



RENSSELAER CITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2025

Office of the Mayor



Mayor Mike Stammel
518-426-9511

mike.stammel@rensselaerny.gov

Highlights in this month's issue



New Businesses



NEW! Veterans Corner



History of Easter

Mayor Enhances City Communication with Video Updates



Rensselaer Mayor Mike Stammel has long used Facebook to keep residents informed about important city news. Now, he is expanding his communication efforts by introducing video updates on his official page. These videos will provide timely information on neighborhood improvements, ongoing initiatives, and upcoming developments throughout Rensselaer.

The video updates will be posted as needed, ensuring that residents receive the latest news without unnecessary delays. While they won't follow a fixed schedule, the goal is to share relevant updates whenever significant developments arise. This initiative reflects the mayor's continued commitment to transparency and fostering better communication between city officials and the community.

In addition to project updates, Mayor Stammel will use these videos to highlight new business developments and future plans for Rensselaer, giving residents an inside look at what's ahead for their city. These updates will serve as a direct line of communication, keeping the community engaged and well-informed.

Residents are also encouraged to check out the city's monthly newsletter, available on the Facebook page *Mike Stammel-Mayor*. Those who prefer email updates can subscribe by sending a request to info@rensselaerny.gov. The newsletter provides further details on city initiatives, upcoming events, and important announcements.

With these new video updates complementing his long-standing use of Facebook and the monthly newsletter, Mayor Stammel continues to enhance community engagement, ensuring that Rensselaer residents stay connected to the city's growth and progress.



Transformative Developments

City of Rensselaer Greenlights Redevelopment Projects on Columbia Street Corridor



The City of Rensselaer Planning Commission has approved two projects aimed at revitalizing vacant properties along the Columbia Street Commercial Corridor, signaling a fresh wave of economic development in the area.

The former Aldi's location at 307 Columbia Street will soon be transformed into a Caliber Collision, an auto body repair shop. The project, spearheaded by 307 Columbia Street, LLC, an affiliate of Oldacre McDonald from Nashville, Tennessee, is set to break ground in the coming months and is expected to be operational later this year. Architectural Design Guild, a St. Louis-based firm, has committed to incorporating greenspace enhancements to improve the site's aesthetics. The development is projected to bring approximately 15 well-paying jobs to the community, along with a technician training program and the Changing Lanes initiative—a specialized career skills program designed for military service members transitioning into the auto body industry. Additionally, Caliber Collision is known for its community engagement, supporting local food pantries, youth programs, and other charitable initiatives.

Just down the road, at 49 Columbia Street, Polsinello Realty Corporation received Site Plan Approval to convert a former car wash into a retail building. Matt Polsinello, who is leading the redevelopment, envisions an active commercial site that will contribute to the growing vibrancy of the corridor. The retail building will be situated near other established businesses such as Walgreens, Dollar Tree, St. Peter's Health Partners Health Center, and several convenience stores and gas stations.

Continued on Page 3

Transformative Developments (Continued from Page 2)

The City of Rensselaer offers various resources to support development, including tax incentives through the Industrial Development Agency, an Economic Development Revolving Loan fund, and membership sponsorship in the Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce for new businesses. The city also collaborates with National Grid, which provides access to 18 economic development programs tailored to promote business growth.

City officials and business leaders expressed optimism about the projects:

“These two new businesses will boost the Rensselaer economy with new commercial activity, good jobs, and active involvement in our community,” said Mayor Mike Stammel.

Jack Bonesteel, CEO and Treasurer of the City of Rensselaer Industrial Development Agency, highlighted the increasing interest from commercial developers, noting, “There has been, and continues to be, significant housing development in the City of Rensselaer. Developers are starting to notice this and are beginning to bring commercial and retail establishments to the community.”

Tom Hulihan, the City’s Director of Planning and Development, emphasized the collaborative nature of the projects, stating, “These developers were very interested in coming to Rensselaer and responsive to incorporating our ideas for improvements to their property.”

From the developers’ perspective, Tim Dearman, President of Oldacre McDonald, LLC, expressed appreciation for the city’s supportive approach: “The City of Rensselaer was very accepting of our plans and accommodating to our development and design team. They have a vision for the positive transformation of the community and they incorporate that into each project they work on.”

Matt Polsinello echoed this sentiment, saying, “My family has been part of the Rensselaer community for many, many years. It’s great to see and be a part of all of the positive things happening in the city. We look forward to continuing to be a part of Rensselaer’s development.”

Additionally, Kimberly Ireland, Regional Executive for National Grid, emphasized the company’s commitment to economic development: “National Grid offers various economic development grants and energy efficiency rebates to invest in our communities. We offer these programs because when the regions we serve in upstate New York are growing, we all benefit.”

As these redevelopment efforts move forward, the City of Rensselaer continues to position itself as an attractive destination for both businesses and residents, fostering a future of economic growth and community investment.

Mentisano Expands to Serve More Residents in Rensselaer

Rensselaer's integrated whole health practice, Mentisano, is expanding to meet the growing need for comprehensive mental health and wellness services. Dedicated to personalized and holistic care, Mentisano focuses on supporting the mind, body, and spirit to promote overall well-being.

Located at 516 Washington Avenue, Rensselaer, NY, Mentisano offers a range of services aimed at fostering a supportive and healing environment. This expansion will enable the practice to reach even more individuals in need of mental health support and wellness solutions.

To mark this important milestone, Mentisano hosted an Open House on Sunday, March 16th, from 3 PM to 5 PM.

Mayor Stammel had the opportunity to tour the expanded space, learn about the practice's enhanced services, and meet Angela Sheehan and her dedicated team. Mayor Stammel expressed his support for the expansion and wished Mentisano much success in its mission to serve the community.



