds fund the Michelle A. Bewley Scholar Athlete Award given to a graduating senior at Royalton Hartland High School. Registration is at the Fire Hall.

**Annual Thanksgiving Service** - 2 pm Sunday before Thanksgiving. Sponsored by the Middleport Area Churches & Clergy Association. Location changes each year.

**Village Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** - look for posters. Early December.

(The Arts/Crafts show sponsored by the Middleport UMC that is usually held in October will not be held this year.)

### FREE RABIES IMMUNIZATION CLINICS 2017

The Niagara County Department of Health in cooperation with the Niagara County Veterinary Society will hold FREE Rabies Immunization Clinics in 2017 FOR DIRECTIONS call the specific clinic site. FOR ANY OTHER CLINIC RELATED QUESTIONS: call 439-7511. Volunteers are welcomed. Please call 439-7511 if interested.

**Saturday, June 10 - 9:00-11:00 a.m.**  
Hyde Park - Oasis/Centennial Pavillion  
(behind Ice Arena)  
911 Robbins Drive, City of Niagara Falls

**Saturday July 15 - 9:00-11:00 a.m.**  
Town of Wilson Highway Garage  
3356 Wilson-Cambria Road, Wilson  
\*Phone: 751-6704

**Saturday, Sept. 16 - 9:00-11:00 a.m.**  
Town of Lockport Highway Department  
6560 Dysinger Road, Town of Lockport  
\*Phone: 439-9524

**Saturday, December 2 - 2:00-4:00 p.m.**  
N. Tonawanda -Public Works Dept.  
758 Erie Avenue, North Tonawanda  
\*Phone: 695-8585

\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN TIMES FOR EACH CLINIC\*\*\*

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR RABIES CLINIC IS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.NIAGARACOUNTY.COM/HEALTH

By law, all cats, dogs and domesticated ferrets must have a current rabies vaccination from four months of age and on. Cats and dogs receiving immunization WITHOUT PROOF of a previous rabies immunization will receive a certificate valid only for one year. Cats and dogs WITH PROOF of previous rabies immunizations will receive a certificate valid for three years. Ferrets must receive vaccinations annually, regardless of previous immunization. All Animals must be properly restrained. Cats & Ferrets must be in a box or carrier. Dogs must be leashed. The Department does not offer dog or cat vaccinations other than rabies. It is very important for the health and well being of your animal and the other animals attending our rabies clinics, that they have seen a veterinarian and are up to date on all of their immunizations, to include dog parvo virus. **Niagara County hereby disclaims any and all liability, damages and/or claims for any adverse reaction(s) experienced by any animal, including, but not limited to, allergic reactions to vaccines, allegedly caused by receiving vaccinations at any participating Niagara County Clinic.** Pet owners assume the risk of any alleged adverse reactions from a vaccination experienced by any animal which receives a vaccine from a Niagara County Clinic. Pet owners are encouraged to consult with a private veterinarian should they have any questions or concerns as to how their specific pet(s) may react to any specific vaccine. It is requested that anyone bringing more than six animals to one clinic contact the Niagara County Department of Health at 439-7511 up to one week prior to the clinic so paperwork can be processed more efficiently.

VETERINARY SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE NIAGARA COUNTY VETERINARY SOCIETY PLEASE SEE CLINIC PUBLICITY FOR SPECIFIC VETERINARIANS AND HANDLERS

**THE ROYALTON HARTLAND SWIM PROGRAM SIGN UP** will be held on Sat., June 10, 2017, from 9:00 am to 11:30 am at the Village Hall, 24 Main St., Middleport, NY. Any child residing in the Royalton Hartland School District age 6 months or older is eligible for this program. Sessions will run from Mon. July 3 (no classes on July 4, though) through July 21, and July 24 through Aug. 11, 2017. **Please note that proof of health insurance will be required at sign up time.**

**THE VILLAGE OF MIDDLEPORT RECREATION PROGRAM** will run from July 10 through Aug 11, 2017, and is open to Village residents entering Kindergarten through 6th grade in September. Applications will be available during swim program sign up, the Village's website, at the Royalton Hartland Community Library, and at the Village Hall. Space is limited to 30 children, so don't delay in applying. **Please note that proof of health insurance will be required at sign up.**

**THE ROYALTON HARTLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM** theme is "Build a Better World." Watch for announcements regarding programs and plans!

### IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT A VILLAGE DEPARTMENT.....

#### CLERK'S OFFICE

24 Main Street, Middleport, New York  
Open Mon - Fri 8:30 am to 4 pm  
Rebecca A. Schweigert, Clerk-Treasurer  
Phone: (716) 735-3303  
Fax: (716) 735-3432  
Email:  
MiddleportNY@villageofmiddleport.org  
We offer Notary Public Services

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT

22 Main Street, Middleport, New York  
Chief's Hours: Mon - Fri 7:30 am to 4 pm  
John J. Swick, Police Chief  
Phone: (716) 735-3373  
EMERGENCY: 911  
NC Sheriff Dispatch: (716) 735-3700  
Fax: (716) 735-3432  
Email:  
MiddleportPD@villageofmiddleport.org

**CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT**  
24 Main Street, Middleport, New York  
Office Hours: Sat. 9 am - 11 am;  
Mon, Tues, Weds evenings by appt  
Brian Belson, Building Inspector  
Phone: (716) 735-3303  
Fax: (716) 735-3432  
Email:  
Code.Enforce@villageofmiddleport.org

#### VILLAGE HISTORIAN

24 Main Street, Middleport, New York  
Office Hours: Tues & Thurs  
10 am - 3 pm  
Christa Lutz, Village Historian  
Phone: (716) 735-3303  
Fax: (716) 735-3432  
Email:  
Historian@villageofmiddleport.org

VILLAGE OF MIDDLEPORT  
PO BOX 186  
MIDDLEPORT NY 14105-0186

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