

TOWN OF ALMOND

PH 607-276-6665
TOWN BOARD MEETINGS
2nd Tuesday Monthly 6 pm

TOWN BOARD

Supervisor

Dawn Wildrick-Cole

Deputy Supervisor

TBA

Town Board Members

Lawrence 'Larry' Perry Jr.

Joanne Freeland

Kim Costello

TBA

TOWN COURT

Town Justice

Hon. Paul "Butch" Johnson

Court Clerk

Teresa Jaycox

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Teresa Jaycox

Assessor

Bobbi Elderkin

Budget Officer/Bookkeeper/Payroll Clerk

Debra Castle-Harvey

Dog Control Officer

Kristina Hurd

Municipal Building Custodian

James Devlin

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Superintendent

Jamie Mansfield

Deputy Superintendent

Wayne Jefferds

Highway Department Employees

Rory MacCrea

Joseph McMahon

Justin Bordeaux

PLANNING & ZONING

Code Enforcement Officer

William Ells

Planning Board Members

Vacant, Chairman

Dennis Stachowski

Bill Ells

Vacant

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

www.almondny.com
Newsletter@almondny.com

1 Marvin Lane PO BOX K
Almond, NY 14804

WINTER 2015



Greetings and Happy New Year!

My name is Dawn Wildrick-Cole and as of January 1st, I am the new Supervisor for the Town of Almond. I am excited and encouraged by this opportunity and look forward to serving you in this new capacity. A sincere thank you to Dick Stuart who served in this role for many years. Dick has been a long standing community servant and we are grateful for his work on behalf of the Town.

Ironically, my first job as Supervisor is to leave town for a few days! In early January, I will be attending the newly elected officers training in Rochester. This training session is available to all elected officers and provides them with applicable laws, rules and regulations relevant to the job. This ensures that we are all equipped with the knowledge to perform our tasks well. This program will be a valuable experience for me, and I will endeavor to utilize the education to the best of my ability.

The next task is the town's organizational meeting, which will take place on January 12th, 2016. During this meeting we set the times and dates for the meetings throughout the year and fill vacancies where we can. Please note in this newsletter all the potential vacancies where your town could use *your* service. Contact myself via email or Teresa Jaycox, the town clerk, if you are interested. Have a wonderful 2016, and many thanks for your support and encouragement.

Honoring a Volunteer

Article written by Donna Ryan

Don Jefferds is our featured volunteer for this quarter. Don wears many hats – but probably the biggest volunteer job he has is being in charge of Woodlawn Cemetery. When a death occurs, Don checks the maps and records to determine the location and availability of space. Trips to the cemetery with family members is not uncommon . . . at times which maybe are not convenient. Cemetery finances are always tight – and so he does a lot of the work – sometimes assisted by some of his stalwart friends! A while ago a very large tree fell on the grave site of the Corey family, early Almond pioneers (Joseph served in the Revolutionary War) and Don was found doing much of the extensive cleanup. He and Larry Perry also repaired and restored the broken and fallen obelisk grave marker of Allegany County's first Civil War casualty, Eugene Ferrin, prominently located on a hillside in Woodlawn. Don has served as vice president of the Alfred Almond Alumni Association for decades and is a faithful board member. Village park decorations . . . equipment loan . . . behind the scenes assistance for neighbors . . . These are the ways that Don serves the community. Don is a quiet man with a dry wit, has loads of stories to tell, and does not look for praise for the myriad ways that he serves. We salute you, Don, and we thank you!





Town Clerk/Tax Collector
Teresa Jaycox

Office Hours:
MON & WED - 8 am to 4 pm
SAT - 9 am to Noon

Rent the Municipal Building!



Conference Room



Community Hall

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

Teresa Jacox, Town Clerk
townclerk@almondny.com
607-276-6665



For those of you on Facebook there's a page **Almond/Alfred Folks**. It's a local Public Group to help keep you informed.

It currently has 535 members. That's up from 496 since the last newsletter. Let's see if we can make it 600 by the next newsletter!

When on Facebook, in the 'Search Facebook' bar at the top, type in Almond/Alfred Folks, when the page comes up, click on [+Join Group].

When you are accepted, type
"Thanks Almond Community Newsletter!"

From the Assessor's Office

January 2016 exemption renewal notices will be mailed out. Please be sure to have the proper documentation and signed renewal form back to my office no later than March 1st.

The Town of Almond will be conducting an update to the assessment values from the current 95% equalization rate back to 100%. This will be for the 2017 assessment roll. The assessor will be doing field work in the spring and summer verifying information within the Assessment Files.