For more information about Mentisano and its services, visit their location or contact their team @ 518 892-2501

National Grid Smart Meter Installation Update

National Grid is continuing its rollout of smart meters across upstate New York, including in our community! These new meters will improve service reliability, help customers monitor energy usage, and enable faster outage response.

- ◆ Over 725,000 electric smart meters have already been installed in central and eastern New York.
- ◆ Gas module installation has begun and will ramp up in 2025.
- ◆ All electric and gas meters are expected to be installed by 2027.

Residents can learn more or opt out of installation at ngrid.com/smartmeter. A new app launching later this year will also help customers track energy usage.

Stay informed as National Grid enhances our energy infrastructure!



Home Rehabilitation Grant Opportunities

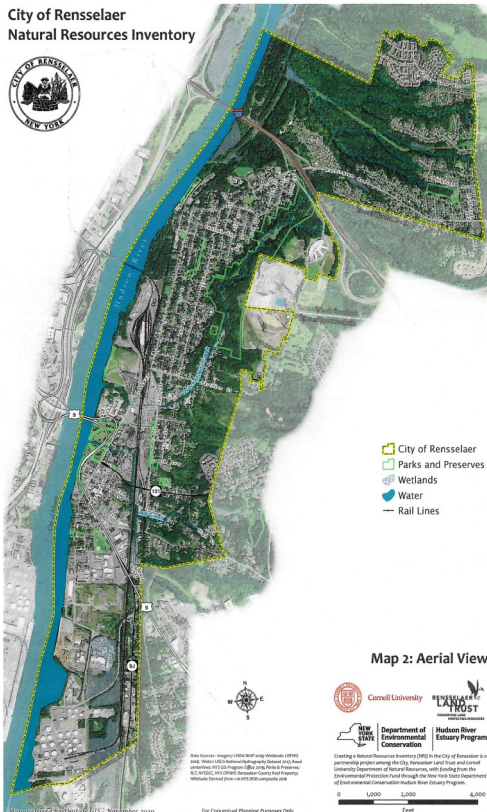
The City of Rensselaer has been awarded \$458,000 from the New York Housing Trust Fund as a grant to create the Proud Neighborhood Initiative aimed to help 10 low and moderate income home owners make substantial repairs to their single-family homes. Assistance will be targeted to the most vulnerable home owners including frail, elderly and disabled owners and those least able to afford health and safety, mechanical and structural home improvements including mobility and accessibility upgrades.

The following criteria must be met in order to qualify:

1. 80% area median income
2. Single family owner occupied primary residence
3. Additional consideration given to persons who are frail and/or elderly and/or persons with a physical disability/Traumatic Brain Injury.
4. Approximately \$54,800/home

City of Rensselaer Protecting Natural Waterways

City of Rensselaer
Natural Resources Inventory



The City of Rensselaer is initiating efforts to protect several important waterways in the city with help from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC's) Hudson River Estuary Program and Cornell University. Earlier this year, the city applied for technical assistance to study the areas around Mill Creek, Quackenderry Creek, and other streams in the northern section of the city and establish updated Conservation Overlay Zones that accomplish a balance of conservation and continued growth. The community will be engaged throughout the process to help determine the best uses for the area.

Conservation overlay zoning creates a special zoning district where additional requirements and incentives may be applied to proactively conserve stream corridors, wildlife habitats, drinking water watersheds, scenic ridgelines, and a variety of other environmentally sensitive areas. For more information about this important initiative call the Rensselaer Planning Department at 518-462-4839 or visit

www.rensselaerplanning.com.

Rensselaer Docks Open This Friday – Summer is Around the Corner

Great news, anglers! The City of Rensselaer Dock will officially open this **Friday** April 4th at both the **Boat Launch** and **under the Dunn Memorial Bridge**. This annual tradition marks the unofficial start of summer, welcoming fishing enthusiasts and boaters back to the Hudson River.

As the docks go in, it's a sure sign that warm days and great catches are ahead. Whether you're casting a line for the first time this season or just enjoying the waterfront, now's the time to get out and take advantage of this local gem.

Tight lines and happy fishing



Honoring Our Veterans: Share Their Stories With Us

Our veterans have given so much in service to our country, and their stories deserve to be remembered and shared. Every veteran has a unique journey, filled with dedication, sacrifice, and courage. We want to help honor them by sharing their stories with our community.

If you have a veteran in your life whose story you would like to share, we would love to hear from you. Whether it's a short note about their service or a detailed account of their experiences, we can put together a meaningful article to honor them.

For those veterans who have banners displayed in their honor, we would be happy to include their picture along with details about where their banner resides. This is a wonderful way to recognize and appreciate the sacrifices they have made.

Additionally, we will be compiling information and resources for veterans, ensuring they have access to the support and recognition they deserve. If you have any details, contacts, or helpful resources that could benefit our veterans, please share them with us.

Let's work together to honor those who have served. Send us your stories, pictures, or notes, and we will make sure their legacy is preserved and celebrated.

Thank you to all our veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice!

City of Rensselaer's Veteran's Banner Program



Veterans Banners Renewal Notice

The City of Rensselaer extends our heartfelt gratitude to all who have generously sponsored a Veterans Banner in honor of our hometown heroes. Your dedication plays a vital role in preserving the legacy of those who have bravely served our country, while also fostering a deep sense of pride and appreciation within our community.

As time passes, some banners have unfortunately become illegible due to wear and tear. As a result, these banners will need to be retired this year. While we have successfully reached most sponsors, a few could not be contacted due to outdated information.

