



# RENSSELAER CITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 10

SEPTEMBER 2025

Office of the Mayor



Mayor Mike Stammel  
518-462-9511

[mike.stammel@rensselaerny.gov](mailto:mike.stammel@rensselaerny.gov)

## Highlights in this month's issue



City Comptroller Shines at Car Show



Honoring Patriots Day



RFD Welcomes Back School Faculty

## *From the Desk of Mayor Stammel*

It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to serve the people of Rensselaer. Over the years, I have seen firsthand the strength, resilience, and pride that define our community. What has always guided me is simple: doing what's best for the city we all call home.

Rensselaer is a city with a proud past and a promising future. We are a community that works hard, looks out for one another, and finds ways to move forward no matter the challenge. Whether it's neighbors helping neighbors, volunteers giving their time, or residents supporting local events and programs, the spirit of this city shines brightest when we come together. That sense of unity is what makes Rensselaer truly special.

As your mayor, my focus has always been on the basics that matter most to our residents—keeping our city safe, maintaining and improving services, supporting our neighborhoods, and creating opportunities for families and businesses to thrive. It is not about politics or personal recognition. It is about making sure that Rensselaer continues to be a place where people are proud to live, work, and raise a family.

Looking ahead, I believe the future is bright for our city. With ongoing improvements, community events that bring people together, and new opportunities for growth, we are building a stronger foundation for the next generation. Every project, no matter the size, contributes to that vision of a cleaner, safer, and more vibrant Rensselaer.

As we enter the fall season, I encourage everyone to take part in the many activities happening across our city—whether it's attending our farmers' market, joining in neighborhood cleanups, supporting youth programs, or simply taking time to enjoy the beauty of our parks. These are the moments that bring us together and remind us of the value of community.

At the end of the day, what matters most is that we continue moving forward, together. I am proud of how far we've come, and I am excited about what lies ahead for our city. Thank you for your continued support, your involvement, and, most importantly, your pride in Rensselaer.

City of Rensselaer | 62 Washington Street Rensselaer, NY 12144 | [rensselaerny.gov](http://rensselaerny.gov)

## A Message from the Mayor: Honoring Patriot Day

As we approach **September 11**, we pause to recognize **Patriot Day**—a solemn day of remembrance that holds deep significance for our nation and our community.

This year marks **24 years since the tragic events of September 11, 2001**, when nearly 3,000 lives were lost in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Flight 93. On that day, we witnessed not only unimaginable loss but also extraordinary acts of courage, compassion, and resilience. First responders, service members, and everyday citizens stepped forward with bravery and selflessness, leaving us a legacy of unity and strength in the face of adversity.

Patriot Day is not a federal holiday, and our schools and businesses will remain open. Yet it stands as one of the most meaningful observances of the year. Across the country, communities will gather for commemorative ceremonies, moments of silence, and tributes to the victims and heroes of 9/11. Many will also take part in the **National Day of Service and Remembrance**, engaging in volunteer work and acts of kindness as a way to honor those we lost.

Here in Rensselaer, I encourage all residents to take a moment on **September 11** to reflect, remember, and recommit ourselves to the values that carried us through that day: **unity, resilience, and service to others**. Whether by attending a remembrance event, offering a kind word to a neighbor, or finding a small way to give back, we can ensure that the legacy of 9/11 continues to inspire hope and connection in our community.

Let us never forget the lives lost, the heroes who served, and the strength we found together.

— **Mayor Michael Stammel**



## Open Call for Downtown Revitalization Project Proposals

The City of Rensselaer is excited to announce its intention to apply for funding through **Round 8 of the New York State Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI)**, which awards \$10 million, and/or the **NY Forward Program**, which awards \$4.5 million. Both programs are designed to support transformative projects that will create stronger, more vibrant downtowns across New York State.

As part of the application process, the City is seeking **project proposals from the community** that can help improve and expand our downtown. The proposed expanded downtown area includes sections of Columbia Street, Broadway, Herrick, East Street, and surrounding areas. Adjacent or nearby projects that would have a significant positive impact on the downtown district will also be considered.

