



# Town of Glenville

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Spring 2011  
Newsletter

## From the Highway Department...

*Tom Coppola, Highway Superintendent*

The Glenville Highway Department would like to extend its appreciation to the town's residents. The cooperation with vehicles not parked on town roadways made for a very efficient and successful winter plowing season.

### Yard Waste

Spring brings yard clean up. Residents need to contact their trash haulers for details on pick up and particulars. Their phone numbers can be found on our website, on the Town Clerk's page. Please note that County Waste is the only trash hauler to take yard waste, and only for their customers. As a resident of Schenectady County, residents may also dispose of items at the Schenectady Soil and Water Conservation district offices on Hetcheltown Rd., Glenville. For their hours and permitting requirements, please contact them at 399-6980.

### Bulk Item Program

At the time of print, our 2011 Bulk Item Program has been completed. We would like to thank County Waste and Recycling, Inc., Superintendent Tom Coppola and town board liaison to the Public Works Department, Gina Wierzbowski, for the successful annual service provided to our town residents.

### 2011 Paving Plan

We are currently working on our 2011 Paving plan. With joint funding from the Highway Budget and State funding (CHIPs), we plan to complete paving from last year below Mohawk Avenue.

## From the Building Department...

*Paul Borisenko, Building Inspector*

### Permits

Springtime brings the start of the building season and our department is ready to assist you in the permitting process. For your convenience, all of our permit applications, along with information packets, are available on the town's web site [www.townofglenville.org](http://www.townofglenville.org). Please call us if you have any questions regarding your building project or the permitting process and we will do our best to help.

### Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

This is also the time to check the batteries in your smoke detector and to make sure that your house number is visible from the road. The New York State Building Code requires that a smoke detector be installed on every level of your house, and in each sleeping area. Carbon monoxide detectors are required to be on each level with a sleeping area, and within fifteen feet of the sleeping area door. There is no easier or cheaper way to protect your family.

## From the Desk of the Town Supervisor...



Dear Resident,  
Spring has arrived. You'll notice many of our articles this issue relate to seasonal topics - the Highway Department reminds us of spring cleaning in our yards, the Building Department is gearing up for an increase in building permit requests, and our Parks Department is preparing our parks and recreational areas for what we all hope to be a fun outdoor season. This time of year also marks a focused energy on the tasks at hand for the Town of Glenville.

We recently unveiled the 2011 Strategic Plan which highlighted the goals the town board and I have for this year, and beyond. Our top priorities include economic development, which you will see happening along Rt. 50 this year with the re-development of the Kmart property. We will also maintain our focus to be fiscally responsible, while still delivering the best possible services to our residents. This means you will see a more streamlined approach in utilizing resources, improving efficiencies, and enhancing revenues within the town. For a full, detailed copy of the 2011 Strategic Plan, please visit our website [www.townofglenville.org](http://www.townofglenville.org).

I look forward to continuing my work with this administration, and as always I encourage residents to reach out to me, and the town board with any concerns they may have.

On behalf of the Board, and staff at town hall I hope you enjoy this issue, and the spring season.

Sincerely,

**Christopher A. Koetzle**

Christopher A. Koetzle, Supervisor

## From the Town Clerk's Office...

*Linda Neals, Town Clerk*

### Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic

Take advantage of the free rabies vaccination clinics to be held on Saturday, June 18, at Central Park Pavilion, Schenectady; Saturday, August 13, at the Glenville Senior Center, 32 Worden Rd., Glenville and Saturday, October 15, Duanesburg Fire Hall, Route 7, Duanesburg.

Cats and ferrets will be vaccinated from 10 to 11 a.m., dogs from 11am - 12 noon. Bring previous rabies vaccination certificates. Dogs must be leashed; cats and ferrets must be in carriers. A cash donation will be appreciated.

### Reminder:

Seniors 65+ receive a discount on the dog licensing fees.

## From the Assessor's Office...

### **Glenville Property Assessment Grievance Day**

On Tuesday May 24th, the Glenville Board of Assessment Review will meet at Town Hall, 18 Glenridge Rd., to review all grievances received for Real Property Assessments. Hours are from 9am to 9pm and it is necessary to make appointments. Please contact the Town of Glenville Assessor's Office at 688-1200, ext. 403 for any other information.

### **New \$500,000 Income Limit for Basic STAR Property Tax Exemption**

Beginning January 2011, NYS legislation requires that taxpayers who earn more than \$500,000 will no longer be eligible to receive the Basic STAR exemption.

To confirm your eligibility, your assessor will ask you to provide information about your income. You can also go to [www.orps.state.ny.us](http://www.orps.state.ny.us) for any forms or information you maybe looking for.



