

LaFayette

Community Newsletter



IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE™

There are angels among us. So many acts of kindness during the holiday season here in our Town. Too many to mention and many we probably are not aware of. I'd like to point out a few of our local businesses, organizations and individuals who went out of their way to make the holiday season a bit brighter for those in need.



Starting with our **Volunteer Firefighters**. Can't thank them enough for toting Santa Claus around town for all to see. It's a wonderful tradition enjoyed by everyone. They also raised \$4,500 for LaFayette Outreach with their annual boot drive.

Not to mention the heroic protection they provide for our community year round as volunteers.

Our **Route 20 Community Group** who collects for needy families for Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas giving. I'd be amiss if we didn't thank everyone who contributes to that effort along the Route 20 corridor



that at one of their meetings raising \$700 for this organization.

Also of note is the annual Christmas gift donations collected by the **LaFayette Optimists** for the children at Ryan McMahon Child Advocacy Center every year. Various food drives were held around Town. **The Thor** and the **LaFayette Inn** both sponsored food drives for LaFayette Outreach in their establishments during the holiday season. The **LaFayette Inn** also sponsored 7 families through **LaFayette Alliance Church** for Christmas.



Columbian Presbyterian Church

resumed their annual Cookie Café to raise monies for LaFayette Outreach. A special recognition should be made for **Coleby Felber**, a student at Big

Picture who has donated his Christmas funds to Outreach families since he was 12 years old. This year, Coleby heard about a family who recently lost everything to a fire.



Coleby through the years

He stepped up and spent all of his own money to provide them with

basic necessities to start over. Thank you Coleby for your selfless act of kindness. Amazing!

A special thank you to Donna Coty, owner of

LaFayette Mind Body & Spine

for being a collection point for LaFayette Outreach. Her and her sister Karen also made 65 plates of cookies for LaFayette Outreach for the Christmas



holiday. Donna gladly receives donations of food and clothing for the needy throughout the year at her business location.

Our **LaFayette Community**, we thank you and appreciate all you do to help others in our community and support our local organizations and businesses. Thanks to all the others that go unnoticed. We know there are many.

It's a wonderful life here in LaFayette!



From the Town Supervisor

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On behalf of the Town Board and all those that work for you, we wish everyone the ***Best of Everything in 2023!***

Mark Distler and I thought that it might be best to kick off this edition of the New Year's newsletter with a look-ahead into 2023 on the recently approved budget and on planned town improvements and projects.

We had quite an audience, in attendance and virtually, at the November 10 Town Board meeting to listen to a presentation on the proposed 2023 budget. The bottom line was that the Town tax increase was limited at \$9.00 per \$100,000 of assessed value, which is under the New York State tax cap of 2.33%, and thus all residents should receive their rebate check for remaining under this cap. Please contact me if you wish to have a copy of the presentation.

Keeping the budget under the tax cap was not easy given the 2022 inflation rate of ~8%. But our department heads and town councilors looked for innovative ways to limit the Town's expenses. Here are some budget areas to highlight:

1. The LaFayette Fire Department Ambulance Service has increased their availability by up to 70 more hours of availability per week since December of 2021. Kevin Carter, Administrator for the Ambulance Service, and Ashlie Carrier, Treasurer for the Ambulance Department, led this effort over the past two years. They allocated funds in their 2021 budget and hired two more Advanced Life Support Medics and three more Basic Life Support / Medical Car drivers to accomplish this increase in coverage, which resulted in an increase response to over 560 calls in 2022 (so far), up from 400 calls in 2021! Not only has the Town gained more coverage, but the Ambulance Service is also now able to cover more calls outside the Town and this brings in additional revenue for their service. ***Thank you, Kevin and Ashlie, for going the distance to increase the coverage of our Town's ambulance service!***
2. The Town Highway Department developed an equipment investment plan that will: (1) save thousands of dollars in repair cost each year, (2) improve the overall operating condition of the Town's highway equipment, and (3) avoid large capital outlays in the future. Both Steve Robson, Highway Superintendent and Don Skinner, Deputy Superintendent, worked for months to bring this plan forward. ***Thank you, Steve and Don, for the many hours spent on building this forward looking plan!***
3. The Town Board chose to invest the Town's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to: (1) replace and paint one half of the Town Commons building siding, which needs repair (\$13,500), (2) seal the Stafford Park walking trail this Spring (\$6,500), and (3) purchase three new pieces of replacement equipment for the Highway Department (\$100,000). These ARPA funds allowed for these improvements without our local taxpayers carrying the financial burden.
4. In 2023, the Town Board will be seeking funding and deciding on either to update the current Community Center or revisit the feasibility of building a new center as previously planned at Stafford Park.



From the Town Supervisor cont'd...

