

# Knox News

Issue 3

Town of Knox Newsletter

July - December 2017

News from your local town government

PO Box 116, Knox NY 12107

Hello Knox,

With the arrival of summer, the Knox Town Board is happy to announce, and ask all of you to participate in, many exciting upcoming events and activities. Beginning with the revival of the Pucker Street Fair on July 7th, 8th and 9th (see notice below) and continuing with a bounty of summer events planned by our Youth Council, Historical Society, Knox Reformed Church, Fire company and other local organizations, all of which are listed throughout this newsletter, we invite each of you and your families to come out and make new friends, reunite with old ones and enjoy being part of our growing community.

- Your Knox Town Council

## Pots of Gold!



*Double rainbow at the Knox Highway Garage*

## Clean Energy Communities Grant

The Town of Knox has been named a **Clean Energy Community** by the State of New York, and is eligible for a grant in the amount of **\$100,000** from the NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). The funds must be used for measures that conserve energy and/or reduce greenhouse gas emissions. An Energy Plan will be developed to identify town projects that can be considered for funding by this grant. One proposal is to insulate the highway garage to save taxpayer money for heating expenses. Councilwoman Amy Pokorny is leading this effort as the Climate Smart Communities Chair.

## Town of Knox Awarded Archive Grant

In January, Knox Town Clerk Tara Murphy wrote and submitted a grant to the New York State Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF). The New York State Archives offers grants and awards to support, promote and recognize sound archival and records management practices, as well as to encourage creative and valuable uses of archival records.

We are proud to announce that the Town of Knox has been awarded an "Inactive Records" grant for **\$23,156**.

These funds will be used to purchase proper shelving and storage boxes for the town archival room to store both the town's archival records as well as the archival records of the Knox Fire Department.

This project will also cover the surveying of all inactive records, purging of eligible documents, and storage of those required by the New York State Records Retention and Disposition Schedule.

## Playground Grant Award

The Town of Knox was awarded a SAM (State and Municipal) grant of **\$125,000** for the purchase of playground equipment as part of the Town Park Improvement Plan. Youth Council Coordinator Maryellen Gillis is spearheading this effort. She applied for the grant with help from Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara and Supervisor Vasilios Lefkaditis.

## **\*\*PUCKER STREET FAIR\*\***

**July 7, 5 – 11 PM**

**July 8, 1-11 PM: \$12 BBQ 3-7 PM, Fireworks 9 PM**

**July 9, 1 – 8 PM**

**Rides, Food, Fireworks, Games, Beer Tent, Music, and Historical Exhibits at Saddle mire Homestead**

*Fireworks graciously donated by:*

*Sheriff Craig Apple, Senator George Amedore, Legislator Travis Stevens, Legislator Chris Smith, and Supervisor Vas Lefkaditis*

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

*-By Megan Mason* My name is Megan Mason. I was born and raised on the Van Etten Farm and I am the Assistant Captain of the Knox Fire Company, where I have been a member for the past 12 years. In January, the Town Board appointed me as Emergency Response Coordinator of Knox.

I have lived in Knox my entire life, so I know that most of the families in this town are more than capable of fending for themselves. It is my job to bring awareness about potential emergency situations that could arise one day and help prepare the town to handle such incidents.

The most helpful tip I can give is for every family to create an Emergency Supply Kit.

## Some items to have in your Emergency Supply Kit:

- Portable Battery-powered radio
- Flashlight (s)
- Whistle
- Extra batteries for all electronics
- A 3-day supply of water
- 3-5 day supply of emergency ready-to-eat, non-perishable packaged or canned foods that do not require refrigeration.

- Manual can opener
- Sanitation and hygiene items
- Matches and waterproof container
- Clothing, rain gear, and shoes
- Sleeping bags, bedding, or blankets
- One week's supply of essential prescriptions (be sure to check their expiration dates)
- Emergency heating equipment
- Fire extinguisher
- Special items for infants, the elderly, or family members with special needs
- Extra glasses or contact lenses and solution
- List of family physicians, important medical information, and the style and serial number of medical devices such as pacemaker
- Identification, credit cards, cash (small bills), and photocopies of important family documents including home insurance information.
- Extra set of car and house keys
- Emergency First Aid Kit
- Food, leash, pet carrier, medications and other supplies for any pets you have.

○ *Continued, next page:*

## **Helderberg Ambulance Call for Volunteers** – *By Peter Polukort*

The Helderberg Ambulance Squad is soliciting volunteers (no pay) to serve as either drivers or Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT)s. Volunteer help is desperately needed to keep this important service active. Voorheesville and Rensselaerville are closing their ambulance squad operations due to a lack of volunteer help.

Helderberg Ambulance responded to about 425 calls in the Berne-Knox area in the past year.

The time a volunteer devotes to this job is flexible and self-scheduled. Free training is provided. **Drivers** receive training specific to driving emergency medical vehicles and Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). **EMTs** receive medical training. Area-assigned Paramedics are also dispatched to all calls to be available to provide advanced medical treatment.

