# TOWN OF DEERFIELD

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISOR

January 2024

As we close out another year in our wonderful town, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the dedication and service of one of our own pillars, Supervisor Scott Mahardy. For 16 years, Scott has been the epitome of commitment and passion in serving our community. His contributions have left a great mark on the Town of Deerfield, and we owe him a debt of gratitude for his unwavering dedication.

I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to Daphne Jones, our newest addition to the Town Council. As Daphne steps into her role as a Town Councilperson, I am confident that her dedication and fresh perspectives will further enrich our efforts in serving the needs and aspirations of our residents. Her passion for community development and her unwavering commitment to fostering positive change align perfectly with the values that define the Town of Deerfield.

Additionally, I am thrilled to announce the launch of our new town website, a project that has been a labor of love for our Town Clerk, Karen Day. Her tireless efforts and attention to detail have resulted in a user-friendly platform that will better connect us all. Please take a moment to explore the website—it's a testament to Karen's hard work and commitment to serving the town. www. townofdeerfield.org

Our Town Board work sessions and regular sessions are once again being held in person at the Town Municipal building. The public is invited to attend these sessions, held on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. Your participation and engagement are crucial. Attending these meetings is an excellent way for you to witness firsthand the dedication and good work that your Town officials are doing on your behalf. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of your involvement. We are here to support each and every one of you, but we can only do so effectively when we work together. Your voice matters and your presence at these meetings ensures that your concerns are heard and addressed.

I consider it a great honor to serve as your newly elected Supervisor. My commitment to our community is unwavering, and I am dedicated to working hand in hand with residents, local organizations, and businesses. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any problems, concerns, or suggestions you may have.

Deerfield thrives when we collaborate and engage as a united community. Let us continue to work together for the betterment of our town, ensuring that it remains a place we are all proud to call home.

Gregory Sacco Supervisor

# A MESSAGE FROM YOUR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT



The Highway Department hopes everyone had a great holiday season and everyone is in good health. With winter getting a slow start this year,

the Highway Department would like to remind everyone as winter gets started to please drive with caution; road temperatures are varying and can cause slick spots on the roadways. As the snow piles up, the Highway Department has a few reminders for everyone. Please keep cars off the street during overnight hours. This helps the Highway Department clear the streets more efficiently. In May 2009, our town adopted local law # 1-2009 which states that parked or abandoned vehicles on any public highways in the Town of Deerfield during snowstorms, floods, fires, or other public emergencies can be removed at the owner's expense. The town also has local law # 1-2005 prohibiting no overnight night parking on Town of Deerfield roads. As winter starts out, we ask that residents do not push snow across the road. As winter progresses in the next few months, snow plowed across the road builds up and takes up part of a lane in the road so traffic needs to go around it, PLEASE DO NOT PUSH SNOW ACROSS THE ROADWAY. This could cause an accident, and the person pushing the snow in the road could be held liable. With winter weather just starting out, keep in mind the type of tires you have on your car. All season tires are not the best tires in snow and ice; snow tires work the best in the winter months. Please keep trash cans clear of the curb so the plow or snow coming off the plows won't knock them over.

When winter snowbanks start to get higher, our children like to play in them and dig tunnels. Please remind them how dangerous this can be, as the plow drivers can't see the kids playing and we would not want to see any of our children get hurt. We hope everyone had a fun filled summer and enjoyed the nice summer weather we had this year. The Highway Department had a very ambitious road construction season in 2023 and completed all our planned projects in late October. The Highway Department is planning another busy year in 2024; we will be working on fitting the 2024 projects into the highway budget in the next few months. We will be splitting the construction season again year between maintenance and construction projects in 2024. The Highway Departments new leaf vacuum worked very well this season, this a single person operation which allowed us to work on other projects at the same time, we were able to make several passes around town over several weeks to collect the leaves. We will be around at spring clean-up to get any leaves that fell late after equipment was stored away for the season.

The Highway Department's trash collection site at the firehouse and the Highway Garage have worked out for everyone and has been well attended. We are going to continue having Saturday drop off times in 2024. Trash can be brought to the Town Highway Garage during our normal work hours throughout the year; just call ahead so we can have someone there to help you load items into the dumpster. The Highway Department business hours are M-F 7:00AM to 3:30 PM. **Please do not drop off trash items after hours.** Green waste can also be brought to the Highway Garage any time and can be put in the designated area.

We would like to thank everyone for a great year in 2023 and look forward to another great year in 2024. Thanks to all who remembered the Highway Department during the holidays with the thoughtful cards, Christmas cookies, and food sent to us. It is nice to know we are appreciated.