In the last newsletter, I provided an update on the old LaFayette hotel property. Since then, the Town:

- Was awarded the NY Main Street grant (\$300k)
- Decided to submit an application for the Restore NY grant (\$2M)
- Decided to retain the services of Hanover Real Estate Development

Hanover is currently conducting a feasibility study to assess viable building uses and to estimate construction costs and operational expenses/income for both options. Their development plans will be used in the Restore NY grant application to be submitted in late January.

If the Town is fortunate to be awarded the Restore NY grant (anticipated to be in June) and if Hanover identifies a viable use of the building, then rehabilitation is a viable option and the Town will have two options (rehabilitation or demolition) as well as all the cost information it needs for both options to make an informed decision. So, 2023 will be the year of this important decision and the initial project development steps (depending on the selected option) that will follow.



More details are available in previously released updates that can be found on the Town's [website](#) under *Community*, then *LaFayette Community Development Committee*.

—Bill McConnell/Mark Distler

**LET'S
CELEBRATE**

Have a momentous event to celebrate and want to share please email infoofficer@townoflafayette.com. Photos welcomed!
90+ birthdays, 50+ wedding anniversaries, major accomplishments, etc.. We're happy to celebrate with a mention in our newsletter.

Let's start with a very Happy 90th Birthday to Dottie McConnell, mother of our Town Supervisor



THE TOWN OF LAFAYETTE

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE
2023 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023

REFRESHMENTS AT 5:00—6:00 PM

MEETING TO FOLLOW AT LAFAYETTE TOWN HALL

From the Town Clerks Office

With 2022 behind us I am reminded to "Not let yesterday take up too much of today." It is indeed another day, another week, another month, another year to make great things happen in both our personal and professional lives. So, remember to live in every moment, laugh every day, and love beyond words.

2023 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10th, 2023
Refreshments 5:00 – 6:00PM
6:00 PM Organizational Meeting
Town Board Meeting to follow

All residents are welcome to come enjoy refreshments and meet with our Town Board Members; Supervisor William McConnell, Deputy Supervisor Mark Distler, Councilors; Steve Zajac, Melanie Palmer, Carole Dwyer and Jerry Marzo along with many others who work to make LaFayette continue to be a great place to live.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE PUBLIC SERVICES

- Dog licenses (all dogs over 4 months of age need to be licensed)
- Facility Rentals (Stafford Park Pavilions and Community Center)
- Handicap Parking Permits
- Marriage Licenses (PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT)
- Passport Services (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)
- Notary Services (free to residents)
- Voter Registration Forms & Veterans Discount Cards (FAVOR)

Please visit the Town of LaFayette website www.townoflafayette.com or call 315-677-3674 for information regarding any of the above services. Most forms needed, may be downloaded for your convenience. I invite you to visit our office or call and we will be happy to assist you in obtaining the services you require.

Also, please be advised that we do not accept credit or debit cards. All Town Clerk transactions need to be paid by cash, check or money orders.

TRASH / RECYCLING

For missed pick-ups; or your bi-weekly recycling schedule, please contact **Dependable Disposal**

directly at (315) 472-7455 Extension 25 (Christine) or www.dependable-disposal.com.

The hours of pick-up may vary between 5:00 AM – 6:00 PM

HOLIDAYS THAT INTERRUPT TRASH SERVICE

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- 4th of July
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving
- Christmas

If the holiday falls on or before your pick-up day within that week, pick-up is delayed one day.

Any new residents need to contact the Assessor at (315) 677-3420 or

assessor@townoflafayette.com to receive trash services.

DOG LICENSING - The fees are \$8.00 for Spay/Neutered dogs and \$20.00 for Unspayed/Unneutered dogs.



Dog License

Licenses may be obtained for 1, 2, or 3 years depending on the expiration of the rabies vaccines.

You may pay with check or cash, via mail or in person. Forms for new licenses may be downloaded from our website. It is **New York State Law** that all dogs must be licensed in the municipality which they reside. Please contact Dog Control Officers; Ken Johnson (315) 263-1000; Deputy Dog Control Officer Laura Holt (315) 696-6468 for any stray/lost dogs.

RABIES SHOT CLINICS/ONONDAGA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Rabies Shot Clinics

New York State Public Health Law requires that all puppies and kittens get their first rabies shot at three months of age, a booster shot at one year old, and then again, every three years. **The**

Onondaga County Health Department's 2023 Rabies Clinic schedule will be posted here and on social media when announced. Veterinarian offices and some local pet supply stores can also provide the shot, call ahead for more information. For further details call (315) 435-3165 Animal Disease Prevention or visit www.ongov.net/health/ADP.html

Rabies Clinic



From the Town Clerks Office cont'd....

University Hospital's Mammography Van March 10, 2023 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

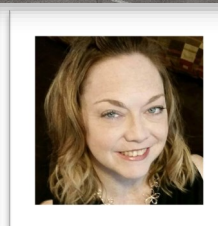
Upstate University Hospital's mobile Mammography Van will return on March 7, 2022. The van will be parked in the lower parking lot by the library and pre-registration is required, register now by phone (315) 464-2582; Online: www.upstate.edu/no_excuses.