If your banner is older than three years, we encourage you to reach out to Madeline Rizzo, Banner Coordinator, at (518) 462-9511 to inquire about its status. If your banner has been retired, it will be available for pickup at City Hall, and we would be honored to return it to you as a cherished keepsake.

For those who wish to continue honoring their veteran, we invite you to purchase a new banner. Please refer to the attached Banner Brochure for details on how to place an order.

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!

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!

Upcoming Re-levy for Unpaid Solid Waste and Water Bills

Residents are reminded that **July is re-levy time** for any unpaid **solid waste and water bills**. Any outstanding balances will be added to property taxes if not paid by the deadline.

- ♦ To avoid penalties, residents are urged to check their account balances and make payments before the final due date. If you are unsure of your balance, you can contact:

Solid Waste Department at 518-462-9616 (option 1)

Water Department at 518-462-6466 (option 2)

- ♦ Additionally, residents should ensure that their **address on file is correct** to receive proper billing information.

Final Payment Deadline: July 11

Payments must be made to the **Treasurer's Office on or before July 11**. No payments will be accepted after this date. **Postmarked payments will not be accepted, and no exceptions will be made.**

Residents are encouraged to act promptly to avoid additional fees or penalties associated with the re-levy process.

City Presses Forward with Revitalization Plans Despite DRI Grant Setback



The City of Rensselaer is experiencing exciting growth in residential, retail, business, transportation, and industrial sectors. With new developments, infrastructure improvements, and regional recognition, there are many opportunities to invest and grow in our city.

A meeting was held on March 31, 2025 by the Mayor, City Planning Department City of Rensselaer Industrial Development Agency, Labella Associates, National Grid with several developers who were involved in the (DRI) Downtown Revitalization Initiative for a \$10 Million grant previously submitted to NYS and denied. The City will be re-submitting for the DRI Grant in the next round of grants.

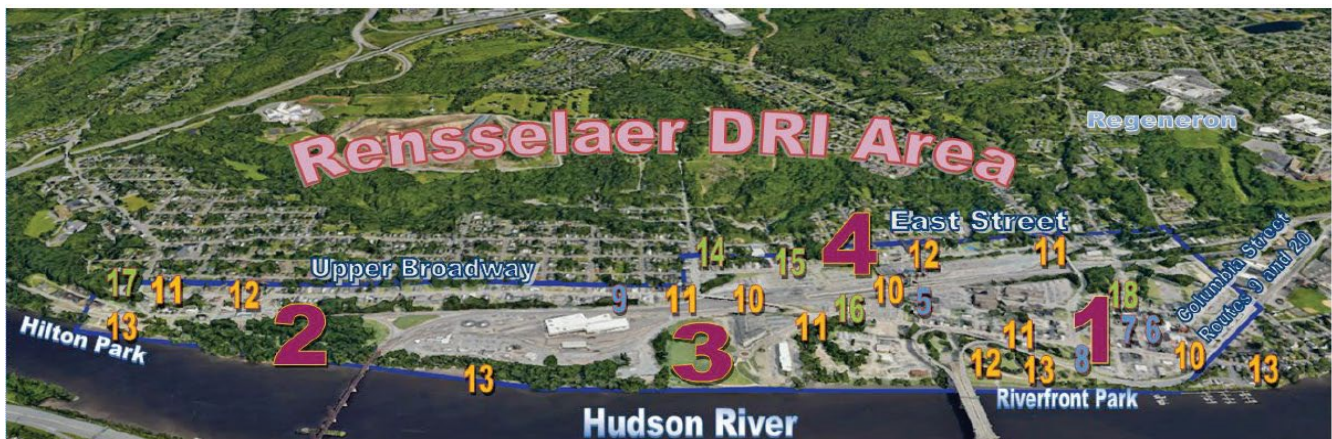
We wanted to bring everyone together to let these developers know the City does have other opportunities available.

- The City's Industrial Development Agency provides financial incentives and tax abatements to help businesses relocate, expand, and build
- HUD-funded revolving loan fund offers for \$30,000 to \$150,000 at competitive fixed rates
- New businesses receive a 1st-year sponsorship to the Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce
- National Grid has programs that support redevelopment

And the City has Pending grants which include Waterfront Connectivity, Grocery Store Development and Site Assessments to name a few

The City is also applying for Future grants that include funding for parks, pedestrian infrastructure, and revitalization.

Rensselaer has much to offer businesses, developers, and community members. With strong support systems in place, we look forward to working with these business partners and invite new Businesses to come and join in our city's growth and success.



Statewide Burn Ban in Effect Until May 14th

The City of Rensselaer reminds all residents that the **New York State Burn Ban** is currently in effect through **May 14th**. During this period, **open burning of brush, leaves, and other debris is strictly prohibited** to reduce the risk of wildfires.

Residents are urged to comply with this regulation to help protect our community and natural surroundings. Violations may result in fines and penalties.

For more information, visit the **New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) website** or contact City Hall.

Brush Cleanup & Preparation of Yard Waste

SPRING IS HERE AND THAT MEANS IT IS TIME FOR SOME SPRING CLEAN-UP!

TRASH: AS A REMINDER, TRASH AND RECYCLING IS COLLECTED **TUESDAY - FRIDAY MORNINGS** - THERE IS NO PICKUP ON WEEKENDS OR HOLIDAYS. BE SURE TO PLACE YOUR GARBAGE CURBSIDE THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED PICKUP, NO EARLIER THAN 4:00 PM.. TRASH MUST BE **BAGGED, TIED, AND PLACED IN A 32-GALLON CONTAINER WITH A TIGHT LID**. RECYCLING MUST GO IN THE **CITY-PROVIDED BLUE BIN** - CLEAN, LOOSE RECYCLABLES AT THE BOTTOM, AND FLATTENED PAPER ON TOP. CARBOARD **MUST BE CUT DOWN TO 3X2 FEET**.

