

TOWN OF ALMOND

PH 607-276-6665

TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

2nd Tuesday Monthly 6 pm

TOWN BOARD

Richard 'Dick' Stuart, Supervisor

Dawn Wildrick-Cole, Deputy Supervisor

Town Board Members

Lawrence 'Larry' Perry Jr.

Joanne Freeland

Kim Costello

TOWN COURT

Town Justice

Hon. Paul "Butch" Johnson

Court Clerk

Teresa Jaycox

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Arlene McMahon

Assessor

Bobbi Elderkin

Budget Officer/Bookkeeper/Payroll Clerk

Debra Castle-Harvey

Dog Control Officer

Kristina Hurd

Municipal Building Custodian

James Devlin

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Department Employees

Jamie Mansfield, Superintendent

Wayne Jefferds, Deputy Superintendent

Rory MacCrea

Joseph McMahon

Justin Bordeaux

PLANNING & ZONING

Code Enforcement Officer

William Ells

Planning Board Members

Keith Stanley, Chairman

Steve Kays

Dennis Stachowski

Bill Ells

Vacant

Zoning Board of Appeals Members

Don Weiman, Chairman

Tim Drum

Dave Owlett

John Thompson

Vacant

Assessment Board of Review

Keith Stanley, Chairman

Sally Doty

Thomas Stuart

Susan Olix-Anderson

Helen Spencer

COUNTY LEGISLATORS

DISTRICT V

Philip Curran curran_d5@yahoo.com

Charles Jessup coj14803@yahoo.com

Aaron McGraw aaron.mcgraw@yahoo.com

Almond Community Newsletter

1 Marvin Lane

www.almondny.com

PO Box K

Newsletter@almondny.com

SUMMER 2015



Hello Folks! This is Dick Stuart, Supervisor for the Town of Almond



I grew up in Almond and graduated from Alfred-Almond in 1970. When I was eighteen or so, my number one goal was to escape the confines of Almond. I attended one year at Alfred State and then Uncle Sam helped in that endeavor. I got to see Texas, Montana and Thailand.

After my discharge in 1975, I moved to Montana to help a friend and his wife build a house. This was in a small town named Stevensville, Montana. The country was beautiful and I bought some adjacent land. I was living in a tent with my St. Bernard and quite content. By the time November rolled around, I had decided I had enough of being a mountain man. I moved to Great Falls and took a job at a garage.

One frigid March evening I had a knock on the door. My brother Rob, Bucky Kull and his daughter Trudy had made the trip west to bring me home. We went cross country in a one ton dump truck with no club cab. Not terribly comfortable but happy to be headed home.

I went to work for Conrail and installed quarter mile lengths of track from Albany, New York to Elkhart, Indiana. We lived in camp cars and worked seven 10 or 12 hour days and then had seven off.

In 1977, I married the girl I had gone to the 7th grade prom with - Pam Norton, who also grew up here and graduated A-A in 1970. Shortly after getting married, the Stuart children made their debut. We had a daughter and three sons. I realized about that time that Almond was even more precious than I had realized.

It was and still is a perfect place to raise a family. I had the privilege of knowing and being mentored by many outstanding people. I know I would forget someone, so I won't even attempt to write names. Anyone who has been around for the past forty years or so knows the people that contributed to making Almond what it is today.

I was asked to be the dog catcher in 1978 and have been involved with the Town in some capacity, ever since. I was on the Town Board for many years and then Town Supervisor. I can't begin to explain how grateful I am for all those who have been involved. I'm not one to crow but because of the dedicated individuals, I am extremely proud of where we are as a Town.

Our Highway crew is top notch and because of their combined knowledge and expertise, they keep our machinery running, our roads safe and even have tackled many carpentry and renovation projects. By being willing to do whatever comes up, our crew has saved many thousands of dollars, for all of us taxpayers. This is turning into a book so I will just end it by saying that I love Almond and even though I am not running again as Supervisor. I will always be around. My eyes are getting bleary but again I want to thank each and every one of you that helps make Almond great.

Dick Stuart

Town of Almond Supervisor

From The Town Clerk's Office

A reminder to those who have not renewed their dog(s) license, please do so to avoid the cost of mailing reminders. All dogs over six months of age should be licensed. To do this, you will need proof of valid rabies vaccination and written proof of spay or neuter. Dog licenses are \$7.50 for each spayed/neutered dog and \$15.50 for each intact dog.

An enumeration of the dog population in Almond is ongoing at this time. Please be courteous to our Dog Control Officer when she knocks on your door. She will need to see proof that your dog is registered with the Town Clerk. She also has appropriate paperwork for you to complete in order to accomplish registration for you. She will eventually be visiting each household within Almond's town limits. We thank you for your cooperation.