If you would like to consider joining this critically valuable effort, squad meetings are held **7 PM on the second Thursday** of each month at the Helderberg Ambulance building located at the intersection of Helderberg Trail (Route 443) and Cole Hill Road in Berne. The **next meeting will be July 13**. For more information check out the Helderberg Ambulance Recruitment Pamphlet on the internet at:

<http://berneny.org/helderberg-ambulance/> or on our Facebook page: Helderberg Ambulance Squad Inc.

## *Did You Know?*

The self service **farm stand** at the Patroon Land Farm, 132 Ketcham Road, Voorheesville NY 12186 opened for the season on June 24. CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) shares are also available.

You can get the **healthiest, freshest produce** available at **low cost**, straight from the farm to your table! All proceeds benefit the Regional Food Bank Pantry and Patroon Land Farm, which grows and distributes over 100,000 pounds of food each year, providing nutritious food to members of the community who might not otherwise have access. For more information, contact Laura Martin at [lauram@regionalfoodbank.net](mailto:lauram@regionalfoodbank.net)

**A potential emergency Knox could face is Extreme Heat. Please read through the following precautions.**

**Before Extreme Heat Arrives**

- Install window air conditioners snugly; insulate if necessary. Check air-conditioning ducts for proper installation. Install temporary window reflectors (for use between windows and drapes), such as aluminum foil-covered cardboard, to reflect the heat back outside. Weather-strip doors and sills to keep cool air in.
- Cover any windows that receive morning or afternoon sun (Outdoor awnings or louvers can reduce the heat that enters a home by up to 80 percent.) Keep storm windows up all year.

**During a Heat Emergency**

- Stay indoors as much as possible and limit your exposure to the sun.
- Stay on the lowest floor out of the sunshine if air conditioning is not available.
- Eat well-balanced, light, and regular meals.

- Drink plenty of water. Limit intake of alcoholic beverages.
- Consider spending the warmest part of the day in public buildings such as libraries, schools, movie theaters, shopping malls, and other community facilities.
- Use fans. Circulating air can cool the body by increasing the perspiration rate or evaporation.
- Dress in loose-fitting, lightweight, and light-colored clothes that cover as much skin as possible. Protect your face and head by wearing a wide brimmed hat.
- **Check on family, friends, and neighbors who do not have air-conditioning and spend much of their time alone.**
- Never leave children or pets alone in closed vehicles.
- Avoid strenuous work during the warmest part of the day. Use a buddy system when working in extreme heat, and take frequent breaks.

**FIRST AID FOR EXTREME HEAT EMERGENCY**

Condition	Symptoms	First Aid
<b><u>Sunburn</u></b>	Skin redness and pain, possible swelling, blisters, fever, headaches	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Take shower using soap to remove oils that may block pores, preventing the body from cooling naturally</li> <li>2) Apply dry, sterile dressing to any blisters, and get medical attention</li> </ol>
<b><u>Heat Cramps</u></b>	Painful spasms, usually in leg and abdominal muscles; heavy sweating	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Get the victim to a cooler location</li> <li>2) Lightly stretch and massage affected muscles</li> <li>3) Give sips of up to a half glass of cool water every 15 minutes</li> <li>4) Discontinue liquids, if victim is nauseated</li> </ol>
<b><u>Heat Exhaustion</u></b>	Heavy sweating but skin may be cool, pale, or flushed. Weak pulse. Normal body temperature is possible, but temperature will likely rise. Fainting or dizziness, nausea, vomiting, exhaustion, and headaches are possible	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Get victim to lie down in a cool place</li> <li>2) Loosen or remove clothing</li> <li>3) Apply cool, wet cloths</li> <li>4) Fan or move victim to air-conditioned place</li> <li>5) Give sips of water if victim is conscious</li> <li>6) Be sure water is consumed slowly</li> <li>7) Give half glass of cool water every 15 minutes</li> <li>8) Discontinue water if victim is nauseated</li> <li>9) Seek immediate medical attention if vomiting occurs</li> </ol>
<b><u>Heat Stroke</u></b>	High body temperature (105+) hot, red, dry skin; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing. Victim will probably not sweat unless victim was sweating from recent strenuous activity. Possible unconsciousness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Call 9-1-1 or emergency medical services, or get the victim to a hospital immediately. <b><u>Delay can be fatal!</u></b></li> <li>2) Move victim to a cooler environment</li> <li>3) Remove clothing</li> <li>4) Try a cool bath, sponging, or wet sheet to reduce body temperature</li> <li>5) Watch for breathing problems</li> <li>6) Use fans and air conditioners</li> </ol>

# DOG DAYS of SUMMER

- by Lou Saddlemire

The Town of Knox encourages dog owners to vaccinate and license their pets. This is a good idea for many reasons:

1. It's the law (NYS Agriculture & Markets Article 7).
2. If a dog that *is licensed* gets loose, the Animal Control Officer (ACO) will be able to find the dog's owner and return it at little or no cost.
3. If a dog that *is NOT licensed* gets loose, fees and fines can add up very quickly, costing the dog owner hundreds of \$, or maybe even thousand\$.
4. If an *unvaccinated dog* bites someone, its owner is responsible for costs if the dog has to be euthanized for rabies testing.
5. If a *dog whose shots are not up to date* bites someone, its owner is responsible for shelter costs during a 10 day observation period, as well as for diagnostic tests and euthanasia, if necessary.
6. It will minimize the public health threat of rabies.
7. The licensing fees dog owners pay will help cover the expenses of the Town's dog control program.
8. Licensing fees are discounted for spayed and neutered dogs. This helps reduce the need to find homes for unwanted pets.