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 (PLACE CURBSIDE SUNDAY NIGHT)

HOMEOWNERS, PLEASE REMIND YOUR TENANTS TO FOLLOW THESE RULES. VIOLATORS MAY FACE FINES UP TO \$1,000 FOR LITTERING WHICH WILL FALL ON THE HOMEOWNER.

IF YOU SEE TRASH AROUND YOUR PROPERTY, PLEASE PICK IT UP AND DISPOSE OF IT.

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR CITY CLEAN AND WELCOMING THIS SPRING!

THIS YEAR'S BULK PICKUP EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN SEPTEMBER.

History of Easter

Easter is a Christian holiday that celebrates belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In the New Testament of the Bible, the event is said to have occurred three days after Jesus was crucified by the Romans and died in roughly A.D. 30. The holiday concludes the “Passion of Christ,” a series of events and holidays that begins with Lent—a 40-day period of fasting, prayer and sacrifice—and ends with Holy Week, which includes Holy Thursday (the celebration of Jesus’ Last Supper with his 12 Apostles, also known as “Maundy Thursday”), Good Friday (on which Jesus’ crucifixion is observed) and Easter Sunday. Although a holiday of high religious significance in the Christian faith, many traditions associated with Easter date back to pre-Christian, pagan times.

When Is Easter 2025?

Easter 2025 occurs on Sunday, April 20. However, Easter falls on a different date each year.

Easter Sunday and related celebrations, such as Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday, are considered “moveable feasts,” although, in western Christianity, which follows the Gregorian calendar, Easter always falls on a Sunday between March 22 and April 25. Easter typically falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the spring equinox.

In Eastern Orthodox Christianity, which adheres to the Julian calendar, Orthodox Easter falls on a Sunday between April 4 and May 8 each year.

In some denominations of Protestant Christianity, Easter Sunday marks the beginning of Eastertide, or the Easter Season. Eastertide ends on the 50th day after Easter, which is known as Pentecost Sunday.

In Eastern Orthodox branches of Christianity, Easter Sunday serves as the start of the season of Pascha (Greek for “passover”), which ends 40 days later with the holiday known as the Feast of the Ascension.

Why Is Easter Called 'Easter'?

St. Bede the Venerable, the 6th-century author of *Historia ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum* (“Ecclesiastical History of the English People”), maintains that the English word “Easter” comes from Eostre, or Eostrae, the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring and fertility. Other historians maintain the “Easter” derives from *in albis*, a Latin phrase that’s plural for *alba*, or “dawn,” that became *eostarum* in Old High German, a precursor to the English language of today.

Despite its significance as a Christian holy day, many of the traditions and symbols that play a key role in Easter observances actually have roots in pagan celebrations—particularly the pagan goddess Eostre—and in the Jewish holiday of Passover.

Religious Tradition of Easter

The resurrection of Jesus, as described in the New Testament of the Bible, is essentially the foundation upon which the Christian religions are built. Hence, Easter is a very significant date on the Christian calendar.

According to the New Testament, Jesus was arrested by the Roman authorities, essentially because he claimed to be the “Son of God,” although historians question this motive, with some saying that the Romans may have viewed him as a threat to the empire.

He was sentenced to death by Pontius Pilate, the Roman prefect in the province of Judea from A.D. 26 to 36. Jesus’ death by crucifixion, marked by the Christian holiday Good Friday (the Friday before Easter), and subsequent resurrection three days later is said, by the authors of the gospels, to prove that he was the living son of God.

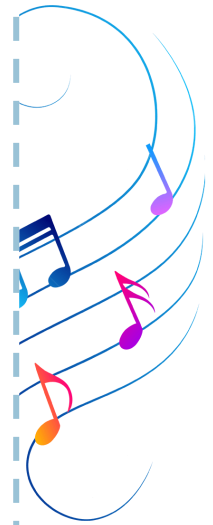
Rensselaer Seniors Spotlight



Spotlight into events
at Rensselaer
Senior Center

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.



Attention Seniors: New Grocery Transportation Service!

We're excited to introduce **twice-weekly transportation to the grocery store** to ensure seniors have convenient access to essential shopping. This service is designed to **promote independence, reduce transportation barriers, and keep you connected to the community.**

Spots are available but you will need to reserve.

Call the **Senior Center** at **(518) 487-4427** or **(518) 487-4471** to register.

We're committed to supporting our seniors and making everyday life more accessible.

We can't wait to see you on board!

Vendor Opportunity: Food & Music Festival

Calling all vendors! The Food and Music Festival at the scenic Riverfront Ballpark is set for June 14th, and we are looking for vendors to participate in our exciting Flea Market/Yard Sale. This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase your goods and services to a lively crowd in a beautiful setting.

Spaces are limited, so don't miss your chance to be a part of this vibrant community event. Whether you specialize in handmade crafts, vintage treasures, or unique products, we welcome your participation.

Secure your spot today! For more information or to reserve your space, contact Gloria Fonda at the East Greenbush-Rensselaer Senior Center, 166 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer. You can reach her at (518) 487-4427 or via email at gfonda84@gmail.com.

Join us in making this festival a success!

