

Winter 2011
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Minoa News

Serving the People of Minoa

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Minoa News

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will be published
on a continuing basis.

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The Village of Minoa
Board meets regularly
on the 1st and 3rd
Monday of each month
at the Minoa Municipal
Building @ 7:00 pm

Village Office

240 N. Main St..

Mon.-Fri.

8:30- 4:30

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News from the Mayor

Another year is quickly passing and winter is almost upon us. With that in mind I'd like to remind everyone that we **must** keep our streets clear of leaves, trash and yes snow. It is not only dangerous, but illegal to put anything in the roadway. Please assist our great DPW staff in keeping our community safe and clean.

Since our last newsletter we have made the commitment to keep our community based ambulance. To continue to support that effort we have purchased a new ambulance to replace our five year old rig. The life expectancy of an ambulance is five years and they should be turned over in that time span to keep the dependability of such a key apparatus. We have also just issued a bid for a new fire truck which will replace a 1992 truck that has structural defects that are too expensive to repair in a truck that old. We are also making a commitment to the fire and ambulance volunteers for a bunk in program and will soon be adding a bunk room at Station One and possibly Station Two to support the volunteer effort for standby personnel. I encourage anyone interested in volunteering for the fire and/or ambulance service for the greater Minoa community to do so. Anyone interested in volunteering for the Fire Department please call 656-9206, and if interested in volunteering for the ambulance please call WAVES and ask for Jeanne or Luda at 487-1212 or you can e-mail membership@wavesambulance.com. Members of the fire department may also volunteer on the ambulance. Volunteers help the Village control the cost of such vital services as well as protect the life and property of our community.

The Waste Water Treatment Facility/Cleanwater Educational Research Facility (CERF) continues to do educational internships through SUNY ESF and ESM. Last year, our first official year with ESM, our internship program saw five seniors participate. All five individuals gained a great deal of knowledge at our facility, and gained additional experience for their college resumes; all were accepted to their college of choice. This year's internship has enrolled twenty-one Junior and Senior students who will have the same real life experiences as the students from last year, and the opportunity to earn college credits through our partner SUNY ESF while giving the Village of Minoa extra manpower, at no cost, to do a variety of innovative projects and testing. Our village was honored to be chosen by NYCOM (New York Conference of Mayors) to give a seminar on our CERF project at the recent Department of Public Works Fall School held in Saratoga Springs.

I would like to congratulate Pine Grove Middle School Librarian Sue Kowalski for her efforts in the school library being selected, out of 84,605 libraries across the country, as the National School Library Program of the year. I am proud to say the Village of Minoa had a small part in the success of their program which started with a phone call to me, a few years ago, from Mrs. Kowalski, (who was at Minoa Elementary at the time) looking for community involvement and support for library week. Minoa Elementary started the sign project promoting the importance of libraries that we collectively participate in every year with the homemade signs the students made which we proudly display throughout village.

We continue to look for collaborative efforts that support, enhance and improve the quality of life in the greater Village of Minoa Community making our village a desirable place to call home.

On behalf of the Village Board and Staff, we wish all of you a happy and safe Holiday Season.



A Word from the Minoa Ambulance

Executive Director Minoa Ambulance – Albert Kalfass

At first glance, it seems that the only thing in common between Minoa and Camillus are the letters A, M and I. A closer look at the two reveals many more commonalities than at first glance. Both communities share a desire to retain and maintain the uniqueness that makes each a community in every sense of the word. A community is where neighbors are neighbors, not just “the folks next door”; where the local leaders are of the people and for the people; where families not only live, but also grow; where doing the right thing is more important than doing the easy thing.

Earlier this year, the Village of Minoa was faced with making serious decisions regarding their ambulance service. As with all communities today, the economy is forcing a reduction in services. It is unfortunate that services previously taken for granted are now under close scrutiny, with the possibility of elimination. It was with that in mind the Village Board began a lengthy process to review the ambulance service. Unwilling to accept below standard services, delayed responses or under-developed personnel, the Village requested and received numerous proposals from several ambulance services to review their options.

Some say vision is the ability to see what is there. Others say vision is the ability to see the possibilities of what can be. The Village Board certainly proved their ability to use vision by both definitions. In what has become an historical moment in the field of Emergency Medical Services in Onondaga County, the Village of Minoa has entered into an agreement that is definitely “out-of-the-box” thinking. Their contractual agreement with the Western Area Volunteer Emergency Services (WAVES), a service based in Camillus, New York, has provided the Village an answer to their dilemma.

This agreement guarantees that the Village ambulance service remains a part of the Village. It will not become just another area of coverage to a larger service. It is, quite simply, almost a re-invention of what had been pre-existing: a community ambulance service whose purpose it is to provide the highest level of pre-hospital care to the residents and visitors of the community; to provide community education through several courses such as CPR, First Aid, Child and Babysitting safety, among others; and to keep the ambulance involved in its community as well as keep the community involved in its ambulance service.

While the ambulance may be staffed by members of WAVES, and the career personnel paid by WAVES, rest assured, the people that make up this “new” ambulance service in Minoa all share the vision that the Minoa community is their priority. Several employees from the Village service have remained on staff with WAVES to continue serving their community. WAVES welcomes volunteers from the Minoa community to help staff and maintain the Village ambulance, just as the volunteers from the Camillus community do in Camillus.

While Camillus lies to the west, and Minoa to the east, these communities now have one more commonality: an ambulance service designed to serve their communities as well as the community needs.