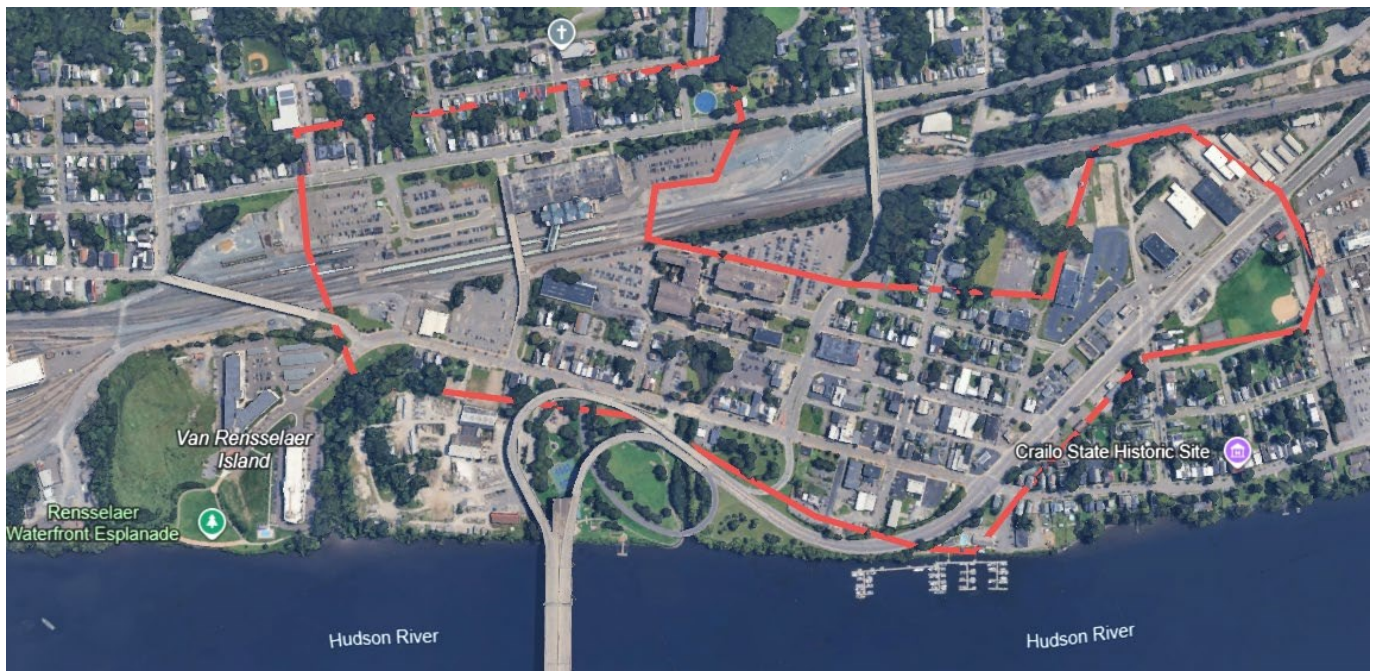
**Proposal Deadline:** September 18, 2025, by 3:00 PM

**Optional Discussion Session:** September 3, 2025, from 3:00–5:00 PM at Rensselaer City Hall.

City staff and consultants from LaBella Associates will be available to discuss project ideas and answer questions.

This is an opportunity for residents, businesses, and stakeholders to share their vision for a thriving, connected, and dynamic Downtown Rensselaer.

For more information, including the proposal format, please contact the **Rensselaer City Planning Office** at (518) 462-4839 or visit: <https://www.rensselaerplanning.com/copy-of-climate-smart-communities-1>



## *Community Comes Together to Support the Casey Frankoski Memorial Scholarship*



The community turned out in great numbers to support the **Casey Frankoski Memorial Scholarship** at a recent fundraiser held at the Olde Post Road Golf Club in Schodack.

The scholarship honors the memory of **Casey Frankoski**, a dedicated member of the New York National Guard from Rensselaer who tragically lost her life earlier this year in a helicopter crash while serving at the Texas–Mexico border. Also killed in the crash was **John Grassia of Schenectady County**.

Mayor Michael Stammel joined with John Grassia’s father John Sr, and many others at the event to celebrate Casey’s service and to help ensure her legacy continues through educational opportunities for local students.

The strong turnout was a testament to the deep respect and gratitude the community holds for Casey and her family, as well as a reflection of the collective commitment to honoring her as well as all who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

## **Rensselaer Farmers’ Market Awarded \$50,000 Grant**

The City of Rensselaer Farmers’ Market has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. The funding will be used to enhance market infrastructure with decorative surface painting, new picnic tables and benches, and expanded promotion to encourage even greater participation from both farmers and residents.

The Rensselaer Farmers’ Market has grown into a lively community gathering each Thursday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Riverfront Park on Broadway and 4th Avenue. In addition to farm-fresh produce and a variety of local vendors, the market features live entertainment, free yoga classes, children’s arts and crafts, and a rotating schedule of special events. This summer has already included a popular Car Show and Foam Party, with more family-friendly activities ahead: a Health and Wellness Fair (September 18), a Petting Zoo (September 25), a Chili Cook-Off (October 2), and Touch the Truck (October 16).

Mayor Michael Stammel praised the teamwork behind the market’s success:

“The Farmers’ Market is a great asset for our community. I commend the City Clerk’s Office for coordinating this activity for our residents and the Planning Department for obtaining this grant to help make the Farmers’ Market even better.”

City Clerk Nancy Hardt, whose office organizes the market and its events, added:

“Our Farmers’ Market keeps getting better and better, and this grant will certainly help with our efforts.”

Planning Director Thomas Hulihan also recognized the value of the funding:

“The City of Rensselaer Planning Department is always exploring opportunities that can improve our city. We are very grateful to the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for providing us with this grant to improve our Farmers’ Market.”

For more information about weekly activities and upcoming events, visit the Rensselaer Farmers’ Market Facebook page: [Rensselaer Farmers’ Market](#).

To read the full announcement from Governor Kathy Hochul, click here: [Governor’s Announcement](#).

## Please Join Us in Honoring Firefighter William “Bill” Schumaker

The City of Rensselaer was proud to recognize and honor Firefighter William “Bill” Schumaker as he retired on **September 12, 2025**, after 36 years of dedicated service with the Rensselaer Fire Department.

Bill began his career in October 1989 and quickly became known for his steady professionalism, bravery, and unwavering commitment to protecting the residents of Rensselaer. Over the years, he has responded to countless emergencies, provided critical support to his fellow firefighters, and exemplified the very best of public service.

Throughout his career, Bill earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues, city leaders, and community members alike. His leadership and mentorship have guided younger firefighters, while his dedication to safety and service has left a lasting mark on the department.