Bobbi Elderkin

Dog Control Officer

Kristina Hurd

Looking forward to kennel improvements in the near future, where dogs will have indoor space in the garage the kennel is attached to. When the improvements are done, the dogs will be safer and have a warm place to be in the cold months.



Please remember to license your dogs and keep the tag on your dog at all times so that if the dog gets out it can be identified and returned to you. Keeping the licenses current provides funds specifically for dogs and dog control.

Furry dog advice: For your dogs, please avoid any foods with xylitol, as well as cooked poultry bones, poultry skin, chocolate, nuts, raisins, grapes, onions, and garlic. When in doubt, just stay with their regular foods.

Village of Almond

PH 607-276-5921

VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS
1st Tuesday Monthly 7 pm

Mayor

John Meehan

Deputy Mayor

Dennis George

Trustees

Dennis George

Paul Gabriel

Tim Drum

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Village Clerk/Tax Collector

Lona McIntosh

MON & WED 9 am to 1 pm

Deputy Clerk

Cathy Harvey

Bookkeeper

Larry Zelif

Code Enforcement Officer

Steve Kilmer

Water Department

Brian Snyder

Almond Volunteer Fire

PH (607) 276-5921

Fire Chief

Andrew Hulbert

1st Assistant Chief

Brian McCaffery

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) 276-5921

Ambulance Captain

John Ormsby

Vice Captain

Jim Crook

Sec/Treas

Dave Washburn

Village of Almond

John K. Meehan, Mayor

The last quarter has been fairly quiet. The Village has received the quote for the new display board in the Village Park and should make the purchase in the near future. This board will be installed in the park, to replace the one that Ron Coleman had built a long time ago. This board will have power and be illuminated, and we hope it gets good use as a community news board.

The Water department, as well as a couple of village board members will be meeting with an engineer from LDG Engineers and Architects. The Engineering firm will be looking at our current system and areas that we feel need to be upgraded. The current system has not been looked at since the Main street project that was almost 20 years ago. The Village is trying to be pro-active and look at our current condition, and upgrade where needed, before we have any major problems.



The members of the Village Board would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

John Meehan

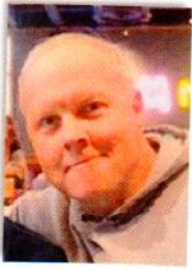
Village of Almond, Mayor

Village Elections

Election Day: Tuesday, March 15th 2016
Elections for: Mayor and 2 Trustee's

Anyone interested please file in Village Clerk's Office:
Feb 1st to Feb 9th.

Almond Volunteer Fire & Ambulance Company



Winter flu season is officially under way and can linger through the spring months. If you're already hearing the sounds of coughing and sneezing around you, it's important to take the steps necessary to protect yourself from coming down with the flu.

How can I tell if I have the flu or a cold?

People with the flu generally will experience the following symptoms:

- Fever or feeling feverish with chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Sometimes diarrhea or vomiting (more common in children than adults)

What can I do to protect myself from getting the flu?

The most important thing you can do is get a flu shot. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), it's your best bet for avoiding the flu or experiencing a less serious case. It takes about two weeks

after the vaccination before you're protected, so consider getting your flu shot sooner rather than later.

The CDC says this season's flu vaccine has been updated to better match circulating viruses and protect against the three types of influenza viruses that research indicates will be most common.

What other steps can I take to avoid the flu?

- Focus on good nutrition, regular exercise and plenty of sleep.
- Clean surfaces and objects routinely.
- Cover coughs and sneezes using your arm, not your hands.
- Wash hands often.
- Stay at home if you get sick, ideally until you've been fever-free for 24 hours.

How long am I infectious?

Adults are generally infectious about 1 day before they have symptoms and for 5-7 days after symptoms begin. Children can remain infectious for several days longer than adults.

Who's at the greatest risk?

Those at higher risk of complications from the flu include people with the following:

- Asthma
- Cancer
- Diabetes
- Heart disease
- HIV or AIDS
- Stroke
- Children under 5 years old
- Pregnant women
- Adults 65 and older

Stay healthy and thank you for your support.

John Ormsby

Almond Historical Society



The Almond Historical Society commenced the 2015 Christmas season with another fabulous Open House and musical program on Sunday, December 6. If you weren't there, you missed a blessing, for sure!



Mary Ellen Westlake and her daughter, Susan Steere,

assisted by Helen Spencer and Cindy Banker, decorated our 1830s Hagadorn House (located at the red light on N Main Street) with many beautiful arrangements and lighting. Kim and Kathy Costello donated the large tree for the parlor, which was decorated with unique handcrafted ornaments



depicting the theme, "Christmas Around the World."