**Questions?** Call Animal Control Officer Lou Saddlemire at **872-2551, X7 or 390-6186.**

For information on **licensing your dog**, call Town Clerk Tara Murphy at **872-2551, X1.**

## Agricultural Advisory Committee

By Earl Barcomb

The new Town of Knox Agricultural Advisory Committee met for the first time on May 25th. We discussed creating an **inventory of existing farms and agricultural businesses** in town. This will help improve networking opportunities and give us a better idea of the state of agriculture in town.

We also discussed ways to **encourage more young people to get involved in agriculture** in order to keep it viable in the future. We will reach out to the folks at the Berne-Knox-Westerlo Central School's new agriculture program, and we discussed the need for new 4-H clubs in town.

We are still looking for **interested residents to participate** on this committee. Please call or email Earl Barcomb at 944-6933, [ebarcomb@knoxny.org](mailto:ebarcomb@knoxny.org)

## Dog Day Rabies & Licensing Clinic

By Dee Woessner

**Rain or Shine, Come join the Family Fun Activities!**

Do you love dogs? Come to the Town Park on **July 22, 10 AM – 1 PM**, for a celebration of dogs!

\* **Free rabies vaccines** will be given by our generous resident Knox veterinarian, Dr. Theresa Tommell, to dogs owned by Knox residents who get their dogs licensed that day. \$8 fee for others. Please **call the town clerk (872-2551) to register by July 14th** so we can order enough vaccines for everyone.

\* You will be able to **license your dog** at the event: dogs that are neutered are \$5, dogs not neutered are \$13, plus a \$3 tag if it doesn't already have one.

\* **Games and contests with prizes:** cutest and ugliest dog, best trick, best costume and more, including a brief written quiz about dogs. See the town website [www.knoxny.org](http://www.knoxny.org) for a schedule of activities.

\* **A Grand Prize** will be awarded by drawing a tag number from all the licensed dogs in Knox. You need not be present to win.

\* **Working dogs, and herding demonstration** with sheep and border collies.

\* **Information** on doggy first aid, and what to do if your dog is lost. Remember, others can return your dog sooner if it is wearing a collar with a license tag.

\* The last event of the day will be a **story contest:** a dog story, true and from your own experience, related in three minutes or less. Get practicing your stories and tricks, and we hope to see you there!

**Dogs & dog owners from outside Knox can join in! Visit the Town website for a schedule of activities:**

[www.knoxny.org](http://www.knoxny.org)

If you can't make it to this clinic, **Tractor Supply** provides rabies vaccines and other clinical services for pets every Sunday from 1:00 pm until 2:30 pm, no appointment necessary.

2327 Western Ave Guilderland, NY 12084

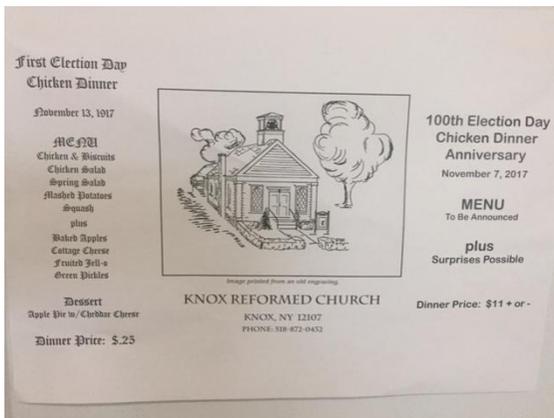
<http://tractorsupply.com>

**Do you have a good recent photo of your pet?**

If your pet ever gets lost, and you hang posters with its photo in your neighborhood, others can help return it to you. If your pet gets lost, you can send a photo of it to [knoxtownclerk@gmail.com](mailto:knoxtownclerk@gmail.com) so it can be posted to the Town website and facebook page.

## Knox Reformed Church Announcements

- **Summer services:** Jul. 2 – Aug. 27, 10:00 to 10:45
- **Vacation Bible School:** Aug. 7-11 at the Church. All children ages 3, 4, preschool and grades K-8 are invited. Our theme is Hero Central.
- We celebrate the **Church's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** in 2017. The Homecoming weekend for the Church is **October 14 & 15**. This includes a dinner and program. Former pastors will be involved in the Sunday service, and there will be a coffee hour.
- This year the church will be celebrating their **100<sup>th</sup> Election Day Chicken Dinner**. We hope you will plan to join us on November 7, 2017.



