

The Brighton Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE BRIGHTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Town Hall Renovation Making Progress

Construction is well under way on the renovation of the historic Brighton Town Hall. Construction Manager Chris Alcocer reports that work is targeted to be completed in early November with a CO obtained in the third week of the month.



Ron Johnson sands the gloss finish off the wood to prepare it for refinishing with a satin finish sealer.

The rewiring has been completed, stone piers at the bottom of the front steps were replaced and roofing trim repaired. The hardwood floors are being patched with matching birch wood, and, along with the wood ceiling and walls, will be sanded and refinished. Light fixtures, windows and the

west entrance door are on order. Where possible, existing materials are being repaired rather than replaced.

In 2003 the Town Hall was placed in the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places, and materials and some construction procedures must adhere to historic requirements. A craftsman style bungalow, the hall was designed and built in 1914 by local master builder Ben Muncil, builder of many great camps in Brighton, including Marjorie Merriwether Post's Camp Topridge and President Coolidge's 1926 summer White House, White Pine Camp.

The project is being paid for with a \$200,000 matching grant from the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, member item grants from Assemblywoman Duprey and Senator Little, the Justice Court Assistance Program, a grant from the state governor's office, contributions from the town's General Fund, and private donations.

Town To Get Fed Funds for Washed Out Roads

FEMA aid is coming for town roads washed out during the spring flooding. Brighton expects to get federal funds for North Brook Road, Keese Mills Road, Slush Pond and Clark-Wardner Roads for much needed repairs.



Above: Finish carpenter Alex Carpenter shows one of the new stone piers that were constructed. Below: Electrician Bill Jabaut works on an electrical outlet.



OFFICE	DEMOCRATIC A ★	REPUBLICAN B ★	CONSERVATIVE C †	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	★ John M. Silvestri	★ John A. Laitinen	† John A. Laitinen	1A	1B	1C	2A	2B	2C	3A	3B	3C	4A
JUSTICE OF SUPREME COURT (Over for any THREE)		★ Robert J. Chasun	† Robert J. Chasun	5A	5B	5C	6A	6B	6C	7A	7B	7C	8A
SUPERVISOR (Over for ONE)		★ Peter Strope	† John Quenell	9A	9B	9C	10A	10B	10C	11A	11B	11C	12A
TOWN COUNCILPERSON (Over for THREE)		★ Lydia Wright	† Daniel C. Whitson	13A	13B	13C	14A	14B	14C	15A	15B	15C	16A
TOWN CLERK (Over for ONE)		★ Elaine W. Sater	† Elaine W. Sater	17A	17B	17C	18A	18B	18C	19A	19B	19C	20A
Superintendent of Highways (Over for ONE)		★ Andy Cray	† Andy Cray	21A	21B	21C	22A	22B	22C	23A	23B	23C	24A
TAX COLLECTOR (Over for ONE)		★ Holly G. Huber	† Holly G. Huber	25A	25B	25C	26A	26B	26C	27A	27B	27C	28A
TOWN JUSTICE (4 year term) (Over for ONE)		★ Nik Santiago	† Nik Santiago	29A	29B	29C	30A	30B	30C	31A	31B	31C	32A

2012 Town Budget to be "Capped"

NYS local property taxes are increasing at a much higher rate than inflation, with annual increases averaging 5.6% for towns, according to a report issued by NYS Governor Andrew Cuomo. To get control of property taxes, the state instituted a property tax cap law that limits annual property tax increases levied by local governments and school districts to 2% or the rate of inflation, whichever is less.

For school districts, the tax levy cannot exceed the 2% cap unless 60 percent of voters approve it during the annual budget vote process. For local governments, 60 percent of the total voting power of the governing body is needed to increase local property taxes beyond the cap. Brighton's town board includes five voting members, meaning three would need to vote to raise taxes beyond the 2% cap.

The state is expecting that the tax cap will encourage local governments to cut costs by consolidating services, thereby reducing duplications of efforts.

The cap applies to local fiscal years beginning with 2012. The Brighton town board is currently conducting meetings to finalize its 2012 budget, and has until November 20 to adopt it.

Over the Hill Auction Set

The property known as Over the Hill located in Paul Smiths on State Route 86 will be one of the properties auctioned off by Franklin County on October 13 at 11 am. The Town placed a special levy of \$17,676 on the proper-

Election Day is November 8
Our polling place will be the Town Garage. Hours are from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

← Here is a sample of the ballot.

ty for reimbursement of building demolition and removal costs in 2010. Payment of the levy has been received from the county.

The auction will be held at Mo's Pub & Grill, 3357 US Route 11 in Malone. Approximately one acre, the property is valued at \$30,292. For more information on the property, and auction terms and conditions go to <http://www.haroff.com>.

Food Pantry Thrives in New Home

The Town of Brighton Food Pantry, under the leadership of Barbara Marshall, is doing well in its new home at the town park in Gabriels. According to Barbara, the pantry is now more centrally located and children who accompany adults can play in the park. This important service is provided by the town in conjunction with St. Paul's Church in Bloomingdale and Church of the Assumption in Gabriels.

For some time the pantry operated out of the town hall, then moved to the new highway garage in 2005. After many years of successful operation there, the pantry needed more space and the town park became an ideal location. With funds provided by area businesses, private donors, and the town's general fund, an addition was built onto the park field house by Highway Department personnel and the pantry moved into its new home in the beginning of 2011.

Barbara has seen a notable increase in the number of people making use of the food pantry while seeing donations decrease. Food, clothing and household items are greatly needed so if you have items to donate, please call Barbara at 327-3297 to make drop-off arrangements. The food pantry is open to the local public the first and third Thursdays of the month from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., and also on an emergency basis.