



RENSSELAER CITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 13

LATE DECEMBER 2024

From the Desk of Mayor Stammel

Office of the Mayor



Mayor Mike Stammel
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Highlights in this month's issue



Senior Center Updates



Fill-a-Truck Parade



Firefighter Exam



As the holiday season fills the air with joy, warmth, and togetherness, I want to take a moment to extend my heartfelt wishes to each and every one of you. This time of year reminds us of the importance of community, compassion, and the simple joys that bring us together.

In Rensselaer, we are fortunate to be part of a vibrant, caring, and resilient community. Throughout this past year, we have faced challenges and celebrated successes, always finding strength in one another. The holiday season offers a wonderful opportunity to reflect on these shared experiences and to express gratitude for all the ways we support and uplift each other.

Let us use this season to spread kindness and generosity. Whether it's helping a neighbor, volunteering, or simply sharing a smile, small acts of goodwill can make a big difference. As we gather with family, friends, and loved ones, let's also remember those who may be less fortunate or facing hardships, and find ways to extend our care and support. Looking ahead to the new year, I am filled with optimism and hope for all that we will achieve together. Our city's future is bright because of the incredible people who call it home - people like you who contribute to making the City of Rensselaer such a special place.

On behalf of the City of Rensselaer, I wish you and your family a joyful holiday season and a new year filled with health, happiness, and success.

City of Rensselaer | 62 Washington Street Rensselaer, NY 12144 | rensselaerny.gov

Rensselaer Firefighters Fill-a-Truck Event

The Rensselaer Fire Department had another successful Fill-a-Truck Event on Saturday, December 14th. This year, the department incorporated a pick up parade which was supported by other local fire departments. Donation boxes were also placed at several local businesses including Cugino's Pizzeria and Boys & Girls Clubs of Southern Rensselaer County. President Hennessy stated, "It's little events like this to bring people together and help others like we do day in and day out." The fire department thanks the City of Rensselaer Common Council, Rensselaer City Police Department, East Greenbush Fire Company, South Schodack Fire Department, Best-Luther Fire Department and Mohawk Ambulance Service. The fire department also thanks Walter S Pratt & Sons Inc. for the donation of a sign again this year to advertise the event.



News from the Assessment Office

Renewal applications have been mailed for the Senior Aged, Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income and the Non-profit Exemptions.

Any property owner turning 65 years of age during 2025 with a household income of less than \$107,300 should visit the City website or stop in to obtain forms to file for the Enhanced STAR Exemption. All exemptions and renewals are to be returned to the Assessor's Office by March 1st, 2025.

If you have questions, please email sharon.martin@rensselaerny.gov or call the Assessment office at (518) 462-5421.

City Newsletter - Subscription & Article Submission

The Rensselaer Newsletter began its first launch this past January. Since then it has become the place City Residents look to for news and facts about what's going on in the City. The Newsletter is produced and designed by volunteers Dave Ellis and Madeline Rizzo with content provided by City Hall employees and residents.

Inquires regarding articles, submission of articles or to be added to the Newsletter distribution list please send an email to Info@rensselaerny.gov

We look forward to hearing from you!

Common Council Workshops & Meetings

Are you interested in what's happening in Rensselaer? Then please consider attending the Common Council Workshops & Meetings to get the real scoop on what's happening in your City. The Workshops are held every 1st and 3rd Monday of each month and the Council Meeting are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays both at 6:30 PM at City Hall (see attached Calendar for dates for this month at the end of this Newsletter).

Agendas are posted on the City's website at <https://rensselaerny.gov/meeting-agendas-and-minutes> each Monday prior to the Workshops. Your attendance and input are important and your community needs your support. We hope to see you there!

Civil Service Firefighter Exam

To view the job announcement and registration requirements for this open competitive examination, please visit: <https://rensco-portal.mycivilservice.com>

EXAM NUMBER: 89156010

EXAM TITLE: FIREFIGHTER (CITY OF RENSSELAER)

EXAM DATE: MARCH 1, 2025

LAST FILING DATE: JANUARY 24, 2025

STARTING PAY: \$46,911.00

Brush Cleanup & Preparation of Yard Waste

BRUSH: LEAVES / GRASS CLIPPINGS MUST BE IN PAPER BIODEGRADABLE BAGS. WE WILL NOT PICK UP LEAVES / CLIPPINGS IN PLASTIC BAGS. ALL BRUSH / BRACHES, TWIGS SHALL BE NO LONGER THAN 4 FT (NOT OVER 40 LBS) AND MUST BE TIED TOGETHER. CUT DOWN TREES / LIMBS OR EXTREME LARGE PILES WILL BE CHARGED BASED ON SIZE.

