

TOWN of LANSING

"Home of Industry, Agriculture and Scenic Beauty"

Box 186
Lansing, NY 14882

DECEMBER 2016

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From the Desk of Edward LaVigne The Town Supervisor

Hello Everyone:

As we enter the holiday season, my hope is that everyone has a safe and healthy new year! We are blessed to live in this beautiful Town of Lansing. The changing of the seasons are a gentle reminder of another cycle about to be completed.

There are two topics I would like to share with you today. The first one is providing value to the residents of Lansing. You might ask yourself "what does that mean"? Well, the town board has embraced the attitude that your hard earned money (that is legally processed through taxation) is the last resort and not the first resort to providing services to the residents of Lansing. We look for cost-effective ways to insure that our buildings, parks and highways are well maintained. A cross training program has been implemented and a shared services strategy has been developed. *The goal is to maximize productivity while minimizing expenses.*

In addition, a fund balance policy and reserve policy have been successfully completed to insure that future projects and repairs are adequately funded without drastic variations in the tax rate. Examples are a new roof for the town hall, a new server for our computers and a generator for town wide emergencies for use at the highway department or equipment purchases. Efficiency and safety are two of our top concerns.

This leads me to the second topic - *Preparing for an Emergency*. If there was an ice storm or a tornado that prevented the use of electricity, could you survive indefinitely? Could you survive in your home for 72 hours? Do you have enough food (including for your pets), water, medication, batteries, flashlights and blankets? Do you have a radio or cell phone that could communicate with the outside world for a short period of time? Who would you contact? Police department, fire department, highway department, neighbors or friends? Rely on yourself first. Try to be self-sufficient. Please ask yourself "What can I do now to be more prepared? Do I have a fire extinguisher? Can I call my neighbors for help? Do my family and friends have a designated meeting point"? If any of these questions are no, perhaps now is the perfect time to make some changes. Our various public servants are passionate to assist you, but they need you to be an active participant in your own wellbeing. If you are in need of guidance please reach out to your local emergency assistance providers.

Once again be safe and healthy. Every day may God bless you, your family and this beautiful place called Lansing.

Town of Lansing

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Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday
7:30 am - 4:00 pm
Fridays
7:30 am - 12:00 pm

Town Board Meetings:

3rd Wednesday of the Month at 6:30 pm

Planning Board Meetings:

2nd & 4th Monday of the Month at 6:30 pm

ZBA Meetings:

3rd Tuesday of the Month at 6:30 pm

News from:

The Parks & Recreation Department



Happy Holidays to you all from the Parks and Recreation Department. It has been another really great year thanks to your support. A special thanks to the many parents who play a very important role by coaching and assisting with our teams and youth players. We truly could not do it without you!

Currently, we are registering for **Travel Basketball**, **Wrestling** and still taking **Skiers & Boarders**, however the Ski Club *program bus has sold out*. We are also still taking registrations for our **Skating Program** starting on January 10th and second session of **Gymnastics** that will start on January 6th. **Basketball** for 2nd & 3rd graders will start (Girls Jan. 3) and (Boys Jan. 4). Additional programs that will start later in winter will be listed on our web page and actual registration forms will go into the schools and are always available here in our office.

This is also the perfect time of the year for anyone who may have an idea for new program offerings. We are always willing and open to discussing and trying new things and look forward to hearing from you.

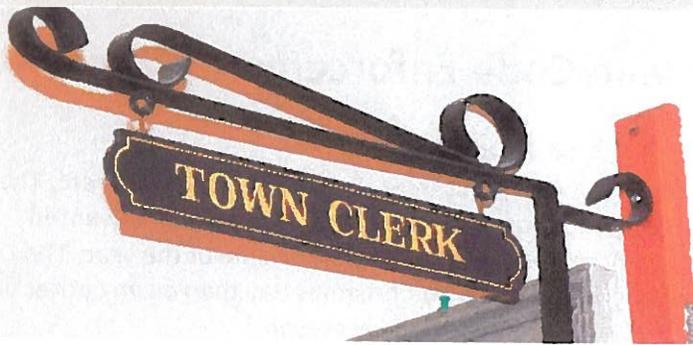
CHRISTMAS or BIRTHDAY GIFT idea?

