



Town of Elma Community

UP DATE

Michael P. Nolan
Supervisor

Dean S. Puleo Deputy Supervisor/ Councilman
Thomas M. Fallon, Councilman
Dennis M. Powers, Councilman
Tracy W. Petrocy, Councilman

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Devoted Entirely to the Town of Elma and its Residents

January 2010

Elma To Focus on Infrastructure and Quality of Life in 2010

Supervisor Michael Nolan's 2010 adopted Budget will continue to focus attention on the Town's infrastructure and has dedicated additional funding to road projects.

The Town is scheduling no Major Capital Improvement projects due to the downturn our country is now facing. That may change if stimulus monies are received from the Federal Government towards projects located in Elma.

Once again the Town of Elma will have no real property tax within the General Fund. In addition, taxes in both Highway and Water funds are decreasing during 2010.

According to Supervisor Nolan, the decreases are a result of careful planning of Town expenses. Town management has acted in a conservative manner and there are no excess employees or excess employee cost. During 2010 all Town Employees will be contributing towards the cost of health insurance.

The Town of Elma has faced many challenges and we have always acted responsibly and looked for the long term benefit of our community. We will continue to monitor our financial controls, policies and procedures. We have and will continue to act with the

best interest of our taxpayers.

A summary of the General, Highway and Water Funds (the Town's largest funds) are as follows:

2010 Budget	2009 Budget
GENERAL	
No Property Tax	No Property Tax
HIGHWAY FUND	
239,288 4.6400	239,937 4.7200
WATER FUND	
60,482 1.0900	61,597 1.1100

In summary, Nolan believes this budget provides for continued high quality services to our residents at an extremely fair price. It also provides for the future by funding for additional road and park improvements at a cost that is less than the prior year.

Elma Town Board to Meet an Hour Earlier

At it's January 3rd Organizational Meeting the Board approved a starting time of 7 PM for its twice a month Town Board meetings, which had been at 8 PM.

Supervisor Michael Nolan hopes the earlier hour change will draw more residents to the meetings.

Exemption Application Deadline March 1st '10

The Assessor's Office would like to remind property owners that all applications for real property tax exemptions are due at the Assessor's office by Taxable Status Day March 1, 2010.

This exemption deadline also applies to ALL new and renewal exemption applications. Please make sure that all supporting documentation is included with the application, including income information if needed.

The Assessor's Office has mailed out renewal applications to all property owners who received an annually renewable real property tax exemption on the 2009 Final Assessment Roll.

The exemptions that this deadline applies to (but is not limited to) are: STAR, Enhanced STAR, Senior Citizen, Veterans, Clergy, Disabled, Agricultural, Building, Business Exemption, and not for profit exemptions,

Turning 65 in the 2010 Calendar year or are a recently discharged Veteran? Please contact our office prior to March 1, 2010 for exemption eligibility.

Feel free to contact the Assessor's Office at (716) 652-3260.

TOWN HALL HOURS

Monday - Friday
8:00AM - 4:00 PM

Closed Monday January 18th,
in observance of Martin Luther
King Jr. Day

Tri-Town Recreation Offers Saturday Programs

Tri -Town Recreation will be offering winter programs to the residents of Elma, Marilla and Wales. All programs are held at the Iroquois Middle School on Saturdays from January 9th until February 27th, 2010. Bus transportation will be available from Wales and Marilla Primary Schools for the recreation program. Registration forms will be distributed through the Iroquois Schools and are available at the Elma, Marilla and Wales Town Halls. Registration is required and may be completed at the program. A minimal fee is charged.

Tri-Town Recreation will not be offering the basketball program this year.

The **Youth Recreation Program** is for boys and girls in the kindergarten through sixth grade who are interested in crafts, recreational games and swimming. The program runs from 9am to 12 noon on Saturdays at the Iroquois Middle School. **NO** recreation program January 30th and February 6th.

