



**1883-2013**

*GROVELAND NEWSLETTER,  
JIM MERRICK, SUPERVISOR  
\*\*\*\*\**

It's that time of year again!  
Hope you all had a safe and enjoyable summer.  
Now is the time to start thinking about the  
upcoming Christmas Holiday and New Year!

**Town:** In my 21 years as your Town Supervisor this has been the most difficult budget that the Town Board and I had to address. Many difficult decisions creating change had to be made. The rate per thousand will increase to 3.72 per thousand from this year of 3.37 per thousand. You will find at the end of this newsletter a copy of the Town's approved 2013 budget.

As winter season approaches, many New Yorkers may face a difficult time managing their energy costs. The New York State Public Service Commissions offer education and financial assistance. For more information log onto [www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov)

NYSDEC is offering Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) Protection and Management of Grassland Habitat is a management of grassland birds and other at-risk species. The program will reimburse landowners at a 50% match rate. For more information log onto <http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/32891.html>

The town is working on updating its zoning regulations to coincide with our 2007 Farmland Protection & Land Use Plan; look for notices for public hearings in upcoming months. Our zoning regulations have not been updated since 1966 so we all can expect many changes to

come. In addition, all boards have been looking at Hydrofracking regulations. The Town Board appointed Deputy Supervisor, Bill Carman to work with a committee to look into areas of concern. Find their Findings insert at the end of the newsletter.

**Town Clerk:** Sandy Bean has been working on the 200<sup>th</sup> celebration along with many of our constituents. She will be sending out a brochure listing the planned events; you will find these as an insert with the January tax bills. This was a cost saving measure solution. All the events are subject to change. Many helpers will be needed at each function; if you are interested in volunteering please stop by to see Sandy. She also wanted to acknowledge all the hard work that went into the creation of Groveland's Historical cookbook that was created and nearly sold out. The cookbook was planned for start up funds for the anniversary; which is why only 110 books were ordered. We can only reorder in lots of 100. We will take a list of names and if we get close to a reorder amount then we will reorder. Kim Burgess spear headed this project with many helpers. The history piece in the cookbook is our last known work of the late Historian, Larry Turner. If you were not one of the lucky buyers to get a book, stop at the Town Clerk's office to read the file copy.

**Town Hall & Court:** Justice Dave Livingston has gotten his training completed and is successfully serving on the bench. A thank you to Justice Jenean Love who helped make Dave's transition a smooth one, along with the clerks of the court.

We welcome our new Historian, Phyllis Dreywood, she is a Livingston County native most of her life and Groveland for over 15 years. Her office and records are now part of the Town hall. Phyllis can be contacted via email @ [historian@grovelandny.org](mailto:historian@grovelandny.org)

**Ambuscade Park:** Again we have submitted another grant application recently; this will be the third time. The grant is for a log cabin with running water and electric to be installed. It takes a year for notification on the Park grants. So again we will be crossing our fingers. In

2013 will mark Groveland's 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – as this will be the location for our closing ceremony.

**Lake View Cemetery:** Our Highway Superintendent, Greg oversees the sales and burials at Lake View Cemetery but if anyone is interested in purchasing a plot, contact Snyder Services @ 335-9820. They provide a wonderful service to the town and are very knowledgeable of the available plots.

Thank you Marc Moreland for another job well done this year! Calls and comments continue to come in commending your hard work.

**Groveland Fire Department:** Don't forget it is that time again for the delicious breakfasts. The breakfasts are held the second Sunday of each month through March; you won't go home hungry after one of their breakfasts.

**Groveland Highway Department:** Gamble Road is no longer a Dead End Road; Groveland's road portion has Phase 1 completed. This consisted of ditching, culvert replacement, widening, bank run gravel and a layer of crushed gravel. Phase II will be completed in 2013 with adding more gravel, lawn restoration, planting of trees and two layers of stone and oil.

The steep hills on Logan Road and Davis Road were widened, graveled and stone and oiled. This was done to hold them in place without constantly having to re-grade and add gravel. Due to town-wide budget problems for 2013, I was forced to terminate Jeff Curry who was hired in place of retired Willie Wilson. Jeff was a great employee and was a tremendous asset to the highway department. His loss will have many effects in the many months to come. We have a crew with great attributes to complete the same work load with less people, so please be patient with us!

Thank you to another fine job on road side mowing from Art Hendricks.

**Conesus Lake:** Get all the updated Lake information by viewing the Conesus Lake Association - Laker News @ [www.conesuslake.org](http://www.conesuslake.org)

### **Points of Interest:**

- Upon final confirmation from NYS, a project to pipe water from West Lake Road up Maple Beach Road, to Groveland Hill Road and down Lattimer Road across Pioneer Road to service the Correctional Facilities. This is all pending a signed contract; more information to come once available.
- Thank you to all the employees of the Town of Groveland for being dedicated to their jobs and always doing more with decrease in funds.
- We plan to continue a newsletter once a year to keep costs down; more information can be obtained through our town website on a regular basis by logging on to [www.grovelandny.org](http://www.grovelandny.org)

**County Level:** Well that was some sinkhole on Groveland Hill Road that caused a portion of it to be closed for nearly 3 weeks. In the spring, they will have to finish the top coat. The Town Clerk has some pictures on her counter to see how big of a job that was. Thank goodness no one got hurt.

We are still very flustered by the New York Stated unfunded mandates. The rate per thousand will be \$7.77, but here is a snap shot of the contributing factors:

- cost shifts continue –Public Defense, Community Colleges and Social Services
- Pensions(NYSRS) increases
- Loss of State revenues
- No action on our Home Rule
- Health insurance increase – 10%
- Medicaid takeover legislation impact coupled with cap on Medicaid administration is a net negative to the county.

**In Closing:** As in the past, I want to thank you for your support, patience and trust. Have a very Merry Christmas & New Year season!

**Jim**