Thank You,

Hope you had a blessed Christmas and great Holiday season. The Highway Department

# **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT DATES TO REMEMBER IN 2023:**

**April:** 

8 – Start spring clean-up (Sweeping) Weather permittin27 - Trash (Trenton Road Firehouse)

> May: 6 – Green waste

June: 3 – Green waste

July: 1 – Green waste <u>August:</u> 5 – Green waste

September: 3 – Green waste

October: 1 – Green waste 5 – Trash (town garage)

\*\*\*November: 4 – Green waste and leaf collection (if weather permits)

### Thank you for your cooperation!

\*\*\*The November green waste will only happen if the weather permits. Green waste will be collected from a container at the curb to be dumped in a compactor. Brush shall be piled separately for collection by a different crew to be chipped. Limbs shall be no more than 10' long or small enough to be handled by one person.

# NOTE FROM THE TOWN CLERK

We are excited to start 2024 with gusto. Our new website site is up and running, so please check it out. We are no longer with Digital Towpath. We are very proud of our new Quadsimia Website.

### https://Townofdeerfield.org/Government

My office is open Monday through Thursday from 9AM – 4PM. I can be easily reached in multiple ways.

- Office phone 315 724-0413 x 223
- Email townclerk@townofdeerfield.org
- Postal mail 6329 Walker Rd Deerfield NY 13502
- After hours drop off Brown metal security box secured to the Building outside the door on the Municipal Building.

As a reminder, your Town Clerk is your Local Registrar, Tax Collector, Records Keeper. My office can and will handle, marriage licenses, home birth certificates, death certificates, gaming licenses, dog licenses, and the Wilderness Park Pavilion rentals.

The job of Tax Collector falls under the position of Town Clerk, which takes place beginning in January and ending March 31st 2023. This makes the first quarter of the year in the Clerk's office, outrageously busy. Please be patient with me, as I try to accommodate your requests. My office is still basically a single staffed office.

### **Tax Collector**

Tax payments in person will be accepted, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:30 – 2:30 in my office. Closed on Fridays.

Postal mail, 6329 Walker Rd Deerfield NY 13502

Drop off in the Security Tax box secured to the outside of the Municipal Building. This box is checked morning, afternoon, and evening.

Tax payments can also be made online, through the Town

Website only (not in person) be aware that there is a convenience fee added to your payment..

### NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED AT ANY TIME for safety issues.

# I never received my bill, or received it late; do I still have to pay the penalty?

Yes, the failure to mail a statement or the failure of the property owner to receive a statement will not affect the validity of the taxes or interest prescribed by law (New York State Real Property Tax Law 922). In addition, neither the tax Collector nor any other official has legal authority to waive statutory penalty charges. These are fixed by the Real Property Tax Law. If they are waived, the collecting officer will be personally responsible. As all records are audited by State examiners, there is absolutely no discretion in this matter. The Constitution and the law of the State mandate this procedure.

# **TOWN BOARD MEETING DATES**

We welcome your participation at the Town Board meetings which are held on Monday evenings at 6:30 pm at the Town Municipal Building. It is the best way to find out what is going on in your town and to express your thoughts and concerns. For the 2024 year we will be meeting on the following dates:

January • Monday – 2nd Organizational meeting. 6:00 p.m. Monday – 8th February • Monday – 12th March • Monday – 11th April • Monday – 8th May • Monday – 13th June • Monday - 10th July • Monday – 8th August • Monday – 12th September • Monday - 9th October • Monday - 14th\* November • Monday - 11th December • Monday - 9th OFFICIAL Newspaper now the Rome Sentinel

\*Preliminary budget to be adopted by Board on this date

The following dates are suggested for budget workshop dates - 9/09/24 @ 6:00, 9/23/24 @ 6:00.

# **FROM THE ASSESSOR**

**Taxable Status Deadline Date** is March 1, 2024 – Please contact the Deerfield Assessor with any new exemptions or changes PRIOR to March 1 2024

All New Applicants for exemptions must also be filed prior to that date.