YARD WASTE PICK UP SCHEDULE: MONDAY MORNINGS (EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS)

BRUSH / TWIGS, LEAVES, GRASS CLIPPINGS, CHRISTMAS TREES (PLACE CURBSIDE SUNDAY NIGHT)

HOLIDAY PICK UP SCHEDULE CHANGE:

CHRISTMAS DAY

WEDNESDAY 12/25/24

CHANGE OF PICK UP DAY

Normal Tuesday Pick Up is Monday, Normal Wednesday Pick Up is Tuesday, Normal Thursday Pick Up is Thursday and Normal Friday Pick Up is Friday

NEW YEAR'S DAY

WEDNESDAY 1/1/25

CHANGE OF PICK UP DAY

Normal Tuesday Pick Up is Monday, Normal Wednesday Pick Up is Tuesday, Normal Thursday Pick Up is Thursday and Normal Friday Pick Up is Friday

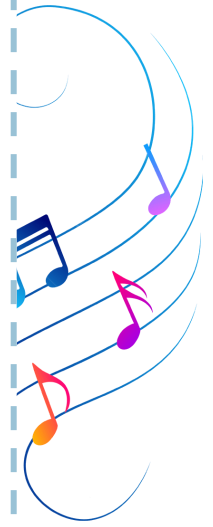


Spotlight into events
at Rensselaer
Senior Center

Rensselaer Seniors Spotlight

Our new Senior Center is open and waiting for you to join us. As of December 20th, the Schodack Senior Center will be getting a brand new facelift and we are pleased to host the seniors from there. We serve lunch Monday - Friday at 12:00 noon. We do ask for a reservation by calling 518-487-4427 so we are prepared for you. The suggested contribution is \$3.00. Activities will be available starting in January and yes we will be having Bingo every fourth

Tuesday of the month. We will try to incorporate the Schodack classes with ours so you won't miss out on anything. We are also in need of gently used quality clothing for our Boutique. At this time, we are accepting all clothing, shoes, pocketbooks and jewelry emphasizing spring and summer. You can donate from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM Monday - Friday. We hope to see you soon at our new center located at 6 Ridge Road in Rensselaer.



Welcome to the East Greenbush - Rensselaer Senior Center!

Do not sit home alone or sit all day long in your favorite chair watching TV. You have a beautiful center that is yours. Good nutrition is important to your physically. Social stimulation is important to you mentally. You are going to love it here! Call today to make a lunch reservation at 518-487-4427. We are open Monday thru Friday, 9 AM - 3 PM. The center is located at 166 Columbia Turnpike (aka 6 Ridge Road) close to where in the old Kmart used to be in Rensselaer.



Orange Crush Flag Football



It was an honor to spend some time with this Football team during their Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at the Rensselaer Volunteer Ambulance Hall. It was a great success for them. Let's all wish them the best of luck as they gear up for their national competition in Florida!

A Heartfelt Thank You!

On Saturday morning December 14th our community came together to ensure no one goes without. We were blessed with not just one, but two successful food distributions that served so many of our residents in need.

Regional Food Bank Distribution

Special thanks to Pastor Ken and the incredible volunteers from OCFS, local volunteers, the Boys & Girls Club, and the unwavering support of the Rensselaer Fire Department, Police Department and the DPW. Your efforts ensured this event ran smoothly and made a difference in countless lives.

Street Soldiers Monthly Distribution

Gratitude goes out to the dedicated Street Soldiers team and the various volunteer church groups who came together to make this monthly tradition a continued success. Both events were well attended and supported by so many volunteers who braved the weather to lend a hand. Your generosity and commitment to our community do not go unnoticed. Thank you all for your compassion and dedication. Together, we make Rensselaer stronger!