*Election Day Dinner Menus from 1917 and 2017  
The price has changed from \$.25 to \$11, but the menu has changed very little in 100 years!*

For more information on anything listed above, please call 872-1696 or email [squay@nycap.rr.com](mailto:squay@nycap.rr.com)



## Rock Road Chapel Announcements

Services Sun. 10 am and Wed. 7 pm at 96 Rock Road.  
Wed 7-9 am Caf : Free Community Breakfast  
Wed. 7-9 am & Sat. 9-11 am: Community Storehouse  
provides Food & Personal Care items for all in need.  
<http://www.rockroadchapel.org/>, 872-2810

Everyone can benefit from or contribute to our local **Food Pantries:**

**Hilltown Community Resource Center's Knox Food Pantry:** Knox Reformed Church,  
<http://knoxreformedchurch.com/> 797-5256  
**Community Storehouse:** Rock Road Chapel,  
<http://www.rockroadchapel.org/>, 872-2810

## Who is on the Town's Boards, When do they Meet and What do they Do?

**Town Board** meets **7:00pm** (not 7:30!) the 2nd Tuesday of each month (exc. Wed. Nov. 8). It enacts town legislation, holds hearings, passes resolutions on matters for town government, adopts the annual budget. *Vasilios Lefkaditis (Supervisor), Earl Barcomb, Dennis Barber, Dan Hanley, Amy Pokorny*

**Planning Board** meets 7:30pm the 2nd Thursday of each month. Provides information, expertise and approvals for land use development projects. *Robert Price (Chair), Robert Gwin, Betty Ketcham, Deb Nelson, Travis O'Donnell, Brett Pulliam, Tom Wolfe*

**Conservation Advisory Council** meets 7:30pm the 3rd Thursday of each month. Provides information and expertise on protection, conservation, preservation, restoration and enhancement of natural and cultural resources. *Nathan Giordano (Chair), Tony Forti, Patricia Irwin, Eric Kuck, Kevin Sherman, Pete Shunney, Dee Woessner*

**Zoning Board of Appeals** meets 7:30pm the 4th Thursday of each month (except Dec. 7, and no meeting is held in Nov.). Rules on appeals for project proposals that are not in conformance with the zoning ordinance. *John DeMis (Chair), Kenneth Kirik, Pam Kleppel, Eric Marczak, Susan Mason, Jim McDonald, Doug Roether*

**Board of Assessment Review** meets on Grievance Day: May 23, 2017. Hears real property assessment grievances to arrive at fair and impartial determinations. *Tim Frederick (Chair), Jocelyn Farrar, Gerald Irwin, Vall Pulliam, Howard Zimmer*

**Board of Ethics Review** Will meet as needed, if issues arise. *Dennis Barber (Chair), Clark Conklin, John Graves*

**Broadband Committee** is new this year. *Ryan Cole, Vas Lefkaditis, Dwayne Rockenstyre, Robert Traina*

For more information about the work of these boards, visit [www.knoxny.org](http://www.knoxny.org)

## Knox Senior News by Charlotte Fuss

**Legal Aid Society** is offering free legal counseling for seniors in the Hilltowns. Please call Pat Lightbody (872-9400) to set up an appointment with a lawyer.

The **senior shopping bus** will continue every second Wednesday of the month. If you are interested, please call the Department of Transportation 24 hours before pick-up at 437-5161.

**Visiting** shut-ins and seniors in nursing homes will still continue.

The **Craftycrafters** will begin again in September. If interested, please call Pat Lightbody at 872-9400.

For up-to-date information about programs that are or will be available to seniors, please call **Knox Senior Services Coordinator Charlotte Fuss at 861-8960**, or email [cjfuss@yahoo.com](mailto:cjfuss@yahoo.com)

We encourage all seniors to participate!

**All senior programs that are held in the Knox Town Hall are open to all Hilltown Seniors.**

### Hilltown Senior Lunches - Mon., Tue. & Fri.

*By Linda Hodges*

Hi, my name is Linda Hodges. I have lived in Knox for 17 years, and I am in charge of the Senior Lunches at the Berne Community and Senior Services Center at 1360 Helderberg Trail, Berne. We operate as "Helderberg Senior Services" (HSS). This used to be the lunch program in Dormansville. We are now in our third year of serving lunches.

We **serve lunch on Mon., Tue. & Fri. at noon.** The senior center opens at 11 am and stays open until at least 3 pm. After lunch we **play games, do crafts or just hang out** and talk with friends and neighbors. We recently got a large donation of craft supplies so we are planning many projects throughout the year.

For the past two years, Senior Services of Albany (SSA) has prepared the food. Monika Boeckmann, the executive director of SSA, does a great job to make sure the food is prepared properly and is tasty.

"Seniors" for the purpose of this program are **60 years and older**. There is a \$3 suggested contribution toward the cost of the meal, but **no one will ever be turned away** due to an inability to make a contribution. If you are interested in any of our activities or lunch, give me a call at **872-0940**.

