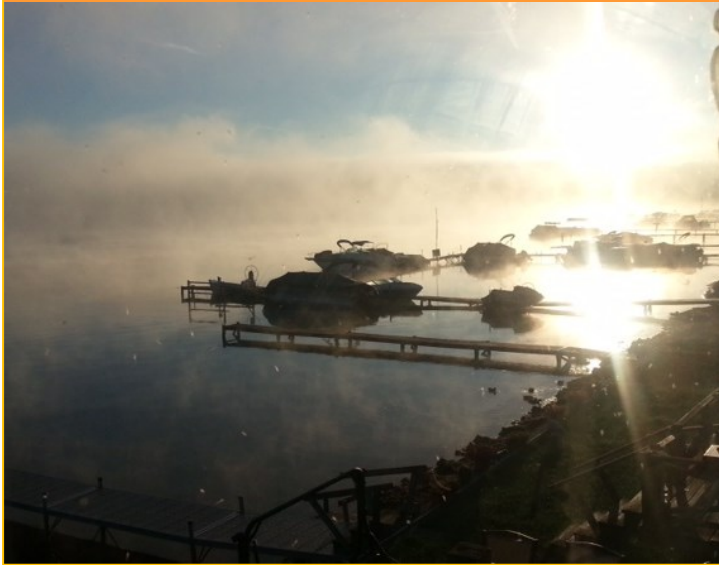


A foggy Morning . . . . Photo by Neal Kramer



# Shore Lines

The Saratoga Lake Association

P.O. Box 2152

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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

[www.facebook.com/saratogalake/](http://www.facebook.com/saratogalake/)

October 1, 2014

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## Autumn Buzz

### A Message from the President

After a break for August, your SLA Board got back to work in September. We are working on the following events/projects for 2014/2015 fiscal year:

1. 2014 Holiday Party (December 11th at Panza's)
2. Fall and Spring Road Clean-Ups
3. Paddle Safety Class for Spring of 2015 (tentatively scheduled to be held at the Fish Creek Marina during Paddlefest in May of 2015)
4. Boat Safety Class for Spring of 2015
5. Membership applications are being revamped

With the recent proliferation of kayaking and paddle boarding as well as some recent area tragedies, the Board felt that paddle safety classes were an important new event. In addition, we are starting to work on revamping the map of the lake. The SLA has also been invited to celebrate in the City of Saratoga Springs 2015 centennial celebration as a city.

*continued page 2*

### Save the Date!

### Annual Holiday Party

#### Panza's Restaurant and Catering

510 Route 9P, Saratoga Springs NY 12866

518-584-6882 Fax: 518-584-6885

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Saratoga Lake Association

Carol Dooley – [lake744@msn.com](mailto:lake744@msn.com) and

Cathy McKenna – [cathymck73@gmail.com](mailto:cathymck73@gmail.com)

*Cash Bar for Entire Event*

*5:30-6:30PM*

*Chef's Selection of Butler Served Hors D'oeuvres*

*6:30PM*

*Holiday Buffet*

*Served Chopped Salad*

*Warm Dinner Rolls and Creamery Butter*

*Rigatoni a'La Jillian*

*(penne with broccoli, sundried tomatoes, reggiano, EVO)*

*Chicken Franchise*

*Seafood Fra Diablo*

*Chef Carved Roast Beef*

*Fingerling Potato*

*Seasonal Vegetables*

*Holiday Dessert*

*Brewed Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee and Herbal Teas*

*Price Per Person*

*\$35.00 Inclusive*



**AUTUMN IS AWESOME!** Share your fall foliage photos, fish tales, events, information and all the things you like about Saratoga Lake.

Submissions to Julie at [sinnidi@aol.com](mailto:sinnidi@aol.com). The deadline for the next edition is October 17.

*President, continued*

Great appreciation is expressed to all of the many volunteers who are working on these projects.

Our Facebook page continues to grow (Please like us if you have not already done so) and thanks to Board member Steve Bleznyk for posting the photos that many of you are enjoying

Together with Secretary Bob Eastman and Treasurer Joe Equale, I attended the City of Saratoga Springs groundbreaking for its new Waterfront Park. See some of Bob's photos in this edition of Shore Lines.

The SLA is happy about another venue for public access to the Lake. The Lake is somewhat of a hidden facet to the Saratoga diamond. Many area residents learned to swim on the lake and spent many happy times with their family and friends enjoying the recreational opportunities afforded by the lake and it is great to see future generations have the same opportunity with both the Waterfront Park and additional planned phases of Brown's Beach.

Discussions are occurring about a possible winterfest at Brown's Beach and if it comes to fruition, SLA will be looking to participate and as always, Shore Lines will keep you informed.

