

Fall 2009
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Minoa News

Serving the People of Minoa

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Minoa News

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The Minoa News
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on a continuing basis.

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Minoa, NY 13116
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Or they may be
E-Mailed to:

wbrazill@villageofminoa.com

The Village of Minoa
Board meets regularly
on the 1st and 3rd
Monday of each month
at the Minoa Municipal
Building @ 7:30 pm..

Village Office

240 N. Main St..

Mon.-Fri.

8:30- 4:30

656-3100

Fax

656-0825

www.villageofminoa.com

News from the Mayor

Fall is here already and time waits for no one, especially in today's world where technology makes it possible to create information and communicate with anyone instantaneously with limited physical effort. In our village, manual labor plays a major role in the services that we provide and all benefit from; whether it is plowing snow, picking up trash, repairing a sewer line, repairing equipment, putting out a fire or taking someone to the hospital. It is the responsibility of the Village Board to evaluate the way we provide services and we strive to deliver them in the most efficient and safest way possible. We are currently in the process of reviewing two major vehicles; a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) trash compacting truck and a 100' ladder truck for the Fire Department. Both are replacing current vehicles that have served their useful life and are due for replacement.



The Village of Minoa is pleased to announce that through the combined efforts of Clean Communities of CNY, NYSERDA and the Department of Energy; we were awarded a \$60,000 grant towards the incremental cost of converting a diesel trash truck to a CNG trash truck. The proposed trash truck will have a body that sits lower to the ground than our current model, which will help prevent back injuries. The trash truck has a larger fuel capacity that runs on Compressed Natural Gas with zero emissions that will increase the air quality for the employees working on the truck. It will also provide us with a lower cost of operation because of the differential in fuel costs between diesel and CNG. The application process was competitive and only two villages in the State of New York were awarded this grant for vehicle purchases. We plan to keep the old packer as a back-up for municipal services and shared services.

For the past two years we have been evaluating the need for a 100 foot ladder truck for the Minoa Fire Department. With increased growth throughout the Fire Protection District, changing building industry standards that include longer roof lines, lightweight roof construction, and new homes that are set-back further from the road, we show a need for this ladder truck. I've heard many people mention that the Villages of East Syracuse, Fayetteville and Manlius have ladder trucks, so why do we need one too? Well, the main reason for considering this vehicle is for the safety of our volunteer firefighters and the fact that we need this vehicle to be the first on the scene to get close enough to battle a fire. During a working fire time is of the essence and we cannot afford to wait 10-15 minutes for a neighboring Fire Department to respond with similar equipment.

Increased State and Federal mandated training requirements has resulted in a dwindling volunteer force over the past few years. While we are still fortunate to provide fire protection with an all volunteer force, which saves our community tens of thousands of dollars each year, the vehicle we are considering reduces the need for manpower on any given scene. The proposed ladder truck would provide a safe way to evacuate someone from a burning building, protect the CSX rail yard, and give the firefighter the ability to vent the roof of a fully involved building by staying on the truck ladder instead of using a roof ladder. If a roof collapses, there is potential to lose a firefighter or cause serious physical injury if they are using a roof ladder.

Continued on next page.

Continued Mayor's Message.

I recognize that these equipment purchases are expensive and in this tough economy, it weighs heavily on my mind. However, if we can prevent injuries to our work force, in the long run we have saved money in insurance claims and we have made every effort to protect the health and well being of our employees and dedicated volunteers. We are currently reviewing the bid results that range from \$738,554.00 to \$760,241.00 for the ladder truck. The Town of Manlius and the Village of Minoa elected officials had the opportunity this past spring to preview a demonstration of the ladder truck we are interested in purchasing. As a reminder, we provide fire protection services to the Town of Manlius residents from the Erie Canal on the south, to Taft Road in the north. This area includes five (5) schools in the ESM School District, Erie Village, two nursing homes, the CSX rail yard, and covers a twenty-five square mile area that protects over 16,000 residents. The cost of the vehicle would be covered by the Village of Minoa and our fire protection contract with the Town of Manlius. The purchase of this ladder will provide an updated, more efficient and safer piece of equipment. **If you are interested in learning more details, please feel free to attend the Village Board Meeting scheduled for November 16th at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building located at 240 N. Main Street, Minoa.**

On behalf of my staff and the Village Board, I wish each and every one of you a happy and safe holiday season.