Peace
On
Earth

As I say every year, we pray for peace for the people of our United States of America and the entire world. That is what our past, present and future service men & women have sacrificed so much for... **"PEACE ON EARTH"**

GOD BLESS AMERICA and GOD BLESS YOU TOO!!!



—Jackie Bush Roorda/Kristin Colburn

2023



Meeting	Day	Time	Email	Phone	Fax
Assessor	Tuesday - Thursday	8:30 am—1:30 pm	assessor@townoflafayette.com	677-3420	677-7806
Building & Zoning Code Enforcement	Tuesday	6:00 - 7:00 pm or by appointment	codes@townoflafayette.com	677-5371	677-7806
Town Supervisor	By appointment	Available anytime call 315-391-8167	supervisor@townoflafayette.com wmmac4@aol.com	677-5251 391-8167	677-7806
Planning Board	3rd Tuesday of the month	6:00 PM if there is an agenda	townclerk@townoflafayette.com	677-3674	677-7806
Zoning Board of Appeals	3rd Tuesday of the month	7:00 PM if there is an agenda	townclerk@townoflafayette.com	677-3674	677-7806
Town Board Meeting	2nd Tuesday of the month (except November to be held Thursday, Nov 9 at 5:00 pm)	Vouchers at 6:00 pm Meetings 6:30 pm Live streamed on Facebook	townclerk@townoflafayette.com	677-3674	677-7806
Special meetings will be posted on the website, Town Hall Bulletin Board, the Post Office and Post Standard/Syracuse Media website					
Town Clerk	Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri Tuesdays or by appt. Summer Hours—Closed Fridays May—October	9:00 am—4:00 pm 9:00—7:00 pm Offices are closed on all federal holidays	townclerk@townoflafayette.com	677-3674	677-7806
Tax Collector	January Mon & Wed January Tuesday February Mon February Tuesday March Tuesday	12:00—3:00 pm 9:00—11:00 am 12:00—2:00 9:00—11:00 am 9:00—11:00 am		677-9155	677-7806

Court Corner



NYS DOT reminds motorists to use caution around snowplows. During the stormy winter months, drivers should exercise caution, obey the rules of the road, drive slowly and yield to snowplows. Stay a safe distance away from snowplows. Never assume that a plow driver can see you! Adjust your speed for road conditions and stay alert. Slow down on our snowy roads....get to your destination safely! You can be ticketed for imprudent speed which is a 3 point moving violation with fines and surcharges. Stay safe, Happy New Year to all!! The court will be closed on January 2, 2023, January 16, 2023 and February 20, 2023.

New York State Unified Court System has a website for court related help. Visit www.nycourthelp.gov

Our hours are as follows:

- Mon-Thurs 9:30—5:00 pm
- Closed for lunch 12:30-1:30 daily
- Closed on Fridays

Phone number: **315-677-9350**

Fax number: **315-677-4622**

Webpage: www.townoflafayette.com/court.html

Email: tolcourt1@aol.com

—Honorable Maureen Perrin and

Honorable Adrian Shute

Carleen, Katey & JoAnne



PROCLAMATION

TOWN OF LAFAYETTE, NY



Thomas "Tom" Chartrand has served the Town of LaFayette for over 28 years as an Independent Contractor and as the Bookkeeper to the Supervisor.

During the years of 1994 – 1999 Tom trained and worked under Al Chartrand, Tom's mentor and Father, with the Janal Accounting Service working for the Town of LaFayette, NY. These formative years built the Institutional Credibility, Professional Expertise, and the Trust that Tom Chartrand became known for throughout the Towns of Central New York.

Tom then created Tom Chartrand Accounting in the year 2000 and the Town hired his services without hesitation. Supervisor Andy Ohstrom then appointed Tom to the position of Bookkeeper for the Town in the year 2017 as Tom's duties grew well beyond the industry standards of an accounting service.

Tom's duties included the building and overseeing of the Towns' annual budget while maintaining the highest of professional standards as defined by the New York State Comptroller. Tom's "hundreds" of duties cannot be captured within this Proclamation but let it be known to all; Tom

delivered twenty-three flawless budgets that were audited annually by the Town Board- they were 100% accurate and accountable.

Tom's investigative leadership and implementation of the New York State employee retirement programs, health, dental, vision programs, and insurance plans ensured the Town's employees were expertly cared for throughout their careers.

His "open-door" policy of never turning down a phone call from the Town Clerk's and six Supervisors that he served set a standard of Professional Excellence that will never be forgotten and will be sorely missed by all.