**Renewals are required for seniors** who file form 467, as changes have been made in the amounts of eligible incomes.

Any questions contact assessor, at 724-0413 x 221

# **PLANNING BOARD**

**October:** Pine Ridge Estates, Trenton Rd.: Project developer, William Gaetano, had requested that the planning board delay final approval for this subdivision. Mr. Gaetano was considering lot line adjustments to create larger lots. The planning board agreed to postpone the final approval until October 5, 2023. There has been no communication with Mr. Gaetano since November 2022. A motion was made and carried to deny approval of the proposed Pine Ridge Estates subdivision. Cornell Cooperative Extension provided a list of farms in the town that are enrolled in the NYS Agricultural District. The board will use the list to create a mailing about creating a farmland protection plan for the town. Work continued on the Wind Energy zoning update. NEC Article 694 was reviewed. November: There will be vacancy on the planning board due to Daphne Jones moving onto the town board on January 1, 2024. Gabe Greco has requested to be re-appointed to the planning board for the term 2024-2029. A motion was made and carried to recommend to the town board that Gabe Greco be re-appointed to the planning board for the planning board as a member and as secretary for 2024. A motion was made and carried to recommend to the town board that Gabe Greco be re-appointed to the planning board that Patie Goldsmith be re-appointed as chairperson for 2024. There was a request for an opinion regarding a lot line adjustment on a property on Horatio St. The planning board had no objection to the change. The board will contact Attorney Schmitt for his opinion as well. December: Representatives of ARNC Development, LLC gave a pre-submission presentation regarding their plans to develop approximately 48 acres on the west side of State Rt. 12. Plans include restaurants, a convenience store/ gas station, a 100-125 room hotel, multi-family townhomes and workforce apartment housing.

### PLANNING BOARD 2024 REGULAR MEETING DATES:

January 3rd • February 7th • March 6th • April 3rd • May 8th • June 5th • July 3rd August 7th • September 4th • October 9th • November 6th • December 4th

Meetings begin at 6pm at the Municipal Building.

# **SENIOR NEWS**

Happy New Year! Our Seniors are looking forward to a new year and hope everyone stays healthy. We meet on Thursdays from 9 until 3 at the Deerfield Municipal Building 6329 Walker Road.

On the first Thursday of the month, a representative from the Office of the Aging will be at the Municipal Building at Noon until 1:00.

Since we are in the winter season, if Whitesboro School is closed due to inclement weather, the seniors will be closed also. Trips will be set up in the spring. Please call Lura at 315-724-0658 or 315-724-0413, ext. 228 if you have any questions. Leave a message if I'm not available, and I will get back to you.

# **BUILDING AND CODES DEPARTMENT**

With the Holiday Season still upon us, it is a time for Family, Friends, and Fire Safety.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Office of Fire Prevention and Control (OFPC) has prepared useful fire safety tips pertaining to candle, Christmas trees, holiday lighting and other hazards commonly encountered this time of year. These following safety tips and fire statistic sheets can be obtains on the Town of Deerfield Website. Got to www.towofdeerfield. org: click on Departments and Codes to find the links below.

Winter Holiday Safety Tips • Holiday Candle safety tips • Home Christmas Tree Fires Fact Sheet • Home structure Fires that began with Decorations

Please Consider sharing this information with your family and friends. Have a safe Holiday Season.

Happy New Year from your Codes Department

# WHITESBORO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

### **Deerfield Kindergarten Registration**

Jan. 24, 2024 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM School House Rd Deerfield NY 13502



# **ANIMAL CONTROL**

### Do you have Feral Cats lurking around? How to care for outdoor cats in winter:

Shelter, food and water are especially important to feral and stray cats in cold weather.

As the weather gets colder, you may worry about the cats you see around your neighborhood. They may be pets whose owners let them outside, or they could be community cats, a group that includes ferals (who are afraid of people) and strays (who've been lost or abandoned). No matter how resourceful these outdoor cats are, they need help surviving winter.

If you've got time to help, the kitties will thank you! Follow these tips to help your local outdoor cats during the cold months.

### Give outdoor cats shelter from the cold

Yes, their thickened winter coats help feral and stray cats weather winter's chill, but they still need warm, dry, wellinsulated and appropriate-sized shelters. It's cheapest to build your own, and there are many plans and instructions that can help you get started.

### www.diyfavorite.com/diy-feral-cat-shelter/

A shelter-building party can be a fun weekend project! Ask your friends, neighbors, and coworkers to join in. Try contacting local youth groups to find out if they will help build shelters as a service project.

### Where to find materials

You may find inexpensive or free materials by asking buildingsupply stores or contractors if they have scrap lumber. Ask friends, neighbors, and coworkers for used dog houses, which can be modified to make good shelters. You can even use a storage bin from the local hardware store. Creating a lifesaving shelter for outdoor cats can be easyandinexpensive.

### Poisonous Holiday Plants for Cats

# Why size matters with cat shelters

A shelter must trap the cats' body heat to warm its interior. If the shelter is too large, it will be difficult for the cats' body heat to keep the space warm.