Rensselaer Seniors Corner

MENU

Rensselaer County Department of Unified Family Services- AGING Nutrition Services- 518-270-2740
Cancel Call: 518-270-2664 Troy: 518-270-2740 Schodack: FOR THE GRAB AND GO-518-477-6591
Hoosick Falls: 518-686-7561 Grafton: 518-279-3413 Rensselaer-GRAB AND GO 518-487-4427

December 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2) Chicken Patty w/White Country Gravy Buttery Mashed Potatoes Normandy Blend Sweet Glaze Biscuit Diced Peaches	3) Ham Steak w/Pineapple Glaze Red Potato Sweet & Sour Red Cabbage Rye Bread Fresh Fruit	4) Walking Street Taco Seasoned Beef, Lettuce, Tomato, Cheese, Sour Cream Corn w/Black Beans Tostitos Cookie	5) Salisbury Steak w/Old Fashioned Gravy Mashed Sweet Potatoes Peas & Onions Wheat Bread Fresh Fruit	6) Open Faced Leftover Sandwich Turkey w/Gravy Mashed Potatoes Buttered Wax Beans White Bread Cinnamon Applesauce
9) Sloppy Joe Whole Kernel Corn Sliced Carrots Round Roll Fresh Fruit	10) Veal Parm. Pasta w/Sauce Italian Blend Garlic Bread Stick Tropical Fruit	11) Lemon Garlic Cod w/Tartar Rice Broccoli Florets Peanut Butter Crackers	12) Chicken Breast Marsala Italian Roasted Potatoes Spinach Dinner Roll Fresh Fruit	13) Italian Style Sausage & Peppers Pasta w/Sauce Italian Blend Italian Bread Yogurt
16) Harvest Cheddar Turkey Burger Mashed Sweet Potatoes Mixed Veggies Round Roll Diced Pears	17) Cheeseburger Tater Tots Winter Squash Round Roll Fresh Fruit	18) CHEF'S CHOICE	19) Christmas Special Dinner Roast Pork Loin w/Gravy Parmesan Mashed Potatoes Peas & Pearl Onions Dinner Roll Christmas Dessert	20) Chicken Tenders w/Ranch Sweet Tater Tots Sliced Carrots Graham Crackers
23) L/S Hot Dogs w/Mustard Vegetarian Baked Beans Seasoned Sauerkraut Hot Dog Roll Mandarin Orange Cup	24) Sliced Turkey Cold Plate w/Lettuce and Mayo Macaroni Salad Cottage Cheese w/Pineapple White Bread Granola Bar	25) MERRY CHRISTMAS! 	26) Butter Crumb Cod w/Tartar Parslied Rice Broccoli Florets Fresh Fruit	27) BBQ Pork Rib Garlic Butter Noodles Brussel Sprouts Wheat Bread Yogurt
30) Stuffed Shell and Eggplant Cutlet w/Sauce Italian Blend Veggies Italian Bread Cookie	31) Chicken Cordon Bleu Garlic Butter Noodles Spinach Yogurt		Nutrition Abbreviations: NCS-No Concentrated Sweetens L/S-Low Sodium (salt) Soft-Low Fiber UNS-Unsweetened	This Program is funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging Older Americans Act, NYS Office for the Aging and Rensselaer County. Suggested Contribution \$3.00 per meal

****MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

Suggested contribution \$3.00 per meal. Guests under 60 must pay \$5.00 per meal. No one is denied due to the inability to contribute.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS BEGINNING IN JANUARY

Lunch Served every weekday 12:00 pm-1:00 pm

Chair Yoga every Monday 10:00 am

Board / Card Games every Tuesday 10:00 am

Line Dancing every Tuesday and Wednesday 10:15 am—11:30 am

Exercise class every Wednesday 12:45 pm

Art every Thursday 10:00 am—12:00 pm

City of Rensselaer Events and Meetings

DECEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 ZBA Applications Due Common Council Workshop 6:30 @ City Hall	3	4 Common Council Meeting AND PUBLIC HEARING 6:30 @ City Hall	5	6	7
8	9 Planning Commission Meeting 6:30 @ City Hall	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Common Council Workshop 6:30 @ City Hall	17 Planning Applica- tions Due	18 Common Council Meeting AND PUBLIC HEARING 6:30 @ City Hall	19	20	21
22	23	24 City Hall offices to close early Clerk / Treasurer close at 1 PM	25 Merry Christmas 	26	27	28
29	30	31 City Hall offices to close early Clerk / Treasurer close at 1 PM	1 Happy New Year 2025			

DIRECTORY

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CITY COURT CLERK	518-453-4680		
CITY CLERK	518-462-4266	nancy.hardt@rensselaerny.gov	NANCY HARDT
ENGINEER	518-694-3968	bill.smart@rensselaerny.gov	BILL SMART
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FIRE HOUSE, BROADWAY	518-465-3243	bill.brooking@rensselaerny.gov	BILL BROOKING JR. FIRE CHIEF
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