



Schuyler Town Newsletter

TOWN OF SCHUYLER, HERKIMER COUNTY, NEW YORK

JANUARY 2026

**** Changes at the Town ****

Retirement of Longtime Town Clerk Barbara Boulia

Town Clerk Barbara Boulia retired effective December 10, 2025 after more than 15 years of service.

Please welcome Andrea Crossett as our new Town Clerk

Andrea has prior experience of 25 years as an insurance auditor, and has lived in Schuyler for over 10 years. Andrea enjoys raising German Shepherds, chickens, turkeys, and pigs.

Recent Officials Sworn in effective January 1, 2026

- Hon. Angela DeMichele was sworn in as Schuyler Town Justice
- John Werczynski was sworn in as Town Supervisor
- Andrea Crossett was sworn in as Town Clerk
- Dale Dodge and George Luther III were sworn in as Town Councilmen
- Robin Lindsay was sworn in as Codes Officer

Condolences to the family of Longtime Assessor George Haskell

Please see page 3



Appreciation of longtime Councilwoman and Schuyler advocate Bette Szesny



Please see page 10 for a tribute to this special person!!



December Birthday of the Month

Congratulations to Donna Ryan, whose Birthday is December 15th!!

Donna won a gift card to Local Gas (Buell Fuels) convenience store in our Business Park!



Schuyler Birthday Form

Birthday Person: _____

Birthdate: _____

Submitted By: _____

Phone/E-Mail Address: _____

Please drop off at Schuyler Town Office or e-mail to Birthdays@townofschuylerny.gov by the 15th of the month.

Carmen Cordero	December 2	Daniel Lazzuri	December 5
Mia Cedano	December 6	Emily Pavlus	December 7
Victor Costanza	December 9	Concetta Pavlus	December 14
José Vega-Aguirre	December 16	Lydia Walker	December 20
Mary Jane Costanza	December 27	Rebecca Dingman	December 31

East Schuyler Methodist Church

Sunday Service is at 9:30 A.M.
118 Church Road in Schuyler



West Schuyler Methodist Church

Sunday Service is at 10 A.M.
297 Wood Lane in Schuyler



In Memory of Longtime Assessor George Haskell



Mr. George S. "Skip" Haskell passed away peacefully at the age of 85 with loved ones by his side.

George was born on November 13, 1940 in Amsterdam, NY, son of the late George and Helen (Stewart) Haskell. He grew up in Mohawk, NY until his parents moved to Piseco. There, they bought the Anibal house that later became Haskell's Hotel, which burned in 1978. George attended Piseco Elementary School, Wells High School, and later went on to graduate from Poland High School. After high school, he attended RIT, where he was part of the work program.

After college, George was employed by General Telephone, where he met the love of his life, the former Jacqueline Parker in September of 1961. The two fell for each other immediately and were engaged the same year. The couple married on March 24th of the following year and spent over 63 years in a loving marriage.

George later went on to work for Utica National, while simultaneously attending Utica College, where he majored in accounting. He retired from Utica National in 2002, although it was far from the end of his work career. He was appointed assessor for the Town of Schuyler, where he worked up until the beginning of 2025. George held many titles throughout the years including: assessor for the Town of Deerfield, Board of Directors' secretary for the Rescue Mission of Utica, board member with the waterboard for Deerfield, treasurer of the Oneida County Assessors Association, and last, but not least, he was a proud fireman. In his earlier years, George was part of the Piseco Fire Department and later went on to work with the Deerfield Fire Department for over 56 years. He served the Deerfield Fire Department as a commissioner, captain, secretary, and treasurer. He was also a part of the Hose Busters Firematics Team. A man very devout in his faith, he was a proud member of the Mohawk Valley Church (formerly Assembly of God), where he served as secretary and treasurer.

In lieu of flowers and in memory of George, please consider a donation to Deerfield Fire Department or Mohawk Valley Church.

We are appreciative of the service and devotion to the Town of Schuyler for over 20 years and give our deepest condolences to George's wife Jacqueline and his entire family.



Christmas with Santa

The Town of Schuyler Historical Society wishes to thank the Schuyler Volunteer Fire Company for including us in the 2025 Breakfast with Santa. Society members were delighted to give a story book and a crocheted hat and scarf set to each child who attended. Adults received our East End/West End book set and a family tree genealogy form and instructions.