MENU

Rensselaer County Department of Unified Family Services- AGING Nutrition Services- 518-270-2739

To Reserve or Cancel Call: Troy: 518-270-2740 Rensselaer 518-487-4427

Hoosick Falls: 518-686-7561 Grafton: 518-279-3413

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

APRIL 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Happy Easter! 	1) Veal Patty w/Marsala Gravy Mashed Potatoes Brussel Sprouts White Bread Diced Pears	2) Stuffed Shells w/Meat Sauce Italian Blend Garlic Bread Stick Cookie	3) Sliced Ham Cold Plate on Lettuce w/Mustard Potato Salad Cottage Cheese w/Pineapple Rye Bread Fresh Fruit	4) Creamy Macaroni & Cheese Zucchini & Tomatoes Normandy Blend Cinnamon Applesauce
7) Turkey A 'la King White Rice Peas & Carrots Biscuit Granola Bar	8) Cheeseburger Tater Tots Steamed Broccoli Round Roll Diced Pears	9) CHEF'S CHOICE	10) Chicken Cordon Bleu Buttery Mashed Potatoes Cut green Beans Fresh Fruit	11) Eggplant Parmesan Pasta w/Sauce Italian Blend Italian Bread Yogurt
14) Taco Sloppy Joe Fire Roasted Corn Diced Carrots Tostitos Graham Crackers	15) Baked Chicken Breast w/Cajun Cream Sauce Mashed Sweet Potatoes Garlic Butter Pasta Corn Bread Fresh Fruit	16) Lemon Garlic Cod w/Tartar Mashed Potatoes Diced Carrots Mandarin Orange Cup	17) Roasted Pork Loin w/Gravy Loaded Baked Potato Peas & Onions Dinner Roll Easter Dessert	18) Crabmeat Salad Cold Plate Macaroni Salad Pickled Beet Salad Cookie
21) Orange Popcorn Chicken White Rice Broccoli Diced Pears	22) Goulash; Seasoned Beef & Elbows w/Sauce Italian Blend Veggies Garlic Bread Stick Italian Ice	23) Egg Salad Cold Plate on Lettuce Tomato & Onion Marinade 3 Bean Salad White Bread Peanut Butter Crackers	24) Salisbury w/Smothered Gravy Mashed Potatoes Buttered Wax Beans White Bread Fresh Fruit	25) L/S Hot Dogs w/Mustard Vegetarian Baked Beans Seasoned Sauerkraut Hot Dog Roll Mandarin Orange Cup
28) Simple Baked Chicken w/Rosemary Gravy Mashed Sweet Potato Wax Beans Wheat Bread Diced Peaches	29) Italian Style Sausage & Peppers Pasta w/Sauce Italian Blend Italian Bread Cookie	30) Butter Crumb Cod w/Tartar White Rice Broccoli Florets Strawberry Applesauce	Nutrition Abbreviations: NCS-No Concentrated Sweets 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 Voluntary contribution \$3.00 per meal. Guests under 60 must pay \$5.00 per meal. No one is denied due to the inability to contribute.

TUE Apr 1			WED 2			THU 3			FRI 4		
10am Board/Card Games 10:15am Line Dancing 12pm Lunch			10:15am Line Dancing 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Exercise Class			11am Meditation W/ Surya 11am Tech Drop In 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Darts			10am Art Class W/Tom 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Cornhole		
7			9			10			11		
10am Chair Yoga 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Chorus			10:15am Line Dancing 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Exercise Class			11am Meditation W/ Surya 11:30am Food Demo W/ Jillian 12pm Lunch 12:30pm Craft Class W/ Harry 12:45pm Darts			10am Gnome Class W/ Lori 10am Art Class W/Tom 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Cornhole		
14			16			17			18		
10am Chair Yoga 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Chorus			10:15am Line Dancing 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Exercise Class			10am Mahjong 11am Meditation W/ Surya 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Darts			10am Art Class W/Tom 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Cornhole		
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28			30								
10am Chair Yoga 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Chorus			10am Board/Card Games 10:15am Line Dancing 12pm Lunch 12:45pm Bingo								

Rensselaer Seniors Spotlight

CONGRATULATIONS to our Grand Prize winners Pricilla and Jane from our March Bingo

Thank you to guest BINGO caller, Jackson Murphy.

Join us again for BINGO on April 29th starts at 12:45 pm



During our last Bring Your Own Device Tech Help session with Michelle St. Louis from Cornell Cooperative Extension/Rensselaer County. We learned how to create a new text message, how to delete unwanted text messages, and how to share a photo with a smartphone!

Join us at 10:30 am on Thursday, April 3.

Drop in Drawing

Drawing Classes for Adults of All Ages!!!
All Skill Levels Welcome
From "stick-figure" beginner to advanced

Every Friday morning at 10:00 a.m.
\$5.00 per class

You receive.....Instruction! Supplies!
Drawing Subjects!

Anyone can learn to draw at any age! Drawing is a relaxing and inexpensive hobby and can get you started in other art forms like painting or pastels. Instructor Tom Baldwin has taught drawing courses for many years through the South Colonie Continuing Education Program where he's developed a loyal following.

Healthy Food Demonstration at the Senior Center

Recipe presented by Jillian

RECIPE

Cranberry Oatmeal Balls

This yummy breakfast or snack is full of nutrients and fiber to keep you full until your next meal!