We are most grateful to Saratoga Springs City Public Works Commissioner Anthony "Skip" Scirocco to provide the public with some clarity on the City's drinking water supply. Preserving the recreational use of Saratoga Lake is one of our major purposes and we applaud the actions that Commissioner Scirocco continues to take.

Board member Emily DiSiena has resigned to devote more time to her family's new Furniture Store in Queensbury and Board Member and former Secretary Maureen Maciariello will be stepping down from the Board and we want to publicly thank them for their service.

We are happy to welcome Jennifer R. Kotch and Michelle Merola to the SLA Board. You can read their impressive bios elsewhere in Shore Lines.

**Finally, we are still looking for someone to Chair our Events Committee and your efforts to help us identify someone will be very much appreciated.**

All my best,  
Alan

### From the Saratoga Lake Protection and Improvement District (SLPID)

#### Items of Interest

WANTED - 2 to 4 individuals (especially retired) with boat to do lake water testing 2/mo. during June through September, 2015. Please contact Ed Dweck , 584-5448.  
\*\*\*\*\*

The annual lake **draw-down** will begin the Tuesday after Columbus Day - October 14.  
\*\*\*\*\*

The recent vote by SLPID to garner approval for a building to house our weed cutting machinery was approved 217 to 10.  
\*\*\*\*\*

SLPID is looking for a location to offload weeds from their conveyors to trucks for disposal. If you can help, this will save valuable time for the weed cutting process. Contact Ed Dweck for more information.

#### SLA Board of Directors

**Alan Richer**

*President*

**Thomas McDowell**

*Business Outreach*

**Robert Eastman**

*Secretary and Stillwater*

*Government Relations Liaison*

**Joseph Equale**

*Treasurer and Saratoga Springs*

*Government Relations Liaison*

**Steve Bleznyk**

*Outreach Committee and*

*Information Technology*

**Tim Blodgett**

*Lake Level Committee*

**Georgia Hinchman**

*Membership Chair*

**Karl Hardcastle**

*Lake Level Committee*

**Maureen Maciariello**

*Friends of the Kayaderosseras Liaison*

**Walter Supley**

*Web-master, Malta Government*

*Relations Liaison*

## Saratoga Lake Association adds two new board members . . .

**Jen Kotch** has lived in the Albany area for over ten years, having grown up in Fort Montgomery, NY. Ms. Kotch turned her passion for the outdoors into a career and currently works in the environmental consulting field as senior project geologist at HRP Associations P.C. Ms. Kotch is well versed in all aspects of field investigations, remedial action plans including limited experience with watershed evaluations, remediation activities, and client relationship management.

**Michelle Merola** was born and raised in Saratoga. She is a proud graduate of Saratoga High School – Class of 89. She left the area to attend college at Penn State University, followed by law school in Washington, D.C. at the American University's Washington College of Law.

Ms. Merola remained in the D.C. area for approximately 13 years where she worked as a lawyer, including a stint as a federal prosecutor. On her way back to Saratoga, she spent two years in Buffalo living on Lake Erie where she owned her first boat.

She moved back to Saratoga in 2009 and searched for a house on Saratoga Lake. She, her husband, 21-month-old daughter, two cats and a sugar glider, now live on Palmer Heights with access to the lake across 9P. They recently had a new dock and set of stairs built which reacquainted her with some of the issues faced by lake residents. Because of this easy lake access, Merola and her husband have become regulars at Dock Browns.

For these reasons, among others, she is interested in becoming more involved in our lake community.

## Adopt-A-Highway Program



Across the country, thousands of communities have signaled their commitment to keeping America beautiful by adopting stretches of highway and pledging to keep them litter-free. The Adopt a Highway program offers both organizations and volunteer

groups the opportunity to contribute to their community; promoting community pride and a means of publicly recognizing group efforts.

The State of Texas had begun an experimental program, a unique partnership in which everyone benefitted. Through the "Don't Mess With Texas" Program, organizations and individuals volunteered to adopt sections of Texas highways and to remove roadside litter. What had begun as a county-wide experiment grew into a national model. Legislation to formalize New York State's Adopt-A-Highway Program was passed in 1990 to encourage individuals or groups to clean up highway roadsides and to recognize those volunteers who do.

Today, all 50 states have some type of a sponsor-a-highway or adopt-a-highway program in place because there is a very real human need for aesthetically pleasing roadsides in spite of the reality that highway beautification simply cannot compete on an even level with highway safety for ever-diminishing public funds.

The debris from the summer has accumulated along Route 9P; before leaves fall covering the debris up... Please consider contributing some of your time and energy to assist in this year's Annual Fall Season "Adopt a Highway" Roadside Clean-up effort, which is scheduled for Saturday, October 11, 2014.

If you want to help but aren't available on Saturday, consider donating time to clean up earlier in the week on your time schedule- bags can be dropped off/ picked up in advance. If interested in participating, please contact Tonya at 518-727-8941 or via email at: [tonya.trombley@oldcastle.com](mailto:tonya.trombley@oldcastle.com). We look forward to hearing from you – Tonya Trombley and Dan Porrazzo.