There are several Town offices that will be on the ballot this November, as shown in the box on the right. Petitions are being circulated during June and early July by people who wish to run for these offices. If more than one qualifying petition is filed with the Board of Elections for any party, there will be a primary election held in September to determine who will be on the ballot for that party. Register to vote, and exercise your voting privilege!



I have enjoyed my tenure as Town Clerk and wish the very best to the person who will fill this position in January.

Arlene McMahon

**The Town Clerk's office is open
Tuesday and Thursday
from 8 am to 2 pm.**

**Need a room to have a meeting or are you
having a gathering and need a large hall?**

Rent the Municipal Building!

The Almond Municipal building has a hall for \$100 and a conference room for \$50 available to rent for events, activities, etc., with tables and chairs too! To reserve a date and make arrangements contact:

Arlene McMahon, Town Clerk townclerk@almondny.com
607-276-6665

Up for election this November:

Town Supervisor – 2 year term

Town Clerk/Tax Collector – 2 year term

(2) Town Board Members – 4 year terms

Town Justice – 4 year term

If you have interest in running, please contact
your party chair or

Allegany County Board of Elections
6 Schuyler Street, Belmont, NY 14813
585-268-9294 or 9295
www.alleganyco.com

Planning Board Member

Interested in the vacant seat on the Planning
Board? Contact a board member or Arlene
McMahon, Town Clerk.

Have you seen the Town of Almond website?

There's so much information there! Want to know what happened at a Town Board meeting? Find the minutes there. Need forms, contact information, links and websites to AACs, Allegany County, Almond Library and Almond Historical Society, etc., it's all there and easy to find. Many thanks go to Don Weiman for creating and maintaining the site. We hope you'll check it out and find it useful. www.almondny.com



My name is **Dawn A. Wildrick-Cole**, and I am the Deputy Supervisor for the Town of Almond. Welcome to our inaugural edition of a newsletter for the Town of Almond. We hope this will provide our community with information as to what is happening in municipal affairs and to provide you with an easy reference for your officers and important community dates. This newsletter is the brainchild of our Book-keeper/Budget Officer, Debra Castle-Harvey, and thus she deserves public thanks for the work she is putting in to coordinate submissions and get it off the ground, especially in endeavoring to do so inexpensively: thanks Debi!

As you all know we have come through a very hard winter and it is so nice to see the warmer temperatures arrive. Speaking of winter, I personally want to thank the planning efforts of our Highway Superintendent Jamie Mansfield and the work of our entire Highway Department for keeping our roads clear. It was a very long winter and at times seemed never ending. However, as I write this, summer has officially been ushered in by the Almond Strawberry Festival. I love this

event since it is so good to see everyone come out for some delicious dessert, and it is a wonderful fundraiser for the Historical society as well! The problem with writing newsletters is that I must next skip over summer entirely and straight to September to reference the next date: Almond Community Day, scheduled to take place on September 12th. Mark your calendars now and look for ways to become involved!

The fall also brings municipal budget season. Each September and October, your town board meets once or twice per week with the Budget Officer, Debra Castle-Harvey, to prepare a budget for the next calendar year. Costs keep going up... but that is exactly why we try so hard to prevent taxes from doing so, too. 2015 is the second year in a row where the town board has not raised taxes but in fact lowered them . . . not only staying within the mandated tax cap but under it. The real trick is to do this while managing salaries and costs and budgetary surprises and giving you the best value in services for your tax

If you have feedback, we'd love to hear it. Please pass it along to any member of the town board or email the Budget Officer at almond.tb@gmail.com, this summer. Budget season starts right after Labor Day, we'd like Almond's budget to best serve the needs of the community.

Also ahead in 2015 is fall elections. If you have ever been interested in municipal service, this year could be your opportunity! Many of our elected positions are open this year, and two of our long serving members are retiring: Dick Stuart and Arlene McMahon. They have each contributed so much to this Town, going above and beyond for years. Thanks so much, to both of them, for their longstanding service! If an elected position is not your cup of tea, there are many other ways to get involved, especially on our volunteer boards, some of which are very short on members.

Also, new to 2015, the town has begun a partnership with a newly formed nonprofit, the Alfred Almond Community Sports Association. The AACSA coordinates youth sports leagues in baseball, soccer and softball and is in a partnership with the town in managing Lion's Park. The AACSA welcomes new volunteers, including those interested in taking care of the park or donating time to help coordinate one of the youth sports leagues. Please look over the newsletter and see if anything in particular sparks your interest for ways you could help your community. Stop in at the office, take a look at our website: www.almondny.com, or contact newsletter@almondny.com for more details.