**Transportation** may be provided; I have use of the Town of Berne's Senior Van. The menus and schedules of activities are listed on the Town website: <http://www.knoxny.org/knox-seniors.html>

### Resources for Seniors:

Albany County Department of Aging	447-7177
NYS Office for the Aging (NYSOFA)	1-844-697-6321
Albany County Department of Social Services	447-7300
Alzheimer's Assoc. NENY	867-4999
Alzheimer's 24/7 Helpline	800-272-3900
AARP	434-4194
Community Caregivers	456-2898
NY StateWide Senior Action Council	(800) 333-4374

[www.nysenior.org](http://www.nysenior.org)

*By Linda Carman:* The **Hilltown Seniors** is a **social club** that meets the **second Saturday of each month at 10:30** at the Berne Community Center on Helderberg Trail in Berne. At each meeting we ask how the past month treated everyone. If there are any concerns folks would like to share, we see if **we can help**.

We also have **speakers**, and we **celebrate** birthdays, anniversaries and holidays. Every month there is an **excursion to a show, dinner, or place of interest**, offered at a reasonable price so everyone can go. The money that the 3 towns provide us goes toward these trips. We have 82 members and we enjoy each other's company for **good food, fellowship and fun**. If I get them to laugh, my month is complete. We would love to have you join us.

On May 13, we crowned our Tulip Queen, **Katherine Loetterle** from Westerlo, we named **Madeline Bradt** Mother of the year, **Ed Wood** Father of the Year, and **Alyce Gibbs** was presented a scrapbook of our Washington D.C. trip for all she does for the seniors in the community. Also, the seniors will have a **booth at the Altamont Fair** and enter exhibits in the craft building and flower show. For more information call Linda Carman at 872-2448.

## SERVICES FOR VETERANS

### **Albany County Veterans Service Bureau,**

162 Washington Ave. 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Albany, **447-7710**

Open 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday - Friday.

Offering **help to veterans and their dependents** with filing claims, **obtaining important documents** such as medical and personnel records, including Certificates of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214); and **accessing benefits** and services such as medical care, disability and compensation, pension & education benefits, burial assistance, and VA home loans. If you are a veteran, please give them a call. If you can **volunteer for outreach** to local veterans, please call Ed Ackroyd at 573-2411.

## Dog Enumeration - by Lou Saddlemire

- Every dog owner is required by NYS law to license their dog and attach the license tag to its collar. This ensures that all dogs are vaccinated for rabies, which protects everyone in town (both two and four legged). It also ensures that your dog can be identified and quickly returned to you at minimal to no cost if it is lost.
- A dog enumeration, or census, would establish the dog population of the town and help the Town enforce the mandatory dog vaccination and licensing requirements. It would also help the Town set appropriate fee amounts.
- The proposed enumeration plans are for later in the year. Each household would receive a form in the mail with several questions about any dog(s) they may have. Residents would complete the form and return it to the Town Clerk, whether or not they own a dog.
- After 30 calendar days, the Animal Control Officer would follow up with households for which no form has been returned.
- All revenue that comes to the town from dog licensing is used to help pay for the costs of the dog control program.

### Questions?

Call Animal Control Officer Lou Saddlemire at 872-2551,X7 or 390-6186.

## Highway Dep't. News by Gary Salisbury

As we continue to work on updating and maintaining our equipment fleet, the Highway Garage is pleased to announce the addition of a versatile CAT 259D Compact Track Loader, also known as a "skid steer," with a snow thrower attachment.

This unit comes to us via an equipment surplus swap and has no effect on the Town's equipment budget.

As a result of its track system and size, the machine is well suited for sensitive natural areas like the Town Park, and tight spaces such as the Town Hall and Transfer Station parking lots, where larger machines can cause damage and cost more to operate.

This addition will no doubt enable Highway employees to do an even better job serving the residents in the Town of Knox while saving money doing it!



*Animal/Dog Control Officer Lou Saddlemire*

## Women's Auxiliary News

*By Pat Lightbody* We thank all who supported our big annual fundraiser, the Memorial Day bake sale, in spite of the rainy weather! Our 50/50 raffle to raise money for the Honor Flight program was won by John Gillis, who generously donated the winnings back to the cause.

Officers are: President MaryAnn Saddlemire, Vice President Pat Lightbody, Secretary Mary Sherman, Treasurer Diane Champion. We meet at the fire-house at **7 PM on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday** of each month.



New members are always welcome!

*Mary Sherman is recognized for her 35 years of service to the Women's Auxiliary. Congratulations, Mary!*

## No Household Hazardous Waste Collection

There will be no Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection program this year due to the cost of this specialized service. Plans are to include funding in next year's budget and to schedule a HHW collection event for next summer. If you have such materials, please continue to store them safely, and we will notify all residents when a collection event will be held. Even with NYS DEC covering half the cost of this important disposal service, it still costs the town over \$70 per participating household.

# KNOX FIRE COMPANY NEWS

by Russ Pokorny

Drills and training are always a primary focus for us:

- On March 20, the Albany County Sheriff's Department, with the help of Monolith Solar presented a training session on solar panels and firefighter safety.
- The fire company sponsored the "Run, Hide, Fight" active shooter presentation by the Albany County Sheriff's office on April 17 in the Knox Town Hall). The drill was well attended, with 71 from local fire companies and the community.
- A Confined Space Awareness program was held in Knox on March 20 and April 10.
- On April 24, the company attended a class featuring the use of thermal imaging cameras.
- On May 15, members participated in a drill at the Guilderland fire tower which included use of fire hydrants and experience in the smoke trailer using thermal imaging cameras.