At 2 pm, a wonderful musical program was presented next door at the Almond Union Church with a very enthusiastic, near capacity crowd attending. Such talented folks we have in this community, and this program showcased just a few!

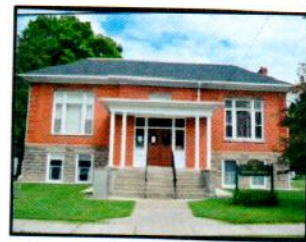
We are always very appreciative of our many volunteers who love the Hagadorn House, the Almond Historical Society, and all that we try to do to keep history alive in this special little town we call home! If you haven't visited us, please do sometime. We have treasures that will interest everyone! We are open Friday afternoons from 2 - 4 or by appointment: Call Donna Ryan (607)276-6760 or Doris Montgomery (607)276-6324 for an appointment.

We welcome new members! Dues of \$15 per year assists us with Hagadorn House expenses -- and you will receive four quarterly newsletters with interesting stories about Almond's history! Contact Donna Ryan (607) 276-6760

Almond Twentieth Century Club Library



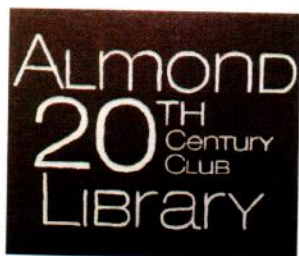
There's lots going on at the Almond Library, and we hope you will come in and greet new Director, Liz Call. She is looking forward to serving you. By the time you read this, we should have a new Library Aide, as well. We'd like to thank Cecily Hardy and Mollie Steere, Interim Director and Aide, for all their help during the recent transitions. Cecily will be moving to the Buffalo area soon, and Mollie is now in Syracuse, where her husband, Artemas, has accepted a position as a ceramic engineer with Lockheed Martin. (Forgive me for putting in a little Steere family news along with the library news.)



The Library Board of Trustees has been in transition recently, as well. The Trustees, who are all volunteers, have the difficult task of serving as the governing board of the library. They oversee all personnel, finances, building repairs and improvements, interactions with the Southern Tier Library System (STLS), and more. Many thanks are due to Mary Jane Essex, who ably served as Board President. Mary Jane resigned as a Trustee prior to the acceptance of applications for the Director position. The current Board members are Elva Owlett and Chris Yarnal, Co-Presidents; Jean Pilgrim, Secretary; Wendy Dailey, Treasurer; Laura Brace; and Deb Pierce. Please feel free to bring them your questions or concerns about the operation of the library.

Many thanks to everyone who supported our Election Day fundraising efforts! And my humble apology to anyone whose lunch arrived late or who didn't get what they ordered. This was my first time helping in the kitchen, and it was rather overwhelming! For next year, we'll be working to make our set-up more efficient and to be sure to have enough of everything. Overall, it was a very successful day. We are grateful for each one who came to eat or buy or who donated a basket. Our difficulties on Election Day serve to point out how much the library needs the active involvement of younger members of the community in order to continue to provide excellent library services to all. The Library is not a profit-making business – it exists purely to serve the community, and charges no fees for the majority of its services. (An exception – the downstairs area is available for parties, meetings, etc. Please call for rates if you are interested in renting the space.) Only about 2/3 of the budget is met by the tax support we receive. If you would like to help, please consider becoming a volunteer at the library or a 20th Century Club member. Annual dues are just \$5, and we have six regular meetings per year. Memorials and other donations are also gratefully received.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Steere, Co-President with Helen McKnight, Almond 20th Century Club



Upcoming events:

20th Century Club Business Meeting – Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. –

brainstorming fundraising ideas for the coming year

Library Board of Trustees Meetings – Jan. 26 and Feb. 23 at 6:30 p.m.

20th Century Club Meeting – March 8 at 7 p.m. –

"It's Tough to Get Old: Planning for Long-Term Care" with Patrick J. Roth, Esq.

Yoga with Kristen Buchholtz – every Thursday at 5:45 p.m. for ages 14+

Mother Goose on the Loose – every Friday at 10:30 a.m. for ages 0 – 3 and their Caregivers

The Library is open Tuesday – Thursday, 2-7 p.m., and Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

You may reach us by phone at (607) 276-6311, on the web at <http://almondlibrary.org/> or find us on Facebook.

P.S. You can support the Almond Library effortlessly if you shop on Amazon. Go to smile.amazon.com, choose the Almond Library as your charity, and shop as usual. The Library will receive a small portion of the purchase price at no cost to you. Every little bit helps!



Yoga at the Almond Library

Weekly Yoga Classes, Thursdays at 5:45 – 7pm.