### What to put in your outdoor cat shelter

Straw allows cats to burrow. Pillowcases loosely stuffed with packing peanuts and shredded newspaper also work.

Keep things clean: Replace straw and newspaper if moist or dirty, and wash and re-stuff pillowcases as needed.

### Learn More

However, if it's really cold where you live and you can't check on the shelters regularly, don't use the above insulation. Instead, "wallpaper" the shelter's inner walls and floor with Mylar. It reflects back body heat, and it's okay for cats to lie on it.

### What NOT to put in your outdoor cat shelter

Don't use blankets, towels, or folded newspaper; they absorb body heat and chill cats who are lying on them. Forego hay too, which may irritate noses and cause allergic reactions.

# **WILDERNESS PARK**

Will be open throughout the Winter, as the trails are perfect for snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. The Town has a Grooming Machine and is groomed periodically by designated volunteers.

The Town has an array of snowshoes in varying sizes for loan to Town Residents. We also have a small number of adult and children's cross-country skis. Please contact the Town Clerk for more information.

**Summer Pavilion Rentals** are also available from May through October for your family gatherings and events. Schedule soon as they book very quickly. Resident fee is \$125.00, Non-resident fee is \$175.00, Both are required to post \$100.00 deposit at time of booking.

# **DEERFIELD YOUTH PROGRAM**

During the Winter months, the Town provides periodic weekend events, at local entertainment facilities. We provide a schedule of various activities, such as bowling, roller skating, ice skating, movies, candy bar bingo and more. These activities will be a meet-up, sign in and participate, at a specific time.

Candy Bar Bingo is always open to the public – The more the Merrier.

At the time of this publication the schedule was not complete, You can find our schedule on our Website and/or on our Deerfield Youth Facebook event page.

# 2023-2024 SNOW FEST SCULPTURE CONTEST RULES

### Deerfield's Sno-Much Fun Winter Festival February 2024 Carnival Theme



### Wilderness Park, Walker Rd, Deerfield

- 1. Sculpture MUST be in the Town of Deerfield
- 2. Sculpture MUST be in good taste and appropriate
- 3. Sculpture CAN be created by one or many, please include all names when entering

4. Sculpture MUST be a minimum of 3 feet on one side (length, width, or height). We are sorry but smaller sculptures won't be allowed.

### Snow Sculpture Contest in Effect until February 2,2024

Great Food, Warm Drinks, Fun, Games, Snow Sledding (Bring your own sleds), Hockey Shot, Ice Mining, Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides, Bonfire, Photos Ops, Snow Sculpture Contest is in Effect

Our Snowfest Snow Sculpture contest is underway. Our Snowfest event is set for February 3 at the Wilderness Park. Our theme this year is again Circus/Carnival.

The voting will take place at the Snow Fest by all attendees.

We are asking you to join in the Snow Sculpture fun and create your masterpiece. We would love to have it incorporated into our theme, but it isn't necessary.

# THESE ARE THE RULES YOU MUST FOLLOW TO ENTER:

5. Sculpture MUST be submitted prior to February 2, 2024, 8:00 am to be entered

6. Sculpture MUST be submitted to lhajdasz49@gmail.com with an entire address, picture and entrants' names

7. You CAN enter as many sculptures as you wish, however only one can win

# **DEERFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### 2024 Event Schedule

Lenten Fresh Fish Fridays February 9 - April 5, 4-7 pm

Menu includes: Baked or Fried Haddock, Shrimp, Scallops, Clams and Chicken Fingers

All meals come with roll, coleslaw and fries. Baked Fish comes with baked potato

Chicken Barbecue Sunday June 2, 12 till gone 1/2 chicken, salad, salt potatoes & roll

> Field Days - June 13-14-15 Playland Amusements Friday - Parade 7 PM

<u>Fall Fresh Fish Frydays</u> September 20 - October 11 4 –7 PM

> All events at Bruce "Spike" Yourdon Memorial Hall and Firefighter's Field

Takeouts Available at all Dinners

Hall available for rent. Please call 733-FISH(3474)



# **A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF**



First and most important, on behalf of the members of the Deerfield Volunteer Fire Company, we would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support year after year! The community we serve is the backbone of this organization and we truly appreciate all the ways in which you contribute to the Deerfield Volunteer Fire Company.