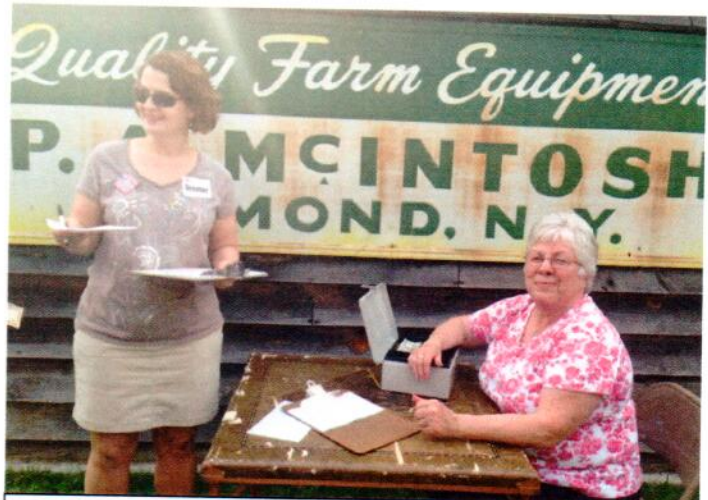
Many thanks to all of you for making Almond a great place to live.

Dawn A. Wildrick-Cole

Chairman of the Planning Board

The Almond Town Planning Board has been working for the past year on an updated comprehensive plan. We are hoping to have a draft of this plan posted on the town website this Oct. We would invite the public to review this plan and pass along any comments they may have. We are hoping this document will provide direction for the growth of the town and village for the next ten to fifteen years.

Keith Stanley



Dawn Wildrick-Cole (left) and Arlene McMahon (right) volunteers at the Almond Historical Society's Annual Strawberry Shortcake Event.

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Village of Almond

PH 607-276-5921
VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS
1st Tuesday Monthly 7 pm

Mayor

John Meehan

Deputy Mayor & Trustee

Dennis George

Trustees

Paul Gabriel

Tim Drum

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Village Clerk/Tax Collector

Lona McIntosh

Monday & Wednesday 9 am to 1 pm

Deputy Clerk

Kathy Harvey

Bookkeeper

Larry Zeliff

Code Enforcement Officer

Steve Kilmer

Water Department

Brian Snyder

Almond Volunteer Fire

PH (607) 276-5921

Fire Chief

Andrew Hulbert

1st Assistant Chief

Brian Mc Caffery

2nd Assistant Chief

George Ormsby

Lieutenant

Herbie Schmidt

Foreman

John Kleckner

President

Emily Ormsby

Vice President

Dave Washburn

Secretary

Danielle Hulbert

Treasurer

Ken Almeter

Fire Police Captain

Jim Wilcox

Assistant Fire Police Captain

Russ Allen

Ambulance Company

PH (607) 276-6944

John Ormsby

Ambulance Captain

Jim Crook

Vice Captain

Dave Washburn

Sec/Treas

Village of Almond Activities

In the month of April the Village completed their re-organizational meeting. William Ellis resigned as the Village Mayor. Deputy Mayor John Meehan was appointed to fill Mr. Ellis's term. William had completed one year of his two year term.

In the month of June the board discussed the high sodium content of our #2 well. It was decided to shut down this well, as well as notifying all water users of the elevated sodium count. The Village has mailed all users a detailed Water Quality report in June.

The Village has received a \$3,000.00 grant from "Complete Streets". This grant will be used to buy a Crossing Sign Post for the crosswalk in front of the Post Office. The Village is also looking at buying a couple of park benches for the Village Park, as well as a couple of ornamental trees.

John Meehan

Village of Almond, Mayor

Almond Fire Department

Almond Fire Department & Ambulance Corps currently has 31 active members and serves the Town and Village of Almond with fire protection and ambulance service. Currently the department operates 2 pumpers, 1 tanker, 1 brush truck and 2 ambulances from the hall at 1 Marvin Lane. As this is a volunteer department we are unable to charge for service. Therefore we rely on our Village budget, fundraisers, grants and donations.

New members are always welcome as there is something everyone can do. Applications are available from any fireman or by stopping at the fire hall on Wednesday evenings.

The Department appreciates the continued community support and is dedicated to doing its best to protect the lives and property of our residents.

Almond Volunteer Fire & Ambulance Company

So far this year, 2015, for both fire and EMS we have had 55 calls for assistance.

Upcoming events:

July 25: Flushing the Fire Hydrants

Village residents can expect dirty water. Just run the water for a few minutes and it will clear.