*Photo credit: Bill P. Studios*

### **John C. Pytlovany Takes Oath as New Councilman**

John C. Pytlovany was appointed to the Glenville Town Board during their regular meeting of March 2, 2011.

Filling a vacancy created by the resignation of Councilman Mark Quinn, Councilman Pytlovany began serving immediately, with a term of office through year's end.

Councilman Pytlovany was formerly Police Chief in the Village of Scotia, and will serve as the town board liaison to the town's Public Safety Commission. Please join us in welcoming John to his new position!

## Let the Sunshine In

The town of Glenville has completed installation of a solar PV (photovoltaic) system at the Glenville Municipal Center.

The 15kw system was provided through a grant from the New York Power Authority (utilizing Petroleum Overcharge Restitution funds), and will have a link on the town website and an informational kiosk in the Municipal Center lobby.

Next time you are in Town Hall, be sure to check out the savings!

## Recycling Information

Hazardous Waste Disposal dates and recycling information for 2011 are available in the Clerk's Office or by visiting [www.schenectadycounty.com](http://www.schenectadycounty.com)

Visit our website at [www.townofglenville.org](http://www.townofglenville.org) or call (518) 688-1200, ext. 402.

## Glenville Senior Center

The Glenville Senior Center is located at 32 Worden Rd. We offer bus transportation, trips, exercise classes, educational programs, lunch program and much more.

Please call 374-0734 for more information, or check out the Senior Center page on our website, [www.townofglenville.org](http://www.townofglenville.org), for the latest copy of Senior Moments to find out about what's going on and any upcoming events.

## Oktoberfest 2011

After a hugely successful Oktoberfest in 2010, plans are underway for Oktoberfest 2011. Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 1st, from 12-9pm. More details will be announced as they become available on the town's website [www.townofglenville.org](http://www.townofglenville.org) or on [www.glenvilleoktoberfest.com](http://www.glenvilleoktoberfest.com).

## Planning a Party?

Are you planning a Baby Shower, Wedding Shower, Anniversary Party, Fundraising event, Club Meeting, Graduation Party?

We have a place for you to hold your event. The Glenville Senior Center at 32 Worden Rd is available for rental. We offer reasonable rates, seating for over 200 and plenty of tables and chairs. We have a full kitchen for use as well as a podium and speaker system, and offer ample parking.

Please call Cindy Amell at 374-0734 for prices and availability. Feel free to stop by during office hours to see the facility.

## Town to Receive Bike Racks

On March 17th, the Town received notice that its grant application to the Capital District Transportation Authority for two new bike racks was approved.

One bike rack will be installed in Maalwyck Park, next to the maintenance barn/concession stand, while the other rack will be installed at the Freemans Bridge Road Fishing Access site, near the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail and seasonal port-a-john. The bike racks will be delivered to the Town in mid-May, and installed shortly thereafter.



*Pictured above: One of the two Glenridge Road overpasses to be replaced and widened.*

## **Glenridge Road Reconstruction Project to Begin in May**

The long-awaited Glenridge Road reconstruction project will be commencing in May. The project was let on March 17th, with construction to begin 45 days later, following review of the lowest bid by the New York State Comptroller's Office. Major elements of the Glenridge Road project include the following:

- Widening of the two overpasses to allow two-way traffic. The new travel lanes will be 11 feet wide, with six-foot shoulders on both sides.
- Elimination of the traffic signal at the westernmost overpass.
- Construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Glenridge Road and Maple Avenue.

Most of the work scheduled for 2011 is related to utility relocations and grading. The bulk of the "real" construction will take place in 2012 and 2013.

Glenridge Road will be closed temporarily during three different phases of the project, with the longest road closure (72 to 80 days) to take place in the summer of 2013. The other two closures will be relatively brief, lasting one to three days each.

Because Glenridge Road is a New York State highway, the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) is overseeing the project. The contact person at NYSDOT is Carol Breen (388-0342).

### **Water Department**

Please note that water and sewer bills for the Town of Glenville will be mailed out on June 1, 2011.



## **Glenville Parks Updates**

### **Indian Meadows Park**

- BH-BL Junior Baseball League will be hosting the NYS Little League 9/10 year old Championships July 21-27. Go BH-BL! The public is invited to attend.

- Indian Meadows Park experienced a great winter season of cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Abundant snow helps, but volunteer Greg Steven's diligent grooming of the trails is key. Thank you Greg!

- The Rotary Club of Glenville continues to help Indian Meadows as the town's Park partner. This year's project which is underway is improvements to the trails and creation of a 5K course. Thank you Glenville Rotarians for all you do for the Community.