This class is for beginners to more experienced Yogis and is for ages 14 & up.

\$5 suggested donation.

Local Almond resident, Kristin Buchholz is our instructor.

Fairview Cemetery by Arlene McMahon



The Fairview Cemetery is located approximately 2 miles west of the Village of Almond overlooking Karr Valley. It is on land originally owned by Samuel P Karr and deeded to a group of more than 20 people in 1851. In July of 1885 it was incorporated as the Fairview Cemetery Association. Over the years the original cemetery was expanded twice – most recently on the western end by land purchased from the Almond Rod and Gun Club. There is a very small group of people who are now active in the operation of the cemetery, although all lot owners are automatically members of the Association and as such, have voting privileges at the annual meetings held each June. The newest part of Cemetery has many lots available for sale. Lot sales and burials make up the bulk of the operating funds that the Association uses for maintenance. All cemeteries are regulated by the NYS Division of Cemeteries. A small portion of each lot sale and burial fee must go into a Permanent Maintenance Fund. The only portion of this Fund that can be used is the interest earned on the bank account. This is a major cause of the financial difficulty many small cemeteries encounter these days, since interest rates are practically non-existent. We rely on volunteers to do a large share of the work required to maintain our cemetery, with mowing and burials being the only thing for which we hire workers. The Town of Almond in recent years has made a small provision in their budget as a way to assist us. As always, contributions are a most welcome form of revenue. These contributions could be of a financial type, or even a donation of time, especially during the summer months when there are many tasks that need to be accomplished in addition to the mowing. Our President is Cash Davison, Vice President Diane Davison, Secretary Arlene McMahon and Treasurer Joy Stuart. There is also a six-member Board of Trustees: George Marlatt, Joanne Wells, Cheryl McMahon, Diane Davison, Mildred Crawford and Cindy Coleman. Anyone interested in genealogy can find a listing of all burials compiled by Mary Rhodes at:

<http://www.alleganyhistory.org/research/cemeteries/a-e241/almond222/1477-fairview>.

From The Desk of William Ells Code Enforcement Officer

As some of you may know, but many are unaware of, the Town of Almond has had subdivision regulations in place since 1973. The regulations require planning board approval for some property splits, and all major and minor subdivision. The way it will work is if you are dividing property, you should



contact me with any questions on what needs approval, and once the property is surveyed, I can sign off if planning board approval is not needed or send it to the Planning Board for approval. Then the county will accept and file the survey and change the tax map. That does not mean every survey done needs to be approved, only when you are dividing and selling property, or if you want the tax map changed to divide parcels. Survey can be done at any time; it is only when you chose to file them that they will need approval. The town of Almond has a booklet with all the land regulations and forms, if needed. Hopefully this will make splitting or subdividing property a smoother process and done in the proper order. Any questions feel free to give me a call (607) 276-5039.

Landowners:

It has come to the attention of the Town Board of Almond that there is an ongoing issue of individuals not obtaining required building permits. New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Construction Code requires a building permit for building, additions or repairs to a current structure, as well as, the installation of solid fuel burning units, porches and decks, placement of manufactured homes, modular homes, and prefab building over 144 square ft. Failure to obtain required permits may result in issuance of a "Stop Work Order" and fines.

A building permit form can be obtained from the Code Enforcement Officer, Town Clerk or the Town of Almond website. All permits forms are returned to me, Bill Ells (Code Enforcement Officer), who then may or may not sign the form. Questions regarding the completion of these forms should be directed to me. Make checks payable to Town of Almond.

Bill Ells

Town of Almond,
(607)276-5039



Alfred / Almond Community Sports Association, Inc.

Do you love sports?

Do you love kids?

Do you want to help kids love sports?



AACSA is a volunteer board made up of parents, grandparents, business owners, professionals, and community members that work to support our local youth sports and Almond Lions Community Park.

For more Information visit: aaysports.com

We need members like you to help reach our goals!

Email or Call us TODAY!

aaysportadmin@aaysports.com (607) 545-1490



Town of Almond Highway Department

This fall has been very nice and enjoyable with the lack of snow and the above average temperatures.

As a Highway Superintendent we have things going on all year long. It doesn't matter what the weather is doing. For example, we have a Highway Superintendents Association in Allegany County that meets every month in various locations in the county.



New 2015 Dodge 5500 Dump Truck replaces 2008 Sterling Bullet. Truck has Boss V Plow and Stainless Steel V Hopper Sander.

At these meetings we hear about new laws, updates on CHIPs funding, FEMA awareness, etc. Also at these meetings there are state DOT representatives, County legislators, County personnel, and vendors for equipment and highway products.

