

THE PORT HENRY FACT FINDER

Reporting the News and Needs of Port Henry and Surrounding Area

vol. 5, issue #24

August 15, 2015

**This issue has been made possible by the generous support of:
North Cheever Sailing Club, Penelope the Clown, Pat and Josie Tom**

THE 126th ANNUAL PORT HENRY LABOR DAY PARADE AND CELEBRATION

Yes! **126** years of celebrating! beginning Saturday September 5th with **Port Henry's very first Sailing Regatta** which will be held at the new Port Henry Marina, designated race time: 1pm. How is that for beginning a celebration?!

This year's first place regatta winner will receive a fully paid electric deck (slip) for the 2016 boating season, compliments of the Port Henry Marina. There will be other prizes from local Sponsors. David Koran, Port Henry Marina's manager and Organizer of the regatta said, "Port Henry is the ideal location for such an event with its multiple Marinas, and plenty of water front and public areas. This is also a great opportunity to support our local merchants by bringing boaters from other parts of New York and Vermont. We want to get the word out that Port Henry is the Labor Day weekend place to be." Continuing Saturday's great opening act to Sunday's festivities and parade, a DJ will be at the beach at 6:30 pm and, at dusk, fireworks will begin on the Pier.

Sunday, September 6th at 10 am, on Main and Church Streets, vendors will be offering their wares; children will be playing many different games, having their faces painted by Penelope the Clown and riding ponies; people will be noshing on BBQ chicken and all sorts of other edibles. Then - **The Parade!** at 1 pm, down Broad and Main; after which, more indulging in the above pleasures - until everyone is totally, happily exhausted.

NOTE: The Moriah Chamber of Commerce has asked for suggestions from the community as to who should be the Grand Marshall for this Labor Day Parade. Names have been coming in, but the suggestion box is still open until August 22nd. Send your suggestion(s) to the Chamber at P.O. Box 34, Port Henry, call 250-1050 and leave a message, visit the Chamber on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday from 10 am - 3 pm, or email at moriahchamber@gmail.com. You will have to be at the parade to be among the first to know who was chosen.

A PLEA OF NEED

Labor Day needs many volunteers to assure the day is as wonderful as planned and not a burden to anyone. A few hours of volunteering in some way will allow everyone time to enjoy the celebration. If someone on the committee asks you, do sign up or give a call to one of the following numbers: 546-3161, 546-7935 or [518-250-1050](tel:518-250-1050). Be sure to leave a message if no one picks up the phone.

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING NOTES, AUGUST 10th

The Board welcomed Pat Tom as their new trustee, replacing Staley Rich who requested release from trustee duties after finishing her work on Zoning.

The Campground is completely filled except for four camper sites and one tent site available for transients.

The Fact Finder would like to remind the residents of Port Henry just how many hours our **volunteer** Firemen donate, of **their** time, to **our** safety. Since the beginning of 2015, the department has responded to 39 calls (300.89 man-hours); OSHA Training (511 man-hours); additional training participation (642 man-hours); and it seems the hours required to maintain the equipment are just a bonus gift, not counted in the total man-hours expended (1,453.89). For all of us, Fact Finder would

like to say “Thank you!”

Chief Hughes, Captain Phil Smith and Daniel Olszanski from Adirondack Emergency Vehicles, LLC traveled to Beindlee Fire Apparatus in Huntsville, Alabama to inspect the 1999 Pierce 100 foot Platform Aerial Truck being considered for purchase. Upon close inspection, the consensus was to decline this purchase due to multiple maintenance items with this truck. After further evaluation, the fire department requests the bid process be started for a USED 1998, or later built, 75 foot Quint aluminum aerial ladder - not to exceed \$199,999.00 and which will **not** raise taxes. The last being a major requirement of a fire truck purchase.

Chip Perry reported that the water/sewer facility has been power washed and painted. A few complaints about drinking water were received and the cause has been corrected.

Beyond its usual village “house-keeping”, Port Henry’s DPW has been black-topping streets and will be draining the dam and cleaning it.

Elizabeth Street is a ***completed project!*** Rice Street is next in line for the same kind of complete re-do. At last, the impossible seems to have become possible – the year-after-year headache, man-hole 13 project (formally aka the Manhole 13 Sanitary Sewer Reconstruction Project) finally has all the necessary money-ducks lined-up and another completed project will become a reality! Manfred Construction of Port Henry won the project bid, a nice bonus, having a Port Henry business do the job. The village is required to have a Planning Board to satisfy certain requirements in petitioning for grants and other assistances. At least three more people need to step-up to the plate before the village can move forward in certain areas. You will be told what is expected of you and becoming a member of the Planning Board is simple, a sentence on a letter to the Mayor and Board of Trustees, “I am interested in being a member of the Planning Board.”, sign your name and drop it off at Village Hall. You could mail it, but why spend a stamp?