Pictured are the members of the Town of Schuyler Historical Society. Left to right: Suzette Vivyan, Jean Finster, Charlie and Marie Grose, Rick Proulx, Libby Tedesco, Anthony Lucenti, and Christine Proulx

Thank you to the Schuyler fire fighters. Have a safe 2026.

Marie Grose, President
Town of Schuyler Historical Society

Celebrate the USA's 250th birthday by learning more about America!

Do you have questions like...

Why is our town named *Schuyler*?

Was Benedict Arnold really a traitor?

Was the banner sewn from bits of clothing worn by soldiers at Fort Stanwix the first American flag to fly in combat?

Join us on Sunday, April 12, 2026 at the Schuyler Town Office from 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. to get these and many other questions answered. Darryl Gillette, a lifelong town resident and historian, will be on hand to bring history to life. Mr. Gillette has a vast knowledge of American history, as well as the history of our town of Schuyler.

The Town of Schuyler Historical is proud to host this entertaining and educational free event.

We hope to see you there.

TOWN OF SCHUYLER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Schuyler Chronicles ~~~ Issue # 19 ~ January 2026

This month we are dropping in on the Tanner family again. As you may recall, we visited Eva Tanner, the mother of three, when she was making breakfast for her children. It is now a cold January day, and Eva is tending to her children, Rebekkah, Jacob, and Abraham, who stayed home from school today because of sickness. Let's see what curatives there are in the homestead's kitchen cabinet.



First, Eva looks at the bottle of Walker's Spirits of Camphor. Made in Pittsburg, PA, it is 90% alcohol. That would definitely make the children sleep.. It is a popular and efficient external application for headaches, pains, swelling, and rheumatic affections. Internally, it is used for cramps, cholera, morbus, diarrhoea, and it is to be taken in sugar. Sakes alive! Well, next time there is a cholera breakout Rebekkah will know what to do. She puts that bottle back on the shelf.

Next, Eva picks up the bottle of Walker Pure Essence Peppermint. It is 85% alcohol and is absolutely pure and full strength, and is made in accordance with the requirements of the United States Pharmacopoeia. It is used extensively as a remedy for flatulence and colic. The dosage in drops is put into sweetened water. As stated on the label, Walker's Pure Essence Peppermint is unexcelled as a flavoring ingredient in baking. This isn't what Eva is looking for now, but by Jove! A dual-purpose product. A remedy for gas AND an ingredient for peppermint candy. How handy!



This may do the trick for the children. Musterole Brand mustard plaster. In the olden days, Eva remembered, she mixed together powdered mustard, flour, and water to make a paste. If the plaster was left on the skin for more than 15 minutes, it could cause 1st degree burns. Thank Heavens for Musterole Brand. It is used for coughs and colds in the chest, pneumonia, croup, pleurisy, asthma, neuralgia, and aches in joints and muscles. The plaster is spread over a cloth then folded over and applied to the affected area. Eva can use one of Jebediah's old work shirts for the application. This will also be wonderful for his aching back when he's done plowing the north 40.

After Eva applies Musterole to the children's chests, she heads back to the kitchen and plucks the chicken to make chicken soup. While that's simmering over the fire, she needs to wash the sheets and hang them in front of the fireplace to dry. By that time, the soup will be done, and she will feed Rebekkah, Jacob, and Abraham. Jebediah heads home from the barn and Eva will make supper for him. At this point, Eva is thinking that once he falls asleep in the rocking chair, she may feel a little sick herself and will head to the root cellar to have herself a cup of hard cider---for medicinal purposes.

From all of us at the Town of Schuyler Historical Society--Happy 2026! Stay healthy this winter---but don't use any of these products! Wishing you all the best in the new year.

Christine Proulx, Recording Secretary,
Town of Schuyler Historical Society



Whitesboro Central School District

Kindergarten Registration for the 2026-2027 school year will be held at the following elementary schools:

Marcy Elementary School: MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026

Hart's Hill Elementary School: TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026

Deerfield Elementary School: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026

West Road Elementary School: THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026

To be eligible to enter kindergarten in September 2026, a child must be 5 years of age **on or before December 1, 2026** and must reside in the Whitesboro School District. You must bring proof of age (birth certificate); and proof of residency, including *three* (3) of the following: National Grid, telephone bill, current NYS driver's license, oil/propane delivery bill, cable bill, insurance bill, and/or paystub. Immunization records must be presented a time of registration.