Family Swim is scheduled at the Iroquois Middle School pool on Saturdays from 12:30pm - 2PM. Children must be accompanied by a parent. **NO** program January 30th and February 6th.

For additional information, contact Kerry Galuski at 652-3260 ext. 20.

Welcome to the Town of Elma



Former Elma Councilwoman Susan Glownia shows off one of three Town of Elma entrance signs welcoming travelers to the Town of Elma. Sue started the idea a couple of years ago but the project was held off until the new Town Hall was paid for. The idea was brought up again to Supervisor Nolan who suggested she get quotes. The Town Board later approved the project in 2009. Glownia has served nine years as Elma Councilwoman, retiring on January 1st. Sue stated that she will miss her position in the Town, and her involvement with building a new Town Hall. "Making decisions on behalf of the Town residents and working with many different town boards has been a truly rewarding experience. This job has been a very important part of my life."

Reminders from the Highway Department for the Winter Months Ahead

Elma's Highway Superintendent Wayne Clark reminds us to use caution when plowing becomes necessary in the Town. Driving on the roads when the snow plows are out requires extra caution

When following a snow plow don't try to pass as they are watching for people, mailboxes, telephone poles

and other objects and may not see you along side the truck. If you are behind at an intersection, stay back until you determine whether the truck is turning around or continuing on.

If you see a plow coming, please move back to a safe spot. They are always looking but at times they may not see you standing at the end of

your driveway, and please caution your children when waiting for the school bus.

The Town of Elma does have a parking band in effect starting November 15th to April 1st from 2am until 8am seven days a week so we are able to clear the roads. Please adhere to this to aid in our plowing efforts.

TAKE NOTICE

County Tax Collection

TAKE NOTICE, that undersigned Receiver of Taxes for the Town of Elma, having received the Tax Roll and Warrant for the Town of Elma, County of Erie year 2010, will collect same on the following days and times at the Elma Town Hall, 1600 Bowen Road, Elma, New York.

January 15, 2010 thru February 10, 2010, Monday thru Friday 8:00AM to 4:00PM
CLOSED MONDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2010

Thursday, February 11th; Friday, February 12th, and Tuesday, February, 16th
2010 8:00AM to 6:00PM.

THERE ARE NO SATURDAY OFFICE HOURS.

County Taxes 2010

Date Tax should be mailed from my office on or about: January 11, 2010.

Date taxes are due without penalty: February 16, 2010

**Penalty February 17, 2010 thru March 1, 2010: 1.5%

**Penalty March 2, 2010 thru March 15th 2010: 3.0%

**Penalty March 16, 2010 thru March 31, 2010: 4.5%

**Penalty April 1, 2010 thru April 15, 2010: 6.0%

**Penalty April 16, 2010 thru April 30, 2010: 7.5%

On May 1st, the 7.7% penalty fee is added to the unpaid levy, forming the base tax then due. Thereafter, interest is added to the base at the rate of 1.5% per month, making 18.75% in all, when unpaid taxes are sold in November.

My Warrant to collect County Taxes ends April 30, 2010 unless extended by the Town Board until June 30, 2010.

Please note that under the law, you are responsible to pay your taxes on a timely basis even if you have not physically received a tax bill. If mailing a tax payment on the due date then the envelope must be hand cancelled at the US Post Office with a date of February 16th. Any payments bearing a US Post mark dated after the deadline will be charged a penalty. Meter post marks are not acceptable. No postmark on an envelope will be stamped on the day received and posted, penalty may apply, and the date on a check is not acceptable as a timely payment.

Also regarding Online Bank payments: Most banks discourage the use of Online banking for tax payments because they cannot guarantee your payment will be delivered to our office by the due date. If you utilize Online banking you do so at your own risk regarding timely postmarks.

Patricia A. King
Receiver of Taxes
Town of Elma, NY

Admazack Awarded Eagle Scout Honor



Cory Adamzack is assisted by his parents Sue and Ron as he received his Eagle Scout Award during ceremonies at St. Vincent De Paul Church.