... Call us or stop in for a Lansing Recreation Program Gift Certificate
Parks and Recreation Department accepts cash, checks, and credit cards

Our Parks also enjoyed a record breaking year. One of the largest upgrade highlights was the complete paving of Myers Park. We are so lucky to have such a talented Highway Department that did all of the paving and marking at a huge savings to us all. We are also very thankful for the great park staff that keeps all of our parks and ballfields so manicured and great looking!

Some important Parks & Marina dates and information for 2017:

- **Pavilion rentals** – may be made starting on TUESDAY, January 3rd. This may be done by phone or in person when we open at 7:30 am. Small Pavilion = \$50
Large Pavilions = \$70.
- **Camping reservations** – may be made starting on MONDAY, January 9th. Our office opens at 7:30 am. Camp sites for the 2017 season will be \$28 per night.
- **Admission to Myers Park** – Day pass is \$5 to enter for all non-residents. Unlimited 2017 Season pass for Non-Resident will be available this year for \$40.
- **Marina and Dry Dock** - Information and registration applications will be ready by late December or early January. This year will be the start to a new marina term, so there will be a lottery draw in early February. The specific date TBA. All of the specific information and pricing for the Marina or Dry Dock will be located on the respective forms. Dry Dock spaces are rented on a first come-first served basis for one year. The Marina slips are rented via the lottery for a 3-year term.



Town Clerk's Office
 29 Auburn Road
 Lansing, NY 14882
 607-533-4142

Deborah K Munson
 Town Clerk

Laura Nemecek
 Deputy Town Clerk

Recently, Debbie Munson was elected as the Town of Lansing Town Clerk for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2017. Laura Nemecek was appointed Deputy Town Clerk in August 2016.



Licenses? Water Payments? Taxes? - Charge It!

The Town Clerk's office has implemented the convenience of credit card processing. In addition to paying by check or cash, we now accept credit card payments, either in the office or over the telephone, for the following licenses: dog, marriage, and conservation. Residents may pay their water bills by mail or in person (cash, check or credit card) at the clerk's office, or from home they can go to our web site and pay with a credit card or e-check. There is a small convenience fee to pay by credit card or e-check. Residents have quickly embraced the option of paying by credit card or e-check.

We are in the process of setting up credit card and online payments for Lansing Town & County Taxes. This should be complete in time for residents to have the option to pay their 2017 Lansing Town & County tax bills.

Please stop in to the Town Clerk's Office or give us a call. Our office hours are: Monday through Thursday 7:30 am to 4:00 pm and Friday 7:30 am to 12:00 pm.

To give residents additional flexibility, the Town Clerk's Office will be open for extended hours on Friday, January 27th from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm and Saturday, January 28th from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.



Quick Links:

Town Clerk Department: <http://www.lansingtown.com/departments/clerk>

Online Water Payments: <http://www.lansingtown.com/departments/clerk/water-bills>

Online Tax Payments: <http://www.lansingtown.com/departments/clerk/taxglance-lookup>

Please let us know how we can serve you; we look forward to hearing from you!

A Note from Planning Department/Code Enforcement Office

Home Fire Safety Tips for the Holidays

The holidays wouldn't be complete without decorations such as Christmas trees, lights and accessories, etc. These decorations make the season more enjoyable, but not being cautious when using them can lead to unwanted situations. Residential fires during the holiday season are more frequent than any other time of the year. The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) reports more than double the number of fires on Christmas Day than on any other day of the year. Following these tips will help keep your home safe during the holiday season:

- Whether you choose a real or artificial tree the good news is they rarely catch fire. But always remember to keep a real tree well-watered and away from any heat sources (fireplaces, space heaters, radiators, etc.) and never use candles on or near the trees.
- If using candles, burn them in a proper holder, on sturdy surfaces away from children and pets. Keep candles at least a foot away from decorations, wrapping paper and anything that can burn and always place candles where they cannot be knocked over. **Make sure you extinguish candles before leaving the house or going to sleep.**
- Only use holiday lights that have been tested for safety, identified by the UL label from Underwriters Laboratories. Check each set of lights for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires and loose connections. Throw away any unsafe light strings and extension cords that show signs of wear or damage. Do not overload electrical outlets or circuits.
- Protect your kids and pets from holiday decorations that can be mistaken for snacks. Keep small ornaments and decorations that tend to break easily or have removable parts out of reach. Remember that mistletoe, poinsettia and holly berries are toxic.
- According to the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), cooking is the number one cause of holiday fires. Never leave food unattended when cooking. You should also keep a kitchen fire extinguisher that's rated for all types of fires.
- If your home has a fireplace, have the chimney inspected and cleaned before using. Use a protective screen around the fireplace to prevent embers from reaching the floor or carpet and other materials. Never use flammable liquids to start a fire in the fireplace. Burn only seasoned wood and **do not** burn wrapping paper in the fireplace (which could ignite suddenly and cause a flash fire).
- If you use a space heater, plug directly into an electrical outlet, not into an extension cord. Give it lots of room—three feet minimum around all sides. Replace old space heaters with newer models that turn off automatically when tipped or that are overheating.
- **Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors.** To keep your family safe from smoke, fire, and carbon monoxide: it's important to install smoke detectors on each floor level and in each bedroom and carbon monoxide alarms on every floor level, especially near bedrooms (**replace the batteries twice a year, when you change the clocks**). In the event of a fire or the presence of carbon monoxide gas, the alarm will sound and give you time to get out of your house safely. For the best protection, interconnect all the alarms throughout the house, so when one goes off they all go off. Combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are available, as well as wireless alarms. **Have them and make sure they are working properly.**

Happy Holidays and be safe.

From the Code Enforcement / Planning Department



SAFETY TIPS FOR FIREPLACES AND WOOD-BURNING STOVES



Wood-burning fireplaces and wood stoves continue to grow in popularity. A good understanding of safety should be a priority to avoid fire caused by wood-burning appliances. Statistics show that fires caused by wood-burning appliances in the United States cause approximately 2,500 injuries and 280 deaths annually.

The following list of tips can help you with safe operation of your wood-burning appliances:

- It is very important that your wood-burning appliance be properly installed. You need to have proper clearances from combustible materials, such as floors, walls, ceilings, and furniture. Follow manufactures specifications. **Proper installation can ensure safe operation of wood-burning appliances.**
- **Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are important for all homes**, but especially important for homes with wood-burning appliances.
- Have a professional inspect your chimney annually before you go to use the wood-burning appliance. The chimney should be checked for creosote buildup, cracks, and bird nests. Creosote buildup is the leading cause of chimney fires.
- **Burn only hardwoods that have been properly dried and seasoned.** Seasoned wood will have cracks in the end grain of the wood and sounds hollow when hit against another piece of wood. **This wood will burn cleaner, longer, and produce more heat.**
- Never start a fire with flammable liquids.
- Garbage, wrapping paper, treated lumber should never be burned in your wood-burning appliance.
- **Dispose of ashes properly.** A metal container with a lid should be used and it should not be placed on a combustible surface like a back porch or deck. Place the ashes away from your home and give them plenty of time to cool off.
- Keep the hearth clean from ashes and any debris that has fallen around your wood-burning appliance.
- Keep an eye on children and pets. Possibly put up a protective fence or barrier around the fireplace to keep children and their toys away from the fire.
- **Building permits are required for all installations of solid fuel burning appliances.** Contact your local Building Code Official for more information.