If you have a child who will be eligible to enter Kindergarten in September 2026, or know of someone who has a child who will be eligible, please call your school office for a registration packet to be mailed out to you. Contact numbers for each school office are listed below:

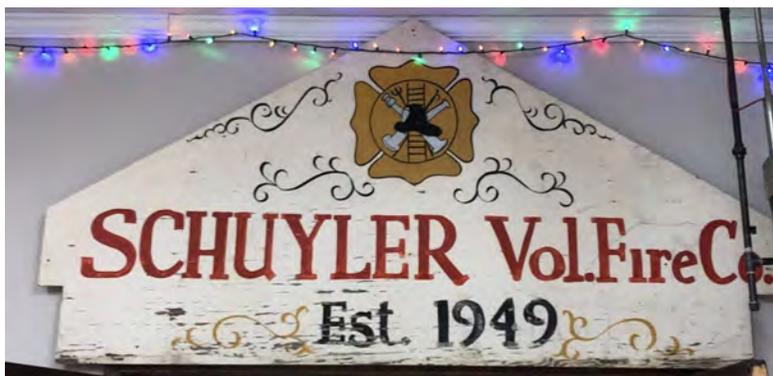
Deerfield Elementary: 315.266.3410

Hart's Hill Elementary: 315.266.3430

Marcy Elementary: 315.266.3420

Westmoreland Road Elementary: 315.266.3440

Congratulations to the Schuyler Volunteer Fire Company and the Schuyler Historical Society for a very successful Breakfast with Santa Event!!





Planning Board Meeting - December 3, 2025

** Minutes Being Provided as Courtesy - Not Officially Approved **

Planning Board Members Present were:

Chairman Victor Costanza, Vice Chairman David Fusillo, Jean Finster, Daniel Tripoli, Michael Ritter, and Robin Lindsay.

Also Present Were:

Town Supervisor John Werczynski, Town Councilman Joe Juliano, Codes Officer Philip Green, Recording Secretary Sarah Collignon, and Planning Board Secretary Jeffery Dingman.

Chairman Costanza opened the meeting at 6:02 P.M. and led the people in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, along with a moment of silence recognizing the tragedies our Town has faced recently: the loss of Supervisor Ronald Beach, coming shortly after the loss of Councilman Rodney Dodge.

Motion to Approve Minutes:

Motion by Fusillo, second by Finster to approve the November 5, 2025 Planning Board minutes; all in favor.

Comments from Codes Officer Philip Green:

Codes Officer Philip Green noted that he is retiring from his position as Town Codes Officer at the end of the month. The board expressed their gratitude for all he has done over the many years. There was a brief discussion about who would take over the position; there is no replacement at this time, but the Town Board is looking for someone to fill the vacancy.

Motion to Set Stark Development Project Public Hearing:

A motion was made to set the public hearing for the Stark Development Project (Utica Roofing), for January 7, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. provided that all of the proper documentation has been filled out and received. If not complete, it will be set for February 4, 2026. Motion by Fusillo, second by Finster; all in favor.

Motion to Close Meeting:

There being no additional business, a motion to close the Planning Board meeting was made at 6:20 P.M. by Ritter, second by Tripoli; all in favor.

Sarah Collignon, Recording Secretary
Jeffery Dingman, Planning Board Secretary

Town Board Meeting Minutes

Due to recent personnel changes at the town, meeting minutes for December were not available at time of publication. Minutes for December and January Town Board minutes will be featured in the February Newsletter.

Please welcome recent officials sworn in effective January 1, 2026!!

On December 31st, Hon. George Luther swore in the following officials:

- Robin Lindsay as Codes Officer
- Hon. Angela DeMichele as Town Justice
- George Luther III as Town Councilman
- Dale Dodge as Town Councilman
- Andrea Crossett as Town Clerk
- John Werczynski as Town Supervisor





Celebrating Bette Szesny's Accomplishments



Bette Szesny served on the Mohawk Valley Water Authority (MVWA) board since its inception in 1994, representing the Town of Schuyler in the beginning, and later all of Herkimer County. She would advocate for municipal water throughout the entire town. Bette created and was editor of the town's newsletter and is a huge advocate of animal rights. She created the town's Facebook page, and for years was the town's official photographer. In early years she chaired fundraising for the Schuyler car show and published the car show booklet. She was the creator of Schuyler "Person of the Year" and was secretary of the Planning Board for many years.