Makes: 6 Servings (18 balls)
Prep Time: 15 minutes
Chill Time: 30 minutes

Source:
foodhero.org, recipes/ cranberry oatmeal balls

Ingredients

- 1 cup oats (quick-cooking or old fashioned/rolled)
- 1/3 cup chopped almonds (optional)
- 1/3 cup peanut butter or other nut butter
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries

Directions

1. In a medium bowl, combine all ingredients until well mixed.
2. Form mixture into 18 balls about 1-inch wide.
3. Place balls on a baking sheet. Refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Utensils Needed

- Mixing Bowl/Spoon
- Measuring cups
- Baking sheet



Click image to watch the recipe video
or visit snapedny.org



Nutrition Information

Serving Size: 3 Balls

Nutrients	Amount
Calories:	260
Total Fat:	10 g
Saturated Fat:	1.5 g
Cholesterol:	0 mg
Sodium:	90 mg
Total Carbohydrates:	35 g
Dietary Fiber:	4 g
Total Sugars:	18 g
Added Sugars:	15 g
Protein	8 g



RENSSELAER POLICE DEPARTMENT

201 Broadway, Rensselaer, NY 12144
518-462-7451

The Rensselaer Police Department in conjunction with MED-Project has established a prescription medication collection box that provides convenient access for residents. The collection system is designed to be safe and secure on an ongoing, year-round basis. Collection sites participating in the program use a MED-Project kiosk that is securely placed, maintained inside the collection site, and open to the public. MED-Project provides for the transportation and disposal of household-generated unwanted pharmaceutical products once they are collected. The unwanted pharmaceutical products are destroyed in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

Residents can come into the Police Department lobby, tell the dispatcher on duty they are there to dispose of prescription medication and a Police Officer will come out and unlock the box for disposal.



Sign up for our email newsletter!

APRIL 2025



RENSSELAER PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library will be **CLOSED**
Monday April 21.

Drop-in Computer help:

Wednesday, April 2
from 2-3 PM.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of
Rensselaer County's Digital
Literacy Educator is ready to
answer your technology questions.
No sign up needed, bring your
device if possible.

Drop-in tech help

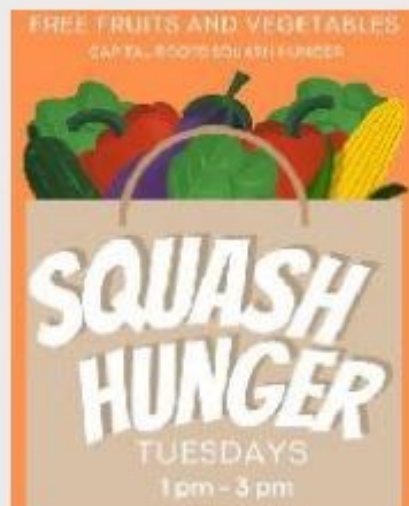
every Thursday at 11 AM.

Stop in with a question or problem
and our staff member Amber will
help!

Friends of the Library

Meeting Thursday, April 17 at 6
PM. Looking for new members!

Zoom meeting connection
available- ask for an invite!



**Drawn to
the Library**
National Library Week
April 6-12, 2023

Tell us your library story
for a chance to win a
prize basket!



Kickstart Your Garden

Thursday April 10, 6 PM. Master Gardener Marie will
talk about how to start your garden off right this spring.
Please sign up.

Preschool Music and Movement

Saturday April 5, 11 AM. with Miss Lisa!
Ages 2-6 with their caregivers. Dance, sing
and play while learning. Please call or visit
our website to save your spot.



Mini Golf

Friday April 18, 5-7 PM.

Join the teens and play through a 9 hole mini-
golf course in the library after hours! Pizza and
drinks served. Silly prizes for best players.
Participants must sign up. Ages 10 and up.

For information or to sign up for events, call 518-462-1193 or go online
at rensselaerlibrary.org

Library Board will meet the first Monday of the month



Like us on Facebook for updates and city info.

Rensselaer Public Library

676 East Street

Rensselaer NY 12144

(518) 462-1193

RensselaerLibrary.org

HOURS:

MON 12-5

TUE 10-5

WED/THU 10-8

FRI 10-5

SAT 10-3

SUN- CLOSED



CARRY THE LOAD - RENSSELAER

Riverfront Park

 Date: May 6, 2025

 Location:
5th & Broadway, Rensselaer, NY 12144

 Time: 11:30 AM

Join Carry The Load as we come together for Memorial May, a month-long movement honoring the sacrifices of our military, veterans, first responders, and their families.

Join us at Riverfront Park, where we'll walk and gather as a community to reflect, connect, and show our support of our nation's heroes.

Together, We #CarryTheLoad  

[Register To Join Event](#)

CarryTheLoad.org



Rensselaer High's 'Hairspray' Musical Dazzles Audiences



Rensselaer High School's Drama Club brought the electrifying energy of 1962 Baltimore to life with their spectacular production of "Hairspray," which ran from March 27th to 29th, 2025. The high-energy musical, directed by the talented Andrew F. Higgs, captivated audiences with its vibrant costumes, infectious music, and a powerful message of acceptance and social change.

This year's production marked a significant milestone for the drama club, boasting an impressive cast of over 30 students and the dedicated support of 10 faculty members. The sheer scale of the production was a testament to the hard work and passion of everyone involved, making it one of the largest and most ambitious shows in recent memory.

"Hairspray" tells the story of Tracy Turnblad, a plus-size teen with big dreams of dancing on the popular "Corny Collins Show." As Tracy's star rises, she uses her newfound platform to challenge the segregation that plagues her beloved city, sparking a movement for integration and social change. The musical's themes of acceptance, inclusion, and the fight against prejudice resonated deeply with the audience, highlighting the timeless relevance of its message.

The students delivered outstanding performances, bringing the iconic characters to life with enthusiasm and talent. From the energetic dance numbers to the heartfelt ballads, the cast showcased their versatility and dedication to the production. The colorful costumes and elaborate set design further enhanced the vibrant atmosphere, transporting the audience back to the swinging 60s.

