

# New equipment may mean tax hike

By **DAVID L. SHAW**  
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**WATERLOO** — The average village property owner could pay an additional \$25 in village taxes this year, about the cost of a large pizza and a dozen wings at Ciccino's.

The hike would occur if the Village Board adopts a 2014-15 village budget of \$3,468,994, up 3.2 percent over the current fiscal year. That spending plan contains an increase in the tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed value. It would rise 33 cents, to \$18.60.

A homeowner with property assessed at \$75,000 would see a jump from \$1,370 to \$1,395, an increase of 1.9 percent.

"The main reason for the increase is the purchase of replacement equipment for the police, fire and street departments, a new roof on the public works garage, an increase in the snow removal budget and the fact that there will be a village election in 2015," village Administrator Don Northrup said. "We're also

## Waterloo village budget

	Budget	Tax levy	Other revenues	Tax rate	Assessed value
2013-14	\$3,361,135	\$2,505,933	\$855,202	\$18.27	\$137,136,977
2014-15	\$3,468,994	\$2,556,050	\$912,944	\$18.60	\$137,391,152

starting the second year of a three-year plan to pay down our general fund debt. We're using our surplus reserves to do that and, when it's done, we'll start building the reserves back up again."

The village currently has a \$1.22 million general fund debt, Northrup reported.

The water budget is projected to rise from \$1.47 to \$1.54 million, but water rates will be unchanged from this year.

The sewer budget would increase from \$688,641 to \$1.01 million, reflecting an ongoing wastewater treatment plant upgrade. Sewer rates were raised last year and will not increase this year, Northrup said. However, the sewer plant will have to add another operator because of the upgrades and expansion of the plant.

Compensation to the mayor would be \$8,675. Each of the four trustees will be paid \$5,750. Those figures represent a 2 percent increase over this year, the same granted other village employees.

The proposed 2014-15 village budget is available for inspection at the Village Hall during normal business hours.

A special Village Board meeting will be conducted at 7 p.m. today at the 41 W. Main St. village offices to discuss the tentative budget, as well as a new employee performance appraisal process and other personnel matters.

A public hearing on the spending plan is 7 p.m. April 14, at the start of the regular Village Board meeting.

A new budget would go into effect June 1.

## Festival of fairy tales



Lucinda Buck / Finger Lakes Times

Grace Knapton of Penn Yan helps Adian Pollack, 7, pick out a costume with Ella Pollack and Vivian Hoad, both 11, at the Fairytale Festival held recently in the Dundee Central School gymnasium.

# Fireplace blamed for mobile home fire

**Finger Lakes Times**

**WATERLOO** — A fire that displaced four people Saturday morning is being blamed on a faulty fireplace.

Seneca County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to the mobile home at 1731 Blue Sky Road about 9 a.m., along with Border City fire-

fighters. Mutual aid came from Waterloo, Geneva, Oaks Corners, Varick, Magee and Junius.

Deputies said the home is owned by Nancy Snyder. Escaping without injury were 27-year-old Elizabeth Snyder, 30-year-old Jessica Ordway, 36-year-old Eddie Branch Jr. and 5-year-old Landon Thompson.

Two other children in the home at the time, 8-year-old Dominick Damick and 5-year-old Christopher Damick of Geneva, also got out unharmed. The mobile home and its contents, which were uninsured, were a total loss.

The American Red Cross assisted the family at the scene.

# EQC to be updated on solid-waste plan

By **DAVID L. SHAW**  
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**HOPEWELL** — The Ontario County Board of Supervisors' Environmental Quality Committee will get a progress report on the review and adoption process for Ontario County's 10-year Solid Waste Management Plan at 4 p.m. Wednesday.

County Planning Director Thomas Harvey will provide the update. The state Department of Environmental Conservation approved the plan earlier this year, and it now must go through the State Environmental Quality Review Act process, a public hearing and a vote by the full board before it

becomes final.

Also on Wednesday's EQC agenda:

- Members will hear an update on the application Casella Waste Systems, operator of the Ontario County Landfill in the town of Seneca, filed with DEC. It's for a permit to expand the existing deposit area another 43.5 acres within the existing footprint of the 389-acre landfill, extending its life from 2015 to 2028.

- Casella Regional Engineer Jerry Leone will update board members on landfill operations. He will speak on authorization to apply for a 10-year renewal to the existing landfill permit, the 2013 annual report and a report from the landfill's odor consultant.

# HWS to hold discussion on impact of landfills

The 2nd annual Finger Lakes Landfill Summit will be 6:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Albright Auditorium on the Hobart and William Smith Colleges campus on St. Clair Street in Geneva.

Speakers will discuss the impacts of having two large landfills in the Finger Lakes, Seneca Meadows in Seneca Falls and the Ontario County Landfill in the town of Seneca, strategies for reducing those impacts and what happens when they close.

**The speakers include:**

- Geneva Ward 3 and 4 county supervisor Charles Evangelista, speaking on the county's 10-year Solid Waste Management Plan.
- Barbara Eckstrom,

Tompkins County solid waste manager.

- Graham Fennie, founder and CEO of Epiphery LLC, an organic waste processing company.

- Attorney Gary Abraham, speaking on local control of solid waste management.

- Mark Venuti, town of Geneva supervisor.

- Stephen Churchill, member of the Seneca County Board of Supervisors and chairman of that board's Environmental Affairs Committee.

Audience questions will follow the presentations.

The event is sponsored by the Finger Lakes Institute and the Geneva City Council.

# Defibrillators purchased through donations

**Finger Lakes Times**

**SENECA FALLS** — The town police department recently purchased automated external defibrillators and high-visibility vests through a donation from Seneca Meadows Inc.