*Photo by Julie Annotto*





Takoda Porrizzo hanging with the Double M's Zombies when they invaded Downtown Saratoga.

### In Memorium

Long-time summer resident and friend to many, Leonard "Lenny" Riccardi, 80, passed away at his Boynton Beach, Florida home. Lenny was a friend to everyone he met and all those who knew him are especially saddened by his passing. For close friends Art and Patti Salvatore, he will be remembered for organizing the "Lenny Riccardi Orchestra (at piano) in the late 40s and provided music and entertainment for weddings, banquets, proms and countless social occasions. Art was a member of the band and the group is pictured below.



## Ladies Night

Friday, October 24th  
Doors open at 5:00pm  
Stillwater Community Center



The Stillwater Free Library is excited to announce the 8th annual Ladies Night Fundraiser! A penny-social style event, ladies simply purchase a sheet of tickets (50 for \$25, 15 for \$10, or 5 for \$5) then place as many tickets in whichever basket they hope to win. Last year we had over 160 raffles held all in the same evening! We will begin drawing winners at 7:30pm and go until we are finished!

You must be at least 18 years old to enter and purchase tickets, and 21 years old to win some of the baskets. Follow the chatter on facebook: [StillwaterFreeLibrary](http://StillwaterFreeLibrary)

We are always in need of more donations so thanks in advance if you can help. Rather cook or bake? We need that sort of support too. In fact, any skill you can offer is appreciated....

## Stillwater Fall Festival

Saturday, October 25th  
Noon - 4:00pm  
Village of Stillwater, NY



Take a stroll through the village of Stillwater and enjoy a family-friendly fall street fair with many things to enjoy along the way. The non-profits serving our community will be set up along Hudson Avenue with food, fun, and trick-or-treats for those who dress up! Please bring an item for the food pantry in lieu of an entrance fee. A community-wide fundraising event, there will be no commercial vendors. All proceeds go straight to the organizations that make a difference in your lives...

Like the Fall Festival Page on Facebook:  
<http://www.facebook.com/stillwaterfallfestival>

## Saratoga Rowing Association

What a fall we are having! Here at SRA, I am sure we are appreciating the weather as much as the rest of our neighbors. We are now almost a month into our fall season, and just getting started on the racing portion of the season.

The racing began in Albany at the Head of the Hudson regatta... after fighting high winds and whitecaps for the 3rd year in a row, we are reminded of how blessed we are in



Saratoga. Fish Creek is a calm, well protected, and beautiful river! There is a reason the rowing world loves Saratoga! In fact, we have been excited to see so many more people out there appreciating it this year! It may make for a little more congestion and occasional frustration (which traffic always brings) but the frustration is mitigated by the novelty of couples kayaking together, yoga on standup paddle-boards, fishermen reeling in a nice catch, and, my favorite, little kids watching intently from power boats as the older kids row by.

Occasionally we even get to root for a waterskier as they try to get up for the first time. I mention all this now because with the amazing weather to begin the fall season and end the spring season, we saw more of this than I can recall in years past.

For the most part, the rowing season backs into the early morning hours when recreational boating ramps up - between Memorial Day and Labor day - and we don't get to see a lot of this other activity. This year, thanks to mother nature, the recreational boating season seems to have extended, and while congestion sometimes causes frustration, it also can remind us how lucky we are to have such an amazing resource that we all appreciate.

Getting back to the racing season. As you all many have seen, the Tail of the Fish (our first fall regatta at home) was treated to one of the greatest weather weekends we have ever had, and while we would have rowed if it was 45 degrees and raining as well, the weather made an already great regatta (up 15% from last year) even better... Probably boosted the ice cream sales at Stewarts too :-).

Next weekend we will be heading off to the Mohawk river for a regatta that marks the first time our new 7th graders will compete! They are so excited... and there are a lot of them, in fact, this year we have 75 middle school rowers!

The big news of the fall, however, is, as always, the Head of the Fish Regatta. On the weekend of October 25th and 26th, we are anticipating 10,000 athletes and



spectators to arrive in Saratoga and race for the opportunity to take home a famous Fish Head trophy.

If I can digress for a minute, last January, while the team was training indoors, I took a little professional development trip out to the US Olympic training center in Chula Vista, CA. While I was there, I got to hang out with the US Women's Olympic team and coaches. A few of the rowers I actually coached when they were 15 and 16 years old! Anyway, I joined them for a run one afternoon, and was so excited to hear a couple of the rowers mention how they hope their coach will give them the weekend off so they can come to the Head of the Fish and win a Fish Head! These are women with Olympic Medals!