MAYOR RICHARD DONOVAN APPOINTED TO NEW YORK CONFERENCE OF MAYOR'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We are pleased to announce that Mayor Donovan has been appointed to the Executive Committee of the New York State Conference of Mayor and Municipal Officials. Mayor Gary Vegliante of the Village of West Hampton Dunes, President of the Conference of Mayors, made the selection. The Executive Committee is responsible for establishing the overall policy for the Conference of Mayors.

In announcing the appointment, Mayor Vegliante stated, "Mayor Donovan is a proven municipal leader who has been an active participant in the NYCOM programs. His longstanding commitment to quality public service in New York State makes him well-qualified for the appointment, and he will be a major asset to our organization. I look forward to working with Mayor Donovan to implement our statewide agenda."

Mayor Donovan was elected as Mayor of Minoa in 2004 after serving as the Village's Deputy Mayor for eight years and Trustee for 14 years. He is currently President of the Onondaga County Mayors Association, and was a member of the Town of Manlius' Zoning Board of Appeals, Disaster Preparedness Committee and Emergency Services Committee.

The Conference of Mayors is the statewide association representing New York's cities and villages. Since 1910, NYCOM has united local government officials in an active network of legislative advocacy, technical assistance and municipal training.

Congratulations Mayor Donovan!

A Word from Codes Enforcement

Remember that from November 1, 2009 through April 15, 2010 overnight parking is not allowed on Village streets or Village owned parking lots between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m.

The fine is \$20.00 and your car will be towed away at the owner's expense.



Free Thanksgiving Dinner

The First United Methodist Church of Minoa, 246-248 East Ave., Minoa, NY cordially invites the Senior Citizens and US Veterans to enjoy a delicious FREE Thanksgiving dinner, at noon in the church dining hall on November 14, 2009. We are pleased to have this opportunity to honor the veterans and to thank them for their many unselfish acts of courage in protecting our freedom and our beloved country. Please join us in celebrating this special holiday. **Reservations are required and must be submitted by November 7, 2009.** Call Nadine Monroe 656-3117 or Loretta Sturick at 656-8375.

Bazaar and Craft Show

The First United Methodist Church of Minoa, 246-248 East Ave., Minoa, NY will be hosting a Bazaar and Craft Show on November 7, 2009 from 9:00 – 3:00 at the church.

Annual Tree Lighting

The Village of Minoa's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place Dec. 6, 2009. The children's party starts at 5:00 pm and followed by the Tree Lighting Ceremony at 6:00 pm. Please join us at the Minoa Municipal Building to start the holiday season.

Community Choir Concert

Performing: "A Thrill of Hope", Dec. 6, 2009 at 7:30 pm.
Location: First United Methodist Church of Minoa
246-248 East Ave., Minoa, NY 13116.
Please join us for this joyous holiday event. Handicap accessible.

Annual Santa Detail

The Fire Trucks will be going out on Sunday, December 20, 2009 carrying Santa's helpers throughout the Village and the Fire District. They will leave the Fire Station at approximately 10:00 am. Santa and his helpers will be giving out candy canes to children of all ages.

Stories from Minoa Elementary

A new book about Minoa Elementary School chronicles the years 1966-1984 as seen through the eyes of its principal, **Bob Kinsella**. ***Both Sides of the Desk***, a book filled with funny and heartwarming stories, will take the readers on a nostalgic journey and show them what goes on behind the scenes in a small-town elementary school. The book chronicles somber happenings like the way the children in the school reacted to the unexpected death of a fifth-grade teacher as well as happy events like Halloween, when the kids marched around the front circle in their costumes.