Future drills and training will include:

- A presentation on Landing Zone and Helicopter Response as a mutual aid drill in Altamont.
- A live burn drill is planned with Berne on June 16.
- And we are planning on attending a fire police seminar on October 14 at Fuller Station.

Other Fire Company News:

- The Knox Fire Company participated in Memorial Day parades this year in Schoharie, Berne, and Knox.



*Bob Stevens, recognized for his 55 years of service, with his son, Travis; and Dana Sherman, recognized for his 50 years of service, with his son, Dan and grandson, Kevin. All are members of the Knox Volunteer Fire Department.*

- Hudson Valley Fireman's Association presented awards recently to Dana Sherman and Bob Stevens for their 50 plus years of dedicated service. Many thanks to both of you!
- The fire company will be selling chicken dinners in the Knox Town Park on Saturday, July 8 from

3-7 PM or until sold out as part of the Pucker Street Fair. The cost will be \$12 for a full dinner.

- Watch for the new high tech sign which will be installed in front of the Knox Firehouse, thanks to a NYS grant acquired by Sen. George Amedore and Sup. Vas Lefkaditis with help from Frank Fuss.
- Please come and enjoy turkey dinner with us at the firehouse on Sunday, November 5, 1-5 pm. Weekly meetings are held on Mondays at 7 pm; come by to say hello or to join us as a volunteer!



*Megan Mason, Assistant Captain of the Knox Volunteer Fire Co. and Firefighter of the Year*



*Knox Fire Department Color Guard and Drum Corps in Memorial Day Parade*

## **Town of Knox Vacancies:**

ASAP: Planning Board Recording Secretary and Assistant Building Inspector. Both are paid positions.

## **Volunteer Opportunities:**

Sep.2017: Board of Assessment Review member

Jan. 2018: 1 Planning Board member,

1 Zoning Board of Appeals member and

3 Conservation Advisory Council members.

Send resume or letter of interest to Knox Town Clerk,  
PO Box 116, Knox NY 12107

or email [knoxtownclerk@gmail.com](mailto:knoxtownclerk@gmail.com)

# KNOX YOUTH COUNCIL NEWS

**KYC = Learning and Fun!** - by Maryellen Gillis

The Knox Youth Council celebrated the changing seasons beginning in January with the annual **Winterfest**, and in June with Summer Kick-Off.

A hardy group of families and individuals braved the cold in January to celebrate winter with a card-board sled contest, a chili contest, hot dogs and hot chocolate, crafts in the town hall and a whole lot of fun - despite the lack of snow! If we had only known that March would bring three feet of the white stuff!

Learning and fun were combined in March as over 100 children participated in our first set of **Discovery Workshops**. Funded by the Town of Knox and a generous grant from Stewarts, eighteen workshops were offered to our students pre-K through grade 8.

Topics included woodworking, soccer, basketball, chess, the arts, electricity, make-up and hair care, electricity, horseback riding, Martial Arts, Lego building, cartooning, firefighting, sewing, cooking and animal care. Children interacting with caring adults... what a beautiful experience.

Many thanks to Stewarts and to the all of the adults who volunteered their time and shared their interests with the youth of the Hilltowns.

**Summer Kick-Off** was a great way to begin summer in the Hilltowns. Over 150 adults and children gathered to play dodgeball, slide down a huge slide, complete crafts, have their faces painted, eat dinner and dance together- lots of calories consumed and burned as we had fun! We shared a beautiful (but windy!) day at the park. Afterward, families set up tents and campers, watched a movie and spent a dry (!) night in the park. They capped off their camping experience with a bacon and egg breakfast. Great fellowship - great memories.

Upcoming events include our newest addition to summer activities: a skills-based **Soccer Camp** for Pre-K through Grade 12 athletes. It will be held from **July 10-14**; 6:00 to 7:45 pm at the BKW Soccer fields. For more information or to register your athletes, please contact Sarah Pasquini (210-2778), Peter Evans (944-4480) or Dan Moseby (872-2629).

**Summer Camp** for children entering kindergarten to 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be held from **August 14-18<sup>th</sup>**, 9am to 12pm at the town park. Games, activities, crafts and sports are all part of the offerings. Please contact Sandra Quay (872-1696) or Maryellen Gillis (872-1899) for registration information.

Please watch for fliers from BKW about our fall offerings & soccer program. Volunteers are always needed and welcome. Please call or email Maryellen Gillis ([mgillis1923@gmail.com](mailto:mgillis1923@gmail.com)), Youth Services Coordinator, if you are interested. All are welcome!

## **Town Park Improvements Planned** By Maryellen Gillis

In January of 2015, a committee was formed in response to the results of the community survey conducted by the Knox Town Board in the summer of 2104. The survey, a key component in developing the Town Of Knox Comprehensive Plan, indicated a strong desire in the community to improve the facilities in the park.