Mayor Stammel expressed his enthusiastic support for the production and the students involved. "The City of Rensselaer is incredibly proud to support the youth of our community and their artistic endeavors," Mayor Stammel stated. "This production of 'Hairspray' not only showcased the immense talent of our students but also delivered a powerful message of unity and acceptance. We are thrilled to see our young people engaging with such important themes and bringing them to life on stage."

The success of "Hairspray" has left the Rensselaer community eagerly anticipating the drama club's next production, "Annie," scheduled for November 21st to 23rd, 2025. With the same level of passion and dedication displayed in "Hairspray," audiences can expect another unforgettable theatrical experience. The Rensselaer High School Drama Club has once again proven its ability to entertain, inspire, and leave a lasting impact on its community.



Rensselaer High School Drama Club's Fall 2025 Musical!

November 21—23, 2025

Auditions will be held the 1st week of September.

Keep an eye and ear out on our social media for more details.



City of Rensselaer PAINT RECYCLING EVENT

Drop-off Location and dates:

25 Willow Street (DPW Garage)

April 21 & 22: 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

April 23 & 24: 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Paint must be in original labeled container

****No cracked or leaking containers****

 ACCEPTED MATERIALS:

- ✓ Urethanes
- ✓ Oil-based & Latex-based paints
- ✓ Acrylic paint
- ✓ Varnishes
- ✓ Shellacs & Lacquers
- ✓ Primers
- ✓ Clear Coatings

 NOT ACCEPTED:

- ✗ Spray paints, marine & auto paints
- ✗ Household hazardous waste
- ✗ Electronics
- ✗ Paint thinner
- ✗ Driveway sealers



IMPORTANT:

**You MUST check in with City Personnel before dropping off items.
Ring the doorbell or knock to ensure your items meet accepted material requirements.**



**DO NOT leave items without checking in!
Contact the Garage at 518 462-5512**

Let's work together to recycle responsibly!  

****PLEASE CALL 518 270 2888 TO REGISTER TELEVISION DROP OFF****

*****TELEVISIONS MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED FOR THE EVENT*****

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

SPONSORED BY:

THE RENSSELAER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

&

THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Saturday, April 5th, 2025 9:30am-1:00pm

*** NEW LOCATION ***

Rensselaer County East Greenbush Office Building

@ 99 Troy Road

East Greenbush, NY 12061

Held in the parking lot at this location



ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Air Conditioners/ Dehumidifiers
Appliances

- Washers, Dryers, other metal based appliances, see exceptions below

Audio / Visual Equipment

Business Machines

Cable or Satellite Receivers

Cash Registers

Cell Phones / Smart Phones

Circuit Boards

Computers / Towers

Computer Peripherals

Digital Converter Boxes

Electronic / Video Game Consoles

Household Appliances

- (toasters, microwaves, etc)

Hubs / Routers (Computer Networking Device)

Ink Cartridges

Keyboards

Laptops

LCD Monitors / Terminals

Mailing Equipment

Mainframe / Midrange

Metal Objects

- Bikes, Swing Sets, Basketball Hoops, Grills, Washers, Dryers

Mice (Computer Pointing Device)

Miscellaneous Electronic Scrap

Network Equipment

PDA's (personal digital assistant)

Portable Digital Music Players

Printers / Copiers / Fax Machines / Scanners

Safes & Strong Boxes

Scientific Equipment

Servers

Tablets

Telecommunications Equipment

Typewriters

UPS Units (battery back ups)

VCR, DVD, & DVR Players

Video Game Systems & Accessories

Wiring & Cabling

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED – NO EXCEPTION

Alkaline Batteries (Household)

Dishwashers/Refrigerators

Fluorescent Lamps & Lightbulbs

Liquid / Powdered Chemicals

Cleaning Products / Fluids

Radioactive, Volatile, Highly Flammable, Explosive, Biomedical, Infectious Materials

Paint / Paint Cans

Smoke Detectors

Tires (for Cars & Trucks)

Toxic or Hazardous Materials

Wood/glass/plastic

Please call ProTek Recycling at 518 874 1001 with any questions.



H.O.P.E. Food Pantry

85 Aiken Ave., Rensselaer, NY

OPEN to the General Public

email greaterhope20@gmail.com



Regional
Food Bank
OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

Our
Sponsors

Rens. County Youth & Office of Family & Childrens Services

April 6, 2025
12:00-12:30

FOOD Distribution

FREE Meat, Fruit, and Vegetables
FREE Groceries, Meats, etc.
FREE Bread by Panera

Food Distribution/Palm Sunday/Palms
FREE Meat, Fruit, and Vegetables
FREE Groceries, Meats, etc.
FREE Bread by Panera

April 13, 2025
12:00-12:30

April 20, 2025
12:00-12:30

Easter Sun. & Bags/Food Distribution
FREE Meat, Fruit, and Vegetables
FREE Groceries, Meats, etc.
FREE Bread by Panera

FOOD Distribution

FREE Meat, Fruit, and Vegetables
FREE Groceries, Meats, etc.
FREE Bread by Panera

April 27 2025
12:00-12:30

An IMPACTMinistry of The:
Greater Hope Family Life Center

APRIL 2025



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF SOUTHERN RENSSELAER
COUNTY

2025

CAMP ADVENTURE

JUN 30–AUG 22, 2025

CAMP HIGHLIGHTS

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM •

Open to Youth Ages 5-15 •

\$200 Per Week, Assistance Available •

Learning Activities, Sports, Swimming, & More •

Dropoff / Pickup at Camp or Clubhouse •



[BGCSORENSCO.ORG/CAMP](https://bgcsorensco.org/camp)





Veterans' Service2Success RESOURCE AND JOB FAIR

Navigating Entrepreneurship, Employment, Education, & Benefits

The McNulty Veteran Business Center, the area's preeminent Veteran entrepreneurship resource is partnering with the Veterans Resource & Outreach Center, Albany County Veterans Service Bureau, Rensselaer County Veterans Service Agency, and Schenectady County Veterans Peer to Peer Program to offer the Veterans' Service2Success Resource and Job Fair.