This year has been a busy one for sure. We are on track for responding to a record-breaking number of emergency calls before the 2023 year-end. Not only have members been busy responding to emergency calls, but they have also been busy working to support numerous fundraising events. This year, not only did we have our Spring and Fall Fish Frys as well as the Field Days, we also hosted the New York State Motorized Firematics Championship Tournament. These events require

a lot of help before, during and after each event. The community's helping hands do not go unnoticed, again— Thank you!

While we are on the topic of fundraising, don't forget to mark your calendars with the upcoming 2024 Spring Lenten Fish Fry dates:

### 2/9, 2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29, (4/5-To benefit Believe 271 Foundation)

I am very pleased to announce that at the beginning of 2024, we will be placing a brand new 2023 Chevy Tahoe SSV in service as the new "Rescue 6". Rescue 6 is our most used piece of apparatus which responds to every EMS call and calls for Motor Vehicle Accidents. New Rescue 6 has been in our possession since July 2023, and since then has been sent to various local companies for upfitting. Although upfitting a vehicle this way may take a little longer, we were able to save a lot of money versus sending it to a sole upfitting company which builds the vehicle from start to finish. New Rescue 6 is ready for equipment transfer and driver training, then will be placed in service shortly after the holidays. I'd like to thank The Commissioners of the Deerfield Fire District #1 for making it possible for us to update our equipment in order to provide the best emergency care we can for the residents of the Town of Deerfield.

As winter weather approaches, I'd like to remind residents to keep their hydrants shoveled out and accessible if you have one on or near your property and please keep any vents on your house free and clear of snow to prevent any sort of Carbon Monoxide emergency in your home.

Lastly, we have noticed a trend in the fire service that member recruitment and retention rates are lower than ever before. As we are not the only department who is experiencing these recruitment and retention issues, it surely affects The Deerfield Fire Company, The Town of Deerfield, and the Residents of the Town of Deerfield. If you're interested at all in joining The Deerfield Fire Company, either take a look at our website www.deerfieldfire.org where you will find a lot of information including applications, or stop down during a call or event and ask our members what being a member is all about. We have something for all ages do to and welcome traits and expertise in all areas. Whether you are good with bookkeeping, would like to join as fire police or maybe you want to be the first one running into a burning building. Come talk to our members and see how you can help our community; you will be glad you did!

Stay Safe and Happy Holidays,

Christopher M. Heretz Christopher M. Heretz-Fire Chief

# TOWN OF DEERFIELD PHONE LIST

### 6329 Walker Road, Deerfield, NY 13502 Municipal Building Phone: 315-724-0413 Fax: 315-793-3032 • Highway Department Phone: 315-826-7014

Supervisor	Gregory Sacco	315 724-0413 x 250	Telephone Extensions at the Deerfield Municipal Building	
		315-272-0820	Assessor	Extension 221
Highway Superintendent	Sam Arcuri Jr.	315-826-7014 Work	Building & Codes	Extension 222
		315-735-6420 Home	Supervisor	Extension 250
Councilperson	Philip Sacco	315-796-2034	Town Clerk	Extension 223
Councilperson	Daphne Jones	315-601-4449	Senior Citizen's	Extension 228
Councilperson	Dave Kolek	315-396-8077	Planning Room	Extension 227
Councilperson	Scott Mahardy	315-738-0311	Tax Collector	Extension 230
Town Clerk, Registrar	Karen Day	315-724-0413 x 223	Court Room	# 315-507-3058 Fax # 315-507-3060
Tax Collector	Karen Day	315-724-0413 x 230	Important Phone Numbers	
Town Justice	Jim Sullivan	315-507-3058	Deerfield School:	315-266-3410
Town Justice	Thomas Larkin Jr.	315-507-3058	Whitesboro Parkway Sch:	315-266-3175
Assessor	George Haskell	315-732-1789	Whitesboro Middle Sch:	315-266-3100
Planning Board (Chairperson)	Pati Goldsmith	planningboard@townofdeerfield.org	Whitesboro High School:	315-266-3200
Zoning Board of Appeals (Chairpe	erson) Lura Raymo	315-724-0658	State Police: Business @	315-736-0122
Senior Citizen Director	Lura Raymo	315-724-0658	Sheriff's Dept: Business @	315-736-8364
Youth Director	Karen Day	315-724-0413 x 231	Deerfield Fire Department:	(Business) 315-732-2693
		Text: 315-723-4971	Whtb.Transportation Dept.:	315-768-9740
Dog Control Officer A	ndrea Kaszcki /Angela Brennan	315-520-1606	Poland High School:	315-826-7900
County Legislator	Dave Buck	315-601-0445	Poland Elementary:	315-826-7000
Deerfield Fire Chief	Christopher Heretz	315-732-2693		