The **Town Park Improvement Committee** consists of approximately 20 community members of varying backgrounds and vocations. They have been meeting regularly over the past two years, discussing and drafting a proposal for significant improvements to the park facilities.

The proposal was presented to the Knox Town Board at a public information session on May 17, 2107. Board members reviewed and discussed the three phase proposal, and met with Bob Pettinelli, owner of Pettinelli and Associates, Miracle Recreation Equipment Company to discuss the proposed playground.

The **proposed improvements** to the park are to be completed over a three to five year period, depending on the successful acquisition of grant money. The plans include a new **handicapped accessible playground** for children pre-K and up, a multi-purpose building (with ADA compliant **bathrooms, a concession stand, storage area**), renovation to the existing **walking path, landscaping improvements**, an **outdoor recreational facility**, increased **parking** and an upgrade to the existing **soccer field**.

**Funding** will be primarily through a NYS Dep't of Parks and Recreation grant. Committee members are currently writing this grant application. Other funding sources include State and Municipal Funds (SAMs monies), other grants, donations, volunteer labor and in-kind donations from the community at large and from town resources.

More information will be available in the near future. There are many opportunities for community involvement in this exciting project. If you would like to be involved, please contact Maryellen Gillis (872-1899) or any town board member (contact information is on back page or at [www.knoxny.org](http://www.knoxny.org)).



*Little League players on opening day, as they stand for the National Anthem*



## **BKW LITTLE LEAGUE NEWS**

*By Doyle Shaver*

The Berne Knox Westerlo Little League has been in existence for 64 years. BKW Little League offers baseball and softball to children between the ages of 5 and 12 and plays a major role in teaching kids the fundamentals of baseball, as well as team work and good sportsmanship. It provides the foundation for kids to excel in future sports and activities. This year, BKW Little League had over 170 registered players across our softball and baseball programs.

We are currently finishing up our 2017 season, with games scheduled almost every day of the week. Our all-star tournaments began at the end of June. We have minors and majors level all-star teams participating this year, and we are looking forward to having another great season.

For additional information, visit the BKW Little League web page at:

<http://www.eteamz.com/BKWLittleLeague/>  
or email us at [BKWLLPresident@gmail.com](mailto:BKWLLPresident@gmail.com).

Thank you to all of our field and team sponsors who help the BKW Little League program thrive. Those sponsors include:  
Altamont Spray Welding, Blue Sky Music Studios, Countryside Mobil, Hannan's Paving and Sealing, Hannay Reels, Helderberg Community Energy, Helderberg Kiwanis, Kelly's Pharmacy, Maple On The Lake, Mountainview Prosthetics, Ted's Floor Covering, Township Tavern, Turnpike Glass, Turnpike Power and Equipment, Salon 146, Supervisor Vas Lefkaditis.

### **Knox Nursery School** *by Cindy Quay*

The school completed its 43<sup>rd</sup> year on June 8 and 9. This year we had ten 2 year olds, eleven 3 year olds and eight 4 year olds in our classes.

We had a very busy year. Throughout the school year, individuals from our local communities visited the school to share their expertise with the children.

We welcomed Dave Tiffany from the Helderberg Ambulance, Megan Mason and Frank Fuss from the Knox Fire Co., Jim Haas, a local chef, and Katie Sisson, a dental hygienist, to name just a few.

We are accepting applications for all classes for the 2017-2018 school year. The tuition for the 3s and 4s is \$120.00 each 6 week period. For the 2 year old class it is \$90 per 6 week period. For more information about our program and/or to request an application, please call the school at **872-2015**.



# Knox Historical Society

By Nancy Frueh [www.knoxhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.knoxhistoricalsociety.org)

Visit Knox Historical Society's website for information on:

- Meetings
- Special Programs
- Displays
- Publications
- The Collection
- Historic Trails



"Pillbox Capital of the World"

## Mark Your Calendars!

**Knox Historical Society Summer 2017:** All programs will take place at Saddle mire Homestead or Knox Town Hall

**July 8 & 9 (Saturday & Sunday), Pucker Street Fair;**

The Homestead Museum will be open 2:00-5:00 PM

**August 12 (Saturday), A Week in the Life of Great Aunt Nellie;** featuring items from our collection that eased weekly chores, 2:00-4:00 PM

**September 17 (Sunday), Helderberg Hilltowns Association's Farms and Artisans Tour,**

The Homestead will be open 12:00-2:00 PM

**September 22 (Friday), Benjamin Franklin appearing at BKW School Auditorium, 7:00pm,** a collaboration with the BKW Social Studies Dept., made possible by a grant from the BKW PTA.