"The Seneca Falls Police Department is committed to ensuring the safety and well being of the community, and Seneca Meadows is a valued partner in helping us to deliver on that commitment," Police Chief Stuart Peenstra said in a press release.

Peenstra added that every SFPD patrol vehicle

has a defibrillator, allowing officers to respond to cardiac arrest calls. Since the program was established several years ago, town police have made 15 CPR saves.

Through the donation, each officer also has been issued a high-visibility traffic safety vest for accident and emergency scenes. Peenstra noted that each year, several thousand law enforcement officers from around the country are either seriously injured or killed because of poor visibility on roads or not wearing high-visibility clothing.



Submitted photo

Seneca Falls Police Chief Stuart Peenstra (right) demonstrates how an automated external defibrillator works to Mark Benjamin, community relations director for Seneca Meadows Inc. At left is SFPD Sgt. Tim Snyder.

# Geneva Town Board to talk about water

By **JIM MILLER**  
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**GENEVA** — A joint effort by several municipalities could bring town water to properties along Route 14, north of Gambee Road.

The Geneva Town Board will discuss the project tonight. Members are expected to schedule an information meeting for April 30.

Along with Geneva, the project involves the town and village of Waterloo, the town of Junius and the town of Phelps. Geneva Supervisor Mark Venuti said the municipalities hope to cooperate to bring water to the areas where their borders intersect.

"The engineers have figured this out, that they can make a good loop and get all of us in it," he said. "This is another good example of intermunicipal cooperation."

The municipalities could save money on the project by sharing resources, he said.

Discussion about the project began about a year ago in the other municipalities, and residents there have expressed interest. The April 30 meeting is intended to allow Geneva officials to gauge local support.

If the Town Board approves it, the meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the town hall.

Tonight's Town Board agenda also includes:

- **E2E:** The town has received official word that the state will credit e2e with creating three jobs during its unsuccessful effort to establish a manufacturing facility in Geneva. That will reduce the amount that e2e owes the state by \$150,000 — and reduce the town's potential liability by the same amount.

The town acted as a conduit for a \$750,000 state grant to e2e. The company must repay the money because it defaulted on its job-creation promises. If it does not, the state could hold the town liable.

The town disbursed \$463,864 in grant funds to e2e. The company has so repaid \$200,000 thus far.

The state's decision leaves a balance of \$113,864.

- **BIKE LANES:** The board will vote on a resolution authorizing MRB Group to prepare a funding application to create walk/run/bike lanes on Carter Road, Gambee Road and North Genesee Street.

Venuti said hopes the lanes will

improve safety. However, he said he also has another motivation.

"There is a push, and we're interested in it — we have a Sustainability Committee — to support transportation modes other than automobiles," Venuti said. "We think that would be a nice addition to that area and would link up with the city ... and connect in with the school, which also has a path."

- **WATER DISTRICT 6:** The board will discuss replacing the water in district 6, which includes County Road 6 north of North Street and County Road 4.

The project is expected to cost \$486,000, but the town has \$144,705 in surplus available from Water District 12.

The board will vote on a resolution authorizing MRB Group to prepare an application for funding for the project.

- **REVALUATION:** The board will vote on whether to postpone the planned 2015 reassessment of town property until 2016.

Town officials do not think they need to update the roll and say they will not incur any penalties by waiting a year.

# POLICE BEAT

Presumed innocent until proven guilty



## ONTARIO COUNTY

**HOPEWELL** — Karen M. Ray, 57, of Keuka Lane, Manchester, was charged Friday by sheriff's deputies with offering a false instrument for filing.

Ray is accused of filing paperwork with county Child Protective Services that contained false information.

She was arraigned in town court and remanded to the county jail in lieu of bail.

## YATES COUNTY

**MIDDLESEX** — A local

man suffered head and internal injuries in a one-vehicle crash Saturday night on Bare Hill Road.

Sheriff's deputies said Steven M. Rippey, 37, of South Vine Valley Road, was ejected from his vehicle. He was taken by Mercy Flight to Strong Memorial Hospital, where he was listed in guarded condition Tuesday morning.

Deputies are investigating the cause of the crash.

## DWI ARRESTS

The following people were charged with driving while intoxicated:

- Madison K. Parker, 18, of Fairport, by Canandaigua police about 2 a.m. Sunday on North Main Street in Canandaigua; also ticketed with speeding.

- Kenneth L. Wamsley, age unavailable, of Rochester, by Wayne County Sheriff's Office deputies about 3 a.m. Saturday after a one-car crash on Ridge Road in Ontario; also charged with improper lane usage and refusal to submit to a breath test.

The DWI charge is aggravated because deputies said his blood alcohol content

was at least 0.18 percent.

Wamsley, who wasn't hurt, was issued an appearance ticket to Ontario Town Court.

- Nancy L. Joslin, 48, of Route 247, Rushville, by Ontario County Sheriff's Office deputies about 4:30 a.m. Sunday after a one-car crash on Lake to Lake Road in Gorham; also ticketed with not wearing a seat belt.

Joslin was taken by ambulance to Thompson Hospital in Canandaigua for treatment.

She was issued an

appearance ticket to Gorham Town Court.

- Shane R. Plantz, 23, of Savannah, by Wayne County Sheriff's Office deputies about 3:30 a.m. Saturday after a one-car crash on Route 89 in Savannah; also charged with seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance.

Deputies said Plantz hit a telephone pole but wasn't hurt.

Plantz was issued an appearance ticket to Savannah Town Court.

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