### **Maalwyck Park**

- Maalwyck Park will host the NYS High School Frisbee Championships May 28/29 (Memorial Day weekend). The public is invited to attend this free and exciting event.

### **Andersen Park (Van Buren/Swaggertown Roads)**

- The park's master plan has been adopted, and the back half of the field was used this past fall as a leaf recycling location. This recycling location greatly helped the leaf pickup operation by our Highway Dept. and this program will be continued in 2011. An entrance sign, completion of the parking area and landscaping are planned for 2011. A dog park is planned for construction the following year.

### **Christiana Natural Area**

- This 48 acre parcel at Droms and Onderdonk had its master plan adopted in 2010, and the volunteer Open Space Committee completed boundary sign placement. A small parking area on Onderdonk Road, entrance sign and trail work is planned for 2011.

## **Looking to Volunteer?**

The Fire Departments in the Town of Glenville are staffed entirely by volunteer members of our community. The Village of Scotia is staffed by both career and volunteer members. If it weren't for these dedicated volunteers, we would be faced with a very large tax burden to staff the fire departments with career personnel.

Please consider volunteering at your local fire department. This is an exciting and vitally necessary community service. For more information, please contact your local fire department at the non-emergency numbers below:

Alplaus	399-2288	East Glenville	399-1641
Scotia	381-6115	Beukendaal	377-1788
West Glenville	399-0567	Thomas Corners	399-5621
Glenville Hill	377-3002		

## Financial Outlook

### Where We Are - 2011

As was the case in 2010, the town of Glenville has been experiencing stagnant or declining revenues, increasing costs (driven largely by health insurance and pension expenses), and moderate tax increases, made possible by application of significant portions of the town's fund balance.

However, in 2011's budget, this town board decreased the amount of fund balance used for the first time in many years, from 1.378 million to 1.167 million, or \$211,000 less than in 2010. The need to lessen our dependency on the fund balance to cover operational expenses was almost the sole reason for any property tax increase in the 2011 budget year.

The town has limited sources of revenue other than property tax. Most notably, the mortgage recording tax has decreased from \$900,000 in 2005 to the current level of approximately \$550,000 budgeted in 2011. Sales tax revenue has remained stagnant at about 2.5 million for the past six years.

Over this same recent six-year period, employee pay has increased by over \$1,000,000, health insurance costs increased by over \$1,000,000 and the town's required contribution to the NYS Retirement System has increased by over \$200,000. It's also important to note that town had no required contribution into the retirement system prior to 2001. Today, however, our required contribution into the state pension fund has mushroomed to over \$1 million.

The town has absorbed these dramatically decreased revenues and increased expenses by utilizing a variety of methods, including hard bargaining on employee/union contracts, managing health insurance premiums through increased co-pays and premium sharing, not filling vacant positions, and selective lay-offs. The town has annually walked the financial tightrope between absorbing increased costs, mitigating revenue losses, utilizing fund balance, delivering services, and of course, tax increases as necessary.

### Looking Ahead

The current town board has made fiscal stability and economic development the cornerstones of its administration. Achieving either of these goals necessitates looking out beyond the next year, or the next election cycle. When we look ahead, utilizing current trends and historic data, the forecast is challenging.

As labor costs comprise 70% of a town's budget, that is clearly an area where costs must be controlled.

In 2010, the town reached agreement with two of its three unions, and reached agreement with the third union in early 2011. Against the backdrop of trying to contain current costs (wages and health insurance) the town has also worked to reach those longer term savings that are needed if the town is to stay financially sound.

Until the current economic climate changes, the town will continue to pursue the following strategies:

- Reduce payroll expense wherever possible; leave vacant positions unfilled; reduce staffing where possible.
- Each year, analyze all options to reduce health insurance costs, including prescription drugs, retiree costs, etc.
- Pursue every revenue opportunity, including fees for services, energy revenue (or cost avoidance), etc.
- Continue to pursue shared services arrangements with other municipalities, such as the Village of Scotia and Charlton that are already occurring.
- Allocate Town Board and staff resources to economic development that will pay long term dividends to all taxing entities; schools, the county, the Village of Scotia and the town. We hope the arrival of the Target project and our own \$35,000 economic development investment in 2011 are harbingers of times to come, when investment yields dividends.

Please see the charts below for itemized budget and actual financial information.