September 12: Almond Community Days

There will be vendors in the Village Park with the annual parade starting at 10 am and a BBQ at Noon.

The department has a new program that we started last year through the Boy Scouts of America called the *Almond Junior Fire Department*. This program is open to any student that lives in our fire district that is between the ages of 14-18. We teach them the basic aspects of firefighting and also how to run a business meeting and even have election of officers. If anyone would like more information on this program feel free to contact me at (607) 382-8897.



The Fire Department is always accepting new members, just stop by the station any Wednesday night or contact me for more information.



Last winter the Village purchased, for the Fire Department, a 2004 American LaFrance rescue pumper to replace our aging second engine that was a 1985. This picture was taken during the Memorial Day parade in Arkport.

John Ormsby

Almond Community Day

Almond Community Day will be Saturday September 12, 2015 with lots of activities planned. There will be vendors in the Village Park beginning at 8 am followed by the parade at 10 am. Hornell native Eric Carlin will provide music at the park gazebo from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. Almond Fire Department will serve a Chicken BBQ also in the park beginning at Noon. There will also be a Fire Department Boot Drive on Main Street shortly after conclusion of the parade. There will be kids' activities throughout the day. This is a community event and residents are welcome to have yard sales, etc.

Charge for vendors is \$20 for 10' space and \$35 for 20' space. Julie Ormsby is contact person for this at (607) 276-6944. Parade Chairman Brian McCaffrey can be contacted at (607) 382-5533.

This is a community event and any proceeds will be used for the community. Feel free to contact either one of us for further information.

July 30th, at 7pm there will be Community Day meeting at the Fire Hall, all are welcome! Hope to see you there.

Chairman Emily Ormsby
(607) 587-8747

Co-chairman Andy Hulbert
(607) 382-6340



Lions Community Park Under New Management!

The Alfred-Almond Community Sports Association (AA-CSA) was formed in 2013 to manage Almond Lions Community Park thereby lessening its burden on the Town of Almond.

The AA-CSA will provide the highest quality facility, safest environment, most consistent framework and best youth athletic experience possible. With future park developments, proper maintenance and fostering its athletic leagues AA-CSA will create a sports and recreation facility that will be the envy of and model for other communities.



The AA-CSA works closely with the Town of Almond Board and local youth sports leagues to facilitate group collaboration in order to develop and maintain strong community ties, combat juvenile delinquency, promote and regulate the youth sports programs. Together they will achieve a safe, quality, and fun experience.

The AA-CSA also provides opportunities for other organizations. This spring it worked with Alfred University and Alfred State College to facilitate their "Spring Into Action Day of Service". Student volunteers provided outdoor cleanup, general grounds maintenance and athletic field preparation. The AA-CSA is currently facilitating community projects with the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of America.

Having been given the authority to manage the assets of the park, AA-CSA offers the parks facilities for rent for organized events. Examples of organized events include sports leagues, reunions, birthday parties, athletic tournaments and sports camps. Through these rentals and direct solicitation from donors, AA-CSA generates revenue and materials to offset the ever growing costs of park maintenance.



The AA-CSA is exciting to all of its directors and organizers because of its potential to have a lasting impact on the community at large. With proper park management the facility will remain the beautiful park that that the community has come to love and enjoy. Currently there are seven members on the AA-CSA Board of Directors. These positions are two year terms with approximately half being filled each February. There are a total of eleven director positions available. AA-CSA encourages community involvement. Applications for director positions and interest from volunteers are always

welcome.

For more information regarding AA-CSA please contact its board at: Email: aacsa@aaysports.com
Call or Text: 1(607)545-1490 and/or visit the website at <http://aaysports.com>

From Code Enforcement

After a long hard winter it would appear that summer is finally upon us, and with that an increase in building permits – everything from new homes to swimming pools.

The term "swimming pool" is defined in the Uniform Code as "any structure, basin, chamber or tank which is intended for swimming, diving, recreational bathing or wading and which is designed to contain water more than 24 inches deep at any point.

NOTE: A pool which is capable of containing more than 24 inches of water is a swimming pool and must have a building permit and is subject to all applicable Uniform Code provisions relating to a swimming pool.

Please contact me if you are considering placing a swimming pool on your property because there is a Barrier Requirement, Pool Alarm Requirement, installation of electrical wiring and equipment that must be met before a certificate of compliance is given.

As always, feel free to give me a call with any questions. A large part of my job is on the phone answering questions, giving advice and directing people to the places they can get questions answered if I don't know.