A letter was received from Sue McHone of Lewald Street, requesting that a large sign be erected on Main Street to alert visitors and residents that there is a “**public beach**” near the Campground. She also suggested that the Village consider renting out kayaks, canoes and paddleboards at the beach which would provide local residents, as well as visitors an option for recreational use of the lake. Fact Finder has heard that, at the Bulwagga Bay campsite, paddle boards seemed to be choice #1, the “in” thing.

The Board revisited the previously tabled decision on the Water Adjustment Request received from Ronald Van Slooten, Sr. on the water and sewer billing structure for the Van Slooten Marina property. The decision was to stop flat-rate billing on water and go to metered billing. Billing for sewer service would be for one residential and two commercial properties, with a flat-rate business sewer. There would be three sewer debts and one water debt. This decision was in line with the handling of apartment buildings.

A special meeting was held on July 31st to enact a resolution to set a date to hold a referendum (vote) on the proposition of dissolution. This Special Election will be held on **Tuesday, October 27, 2015**; voting will be held at the Port Henry Firehouse, the polls will be open from 12:00 pm – 9:00 pm. Only registered voters of the Village of Port Henry are permitted to vote on this dissolution proposition. All village residents should (at all times) exercise their right to vote but particularly in this case, as the decision made by this vote will affect, not only villagers’ lives but the lives of **all** residents of the Town of Moriah - for at least six or seven years, if the vote is **against** dissolution and **forever**, if the vote is **for** dissolution.

It is never wise to vote for something you don’t know about, so with that in mind, the Village Board has set dates for three Informational Meetings prior to the October 27th vote. These meetings will be held at the **Knights of Columbus Hall** at 4253 Main Street at 7:00 pm on **Tuesday, August 18th** (instead of August 19th as planned), **Wednesday, September 23rd** and **Wednesday, October 21st 2015**.

LIBRARY NOTICE

Friends of the Sherman Free Library will hold a book sale on Saturday, September 5th, from 10am-2 pm, at the Library in Port Henry. Choose from a wide assortment of titles in many areas of interest and fill one bag with books for \$3.00 or two bags for \$5.00. For further information, call the library at 546-7461.

MORIAH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

The Moriah Chamber of Commerce is very happy to welcome its new office manager Andrea Anesi, a much needed asset for an effectively functioning information source for the business community of our area. As the best way of introducing Andrea, Fact Finder would like to share with its readers a portion of the letter of introduction she sent to the Chamber members.

“Although many of you already know me, I want to take a moment to officially introduce myself as the new office administrator for the Moriah Chamber of Commerce. I look forward to working with all of you toward a goal of progress for our area businesses and for our entire community.

One of the benefits of membership in the Moriah Chamber of Commerce is that we help promote your business to local residents, tourists, newcomers, the greater Lake Champlain region and beyond. Social media can be an effective marketing tool, so we will be starting a weekly member highlight post on the Chamber’s Facebook page. If you have a special deal going on, have news about your business, are hiring or just would like to promote to a larger audience, please email your information to moriahchamber@gmail.com. We’ll get the word out!

Andrea Anesi

Office Administrator

Moriah Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 34

Port Henry, NY 12974

[518-250-1050](tel:518-250-1050)”

The Chamber office is currently open three days a week – please feel free to stop in and discuss your present business needs or just to say “hello” and get to know each other. At present, the Chamber’s hours of onsite operation are:

August 1 to September 6

Wednesday 10 am - 3 pm

Thursday 10 am - 3 pm

Friday 10 am - 3 pm

September 7 (Labor Day) to October 30

Thursday 10 am – 3 pm

Friday 10 am – 3 pm

Future hours are to be announced at a later date. Please note that the Chamber email is periodically checked remotely when the office is not open, so rest assured that your message will be received and responded to.

JUST FOR FUN

Humor from the mind of Steven Wright.

All those who believe in psycho-kinesis, raise my hand.

The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

How do you tell when you’re out of invisible ink?

My mechanic told me, “I couldn’t repair your brakes, so I made you horn louder.”

When everything is coming your way, you’re in the wrong lane.

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

42.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.

I woke up one morning and all of my stuff had been stolen..and replaced by exact duplicates.

I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.

Borrow money from pessimists – they don't expect it back.

What happens if you get scared half to death twice?

I intend to live forever – so far, so good!

The next Fact Finder will be out **Saturday, August 22, 2015** (yes, only one week will have passed between issues, this puts the Fact Finder back on its correct distribution schedule). Still to be found at Mac's, Moriah Pharmacy, Sherman Free Library, George's Restaurant, John Eisenberg's Service Center, Ken and Paula LaDeau's Champlain's Best Wash, Don Foote's "Miss Port Henry" Diner, and TFCU.