“To celebrate his outstanding career and commitment to our community, the City of Rensselaer and the Rensselaer Fire Department invite all residents, friends, and colleagues to attend his **Walkout Ceremony**:

**Friday, September 12, 2025**

☐ **North Station – 2 St. Francis Place, Rensselaer**

🕒 **Time: 4:00 PM**

This tradition honors Bill’s decades of bravery, service, and dedication to the people of Rensselaer. Please join us as we thank him for his years of sacrifice and wish him the very best in retirement.

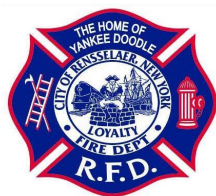


Please join us in honoring

**Firefighter/Investigator William Schumaker**

As he retires after 36 years of dedicated service  
to the City of Rensselaer Fire Department

## Walkout Ceremony



Friday, September 12, 2025 @ 4:00 PM

City of Rensselaer Fire Department

North Station

2 St. Francis Place

Rensselaer, NY 12144

## ***Fall Bulk Pick-up Schedule Begins with Monday, September 8th***

The City of Rensselaer Department of Public Works will begin its annual **Fall Bulk Pick-Ups** starting **Monday, September 8, 2025**. This service provides residents with the opportunity to dispose of large household items that cannot be placed out for regular trash collection.

Bulk pick-ups will take place according to residents' **regular trash collection days**:

- **Tuesday Trash Route** – Bulk Pick-Up on **Monday, September 8**
- **Wednesday Trash Route** – Bulk Pick-Up on **Monday, September 15**
- **Thursday Trash Route** – Bulk Pick-Up on **Monday, September 22**
- **Friday Trash Route** – Bulk Pick-Up on **Monday, September 29**

Residents are asked to place bulk items neatly at the curb **the evening before their scheduled pick-up day**. Please note that regular trash and recycling collection will continue as usual.

For more information about acceptable bulk items or special disposal guidelines, please contact the Department of Public Works at 518 462-9616 or visit [https://rensselaerny.gov/application/files/3617/4309/9444/CITY\\_OF\\_RENSELAER\\_BULK\\_PICKUP\\_NOTICE\\_2025.pdf](https://rensselaerny.gov/application/files/3617/4309/9444/CITY_OF_RENSELAER_BULK_PICKUP_NOTICE_2025.pdf)

## **Important Notice: Pump Station Rehab Fees Coming to an End**

For the past two years, residents and property owners in the City of Rensselaer have been paying a temporary water bill fee to help cover the City's share of the multimillion-dollar project to rebuild and modernize the jointly owned water pump station with the Town of East Greenbush.

That project is now complete, and with it, the additional charge for **Pump Station Rehabilitation** on your water bills will officially come to an end.

This fee was first introduced as the most equitable way to fund Rensselaer's portion of the costs to replace pumps, motors, and drives that had been in continuous use since 1964. The outdated equipment had been rebuilt countless times, and service parts were no longer available, creating risks for both water reliability and future growth. Thanks to the contributions of all city property owners, the City was able to meet its obligations and secure a safe, uninterrupted water supply for years to come.

As a reminder, the fee had amounted to \$3.66 per 1,000 gallons of water used and was visible on water bills under a separate line item. For many minimum-use households, this added approximately \$46.11 to each semi-annual bill.

With the project now paid in full, that line item will no longer appear on your upcoming bills.

On behalf of the City, thank you to our residents and businesses for your patience and understanding as we worked together to ensure this critical infrastructure improvement was completed.

## Fire Department Welcomes Back Rensselaer School Faculty & Staff

On **Wednesday, August 27th**, the Rensselaer Fire Department proudly hosted a special welcome for the faculty and staff of the **Rensselaer City School District**. Firefighters provided and cooked a delicious spread of burgers and hot dogs, helping to kick off the new school year with community spirit and hospitality.

The event was a wonderful opportunity for the Fire Department to show appreciation for the teachers, administrators, and staff who dedicate themselves to the success of local students. Sharing a meal together highlighted the strong partnership between the City's first responders and the school community.

The City thanks the Fire Department for their generosity and commitment, and extends best wishes to all Rensselaer educators for a safe, successful, and inspiring school year ahead.



## *City of Rensselaer Honors Bryan Leahey with Proclamation*

At the Common Council meeting on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, Mayor Mike Stammel presented a formal proclamation to longtime resident and community leader **Bryan Leahey**, recognizing his decades of service, volunteerism, and civic leadership.

Leahey, a proud alumnus of Rensselaer High School's Class of 1974, devoted more than 30 years as a City Letter Carrier for the United States Postal Service. Beyond his career, he became a cornerstone of the community, dedicating over two decades to youth sports and organizations—including Pop Warner Football, Little League, the Gerald O'Neil American Legion baseball team, and Rensselaer High School football.

The proclamation also highlighted his role in preserving local baseball history by commemorating Roger Connor of the Troy Trojans, who hit the first recorded grand slam in 1881 at what is now Riverfront Park. His efforts helped secure both media recognition and a permanent monument to the achievement.

Throughout the years, Leahey has been honored with numerous awards, including the Rensselaer Award and the RJ Manning Award for Service and Dedication to Youth. He also served more than ten years on the Rensselaer Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, five as chairperson, and was appointed Third Ward Alderman in 2019.

In presenting the proclamation, Mayor Stammel praised Leahey's "lifelong dedication, selfless service, and lasting impact on the Rensselaer community."



## Rensselaer Farmers Market in Full Swing at Riverfront Park

The Rensselaer Farmers Market is thriving this season at Riverfront Park, with new vendors joining each week and a growing lineup of exciting events. Thanks to a \$50,000 grant awarded through the City's Planning Office, the market will continue to expand and bring even more opportunities for local farmers, businesses, and residents.