In recognition of his Service to the Town of LaFayette, NY as the Bookkeeper to the Supervisor, the Town Clerk, the Town Board, the Highway Department, the Library, the Community Council, the Parks Department, the Town Court, our 40+ employees and our 4,900+ residents, and on the occasion of his retirement,

We declare December 31, 2022 as Thomas Chartrand Day in the Town of LaFayette, NY.

From the LaFayette Highway Superintendent



Greetings and Happy New Year Residents!

As the Highway Department has already begun the winter season, I have a few annual reminders:

- Parking on State, County and Town roads from November 1st thru April 1st is prohibited. Blocking highway roads and turnarounds prevent school buses, emergency vehicles and snow plows from doing their job!
- A friendly reminder to all residential and commercial plow drivers, State/County/Municipal law does not allow snow to be pushed across any road way.
- A couple dates to remember, 2023 Christmas tree recycling program will begin December 26th and end February 3rd. Please drop off all trees to the Highway Department at (2849 Rt. 11 North). Please no plastic bags or wreaths. Look for the "Christmas Tree Sign" at the south end of our building. Spring brush pick-up is tentatively scheduled for April 17, 2023, look at the April News Letter to confirm this date.
- As always, the Highway Department recommends that residents leave an ample amount of time before heading out on winter roads.
- We ask you to be patient with our plow drivers as they clear the roads for safe travel.
- Stay Safe and Thank You!



—Steve Robson
Highway Superintendent



**PLEASE
FOLLOW
PROPER
TRASH
CAN
PLACEMENT
FOR
SNOW
REMOVAL**



Please refer to the Town of LaFayette Highway Department page for contact information on who is responsible should your mailbox receive damage.

<https://www.townoflafayette.com/highway-dept.html>



VANISHED
SIGHTS & SCENES
LAFAYETTE, NEW YORK



Roy Dodge's fifth book of old Town of LaFayette pictures is called Vanished Sights & Scenes: LaFayette, NY. The subjects include the life and legacies of General Isaac Hall, the Town's most prominent citizen of the 19th century and a review of his vast property. The hamlet of "Collingwood" is discussed and illustrated. About forty pictures taken ca 1908-15 by local photographers Elva Newell and Adelbert Bush are included. About 150 pictures make up the book. It is scheduled to be available at the Town Clerk's office early in January.

From the LaFayette Public Library



We are really looking forward to 2023 here in the Library. First, a big thank you to everyone who was part of the library community this past fall. A lot has gone on! Story Time started up again in the fall with Sarah, our Youth Services person. Sarah also led a fun “slime” program in November. The kids got to make and take home their slime creations. The library began offering free chemistry tutoring to some local students. Early in December we had a



handbell concert at the library given by a local group, the Renegades. They played some Christmas music, sang, and answered questions about handbells - and even let people try them out!

By the way, did you know your library card gives you access to more than 4,000 magazines that you can read online at any time? The huge variety of subjects covered include “Crafts” (252 titles), “Family and Parenting” (104 titles), “Health and Fitness” (302 titles), “Hunting and Fishing” (70 titles), “Tech and Gaming” (504 titles) and much more. If you have questions, please call or visit the library.

You can find information about print and digital materials, online learning, and more by checking out your library’s website at www.lafayettelibrary.org. The library will be posting winter season activities there as well. Here is just a sampling:

Story Time is currently scheduled for every **Thursday** morning at **11:00am**, and includes stories, singing, and dancing.



Tuesday Tea continues through the winter on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month from **2:00-4:00pm**. The library couch is cozy and comfy. Come join us for low-key friendly socializing!



Free Chemistry Tutoring, held on **Thursdays** from **4:30 to 6:30**, begins again on January 5th. The tutor taught chemistry for years, loves to help students, and is very friendly.

“Cabin Fever” Family Game Night will be on Saturday, January 28th.

Also, the library has a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/lafayettelibrary. Among other things, we post “What’s New” weekly updates on best sellers, movies, audiobooks, and children’s books.

Finally, **do you know what your “reading personality” is?** Find out by reading the blog post “Quiz! What kind of Reader are You?” at <https://www.lafayettelibrary.org/blog> (and at the same time you can find out about BookBrowse...)

—Jessica Rice



Library Hours

Mondays	10:00 am—7:00 pm
Tuesdays	10:00 am—7:00 pm
Wednesdays	10:00 am—5:00 pm
Thursdays	10:00 am—7:00 pm
Fridays	10:00 am—5:00 pm
Saturdays	10:00 am—2:00 pm
Closed Saturdays during the summer July through Labor Day	

From the Town Historian

The LaFayette Society for the Detection of Horse Thieves



Many organizations have come and gone since LaFayette became a town in 1825. This organization was modeled after the Pompey Society in 1831 and enjoyed a successful run until it died out

around the turn of the 20th century. I say successful because in the organization's 70 years, not one horse was reported stolen in LaFayette; although there were some reported thefts in the Tully Valley area in the 1840's. This Society can be likened to our Neighborhood Watch groups where the very existence of the group becomes a deterrent to crime.