The meetings get everyone together to ask questions or if we have concerns we can ask about them. There is a vast amount of information at these meetings and a ton of experience with doing things in other highway departments.

The association wrote a grant a few years ago and we received funding to get 2 new high band radios for communicating throughout the county and we also received laptop computers to help out in our daily work. There are many things we have to do on the computer now which years ago they didn't. All our salt orders and CHIPs filing through NYS, has to be done on the computer. Computer classes helped everyone get on the same page and a basic learning. There are many Superintendents and the ages vary from 25 to 65 and some of the older guys have never run a computer. So we would learn the different programs together and help each other out.

The more we gather and get to know each other the more we would start talking about different projects we have done or they have done or different equipment being used to do a certain job or what worked for each other in the past. It is a great learning tool, and then when a project arises the person that you talked with would come and help out or bring their equipment and man power to help with the project to get it done in a timely manner.

This is considered shared service, you may have a project that may take a few days to do and you get some help from a nearby town and get it done in half the time. There is more equipment and more man power. Then we would return the favor and help them out. This helps out everyone, we like to get in and get a project done in a timely matter and with more help it gets done and gets you on your way quicker.

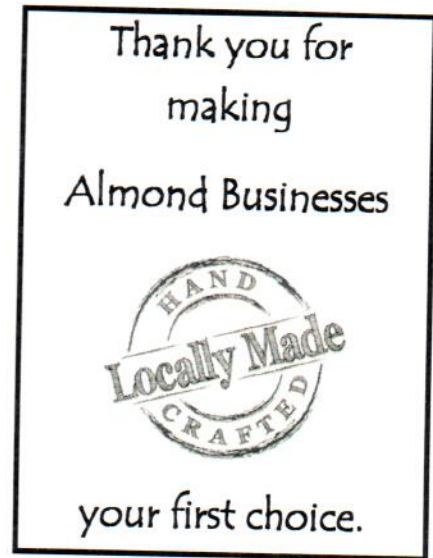
Jamie Mansfield

Town of Almond Highway Superintendent
607-276-5240

ALMOND BUSINESSES:

Artistic Sewing Products: *Funkensteins* – (585) 403-1177 FB
Auto: *Flint's Auto Center* – (607) 276-5485 FB
Auto: *Two Guys Auto Repair* – (607) 276-2292
Auto: *Alfred Almond Auto* – (607) 276-2238 FB
Bounce House Rentals: *Next Level Recreation* – (607) 661-6059 FB
Concrete: *Hanson Aggregates* – (607) 276-5881
Contractor: *Stevens Contracting* - (607) 382-8137 FB
Contractor: *Four Season Builders* – LC & Shawn Clark – (607) 276-6418
Convenient Store & Gas Station: *7-Eleven* FB
Daycare: *Color Our World* – (607) 542-5587
Dog Grooming: *Tails to Nails*
Drywall: *KP* – (585) 506-7471
Electric: *Snyder Electric* (607) 276-5311
Excavating: *D & G* - (607) 276-6416
Flooring: *Mullen Factory Direct Carpet* - (607) 276-5200 FB
Food: *Quest Farm Produce* (seasonal) - (607) 661-8031 FB
Garage Doors: *Overhead Door* - (607) 276-6773
Gifts & Such: *The Silver Sow's Ear* – (585) 596-9618 FB
German Shepherd Breeder: *Hazzard County Kennelz* - (607) 661-0887 FB
Ice Cream & Weekend BBQ: *Dick & Cheryl's Big Dipper* - (seasonal) FB
Metal Work: *Sundance Forge with Bill Banker* - (607) 276-6956 FB
Painting: *Torrey Painting* (607) 276-2798
Plants: *Comes Greenhouse* – (seasonal) - (607) 276-6178
Ponds: *J & J Construction* – (607) 276-6422
Restaurant & Bar: *Muhleisens* - (607) 276-8811 FB
Sand & Gravel: *Almond Aggregates* - (607) 276-6864
Satellite Systems: *True Blue Satellite Systems* - (607) 276-2817 FB
Storage Units: *Oyer Self Storage* - (607) 276-6774
Storage Units: *Dean's Mini Storage* - (607) 324-7073
Veterinarian: *Almond Veterinary Hospital* FB
Web Design & Organic SEO: *David Williams* - (607) 276-2223 FB
Well Drilling: *Root Water Well Specialist* – (585) 593-4304
Yoga: *With Kristin* – (607) 382-7755

*FB – Indicates that the business has a Facebook page.



Your opinions are welcome and appreciated, please feel free to email me with articles you would like to read about and I will see what I can do! Thanks.
newsletter@almondny.com

...Debra Castle-Harvey