August was filled with fun at the market, featuring a lively foam party—where kids (and even some adventurous adults!) dove into the suds—and a successful car show with 39 cars on display. Both events drew big crowds and plenty of smiles.

The market continues to offer something new every week. Upcoming highlights include:

- September 4: The famous Cousins Lobster Truck joins our lineup, along with live music and our regular fantastic farmers and vendors.
- September 18: A Health and Wellness Fair featuring resources and activities for all ages.
- September 25: A petting zoo plus appearances from local animal rescue groups.
- October 2: A sizzling Chili Cook-Off.
- October 16: Our season finale with a special Touch-a-Truck event for the kids.

The Farmers Market runs every Thursday from 4:00–7:00 p.m., offering fresh produce, delicious food and drinks, handmade goods, live entertainment, and community resources—all in a beautiful, family-friendly setting.

It's more than just a market—it's a place to connect with neighbors, friends, classmates, and even former teachers. You never know who you'll run into, and there's always something new to discover.

Come down to Riverfront Park and see what the Rensselaer Farmers Market is all about!



# CHILI COOK-OFF

THE RENSSELAER FARMERS MARKET AT  
RIVERFRONT PARK

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THURSDAY, OCT. 2<sup>ND</sup> 4 PM - 7 PM

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COMPETITION  
& PRIZES

LIVE MUSIC

FOOD TRUCKS  
& VENDORS



**CALLING ALL  
CHILI LOVERS!**

- FREE TO ENTER
- FREE TO TASTE
- ENCOURAGED TO VOTE!

📍 4<sup>TH</sup> & BROADWAY, RENSSELAER, NY 12144



# TOUCH THE TRUCKS

THE RENSSELAER FARMERS MARKET AT  
RIVERFRONT PARK

THURSDAY, OCT. 16<sup>TH</sup>

4 PM - 7 PM

FUN FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY

LIVE MUSIC

FOOD TRUCKS  
& VENDORS

CONSTRUCTION TRUCKS,  
TRACTORS, FIRE ENGINES, AND  
MORE!



4<sup>TH</sup> & BROADWAY  
RENSSELAER  
NY 12144

FREE ENTRY  
ALL AGES

## Vacant Rental Property Program

The City of Rensselaer is preparing to apply for funding from New York State to support a Vacant Rental Property Program — and we need your participation!

If awarded, this grant would allow the City to assist property owners in rehabilitating vacant housing units and converting unusable spaces, such as former commercial areas, into safe, high-quality, and affordable rental housing.

Eligible repairs may include:

- Health & safety improvements
- Code violation corrections
- Accessibility upgrades
- Environmental remediation
- General residential updates

Potential Grant Assistance:

Up to \$50,000 per unit if you agree to rent to households at or below 80% Area Median Income (AMI) for 10 years.

Up to \$75,000 per unit if you agree to rent to households at or below 60% AMI for 10 years.

This is a valuable opportunity to bring Rensselaer's vacant properties back to life—creating affordable housing and stronger neighborhoods.

## City Offers Economic Development Loans for Local Business

The City of Rensselaer is now accepting applications for its **Economic Development Loan Program**, a HUD-funded initiative designed to support business growth and job creation within the city.

This revolving loan fund is available to both new and existing businesses — including manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers with three or more employees, and eligible service-based businesses.

### Program Highlights:

- **Loan amounts** range from **\$30,000 to \$150,000**
- **Fixed interest rate** based on the *lowest Wall Street Journal Prime Rate* at time of closing
- Loan may fund up to **40% of the total project cost**
- **Job creation requirement:** One job created within 2 years for every \$10,000 borrowed (at least 51% of jobs must benefit low-to-moderate income households)

**Fees:** \$25 pre-application, \$150 full application, and 1% commitment fee due before closing

### Loan funds can be used for:

- Acquiring fixed assets
- Purchasing inventory
- Supporting current accounts receivable

Refinancing existing debt (if required as part of the total project financing)

Please note: loan proceeds **cannot** be used for capital improvements.

### Apply or learn more:

Visit <https://rensselaer.ny.gov/economic-development-loan-program> to access the application and full program guidelines.

## City Comptroller Shines at the Car Show

One of our own joined in the fun at the **Rensselaer Farmers' Market Car Show on August 21st**. City Comptroller **Maurine Fowler** proudly displayed her beautiful Challenger and it was a real crowd favorite!

The car show brought together enthusiasts of all ages, with classic cars, muscle cars, and unique vehicles lined up along Riverfront Park. Maurine's Challenger stood out with its sleek design and polished look, showcasing not only her pride in her car but also in being part of this great community event.

The Farmers' Market Car Show was just one of many special activities hosted this season, giving neighbors a chance to come together, enjoy great food, music, and of course—beautiful cars. A big thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the event such a success!



## Fall Property Maintenance: Keeping Rensselaer Beautiful Year-Round

As the leaves fall and the colder months approach, it's important for residents and property owners to keep properties maintained—not only for curb appeal, but for the safety and wellbeing of our community. A clean, well-kept property reflects pride in our neighborhoods and helps make Rensselaer a welcoming place for all.

Fall is the perfect time to prepare for winter. By taking simple steps now, you can protect your property, avoid hazards, and contribute to the overall health and appearance of your neighborhood.