Bill Ellis, Code Enforcement Officer , Town of Almond, (607)276-5039



Town of Almond Highway Department

The Town of Almond Highway Department consists of 5 full time employees that devote their time at work to getting residents to school and work safely and efficiently. The Town of Almond has 57.11 center lane miles of roads which equals 114.22 miles of lane miles. We have 17 bridges in the Town and we also plow 15.57 miles of County roads. The Town of Almond is the biggest Town with the most roads and the most infrastructure in Allegany County. We also plow the Village of Almond streets and do some of the maintenance. The five highway employees are very versatile and can do just about anything from running equipment to working in the shop on various items. We try to do as much of the work as we can in-house to save on cost. We do a lot of our own repairs and we fabricate some of our own parts. We have a gravel pit and we produce all of our own gravel for the dirt roads. We also make all of the sand that we use in the winter months. We do a lot of shared service with other towns and the County which is a huge benefit for everyone when we may have a large project and need some help hauling material. We can get trucks from other towns or the County to get the project done in a timely manner, and we will send trucks to other towns to return the favor. It saves a lot of money and saves a lot of time.



2015 John Deere loader, replaced 2000 John Deere loader that town had 15 years and had 10000 hours on it.

The weather has changed over the years. We are now getting quick high energy storms with a lot of rainfall in a short time (gully washers). These are hard to predict and hard to tell where they are going to hit. Sometimes one side of town will get hit and the other side will get nothing. A lot of the culvert pipes we change out, we go up one size to help with these weather patterns. We also try to control the water more with heavy rock so we don't get so much erosion. It is very cost effective, it just takes a lot of time to get all the different locations done.

This past winter we had a good amount of snowfall and we had to go out in many locations to push the snow back with the loader because we couldn't get the piles pushed back with the trucks. It has been many years since this has happened. The wind had some huge snow drifts up on the hills. I am sure some days as you were passing through the village on a sunny day and the roads were clear, you wondered why a plow truck was heading out loaded up with sand and going to plow. The drifting was taking place up on the hills and we had to go take care of them. It's a totally different world in some locations.



Jamie Mansfield

Town of Almond
Highway Superintendent
607-276-5240

If you have any questions or concerns regarding anything to do with the roads please stop by the shop or give us a call and we will discuss the situation. We are here to help and try to make everything better for you to commute to any given function. Thanks,

Thank you for your interest in our first quarterly newsletter.

Local government has an inherent responsibility to communicate important information to its citizens in a timely and consistent manner.

Publishing this newsletter enables us to establish public awareness, and will be a tool for communicating vital and timely information from all areas.

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, send me an email message.

Your feedback is welcome and appreciated, please feel free to email me at newsletter@almondny.com.

...Debra Castle-Harvey



To "Shop Locally" you need to know what we have to buy Locally!

ALMOND BUSINESSES:

Auto: *Flint's Auto Center* – (607) 276-5485
Auto: *Two Guys Auto Repair* – (607) 276-2292
Auto: *Alfred Almond Auto* – (607) 276-2238
Concrete: *Hanson Aggregates* – (607) 276-5881
Contractor: *Stevens Contracting* - (607) 382-8137
Contractor: *Four Season Builders – LC & Shawn Clark* – (607) 276-6418
Convenient Store & Gas Station: *7-Eleven*
Daycare: *Color Our World* – (607) 542-5587
Dog Grooming: *Nails to Tails*
Drywall: *KP* – (585) 506-7471
Excavating: *D & G* - (607) 276-6416
Flooring: *Mullen Factory Direct Carpet* - (607) 276-5200
Food: *Quest Farm Produce* (seasonal) - (607) 661-8031
Garage Doors: *Overhead Door* - (607) 276-6773
German Shepherd Breeder: *Hazzard County Kennelz* - (607) 661-0887
Ice Cream & Weekend BBQ: *Dick & Cheryl's Big Dipper* - (seasonal)
Metal Work: *Sundance Forge with Bill Banker* - (607) 276-6956
Plants: *Comes Greenhouse* – seasonal - (607) 276-6178
Restaurant & Bar: *Muhleisens* - (607) 276-8811
Sand & Gravel: *Almond Aggregates* - (607) 276-6864
Satellite Systems: *True Blue* - (607) 276-2817
Storage Units: *Oyer Self Storage* - (607) 276-6774
Storage Units: *Dean's Mini Storage* - (607) 324-7073
Trucking: *KLG Trucking and Recovery* - (607) 276-2605
Veterinarian: *Almond Veterinary Hospital*
Web Design & Organic SEO: *David Williams* - (607) 276-2223
Well Drilling: *Root Water Well Specialist* – (585) 593-4304
Yoga: *With Kristin* – (607) 382-7755