Bette's political career began in 1991 after winning a Town Council seat, and has been involved in politics ever since. Bette also published the Schuyler Seniors newsletter for years. During the holidays, Bette was known for her customized Hersey bars. Bette created the town letterhead stationary with logo and was very active in the town recreation program. Each year Bette hosted a hugely successful regional municipal training involving many nearby municipalities, filling the town hall with over 100 officials from a two-county area and fulfilling the state-mandated 4-hour training requirement.

With regard to the newsletter, it was not only the Town of Schuyler of Schuyler Bette assisted...she did newsletter publication and booklets for several civic organizations and communities. Bette often told the story that she was working on a newsletter for a neighboring town and had to inform the supervisor that due to a pending storm her electricity may go out, causing a delay in their newsletter. The town supervisor quickly responded, "just let me know I'll send my crew to your house with a generator so you can proceed with your work."

Bette's accomplishments are numerous and she was often the go-to person for anything involving the Internet and/or publications.

I was fortunate enough to learn from the best. Bette happily shared her vast knowledge of website and newsletter design, as well as planning board duties with me. We wish Bette the very best - thank you for your dedication and undevoted service to the Town of Schuyler for so many years!



Jeffery Dingman
Newsletter Editor

2026 Supervisor's Appointments

Town Clerk: Andrea Crossett

Tax Collector: Andrea Crossett

Registrar of Vital Statistics: Andrea Crossett

Deputy Town Clerk: Janice Rathbun

Deputy Tax Collector: Janice Rathbun

Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics: Janice Rathbun

Court Clerk: Wendy Leach

Court Clerk: Marianne Dodge

Clerk to Supervisor: Jeffery P. Dingman

Codes Officer: Robin C. Lindsay, Jr.

Sewer Rep.: Philip Johnson

Planning Board Chair: Victor Costanza/David Fusillo

Planning Board Member: Robin C. Lindsay, Jr.

Planning Board Secretary: Jeffery P. Dingman

Zoning Board of Appeals Chair: JoAnn Mammone

Zoning Board of Appeals Secretary: Jeffery P. Dingman

Planning Board and ZBA Recording Secretary: Sarah Collignon

Voting Custodian: Harry Robbins (Democrat)

Voting Custodian: Sarah Collignon (Republican)

Board of Assessment Review: Al Barbato

Town Park Caretaker: Michael Keefe

Historian: Jean Finster

Deputy Historian: Suzette Vivyan

Town Attorney: Mark Wolber, Esq.

Health Officer: Joe Scalise

Animal Control Officer: Michael Hartwell

Solid Waste: William Connors

Assessor: Amie Maxwell

Deputy Highway Superintendent: Chris Christenson

Bookkeeper: Andrea Crossett

CPA: Advanced Group Tax Services

Official Newspaper: Daily Sentinel



Schuyler Town Newsletter



STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #566 UTICA, NY

Town and Court Clerk's Hours
Monday - Friday 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
Mondays - 5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Town Clerk: 315-733-7458
Court Clerk: 315-733-1093

Town Highway Department
Philip Johnson
Highway Superintendent
Highway Garage: 315-733-7617
Cell Phone: 315-240-1485
highway@townofschuylerny.gov

Town of Schuyler Historical Society
317-917-3334
Please leave a message if no one is available

Town Assessor
Amie Maxwell: 315-733-7458 ext. 225
Office Hours Tuesdays 1 P.M. - 3 P.M. or by appointment

Codes Enforcement Officer
Call Before Starting ANY Building Project
Robin C. Lindsay: 315-373-9592

Dog Control Officer
Mike Hartwell
607-201-5196

New York State Police
Dial 911

East Schuyler Miller Cemetery
Burial Sites Available
For information and current pricing, contact: Harry Robbins, President at 315-269-0861

West Schuyler Miller Cemetery
Burial Sites Available
For information and current pricing, contact: Earl Haman at 315-733-2920



S/Sgt. John A. LaPolla Post #8728 VFW
240 Wood Lane



Mike Collver, Commander
Post Phone: 315-733-6609
Commander Mike Collver Phone Number: 315-525-3680
Post Social Hour held Fridays at 3 P.M. ALL WELCOME