Cory's Eagle Scout project consisted of removing brush and other debris from the mill race at the Elma Historical Society's mill recreation project this summer. He also erected an informational tablet that gives the history of the original mill. This project directly tied in with the Historical Society's plans to build a working water wheel as once served the community for both lumber and grist milling.

Cory, a member of Scout Troop 290 and a 2009 graduate of Iroquois High School, is currently attending Buffalo State College. He is majoring in English with plans of applying to the teaching department.

Elma Senior Citizens install new officers for 2010



Town Supervisor, Michael Nolan (pictured at right) installed the 2010 Officers of the Elma Senior Citizens, at their installation banquet held at the Senior Center on Wednesday January 6th. Installed were from left to right: Mary Kasperzak, Trustee; Marie Kolls, Trustee; Eleanor Berent, Trustee; Jerry Wedemeyer, Sergeant of Arms; Jim Coronado, Trustee; Ginny Groff, Trustee; Marlene Laufer, Treasurer; Rosemary Walters, Secretary; Gary Brooks, Vice President; Trudy Weber, President.

Organized on October 18, 1961 from a vision of Mr. and Mrs. Fredrick Sigman, the Elma Senior Citizen Club started with a notice in the newspaper that their first meeting would be held at Emery Park for a picnic. Twenty two seniors from the Town were present and officers were elected. Jessie Tillou was elected as the first President of the group.

During the early years the seniors met at the Elma United Methodist Church. They later moved to the Elma Primary School on Rice Road, and then met faithfully in the cafeteria at the Iroquois High School for many years.

As the club grew and the student population in Elma increased the seniors longed for a location to call their own.

Actively involved in the Elma Seniors, Ruth and William Berner always looked forward to the social gathering with their neighbors and friends.

Having a strong sense of loyalty to the Town and it's people, William graciously offered a piece of land on Knabb Road for the location of a new Senior Center.

Like any project, there were questions

as to where the funding would come from to build a Senior Center, and the concern that the project would be several miles away from the center of Town. Years passed and William Berner died never seeing his dream of a permanent location established for the senior group.

Leon and Karen Berner purchased a 28 acre parcel of land from George and Cortland Briggs in order to grow strawberries for their farm market on Clinton Street. Leon kept the memory of his father's dream for the Elma Seniors.

Since farmers generally practice crop rotation, it soon came time to plow the old strawberry plants into the ground and decide on an alternate crop.

Leon and Karen decided to discuss an idea with the Town Building Inspector and Councilmen, about locating a Senior Center and creating a Town Park on the site. Many were in favor of the idea and some opposed as well.

After much debate and consideration the land was purchased by the Town in 1996 to be used as a Town Park and location for a center for seniors. An existing farm structure located on the

property was redesigned by Elma's Building Inspector to utilize it as a Senior Center. On December 2, 1997 William Berner's dream came true with a dedication ceremony officially opening the building as the Elma Community Senior Center.

The Elma Seniors have come a long way since their first meeting over 49 years ago at Emery Park,

The Elma Seniors of today are very active with a membership of 170, and 120 attending Wednesday's lunch at the Senior Center.

Under the direction of it's Director, Vicki Defoe, the group plans overnight and day trips. A trip is planned to Florida in February and Washington D.C. in May. Other activities are card games, exercise classes, painting and watercolor.

Elma Senior Citizen's is open to Elma residents 55 and over. More information may be obtained by calling Vicky Defoe, Director Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday at 652-3374.



The Kiwanis Club and the Historical Society partnered to light the Town's Christmas tree at the Saw Mill and provide a photo opportunity with Santa and Magic the horse. Magic was courtesy of Deputy Sheriff Bill Pukalo and is very popular with the children. The weather was mild and brought a crowd of about 300 visitors.

A visit by the Grinch was a hit with the children. Pictured are Kiwanis President Francis Bink with Mr. and Mrs. Claus.