## More Upcoming Events

- **Jul. 7-9 Pucker Street Fair** Knox Town Park
  - Fri. 7<sup>th</sup> 5pm – 11pm
  - Sat. 8<sup>th</sup> 1pm – 11pm, BBQ 3-7pm or USO
    - Fireworks 9pm
  - Sun. 9<sup>th</sup> 1pm – 8pm
- **Jul. 10-14 Soccer Camp,** BKW Varsity field 6-7:45 pm
- **Jul. 22 Dog Day Rabies & Licensing Clinic,** Town Park, 10am-1pm
- **Jul. 24-28 & 31-Aug. 4, Sports Camps,** BKW School
- **Aug. 7-11 VBS,** Reformed Church 9am-11:45am
- **Aug. 14-18 KYC Summer Camp,** Town Park 9am-12n
- **Aug. 15-20 Altamont Fair week**
- **Sep. 16-17 Farms & Artisans Tour** 10am – 4pm
- **Sep. 30 Northeastern Cave Conservancy Contra Dance,** Octagon Barn
- **Sep. 30 Thacher Park Fall Festival,** Thacher Park
- **Nov. 5 Turkey Dinner,** Knox Vol. Fire Co. 1-5pm
- **Nov. 7 Election Day Dinner,** Reformed Church
- **Oct. 1 Town Wide Road Clean Up,** 9am-12 noon
- **Dec. 9 Holiday Market,** Octagon Barn, 10am-4pm

## Knox Historical Society ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual Member \$10.00

Family Membership \$20.00

The regular meetings, many with speakers, are held at the Knox Town Hall (behind the Saddle mire Homestead) at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month (except Election Day)

**Everyone with an interest in the history of Knox is encouraged to attend.**

For more information, contact:

Nancy Frueh at [Rabbiteers@hotmail.com](mailto:Rabbiteers@hotmail.com) or

Dennis Barber 860-7861 [earnhardt55@netzero.net](mailto:earnhardt55@netzero.net)

Saddle mire Homestead Museum will be open 12-2 every Wednesday in the months of July and August.



## Saddle mire Homestead Museum

2190 Berne-Altamont Road, (Route 156), Knox, NY

## Dudley Observatory 2017 Star Party Schedule

**Jul. 28, 8 PM** Dr. Harry Ringermacher (U.So.Miss.)

"Viewing the Solar Eclipse from the Capital Region"

**Aug. 25, 8 PM** Dr. Rebecca Koopman (Union)

"Star Formation in Galaxy Groups and Clusters"

**Sep. 29, 8 PM** Ron Barnell (AAAA/HESO)

"Globular Clusters: Great Balls of Fire"

**Oct. 27, 7 PM** Dr. Matthew Bellis (Siena)

"Particle Physics"

**Nov. 17, 7 PM** Ralf Schauer (SCCC)

"Explorations of Jupiter"

*Octagon Barn, 588 Middle Road, 618-5376*

**Veterans in Knox:** Property tax exemptions have been increased to the highest level. For more information, or to sign up for your exemption, Call Russ Pokorny, Assessor 669-6459

Town of Knox  
PO Box 116  
Knox NY 12107

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Albany, NY  
Permit #220

### Directory for Town of Knox

Knox Town Hall, PO Box 116, Knox NY 12107

(518) **872-2551**, [www.knoxny.org](http://www.knoxny.org)

<i>Town Supervisor</i>	Vasilios Lefkaditis	872-2551 x 8
<i>Town Council</i>	Dennis Barber	860-7861
	Earl Barcomb	944-6936
	Dan Hanley	872-9893
	Amy Pokorny	618-5376
<i>Town Clerk</i>	Tara Murphy	872-2551 x 1
<i>Justice Court Clerk</i>	Debbie Liddle	872-2551 x 3
<i>Highway Sup't.</i>	Gary Salisbury	872-2551 x 6
<i>Building Dep't.</i>	Dan Sherman	446-1460
	Richard Loucks	
<i>Assessor</i>	Russ Pokorny	872-2551 x 4
<i>Tax Collector</i>	Diane Champion	872-2551 x 5
<i>Knox Fire Chief</i>	Bill Vinson	872-0368
<i>Dog Warden, Parks, Cemeteries</i>	Lou Saddlemire	872-2551 x 7

**Sheriff, fire or other emergency dial 911**

**PLEASE NOTE: Knox Town Board Meetings  
begin at 7 PM (not 7:30) in 2017.**

### Town Hours (except holidays)

<i>Town Clerk</i>	Mondays	4 – 6 PM
	Tuesdays	4 – 7 PM
	Wednesdays	9 AM – 12 PM
	1 <sup>st</sup> Sat. of month	9 AM – 12 PM
<i>Town Supervisor</i>	Tuesdays	3 – 7 PM
	1 <sup>st</sup> Sat. of month	9 AM – 12 PM
<i>Building Dep't.</i>	Thursdays	5 – 7 PM
<i>Transfer Station</i>	Tuesdays	4 – 7 PM
	Thursdays	4 – 7 PM
	Saturdays	8 AM – 5 PM

### Do you have ideas for a Town Seal Design?

We are looking for an image that would represent the Town of Knox for official stationery. Send your drawing, or a description of your idea to Knox Town Clerk, PO Box 116, Knox NY 12107 or email it to: [Knoxtownclerk@gmail.com](mailto:Knoxtownclerk@gmail.com)