Unlike the Neighborhood Watch groups where you report suspicious activity to the police and then the police take over, this society did its own police work which was written out in the organization's Constitution. Some members were designated as "riders" who did the actual work of apprehending horse thieves. The Constitution says, "It shall be the duty of the Riders to hold themselves in readiness at all times and prepared with a serviceable swift horse. Then upon receiving a notice from the clerk that a horse is stolen, it shall be their duty to proceed forthwith in pursuit of the horse and thief on such routes as shall be designated by the president, clerk or trustees or a majority of them. The Riders shall receive for their services and expenses two dollars per day. Extra charges to be audited by the Board of Trustees, three of whom constituting a quorum, and if the Riders shall neglect or refuse to serve when duly notified without sufficient and reasonable excuse for so doing, they shall be expelled from the Society and their subscriptions forfeited. It shall be lawful for the president to hire a sufficient number of persons as riders to make up the deficiency."

Enumerating the duties of the officers, the Constitution declares that, "whenever a horse shall have been stolen and the notice served on the Clerk of the Society, it shall be his duty to give immediate information of the fact to the Riders and draw from the treasury the necessary expense."

We see how effective the workings of this Society was in a letter from Lewis O. Hill of Clark Hollow Road, dated October 30, 1874, where he refers to the Society. "My mare got away and I hunted all over the farm and neighborhood and I verily believed she was stolen and got out 2 or 3 of the Riders about a day a piece, and after 5 days she was found by some partridge hunters in the back part of the cedar swamp."

Nobody can deny the need for this Society for the time period they operated in. A horse was a necessity for farm work and travel. That the



Society never experienced a real case of horse stealing, "all regular horse thieves giving it a wide berth" only proves just how effective this Society was.

—Rick Stout

The LaFayette Library now has a blog on its website where periodically an article on LaFayette history will be presented. Its first article is from "LaFayette, N.Y. 1975" by Roy Dodge on "The LaFayette Society for the Detection of Horse Thieves." The information above is not included in the original article. Please go to the Library's web page to read more about this fascinating Society. Also the web site has a link to another site called "LaFayette New York.... Memories and Photos of a Small Town." which is worth looking up.

The LaFayette Rural Cemetery is responsible for its own cost of operations. We do welcome all public donations to help with the ongoing cost. If you would like to donate the address is:



**LaFayette Rural Cemetery Association
P.O. Box 94
LaFayette, NY
13084**

From the LaFayette Community Council

Questions about recreational activities can be found 24/7 on the town's web site at the following link <https://www.townoflafayette.com/community-council.html>, on the main navigation bar or by calling the Community Council phone, 315-677-7272. Messages will be retrieved five times per week and an LCC board member will return your call. Emails are also accepted at lcc@townoflafayette.com The mailing address is: LCC, PO Box 98, LaFayette, NY 13084. Follow us on Facebook.




Announcements:

Donations: The LaFayette Community Council Board would like to thank the

LaFayette Coed Softball League for the very generous donation to LCC. These funds will help support the youth and adult programs LCC offers.

Apple Festival: We thank all the fabulous volunteers at the LCC booth. The kids and adults enjoyed the two days of making and selling pizzas, knots, popcorn and drinks. Our sincere gratitude to all customers that purchased from LCC. It was a fundraising success and a fun time!

Youth Programs:

Fall Sports -

Soccer: Thanks to all the kids that participated! A special thanks to the coaches, Kevin Morel (PreK-2), Tom Schwartz (5/6), Eric Mangold (5/6), Arif Karicic (3/4), Kurt Shafer (3/4) and Fabiola Carrillo (3/4). A big thanks to all the PreK-2 helpers: Coach Eric Culver, Owen Simmons, Mike Bestul, Tristen Costello, Andre Vonderweidt and Frankie Lopez. We appreciate our 3/4 and 5/6 game referees: Kevin Morel, Colin Morel and Ben Ryan. We had several other volunteers that helped throughout all the programs, thank you all for your time and efforts!

Winter Sports –

Wrestling: The wrestling youth program is in session for PreK-Grade 6. Wrestling meets will begin in January 2023. LaFayette JR SR High School will host the championship tournament on Saturday, March 4, 2023.

Basketball: The basketball youth program is in session. The instructional program (no games) for Grades 1 and 2 will include six sessions. Games for grades 3 through grades 6 will begin in January and end in March.

Ski Program: LCC Friday night skiing begins in January 2023. There will be no transportation provided for Friday night skiing. Participants under the age of 18 will need to have an adult responsible for them remain on site.

Upcoming Youth Sports-

Volleyball: Registration Information for volleyball will be provided in early 2023. Youth Volleyball will begin in March 2023.