**Enjoy your wood-burning appliance and be safe.
From the Code Enforcement/Planning Department**

Salt Point Kiosk Dedicated

-- Donna Scott, member, Friends of Salt Point Steering Committee

Sunny, warm weather helped bring out a crowd of around 100 people to celebrate and dedicate the new informational kiosk at Lansing's Salt Point, on Sunday, October 16, 2016. The six panels on the kiosk provide colorful and interesting information about Salt Point trails, history, geology, animals, birds, and plants. The kiosk and its panels were funded by three grants and many donations from the community. At the dedication, Salt Point visitors and supporters listened to short speeches, studied the kiosk's six panels, saw historic photographs of the table salt factory that used to be on Salt Point, and enjoyed refreshments near the shore of Cayuga Lake.

Speakers made brief remarks about various topics related to the kiosk and to Salt Point's history and recent transformation into a quiet, bushy, natural area that provides trails, as well as different habitats for wildlife and birds, including the famous Salt Point Ospreys. Speakers included Lansing Town Supervisor, Ed LaVigne; Lansing Town Parks and Recreation Director, Steve Colt; member of both Cayuga Bird Club and Friends of Salt Point Steering Committee, Donna Scott; Lansing hunter-safety trainer, Larry Sharpsteen; and Lansing Town Historian, Louise Bement. In addition, 4th grade singers from R. C. Buckley Elementary School led by Katie Howell, music teacher, entertained the group.

The ribbon cutting was a fun conclusion to the formal ceremony; the Supervisor, the Historian, and most of the 4th Graders all held the big scissors to cut the red, white and blue ribbon. None of the ribbon was left behind because the children cut it up into cherished pieces which they each took with them.

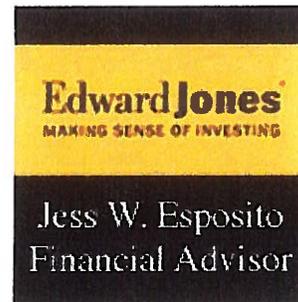
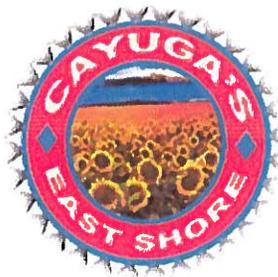
The kiosk was developed by members of the Friends of Salt Point Steering Committee working with Julie Manners, graphic designer from Lansing. The Friends of Salt Point are grateful for the monetary grants from the Cayuga Bird Club, Tompkins Tourism Council, and the John Ben Snow Foundation, as well as the many donations from Lansing citizens and organizations.

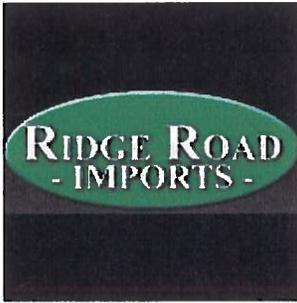
Be sure to stop by the kiosk at the north end of Salt Point next time you are there.

Town Supervisor, Ed LaVigne and Town Historian, Louise Bement along with the 4th Graders, cut the ribbon at the Salt Point Kiosk dedication.



Links to local businesses may be found on the Town's web site under Businesses.
(lansingtown.com)



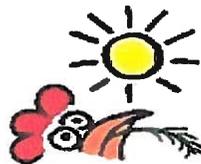


The Grey Barn

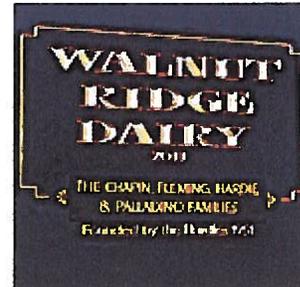


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Sarah Thomson 520-558-1618



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If your business or farm is located in Lansing, NY and you would like to be included on this page, please send your logo (150px x 150px .PNG or .JPG format) and the link to your Web site, Facebook or Twitter page, or other online presence (only one, please) to townweb@lansingrec.com

If you cannot format your graphic yourself, just send what you have and we will format it. If you do not have a logo, please send a picture of your business or farm sign. If you do not have a Web page, send a brief overview (in a Word file or just pasted into your email -- no PDFs) of your business or farm and we'll put it on a page that the logo/sign can click to.

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically or in the mail please email Sue at: smunson@lansingtown.com or call 533-8896