Veterans' Service2Success provides FREE access to entrepreneurship, employment, education and benefits information for Veterans and their families. Veteran services providers, employers, academic institutions, and public/private entities will exhibit for this day-long event. Featured will be informational sessions for entrepreneurial resources, Veterans' benefits assistance, a job fair, and networking opportunities with dozens of exhibitors, and includes lunch.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

WHO: Veterans and military family members

WHEN: Saturday, April 26, 2025, 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM

WHERE: Hudson Valley Community College, Siek Campus Center | 80 Vandenburg Avenue, Troy, NY 12180



Sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities available. Exhibitor space is limited, and preference will be given to mission-aligned entities, businesses, and organizations.

Consider exhibiting if you are a:

- Veteran Service or Program Provider
- Employers with job opportunities for Veterans & military family members
- Educational Institutions GI Bill Approved

REGISTER HERE:

<https://bit.ly/4axzCqb>

OR SCAN



PARTNERS



Kathy Caruso, Executive Director | (518) 326-5522 | kcaruso@mcnultycenter.org

A 501 (c) 3 organization

McNulty Veteran Business Center — 44 Dalliba Avenue, Watervliet, NY 12189

APRIL 2025



JOIN US FOR ATHLETIC HAVEN'S "FORE THE KIDS" GOLF TOURNAMENT

Individual Golfer w/banquet \$150

Banquet Guest Only \$50

Join us for a fantastic day of golf, good food, great drinks, and prizes. All proceeds support free and low-cost sports programs for kids in the greater Capital Region.



Friday, May 30th, 2025
at 8am-4pm



Our Location
**THE FAIRWAYS AT
HALFMOON**

17 JOHNSON RD. MECHANICVILLE, NY 12118



Sponsorships Available:



Platinum Sponsor: \$2,500

Golf 4-some, lunch buffet, tee signage, banquet announcement, logo in program, website, and social media.



Silver Sponsor: \$1,000

Golf 2-some, lunch buffet, tee signage, banquet announcement, logo in program, website, and social media.

Title Sponsor: \$4,000

Exclusive Sponsorship (1 available), Golf 4-some, banquet announcement, logo on all emails, programs, social media, all event signage, and registration table.



Bronze Sponsor: \$500

1 Golfer, lunch buffet, tee signage, and logo in program.



Gold Sponsor: \$1,500

Golf 4-some, lunch buffet, tee signage, banquet announcement, logo in program, website, and social media.



Friend of AH: \$250

Lunch Buffet only, tee signage, and logo in program.



Contact Us
518-545-4876

Register Here:

<https://givebutter.com/BsXFu4>



City of Rensselaer Events and Meetings

APRIL 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Common Council Meeting 6:30 @ City Hall MEGA KONE OPENS	3	4	5 Electronics Recycling County Office Bldg.. 99 Troy Rd 9:30 AM - 1 PM
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Common Council Workshop 6:30 @ City Hall	15	16 Common Council Meeting AND PUBLIC HEARING 6:30 @ City Hall	17	18	19
20 	21 Planning Commission Meeting 6:30 @ City Hall Planning Applica- tions Due	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DIRECTORY

ASSESSOR	518-462-5421	sharon.martin@rensselaerny.gov	SHARON MARTIN
BUILDING & ZONING ADMINISTRATOR	518-465-1693	tim.lippert@rensselaerny.gov	TIM LIPPERT
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
FIRE HOUSE, NORTH	518-463-2883		
FIRE HOUSE, BROADWAY	518-465-3243	bill.brooking@rensselaerny.gov	BILL BROOKING JR. FIRE CHIEF
HISTORIAN	518-694-3126	victor.batorsky@rensselaerny.gov	VICTOR BATORSKY
HUMAN RESOURCES	518-462-0419	irene.sorriento@rensselaerny.gov	IRENE SORRIENTO
LIBRARIAN	518-462-1193	jane.chirgwin@rensselaerny.gov	JANE CHIRGWIN
MAYOR	518-462-9511	mike.stammel@rensselaerny.gov	MIKE STAMMEL
PLANNING DIRECTOR	518-462-4839	thomas.hulihan@rensselaerny.gov	THOMAS HULIHAN
POLICE DISPATCHER	518-462-7453		
POLICE CHIEF	518-462-7453	warren.famiglietti@rensselaerpolice.org	WARREN FAMIGLIETTI
PROCESS SERVER	518-720-7106	steve.smith@rensselaerny.gov	STEVE SMITH
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSIONER	518-462-9617	jim.brady@rensselaerny.gov	JIM BRADY
CITY GARAGE / DPW	518-462-5512	gene.hilstro@rensselaerny.gov	GENE HILSTRO
PURCHASING AGENT	518-462-2251	rich.berhaupt@rensselaerny.gov	RICH BERHAUPT
TREASURER	518-462-6424	michael.mizener@rensselaerny.gov	MIKE MIZENER
WATER / SEWER DEPUTY COMMISS.	518-462-6466	fran.welsh@rensselaerny.gov	FRAN WELSH
YOUTH DIRECTOR	518-462-5488	youth@rensselaerny.gov	JIM KONSTANTAKIS