Baseball and Lacrosse: Registration for the baseball and lacrosse programs will begin in the first quarter of 2023.

Track: Details will be announced.

Electronic notices with details for each respective sport will be sent out by the LaFayette Central School District. Information will also be provided through the Town's website and LCC's Facebook page.

If you are interested and able to help with the youth sports program – **AND WE DO NEED YOUR HELP** - please contact LCC. We cannot offer these programs without volunteers who are willing to share their expertise as coaches. Thank you.



From LCC cont'd...

Adult Programs:

Men's Basketball: Monday evenings through June 12, 2023 at Grimshaw Elementary, 7:00-9:00 PM. Basketball will not be held when the school is closed for holiday, school breaks, snow days or youth events. Paper registrations are available at the sessions. \$20 Registration fee (cash or check) to sign up and includes all sessions through June 12, 2023.

Co-Ed Volleyball: Co-Ed Adult Volleyball Friday evenings through June 16, 2023 at Grimshaw Elementary, from 7:30-9:30.. Volleyball will not be held when the school is closed for holiday, school

breaks, snow days or youth events. Paper registrations are available at the sessions. \$20 Registration fee (cash or check) to sign up and includes all sessions through June 16, 2023.

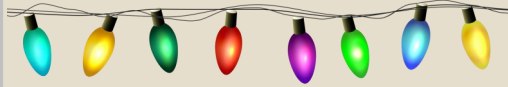
Updates: Information about all LCC programs can be found on the Town's web site under the "Community Council" tab. Information is also posted on LCC's Facebook page and the Town's social media outlets (Twitter, Facebook). When possible, notices will also be provided through the LaFayette School District.

—Kimberly Tingley
Secretary



Many Thanks are due to the following Organizations for the tree lighting ceremony held December 4th

- The Town of LaFayette
- The LaFayette Optimists
- LaFayette Community Council
- LaFayette Jr./Sr. High School Band and Chorus
- The LaFayette Fire Department
- Michael Grimm Landscaping



From the LaFayette Parks Department

*Walking
IN A
winter
wonderland*

The dog park was closed for the winter on December 1, 2022 and will remain closed until April 1, 2023. However, the walking path will be cleared of snow regularly throughout the winter so you will still be able to walk your dog. Please continue to pick-up after your dog. Stations with waste bags and disposal receptacles are located along the walking path throughout the park.

NOTE: Only the parking area serving the south end of the park will be cleared of snow for parking.

Pickle Ball

Pickle ball lines have been added to the tennis courts located in the central section of Stafford Park. The lines overlay the existing tennis court lines and the tennis nets will serve as the court divider. The tennis nets are down for the winter but will be put back up by mid-March.

—Dave Prince

Town of LaFayette, a Clean Energy Community

By LaFayette Advisory Conservation Commission

In August this year, the LaFayette Town Board approved three programs that earned its designation from NYSEDA as a *Clean Energy Community* (CEC), which comes with a \$5k grant and the ability to earn more grants by instituting more programs that reduce the Town's overall energy usage. These programs also result in the long-term reduction of Town expenses and therefore taxpayer funding.

The three new programs are:

- * **Community solar subscription**
- * **Community solar campaign**
- * **Carbon footprint benchmarking**

There is a NYS program, titled Community Solar, that encourages solar power by providing a discount on electric bills for individuals and municipalities who subscribe to a solar project. The program was described in more detail in the LACC's July 2022 newsletter article. In August, the Town Board approved a contract for 12 of its 13 electric accounts with National Grid to subscribe to one of the two solar projects located on Sentinel Heights Road that came on line on September 22. The broker estimated the Town will receive a discount on those accounts totaling \$4,700 per year (9% of total billed).

As a further benefit, the use of solar energy to run our Town government lessens the Town's carbon footprint, which in turn lessens the Town's greenhouse gas emissions and impact on climate change. The Town Board also approved a benchmarking program that tracks the Town's success in lowering its carbon footprint.

The Town Board also approved a community campaign to get the word out to its residents about Community Solar. All those with a National Grid electric account are eligible to subscribe to a solar project and receive a discount on their monthly electric bills. The campaign is planned to launch on social media by the time this newsletter is published. Following that, residents can expect a

letter in the US mail from the Town providing information on how to subscribe and save. The program is completely voluntary. If at least 10 residents subscribe following our campaign launch, the Town will earn points to more grants under the CEC program.



By the way, there is a second solar project being constructed on Sentinel Heights Road that is expected to be completed by early 2023. That project is currently accepting new subscriptions, while the first project is not, as it is fully subscribed.

The LACC is developing an energy reduction project to replace the Town's street lighting with LED lamps. Working with CNYRPDB and National Grid, we are estimating the cost to install replacement lamps, of which part or all of the cost could be eligible for reimbursement under our new CEC \$5k grant. We are also estimating the electric cost savings from the use of the lower energy lamps, and will be proposing this project to the Town Board in early 2023.

