

## February 2018

Dear Richmond Residents,

Thank you for putting your trust in me and electing me your Richmond Town Supervisor. I would also like to thank our town staff for the warm welcome. Hired, elected, or appointed everyone has been supportive in my transition into my new position. We as a community are fortunate to have such a dedicated staff and I am honored to be a part of the team at Richmond Town Hall moving forward.

On Thursdays when there is no County Board of Supervisors meeting, I intend to hold regular open office hours for the community members to come in and chat with me in the Town Hall from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. To see my schedule, access the town website ([townofrichmond.org](http://townofrichmond.org)); click on "Calendars" at the bottom of that page. Click again on "Another Calendar." From that drop-down menu, select "Supervisor's Schedule." I will update my calendar/schedule with events and my Ontario County commitments.

The 2018 Richmond Town Board has agreed to meet twice a month adding a workshop on the fourth Tuesday of the month. This will allow the Town Board Members to communicate more often with the public and each other.

We need community input and opinion as to the state of the Town's comprehensive plan. This is the guide to expand our community's tax base, enhance or don't enhance our park system, how to go about getting sidewalks updated and funded, any enhancements or changes the community may desire to our recreation program, infrastructure as well as housing. The 2018 Richmond Town Board would like to use the workshop sessions to allow interested residents to come forward and support the organization of a Comprehensive Plan Committee to take a look at the current comprehensive plan.

We had several dedicated community members come forward with a letter of intent to fill the vacant town board seat and planning board seat. Deliberating to pick just one candidate from our highly qualified pool of candidates was a challenge. I would like to welcome Gary Catt to our Planning Board and Amy Linehan to our Town Board.

We have one other open seat on the Richmond Town Planning Board. Because of the importance of farming in our community, we would like to have a farmer fill that slot. If you know a farmer that may be interested have them submit a letter of intent to the town clerk's office. We also have an open seat on the Assessors Board of Review. For more information contact our assessor's office.

We have rolled up our sleeves and gotten to work to initiate a project proposal in Mill Creek. Working with Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Environmental Conservation District towards stream restoration and enhancement project.

There will be a public information meeting on the project on March 1st, at 7 pm at the town hall.

We have reached out to New York State Senator Rich Funke to keep moving with the proposed SAM GRANT from 2015; Ontario County Planning and Ontario County Development for advice in revamping our Comprehensive Plan and possible update to our Zoning in 2018; Empire Telephone and Charter communications for possible ways to address our community's need to expand high speed

internet service areas; NYSDOT with concern for our 20A/Main Street bridge and sidewalks. NYSDOT, Ontario County and Rich Funke's office have made recommendations to possible avenues of partial funding for sidewalks we are looking into their recommendations.

The Highway and Grounds departments are working with Ontario County Soil and Water District to take a look at our options to get the Sandy Bottom's Sunset trail connecting Main Street and Sandy Bottom Park to be more aesthetically pleasing and perhaps dryer. They are also working to expand the Sandy Bottom baseball field because too many home run hits go into the woods! RIT students are putting together a proposed enhancement project to Sandy Bottom Beach that will contain a spray park and year-round building. They will be doing a presentation of that project at RIT this spring.

Over at the Honeoye Jr. Baseball Fields the wetland folks have issued the permits and surveys are complete. The Highway and the Grounds Departments are waiting for the right weather to enhance some drainage near the diamonds to remedy runoff flooding. We need to get this underway weather permitting, and done by April 1st to be kind to the long-nosed bats.

Our Parks and Recreation committee is gathering data to aid the Richmond Town Board to put together our ash tree initiative. That initiative may include inoculating some ash trees within Sandy Bottom Park, along with an inventory of our ash trees and then a plan to remove trees that may be a hazard to park trails or Mill Creek. We will be looking into grants to help aid in the costs associated with our ash tree initiative.

Our town received the Rural Communities Environmental Project of the Year Award from the American Public Works Association Genesee Valley Branch for our East Lake Road-Shetler Rd. Water District Ext. No 1 project. Projects of this nature require a significant commitment from the entire Project Team. The process of planning this water project began nearly 10 years ago, including past Town Supervisors Ralph Angelo and Nathan Van Bortel, Town Board Members (past and present), support staff our town Engineer and many others. It was my honor to accept this award and hang in in our town hall.

Any community member that would like to get more involved with our community initiatives should consider joining the Honeoye Action Committee's email list. Their meetings are informal at the Honeoye Public Library the fourth Monday of the month starting at 5 pm going until 7:30. Everyone is welcome to drop in for 15 min or so and get on the email list!

Caroline Sauers,

Richmond Town Supervisor