A Word from Codes Enforcement

Remember that from November 1, 2011 through April 15, 2012 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.





Annual Tree Lighting

The Village of Minoa's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place Dec. 4, 2011. The children's party starts at 5:00 pm followed by the Tree Lighting Ceremony at 6:00 pm. Please join us at the Minoa Municipal Building to start the holiday season.

FOOD DRIVE – The Heaven's Pantry will be accepting non-perishable food items at the Fire House throughout the ceremony. Please help those in need for the holidays.

Annual Santa Detail

The Fire Trucks will be going out on Sunday, December 18, 2011 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.

Take Precautions Against Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Recently, the Village of Minoa's Fire Department has responded to two (2) incidents involving carbon monoxide. Although the incidents did not result in an injury or death, one of the incidents was determined to be so dangerous that the occupants of the residence were lucky not to have died.

Since February 22, 2010, a New York State law requires carbon monoxide detectors to be installed in nearly every house and apartment in New York. "Amanda's Law" requires property owners to have at least one carbon monoxide detector on the lowest level with a bedroom.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is produced whenever any fuel such as natural gas, oil, kerosene, wood, or charcoal is burned. If appliances that burn fuel are maintained and used properly, the amount of CO produced is usually not hazardous. However, if appliances are not working properly or are used incorrectly, dangerous levels of CO can result.

Carbon monoxide is odorless and colorless, therefore is not always obvious when it has become a problem in a home. If you experience symptoms that you think could be from CO poisoning, get fresh air immediately and go to an emergency room and inform the health care provider that you suspect CO poisoning. Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include: *shortness of breath, mild nausea, mild headaches, dizziness, light-headedness, redness of skin and sleepiness.*

Tips to Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

- Install a carbon monoxide detector which is battery powered or has a battery back-up and is certified by Underwriters Laboratories (UL)
- Be sure that your fuel-burning appliances such as oil and gas furnaces, gas water heaters, gas ranges and ovens, gas dryers, gas or kerosene space heaters, fireplaces, and wood stoves are inspected by a trained professional at the beginning of every heating season. Be sure that the flues and chimneys are connected, in good condition, and are not blocked.
- Chose appliances that vent their fumes to the outside whenever possible.
- Read and follow all the instructions that come with any fuel-burning device.
- Do not idle the car in a garage, even if the garage door to the outside is open. Fumes can build up very quickly in the garage and living area of your home.
- Do not use a gas oven to heat your home, even for a short time.
- Do not use a charcoal grill indoors, even in a fireplace.
- Do not sleep in any room with an unvented gas or kerosene space heater.
- Do not use any gas-powered engines (mowers, weed trimmers, snow blower, chain saws, small engines or generators) in enclosed spaces.
- Do not ignore symptoms, particularly if more than one person is feeling them.





A Word from the Department of Public Works

Winter Time!!!! Please do not park on or block sidewalks in the Village. The Village plow cannot get through. When plowing out driveways and sidewalks, **make sure the snow is not placed in the roadway or on the sidewalks.**

Failure to comply with this request will be subject to violation notices and/or tickets.

If you need assistance, please call Tom Petterelli, Superintendent of D.P.W. at (315)656-7574 or by email at minoadpw@twcny.rr.com

Calendar of Events

DECEMBER 2011

- 12/01/11 Sewer Penalty Billing
- 12/01/11 *Golden Age Meeting @ 11:00 am – Municipal Building
- 12/04/11 Children's Christmas Party – 5:00 pm – Minoa Fire Department
- 12/04/11 Tree Lighting Ceremony – 6:00 pm – Municipal Building**
- 12/04/11 ESM Youth Sports Board Meeting – 6:00 pm – Municipal Building
- 12/05/11 Village Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building
- 12/08/11 Planning Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building (**AS NEEDED**)
- 12/14/11 Justice Court – 5:00 pm/Doors Open 4:30 pm – Municipal Building
- 12/17/11 Boy Scout Troop - Luminary Delivery
- 12/18/11 Santa Claus Detail by the Minoa Fire Dept – 10:00 am – 2:00 pm**
- 12/19/11 Village Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building
- 12/26/11 Holiday for Village Employees – Village Office Closed**

January 2012

- 1/2/12 New Years Holiday for Village Employees – Village Office Closed**
- 1/3/12 Sewer Penalty Billing
- 1/3/12 Village Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building
- 1/4/12 Justice Court – 5:00 pm/Doors Open 4:30 pm – Municipal Building
- 1/5/12 *Golden Age Meeting @ 11:00 am – Municipal Building
- 1/8/12 ESM Youth Sports Board Meeting – 6:00 pm – Municipal Building
- 1/12/12 Planning Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building (**AS NEEDED**)
- 1/16/12 Martin Luther King Holiday for Village Employees – Village Office Closed**
- 1/17/12 Village Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building
- 1/18/12 Justice Court – 5:00 pm/Doors Open 4:30 pm – Municipal Building

*Golden Age Club meets every Thursday – 11:00 am - Municipal Building



Message from the Village Clerk/Treasurer

TAX REMINDER

If you have not paid your village taxes, all unpaid taxes will be added to your January 1, 2012 Town/County Tax Bill.

Sewer penalty billings are scheduled for the first of December, January and February and the next sewer billing is scheduled for February 1, 2012 for sewer usage from August 1, 2011 through January 31, 2012.

If you should have any questions regarding the above or any other topic, please feel free to call me at the Village Office at (315) 656-3100.



Lisa L. DeVona
Clerk / Treasurer