### Tips for Fall Property Care:

- **Rake and remove fallen leaves** from yards, sidewalks, and curb lines to prevent buildup and slippery conditions.
- **Clear gutters and drains** to avoid ice dams and water damage during winter storms.
- **Trim trees and shrubs** to reduce the risk of broken branches and damage from snow and ice.
- **Dispose of yard waste and clutter properly**, keeping walkways, porches, and driveways safe and accessible.
- **Secure outdoor items** such as lawn furniture, grills, and decorations to prevent damage or hazards in high winds.

Neglected properties don't just affect one home—they impact the whole block, lowering property values and creating safety concerns. The City of Rensselaer has ordinances in place to ensure all properties are properly maintained throughout the year. Failure to comply may result in fines or enforcement action.

If you have questions about property maintenance guidelines or need assistance, please contact **City Code Enforcement at (518) 465-1693**.

Let's work together this fall to keep Rensselaer safe, clean, and beautiful heading into winter. A little care today ensures our city shines bright—even through the snow!

## Honoring Our Veterans: Share Their Stories With Us

Do you have a loved one who served in the United States Armed Forces? Whether it was a grandfather in World War II, a sister in Iraq, a friend who served stateside, or a neighbor who made the ultimate sacrifice - **we want to hear their story.**

The City of Rensselaer is collecting personal stories from residents about the veterans in their lives. These stories are a meaningful way to honor the service, sacrifice, and courage of the men and women who have worn our nation's uniform.

We believe every veteran's story deserves to be remembered - and shared. Whether it's a paragraph, a full biography, or a cherished memory, your submission can help keep their legacy alive for future generations.

📧 **Submit your story to:** [info@rensselaerny.gov](mailto:info@rensselaerny.gov)

You're welcome to include photos, service details, or simply what made your veteran so special to you and your family.

Let's come together as a community to celebrate and remember those who served. Your stories will be highlighted in future city newsletters, on our website, and possibly during upcoming Veterans Day events.

### 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

Your interest in Rensselaer is critical to the operation of the city. It's your city. 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 Mondays of each month and the Council Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. Both at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

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!

(see attached Calendar for dates for this month at the end of this Newsletter).

## 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](mailto:Info@rensselaerny.gov)

We look forward to hearing from you!

## Planning Commission Regular Meetings

Your interest in Rensselaer's future is vital to how our city grows and develops. The Planning Commission plays a key role in reviewing projects, shaping policies, and guiding responsible development—and your voice matters in that process.

Planning Commission meetings are held **on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 PM** at City Hall. These meetings are open to the public, and we encourage residents to attend, listen, and share their perspectives.

Agendas are posted on the City's website prior to each meeting at:

<https://rensselaerny.gov/meeting-agendas-and-minutes>

Your attendance and input help ensure that decisions about Rensselaer's growth reflect the priorities of the people who live here. We hope to see you at an upcoming meeting—your city needs your voice!

## Now Recruiting: Be Part of the First Class of Cadets!

Shared Services Cadet Post 2010 is officially launching—and we're looking for our very first group of Cadets! This exciting new program is designed to introduce young people to the field of law enforcement and foster strong relationships between local police departments and the communities they serve.

Operated by members of the East Greenbush, North Greenbush, Schodack, and Rensselaer City Police Departments, the Cadet Post offers hands-on experiences, education, and mentorship for youth ages 14 to 21 who are interested in learning more about public safety and service.

Recruitment is underway now, with our first official meeting planned for September. If you or someone you know is interested, please refer to the flyer below for eligibility details. To apply or ask questions, simply send us an email - one of our recruiters will get back to you with more information.

We're excited to welcome a new generation of leaders who embody **Courage. Character. Commitment.**

Don't miss your chance to be part of something meaningful!

### JOIN THE SHARED SERVICES POLICE CADET PROGRAM

**Courage. Character. Commitment**








### ARE YOU READY TO STEP INTO A FUTURE OF SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP?

Become a Police Cadet and gain real-life experience in law enforcement while giving back to your community

#### PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Ride-alongs with experienced officers
- Reality-based training
- Hands-on law enforcement events
- Classroom instruction
- Leadership and teamwork skills

#### REQUIREMENTS TO JOIN

- Ages 14 to 21
- Maintain at least a "C" average in school
- No criminal history
- Parental consent if under 18
- Strong interest in law enforcement and public service

### APPLY NOW AND START YOUR JOURNEY

For more information or to request an application, contact or visit us at:

[sharedservicescadets@schodackpolice.com](mailto:sharedservicescadets@schodackpolice.com)






# Rensselaer Fire Department and City School District Launch CTE Firefighter Program

The Rensselaer City Fire Department and the Rensselaer City School District are proud to announce the launch of a new **CTE Firefighter Program** – a career and technical education initiative designed to prepare students for real-world service in emergency response.

Through this innovative program, students will have the opportunity to **train alongside professional firefighters**, earn **industry-recognized certifications**, and explore career pathways in public safety. To support their training, participants will also receive a **\$750 stipend**.

“This is more than just a class,” said district officials. “It’s hands-on experience, valuable credentials, and a direct link to meaningful careers in public service.”

The program carries special meaning for **Mayor Mike Stammel**, whose lifelong ties to the fire service and public safety make this initiative especially close to his heart. Before becoming Mayor, Stammel served for many years as a dedicated member of the Rensselaer Fire Department, gaining firsthand experience of the courage, discipline, and teamwork that firefighting demands.

“This program is near and dear to me,” said Mayor Stammel. “I know what it means to serve this community as a firefighter, and I know the value of giving young people a path into this noble profession. This program not only builds skills and confidence for our students, but it also strengthens the future of public safety in our city.”