	2009B	2010B	2011B	2010B-2011B
Wages + Fica 7.65%	\$5,739,886	\$5,775,635	\$5,584,230	-3.0%
Health Insurance	\$1,834,264	\$1,647,623	\$1,887,754	14.6%
NY Retirement	\$575,753	\$886,471	\$902,544	1.8%*
Total Wages, Health, NYS Retirement	\$8,149,885	\$8,289,729	\$8,374,528	1.0%
Non Personnel Above	\$3,291,302	\$3,265,760	\$3,376,351	3.4%
Total Three Funds Appropriations	\$11,441,187	\$11,555,489	\$11,750,879	1.7%

  

	2009A	2010A	2011B	2010-2011
Wages/FICA	\$5,787,822	\$5,709,148	\$5,584,230	-2.2%
Health Ins.	\$1,393,843	\$1,436,569	\$1,887,754	+31%
NYS Ret.	\$654,427	\$681,982	\$902,544	+32%
Totals	\$7,836,029	\$7,827,699	\$8,374,528	+7%

\*budgeted number only

Notes:1. Pay raises included in 2010 figure. 2011 wages will increase \$212,000 due to union contract settlement.

2. NYS Retirement - Increase of 62% ERS and 20% Police in 2010

3. Health insurance is over budgeted in 2011 due to health insurance savings achieved in new union contracts.

**Impact for 2011 - Health insurance savings will help pay for most of the wage increase.**

## Follow us on Facebook

Beginning mid-May you will be able to find us on Facebook. The Town of Glenville is putting the finishing touches on an official Facebook page. We will be continuously updating the page with up-to-date information our residents need to know. There will also be areas for photos and video, spotlights on Glenville businesses, and announcements regarding town events. You will be able to link to the page through our website, [www.townofglenville.org](http://www.townofglenville.org). Be sure to "like" us!

## Glenville Town Offices

18 Glenridge Road, Glenville, NY 12302

Supervisor	Christopher A. Koetzle	688-1202
Councilman	Alan J. Boulant	688-1201
Councilman	John C. Pytlovany	688-1201
Councilman	Sid Ramotar	688-1201
Councilwoman	Gina M. Wierzbowski	688-1201
Assessor	Darlene A. Abbatecola	688-1200 ext.403
Attorney	Michael Cuevas	688-1200
Building Inspector	Paul Borisenko	688-1200 ext. 405
Code Enforcement Officer	Terri Petricca	688-1200 ext. 405
Chief of Police	Michael Ranalli	384-3444
Police Lieutenant	Richard Conley	384-0123
Comptroller	George Phillips	688-1206
Dog Control Officer	Rick Trzeciak	384-0137
Engineering Tech II	Dana Gilgore	688-1200 ext. 406
Highway Comm. Public Works	Thomas Coppola	382-1406
Historian	Joan Szablewski	399-8555
Director of Operations/Parks	James MacFarland	688-1221
Justice Department	Judge Brian Mercy	688-1200 ext. 409
Justice Department	Judge Davenport	688-1200 ext. 409
Economic Dev & Planning Dept	Kevin Corcoran	688-1200 ext. 407
Police	Emergency	911
Police	Non-emergency	384-3444
Receiver of Taxes	Joan Menhinick	688-1200 ext. 404
Town Clerk	Linda Neals	688-1200 ext. 402
Senior Center	Cindy Amell	374-0734
Water/Sewer	Cathy Visco	688-1200 ext. 317

## Village of Scotia Offices

4 N. Ten Broeck Street, Scotia, NY 12302

Office	Name	Phone
Mayor	Kris Kastberg	518-374-3195
Trustees	Joseph Rizzo	518-374-1071
	E. Thomas Neals	518-374-1071
	Thomas Gifford	518-374-1071
	Catherine Gatta	518-374-1071
Chief of Police	Thomas B. Rush	518-374-3848
Police Department	Emergency	911
	Non-Emergency	518-384-2244
	Administrative	518-374-3110
Fire Chief	Charles Keller	518-381-6114
Fire Department	Emergency	911
	Non-Emergency	518-381-6115
Clerk - Treasurer	Maria Schmitz	518-374-1071
Deputy Clerk - Treasurer	Maria Schmitz	518-374-1071
Deputy Treasurer	Newe Haile	518-374-1071
Village Fax	518-374-0542	
Department of Public Works	Andrew Kohout / Superintendent	518-393-2159
Parks & Recreation	James Marx / Superintendent	518-374-8611
Village Justice	Jason A. Frament	
Acting Village Justice	Brian Mercy	518-374-2099
Clerk to Village Justice	Audrey Osterlitz	518-374-2099
Building & Plumbing Inspector	Luis Aguero	518-377-8741
Attorney	Lydia R. Marola	
Village Historian	Michelle Norris	518-374-2371
Flint House	Michelle Norris	518-374-1071
Assessor	Darlene Abbatecola	518-688-1200 ext 40
Dog Control Officer	Richard Trzeciak	518-384-0137
Glenville Senior Center	Cindy Amell	518-374-0734