Key Takeaway:

In January, look for announcements on the Town's social media and for a letter in the mail from the

Town explaining how you can subscribe to a solar project that will reduce your electric bill every month.



—Mark Distler

From the LaFayette Optimists

Greetings from the Optimists. I hope everyone had a happy holiday season with family and friends.

The club hosted the Halloween party at Stafford Park. We would like to thank you for the great turnout to make it a huge success. We would also like to thank Shute's Logging and Feeds, Thorpe Farms, Endeavor Entertainment, Glazed and Confused Syracuse, and Lafayette Apple Festival for your help in making this event great. Check out our Facebook page for pictures from the event.

Thank you to Michael Grimm Services for installing the lighting for our Town Christmas tree. It looks great.

Closing out the 2022 year also brought out the Optimist Installation Dinner. The club renewed the officers for the upcoming year.

The club also presented its Rookie of the Year award to Adam Ryan; the President's Award to Mike McClary; and the Optimist of the Year award to Jerry Marzo. Congratulations!



Looking ahead to the new year, we are excited to be hosting the 7th and 8th grade basketball Tournament again. It is scheduled to be held on January 7th, 2023. WinterFest will be taking place on February 11. Many of the events that were at Winterfest last year

will be back this year. We hope to see everyone at this wonderful event.

—David Coakley

2023 LaFayette Optimist Officers

President	Doug Katz
Vice President	Wayne Brennan
Secretary	David Coakley
Treasurer	Ken Gardiner
Park Director	Jerry Marzo
Board Members	Scott Gates Steve Borte

Promise yourself...

*To wear a cheerful
countenance AT ALL TIMES
and give every living
creature you meet a smile. –
The Optimist Creed*



facebook

From the Southern Hills Garden Club



Southern Hills Garden Club meets the third Tuesday of each month, February through November at the LaFayette Firehouse, 2444 US Route 11, LaFayette, NY. Meetings typically take place at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted. Offsite meetings typically have an earlier start time. Guests are welcome and Membership is open to anyone interested in gardening. For information please contact, Cathy Nagel 315-677-9342 or email to CEN42085@aol.com.

—Patricia Kroneck

February 21, 2023	6:30 pm	Carol Watson Greenhouse 2980 Sentinel Heights Road, LaFayette	Carol will present "What's New for 2023"
March 21, 2023	7:00 pm	LaFayette Firehouse 2444 US Route 11, LaFayette	Jackie Crane from Little York Plantation will present "Landscape"

From the LaFayette Seniors



The LaFayette Senior Citizens group meets the third Wednesday of each month at 12:00 Noon in the LaFayette Firehouse on Route #11. If the LaFayette Schools are closed for inclement weather, the Seniors will not meet.

The Senior Group is always looking for new members ... to join, all you need to do is bring a dish to pass, your own table service, and \$5 dues for the year. Coffee and tea are provided. Anyone over the age of 50 can join, whether you live in the immediate area, or not!

LaFayette and Tully Seniors share trips, and have some great ones planned for 2023, like trips to New Orleans, New York City, Ohio Islands, and Pennsylvania.

So, an invitation is extended to join anytime ... come and enjoy the camaraderie, have a delicious lunch, and take part in the fun activities that are planned.

We want to wish everyone all the best in 2023 ... Happy New Year!

—Rita Bush



LaFayette Fire Department—2444 US Route 11

January 25	1:30—6:30 pm
February 14	1:30—6:30 pm
March 14	1:30—6:30 pm



From Boy Scout Troop 100



Prepared. For Life.®

As our Troop engages the New Year, we welcome female and male youth ages 11-16 to join our ranks and share your unique talents. As usual, we've got some fun events planned to include skiing at Gore and McAuley Mountains, camping in the snow, ice fishing,

a video-game lock-in and more.

Beyond outdoor events- we'll be making our own wooden camp chairs, learning photography and personal financial skills, swimming at Valley Pool and leatherworking to make sheaths for the knives we forged in November. That was a lot of hammering and sanding!

If you like all these activities listed above, we meet on Wednesdays. Not only are the Scouts good peeps, but the families are great too. All are welcome.