The CTE Firefighter Program reflects the district’s ongoing commitment to providing students with practical, career-focused education. Whether students plan to pursue a future in firefighting or simply want to gain valuable real-world skills, this program offers a powerful and impactful starting point.





## NOW ENROLLING

### Career & Technical Education

#### FIREFIGHTING PROGRAM

Hosted By: City of Rensselaer Fire Department

#### WHY JOIN?

- Hands-on training with certified NYS Fire Instructors
- Real-world experience in active fire service environment
- **BEFO Certification** upon completion, with a \$750 stipend

#### EARN ACADEMIC & CAREER CREDIT

- Job Shadowing
- Internships
- Networking with active duty members

#### CAREER PATHWAYS

- Firefighter
- EMT
- Fire Science
- Homeland Security
- Health and Safety

#### ELIGIBILITY

- Open to 11th & 12th Grade
- Half-Day Program
- Begins: Fall of 2025
- Speak with Guidance Counselor or contact us directly



Scan to Apply

#### CONTACT INFO

JoinRFD@RensselaerNY.Gov

Solid Waste Dept.  
#518-462-9616  
#518-462-9617

**CITY OF RENSSELAER**  
**2025 ANNUAL BULK PICK UP EVENT**  
(FOR BILL PAYING CITY RESIDENTS ONLY)

CITY GARAGE  
#518462-5512

**BULK PICK UP EVENT DAY SCHEDULE:**

|                                                          |                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| IF YOUR TRASH IS PICKED UP <u>TUES MORNING</u> ▄ ▄ ▄ ▄ ▄ | (PLACE YOUR BULK OUT SUNDAY NIGHT)<br>YOUR BULK DATE IS <b>MONDAY 9/8/2025</b>  |
| IF YOUR TRASH IS PICKED UP <u>WED MORNING</u> ▄ ▄ ▄ ▄ ▄  | (PLACE YOUR BULK OUT SUNDAY NIGHT)<br>YOUR BULK DATE IS <b>MONDAY 9/15/2025</b> |
| IF YOUR TRASH IS PICKED UP <u>THUR MORNING</u> ▄ ▄ ▄ ▄ ▄ | (PLACE YOUR BULK OUT SUNDAY NIGHT)<br>YOUR BULK DATE IS <b>MONDAY 9/22/2025</b> |
| IF YOUR TRASH IS PICKED UP <u>FRI MORNING</u> ▄ ▄ ▄ ▄ ▄  | (PLACE YOUR BULK OUT SUNDAY NIGHT)<br>YOUR BULK DATE IS <b>MONDAY 9/29/2025</b> |

**BULK PICK UP EVENT INFORMATION (FOR BILL PAYING CITY RESIDENTS ONLY)**

**BULK PICK UP IS MONDAY MORNING ONLY!! NO SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE. WE DO NOT PICK UP ON WEEKENDS. BRUSH/TREES/LEAVES WILL NOT BE PICKED UP WHILE THE BULK EVENT TAKES PLACE.**

BULK ITEMS MUST BE PLACED OUT SUNDAY NIGHT BETWEEN 4:00PM AND 12:00AM MIDNIGHT FOR EARLY MONDAY MORNING PICK UP ON YOUR SCHEDULED BULK DATE. THIS IS BULK ONLY. YOUR TRASH IS TO BE PLACED OUT ON YOUR NORMAL TRASH DAY.

THE BULK SIZE **MUST NOT EXCEED** A MEASURABLE SIZE OF 4 FEET WIDE, 4 FEET HIGH, 8 FEET LONG.

OVER SIZED BULK STOPS AND PROPERTY CLEAN OUTS WILL BE CHARGED ACCORDINGLY BASED ON SIZE.

ALL BULK ITEMS THAT DO NOT FALL WITH IN THE GUIDELINES WILL BE CHARGED ACCORDINGLY.

IT WILL BE THE HOMEOWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO INFORM THEIR TENANTS OF THE BULK PICKUP DATES. ALL FEES/FINES STAY WITH THE PROPERTY. VIOLATIONS MAY BE CHARGED \$1,000.00 FOR UNSIGHTLY LITTERING.

IF YOU MISS YOUR SCHEDULED PICK UP DATE FOR THIS EVENT, NO ACCOMODATIONS WILL BE MADE.

**ITEMS NOT ACCEPTABLE (\*\*\*FOR BULK OR TRASH PICKUP NO ACCEPTIONS\*\*\*)**

|                                                       |                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| HAZARDOUS WASTE (GAS/OILS)                            | CONCRETE/BRICKS         |
| HUMAN WASTE                                           | HOUSHOLD/POOL CHEMICALS |
| LIQUID PAINT (UNLESS DRIED OR SOAKED WITH CAT LITTER) | MEDICAL WASTE/NEEDLES   |
| AUTO PARTS, BATTERIES                                 | TV/COMPUTERS            |

**BULK ITEMS (\*\*\*THESE ITEMS WILL RECEIVE A CHARGE NO EXCEPTIONS\*\*\*)**

|                      |                  |                         |              |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| <u>PROPANE TANKS</u> | \$25.00 EACH     | <u>MATTESS/BOXPRING</u> | \$25.00 EACH |
| <u>TIRES</u>         | \$25.00 PER TIRE |                         |              |

**CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS** – (CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS IS CHARGED BASED ON SIZE. ITEMS MUST BE BROKEN DOWN TO 4 FT BAGGED OR BUNDLED. WE DO NOT TAKE CONCRETE AND BRICKS)