*A long-time kindergarten teacher asked a boy what he wanted to be when he grew up, "A kindergarten teacher just like you," the boy said.
The teacher laughed: "Can I visit you when you are teaching?"
He looked at her lovingly, "Mrs. Ford, you'll be in heaven by then."*

The book will bring back memories for anyone who attended a small-town elementary school in the 60s or 70s. But it should also appeal to parents who had kids in school during those years as well as young people who want to read about what school was like when their parents were kids.

The book *Both Sides of the Desk* can be purchased from Amazon.com for \$14.95, with all profits from the sale of the book going to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in memory of Jimmy DeMarco, a third-grader who attended the school in the 1960s and who died of cystic fibrosis.

To learn more or to buy the book please visit:
www.bothsidesofthedesk.com



BOTH SIDES OF THE DESK

A Look Inside an Elementary School



Robert Kinsella
Janine DeBaise

Calendar of Events

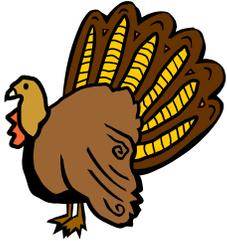
NOVEMBER 2009

11/1/09 ESM Youth Sports Board Meeting – 5:30 pm – Municipal Building
11/2/09 Sewer Penalty Billing
11/2/09 Village Board Meeting – 7:30 pm – Municipal Building
11/3/09 Election Day – Village Offices Open
11/4/09 Justice Court – 5:00 pm/Doors Open 4:30 pm – Municipal Building
11/11/09 Veterans Day – Holiday for Village Employees – Village Office Closed
11/12/09 Planning Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building – Site Plan Review
11/16/09 Village Board Meeting – 7:30 pm – Municipal Building
11/17/09 Food Pantry – 10:00 – 11.00 am, 6:00 – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building
11/18/09 Justice Court – 5:00 pm/Doors Open 4:30 pm – Municipal Building
11/26/09 Thanksgiving – Holiday for Village Employees –Village Office Closed
11/27/09 Holiday for Village Employees – Village Office Closed

DECEMBER 2009

12/1/09 Sewer Penalty Billing
12/2/09 Justice Court – 5:00 pm/Doors Open 4:30 pm – Municipal Building
12/6/09 Children's Christmas Party – 5:00 pm – Minoa Fire Department
12/6/09 Tree Lighting Ceremony – 6:00 pm – Municipal Building
12/6//09 Community Choir Concert – 7:30 pm – First United Methodist Church
12/7/09 Village Board Meeting – 7:30 pm – Municipal Building
12/10/09 Planning Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building (AS NEEDED)
12/13/09 ESM Youth Sports Board Meeting – 5:30 pm – Municipal Building
12/15/09 Food Pantry – 10:00 -11:00am, 6:00-7:00 pm – Municipal Building
12/16/09 Justice Court – 5:00 pm/Doors Open 4:30 pm – Municipal Building
12/19/09 Boy Scout Troop - Luminary Delivery
12/21/09 Village Board Meeting – 7:30 pm – Municipal Building
12/20/09 Santa Claus Detail by the Minoa Fire Dept – 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
12/24/09 Holiday for Village Employees – Village Office Closed
12/25/09 Christmas - Holiday for Village Employees – Village Office Closed

*Golden Age Meeting @ 11:00 am – Municipal Building



Message from the Village Clerk/Treasurer



Suzanne M. Snider
Clerk / Treasurer

TAX REMINDER

Payment of Village Taxes remaining unpaid as of November 3rd can be made to the Onondaga County Chief Fiscal Officer, PO Box 1004, Syracuse, NY 13201-1004 between November 3rd and November 20th. If not paid by November 20, 2009, unpaid taxes will be added to your January 1, 2010 Town/County Tax Bill.

If you should have any comments, suggestions, or questions you may have concerning the Village of Minoa and its operation please do not hesitate to contact me at (315) 656-3100 or by email: ssnider@villageofminoa.com.