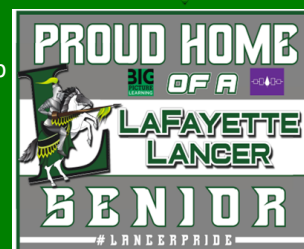
—Christian Borchert, Unit Commissioner 315.729.9555



Show some love to the Class of 2023 Seniors or Show some Community Love to the graduating class



The Class of 2023 is selling the following senior signs
All profits will benefit their end of year celebration
Each sign is 18x24 and comes with a wire stake and are double sided
If interested, please contact Lisa at the LaFayette Athletic Booster Club
via email lafayetteabc1@gmail.com or Facebook
You can Venmo LaFayetteAthletic-Booster Club, cash or check
Please advise if you want senior sign or support when ordering
All orders must be received by January 16
Pickup will be on or about 2/1/2023
Thank you for your continued support



Sunday Services

LaFayette Alliance Church	10:30 am
Columbian Presbyterian Church	10:00 am
Onativia United Methodist Church	9:00 am
St. Joseph's Church of the Nativity	9:00 am



Church Events

LaFayette Alliance Church

Sunday	Sunday School	9:00—10:00 am
Sunday	Coffee and Fellowship	10:00—10:25 am
Thursday Evenings	Bible Quizzing (3rd-12th grade)	6:00—8:00 pm
Saturday, February 11	Pancake Breakfast	8:30—10:30 am
1st Wednesday of the month	Olympians Children's Ministry	6:30—8:00 pm
1st & 3rd Sundays	Ignite Prayer Ministry	6:00 pm

LaFayette Alliance Church
315-677-9810
www.lafayettealliance.org



Columbian Presbyterian Church

Tuesday, March 21	Chicken-n-Biscuit Supper	4:00—7:00 pm
<p>We still have frozen, unbaked crumb-top pies \$13 each ready to bake Thank you to everyone who participated in Men's Breakfasts, BBQ's, Pie sales, Trunk Or Treat, Election Night Dinner and the Great \$5 Sweater Plus Sale</p> <p>A new addition to the church is a prayer box/lending library. It is located near the side door of the Session Building. Prayer slips for your concern and borrow a book/lend a book.</p>		

Columbian Presbyterian Church
315-677-3293
cpresbyt@twcny.rr.com
columbianpresbyterianchurch.com



Onativia United Methodist Church

Onativia United Methodist Church
onativiachurch@hotmail.com

St. Joseph's Church of the Nativity

Sunday	Church School	10:00 am
Confirmation Classes	As scheduled	12:00 pm—2:00 pm
Holy Hour	Wednesday evenings	7:30 pm
Coffee Church Gathering	Every 2nd Sunday of the Month	10:00 am
Ash Wednesday	February 22	7:00 am
Spaghetti Dinner	March 19	4:00 pm

St. Joseph's Church of the Nativity
315-677-3439
www.stjosephslafayette.org



Special Thanks to all who sold and bought Apple Pies and Fritters

Thank You!

Town of LaFayette
2577 Route 11
P.O. Box 193
LaFayette, NY 13084

Presorted
Standard
US Postage Paid

WINTER 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS—JAN-FEB-MAR

(Visit www.townoflafayette.com home page for complete town calendar)
Need to add a Town event email infoofficer@townoflafayette.com

E V E N T S

January TBD	VFW Spaghetti Dinner	LaFayette VFW	Date & Time TBD watch Facebook
January 7	Optimist Basketball Tourney	LaFayette Jr/Sr. High School	9:00 am
January 10	Organizational Meeting	LaFayette Town Hall	5:00 pm refreshments 6:30 Board Meeting
January 22	VFW Pancake Breakfast	LaFayette VFW	8:00 am—11:00 am
January 25	Red Cross Blood Drive	LaFayette Fire Dept.	1:30—6:30 pm
February 11	LaFayette Optimist Winterfest	Stafford Park	TBD
February 14	Town Board Meeting	LaFayette VFW	6:30 pm
February 14	Red Cross Blood Drive	LaFayette Fire Dept.	1:30—6:30 pm
February 21	Southern Hills Garden Club	Carol Watson Greenhouse	6:30 pm
February 26	VFW Pancake Breakfast	LaFayette VFW	8:00 am—11:00 am
March 14	Red Cross Blood Drive	LaFayette Fire Dept.	1:30-6:30 pm
March 14	Town Board Meeting	LaFayette Town Hall	6:30 pm
March 21	Southern Hills Garden Club	LaFayette Firehouse	7:00 pm
March 21	Chicken-n-Biscuit Dinner	Columbian Presbyterian Church	4:00—7:00 pm
March 26	VFW Pancake Breakfast	LaFayette VFW	8:00 am—11:00 am

LaFayette Town Offices — PO Box 193, 2577 Route 11, LaFayette, NY 13084

Ph.: 677-3674 Fax: 677-7806

LaFayette Info Officer: infoofficer@townoflafayette.com

Town website — <http://www.townoflafayette.com>

Facebook—Town of LaFayette —<https://www.facebook.com/TownofLaFayetteNY>

Twitter- <https://twitter.com/TownofLaFayette>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/townoflafayetteny>

DEADLINE FOR APRIL NEWSLETTER IS
MARCH 10

COVERS APR-MAY-JUN

SPRING EDITION

CONTACT SUE MARZO

INFOOFFICER@TOWNOFLAFAYETTE.COM