**\*\*\*YOU WILL BE CHARGED FULL PRICE IF YOUR BULK SIZE EXCEEDS A MEASURABLE SIZE OF 4 FEET WIDE, 4 FEET HIGH, 8 FEET LONG\*\*\***

BULK PILES OF MEASURABLE SIZE OF 4 FEET WIDE, 4 FEET HIGH, 8 FEET LONG - \$250.00  
PROPERTY CLEAN OUTS - \$500.00

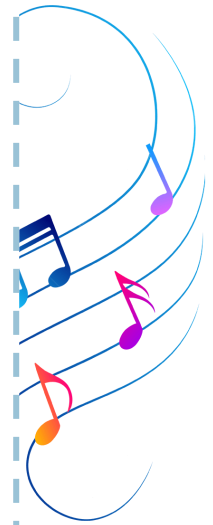
## Rensselaer Seniors Spotlight



Spotlight into events  
at Rensselaer  
Senior Center

Our new Senior Center is open and waiting for you to join us. As of Dec. 20, the Schodack Senior Center will be getting a facelift and we are pleased to host the seniors from there. We serve lunch Monday - Friday at 12 p.m. 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.



## Karaoke Fun at the Senior Center

The Senior Center was filled with music, laughter, and celebration during this month's **Karaoke and Birthday Day!** Each month, the Center hosts a special gathering where seniors come together to sing their favorite songs and enjoy birthday cake honoring those celebrating that month.

This past Tuesday was no exception — the energy was high, and the smiles were everywhere. A special highlight was the visit from **Dana and Nicole from the main office**, whose enthusiasm and talent brought extra excitement to the day. Their performances set the perfect atmosphere, inspiring others to join in and showcase their own musical flair.

The event offered plenty of great entertainment, lighthearted fun, and community spirit. Everyone is already looking forward to next month's Karaoke Day to see what surprises and songs are in store.

As one senior put it best: *"Have you ever been experienced? Well, I have!"*



# Senior Center Lunch 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 Schodack-518-477-6581  
Hoosick Falls: 518-686-7561 Grafton: 518-279-3413

## MENU

**September 2025**

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

| Monday                                                                                                                | Tuesday                                                                                                               | Wednesday                                                                                                             | Thursday                                                                                                                | Friday                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1)                                 | 2) Salisbury Steak w/Smothered Gravy<br>Fluffy Mashed Potatoes<br>Italian Blend Veggies<br>White Bread<br>Fresh Fruit | 3) Chicken Patty w/White Country Gravy<br>Mashed Sweet Potatoes<br>Cut Green Beans<br>Biscuit<br>Graham Crackers      | 4) Eggplant Parm<br>Stuffed Shell (1) w/Sauce<br>Italian Blend<br>Italian Bread<br>Fresh Fruit                          | 5) Macaroni & Cheese<br>Zucchini & Tomatoes<br>Peas & Onions<br>Diced Peaches                                                                                                         |
| 8) Veal Patty w/Mushroom Gravy<br>Buttery Mashed Potatoes<br>Wax Beans<br>Wheat Bread<br>Fresh Fruit                  | 9) Chicken Cordon Bleu<br>Alfredo Noodles<br>Carrot Coins<br>Cookie                                                   | 10) Butter Crumb Cod w/Tartar Rice<br>Steamed Broccoli<br>Cinnamon Applesauce                                         | 11) Harvest Cheddar Turkey Burger<br>Sweet Tater Tots<br>Winter Squash<br>Round Roll<br>Fresh Fruit                     | 12) BBQ Meatballs<br>Butter Garlic Noodles<br>Brussel Sprouts<br>Tropical Fruit Cup                                                                                                   |
| 15) Chili w/Kidney Beans,<br>Shredded Cheddar & Sour Cream<br>Rice<br>Mixed Veggies<br>Biscuit<br>Mandarin Orange Cup | 16) Chicken Tenders w/Ranch<br>Tater Tots<br>Normandy Blend<br>Fruit Bar                                              | 17) <b>CHEF'S CHOICE</b>                                                                                              | 18) Tuna Fish Salad Cold Plate on Lettuce<br>Macaroni Salad<br>Pickled Beet Salad<br>White Bread<br>Apple               | 19) L/S Hot Dogs w/Mustard<br>Vegetarian Baked Beans<br>Seasoned Sauerkraut<br>Hot Dog Roll<br>Diced Peas                                                                             |
| 22) Cheeseburger<br>Tater Tots<br>Brussel Sprouts<br>Round Roll<br>Granola Bar                                        | 23) Baked Chicken Breast w/Rosemary Gravy<br>Baked Potato<br>Broccoli Florets<br>Garlic Breadstick<br>Cookie          | 24) Sliced Turkey Cold Plate Lettuce & Mayo<br>3 Bean Salad<br>Cottage Cheese w/Pineapple<br>White Bread<br>Ice Cream | 25) Meatloaf w/Onion Gravy<br>Buttery Mashed Potatoes<br>Diced Carrots<br>Dinner Roll<br>Fresh Fruit                    | 26) Lemon Garlic Cod w/Tartar<br>Red Potato<br>Spinach<br>Yogurt                                                                                                                      |
| 29) Orange Chicken<br>White Rice<br>Broccoli Florets<br>Biscuit<br>Peanut Butter Crackers                             | 30) Ham Steak w/Pineapple Glaze<br>Mashed Sweet Potatoes<br>Spinach<br>Rye Bread<br>Cake                              |                                                                                                                       | Nutrition Abbreviations:<br>NCS-No Concentrated<br>Sweets<br>L/S-Low Sodium (salt)<br>Soft-Low Fiber<br>UNS-Unsweetened | This Program is funded by the<br>U.S. Administration on Aging<br>Older Americans Act, NYS<br>Office for the Aging and<br>Rensselaer County. Suggested<br>Contribution \$3.00 per meal |

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



Please join us in honoring

**Firefighter/Investigator William Schumaker**

As he retires after 36 years of dedicated service  
to the City of Rensselaer Fire Department

## *Walkout Ceremony*



Friday, September 12, 2025 @ 4:00 PM

City of Rensselaer Fire Department

North Station

2 St. Francis Place

Rensselaer, NY 12144

# City of Rensselaer Events and Meetings

## SEPTEMBER 2025

| Sun | Mon                                                                               | Tue                                                 | Wed                                                                       | Thu                                                                                                                                   | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
|     |  | 2<br>Common Council<br>Workshop 6:30<br>@ City Hall | 3<br>Common Council<br>Meeting AND<br>PUBLIC HEARING<br>6:30 @ City Hall  | 4<br>Farmer's Market<br>Cousins Lobster<br>Truck<br>4:00 pm—7 pm<br>Riverfront Park                                                   | 5   | 6   |
| 7   | 8<br>Planning Commis-<br>sion Meeting 6:30<br>@ City Hall                         | 9                                                   | 10                                                                        |  Farmer's Market<br>4:00 pm—7 pm<br>Riverfront Park | 12  | 13  |
| 14  | 15<br>Common Council<br>Workshop 6:30 @<br>City Hall                              | 16                                                  | 17<br>Common Council<br>Meeting AND<br>PUBLIC HEARING<br>6:30 @ City Hall | 18<br>Farmer's Market<br>& Health & Well-<br>ness Fair<br>4:00 pm—7 pm<br>Riverfront Park                                             | 19  | 20  |
| 21  | 22<br>ZBA Meeting<br>6:00 @ City Hall<br><br>IDA Meeting<br>4:15 @ city Hall      | 23                                                  | 24                                                                        | 25<br>Farmer's Market<br>& Petting Zoo<br>4:00 pm—7 pm<br>Riverfront Park                                                             | 26  | 27  |
| 28  | 29                                                                                | 30                                                  |                                                                           |                                                                                                                                       |     |     |

# DIRECTORY

|                                            |              |                                         |                                 |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>ASSESSOR</b>                            | 518-462-5421 | sharon.martin@rensselaerny.gov          | SHARON MARTIN                   |
| <b>BUILDING &amp; ZONING ADMINISTRATOR</b> | 518-465-1693 | tim.lippert@rensselaerny.gov            | TIM LIPPERT                     |
| <b>CITY COURT CLERK</b>                    | 518-453-4680 |                                         |                                 |
| <b>CITY CLERK</b>                          | 518-462-4266 | nancy.hardt@rensselaerny.gov            | NANCY HARDT                     |
| <b>ENGINEER</b>                            | 518-694-3968 | bill.smart@rensselaerny.gov             | BILL SMART                      |
| <b>FIRE HOUSE, NORTH</b>                   | 518-463-2883 |                                         |                                 |
| <b>FIRE HOUSE, BROADWAY</b>                | 518-465-3243 | bill.brooking@rensselaerny.gov          | BILL BROOKING JR.<br>FIRE CHIEF |
| <b>HISTORIAN</b>                           | 518-694-3126 | victor.batorsky@rensselaerny.gov        | VICTOR BATORSKY                 |
| <b>HUMAN RESOURCES</b>                     | 518-462-0419 | irene.sorriento@rensselaerny.gov        | IRENE SORRIENTO                 |
| <b>LIBRARIAN</b>                           | 518-462-1193 | jane.chirgwin@rensselaerny.gov          | JANE CHIRGWIN                   |
| <b>MAYOR</b>                               | 518-462-9511 | mike.stammel@rensselaerny.gov           | MIKE STAMMEL                    |
| <b>PLANNING DIRECTOR</b>                   | 518-462-4839 | thomas.hulihan@rensselaerny.gov         | THOMAS HULIHAN                  |
| <b>POLICE DISPATCHER</b>                   | 518-462-7453 |                                         |                                 |
| <b>POLICE CHIEF</b>                        | 518-462-7453 | warren.famiglietti@rensselaerpolice.org | WARREN FAMIGLIETTI              |
| <b>PROCESS SERVER</b>                      | 518-720-7106 | steve.smith@rensselaerny.gov            | STEVE SMITH                     |
| <b>PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSIONER</b>           | 518-462-9617 | jim.brady@rensselaerny.gov              | JIM BRADY                       |
| <b>CITY GARAGE / DPW</b>                   | 518-462-5512 | gene.hilstro@rensselaerny.gov           | GENE HILSTRO                    |
| <b>PURCHASING AGENT</b>                    | 518-462-2251 | rich.berhaupt@rensselaerny.gov          | RICH BERHAUPT                   |
| <b>TREASURER</b>                           | 518-462-6424 | michael.mizener@rensselaerny.gov        | MIKE MIZENER                    |
| <b>WATER / SEWER DEPUTY COMMISS.</b>       | 518-462-6466 | fran.welsh@rensselaerny.gov             | FRAN WELSH                      |
| <b>YOUTH DIRECTOR</b>                      | 518-462-5488 | youth@rensselaerny.gov                  | JIM KONSTANTAKIS                |