*continued next page*



Rowing Asso., *continued*

If they only knew the process we go through to make those fish head trophies... talk about dirty jobs. (hey, if any of you fishermen want to donate a head from a noteworthy catch, just let us know... we will be happy to turn it into a trophy)

Please make a point to come out to watch the Head of the Fish if you can (particularly if you have young children... I know my nieces had a BLAST last year) There is no admittance charges except parking, so if you can walk or bike or carpool, it is the best deal in town.

Here's hoping for a slow transition into a milder winter than last year! (*submitted by Eric Catalano, Executive Director, Saratoga Rowing Association*)

### [Floydwarriors.com](http://floydwarriors.com) Celebrates Breast Cancer Awareness Month

You might notice downtown Saratoga looking a bit pinker these days. In honor of breast cancer awareness month

[floydwarriors.com](http://floydwarriors.com) is posting sponsored pink satin ribbons on Broadway, purchased to support the non-profit's cause of 'Helping Families Cope With Cancer, One Household at a Time.' The beautiful ribbons pay tribute to Warriors who have battled on the front lines of cancer in one way or another. Loved ones lost, survivors, beloved physicians and more make up this year's recipients. Originally founded in 2009 by SLA's own Lisa Morahan, [floydwarriors.com](http://floydwarriors.com) has served hundreds of families by the way of Easter Baskets and real help in the home when needed most during treatment.

A special extension will be granted to SLA members who would still like to make a BOW DONATION (\$50 for an individual or \$250 for a business). Simply visit [sponsorabow.eventbrite.com](http://sponsorabow.eventbrite.com) or visit [www.floydwarriors.com](http://www.floydwarriors.com) for order information. Help [floydwarriors.com](http://floydwarriors.com) to continue its mission of "Dinner is Done, Dishes are Clean and the Kids are OK!".



### Dump Truck Overtakes at Saratoga Lake Marina

Taken from the Times Union, September 24, 2014



Photo by Skip Dickstein, Times Union

— A dump truck laden with used blacktop struck a pickup truck and two other cars in an accident at the intersection of on Route 9P and Plains Road Wednesday afternoon. There were no major injuries, State Police said.

Mark D. Pritchard, 42, of Albany, was driving the dump truck on Plains Road when he failed to stop at the stop sign at Route 9P, troopers said. Pritchard struck two pickup trucks as he entered the intersection, one headed north on Route 9P and another headed south.

The northbound pickup truck overturned and struck another southbound vehicle, police said. The pickup truck driver was taken to a hospital for minor injuries. The driver of the other car was uninjured.

The southbound pickup truck was forced into the parking lot of South Shore Marina where it was crushed by the dump truck, troopers said. Both drivers were uninjured.

The dump truck is owned by Morgan Paving, based in Stillwater, and is being inspected for any mechanical failures that may have lead to the collision, police said. The Saratoga County Sheriff's Office, Department of Environmental Conservation, Roberts Towing and Recovery and Malta fire police, fire department and EMS assisted at the scene.



### DEC Warns to Watch for Moose

Love is in the air for the Adirondack moose, and state officials are urging drivers to watch out as the animals wander in search of mates.

## Round-About Malta

A Message from the Supervisor  
By Paul J. Sausville

### Dog Licensing is Vital to Public Health

To protect public health and ensure compliance with state law, we urge all dog owners to license their dog. In issuing the license, Flo Sickels, Malta Town Clerk, will work with you to ensure that your dog has been vaccinated for rabies.

Rabies is a disease caused by a virus that attacks the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord). It can be transmitted to humans who have been bitten by a rabid dog or other animal such as a cat, fox, or bat. Once clinical signs of rabies appear, the disease is nearly always fatal.

Licensing is vitally important to finding and quarantining dogs that may have bitten a person. Lacking knowledge of the dog's vaccination history, people bitten may have to undergo a risky and expensive rabies prevention treatment.

A side benefit to owners who love their dog is that licensing also makes it possible for our Animal Control Officer to reunite lost dogs with their owner.

Please license your dog. It is real easy. Just call Town Clerk Flo Sickels at 899-2552 for help.

**ATTENTION MALTA VETERANS  
THE 2ND ANNUAL MALTA VETERANS  
RECOGNITION LUNCHEON WILL BE HELD ON  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2014  
11:30AM TO 1:30PM**

The Malta Veterans Recognition Luncheon is sponsored by the Town of Malta and our Veterans Committee.

Malta veterans and their families and friends are invited to join us at the Malta Community Center, 1 Bayberry Drive, for a buffet with refreshments and cake on Thursday, October 16 from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm.

The meal is free to veterans of all eras who reside in the town. Friends and family members are encouraged to join in, but at a charge of \$20 each.

Interested Malta veterans, family members and friends should make reservations no later than October 10 by calling 899-4411.

Reservations Are Required  
Seats Are Limited so register early!

Veterans...Do you need transportation?  
Call 899-4411 by Friday, October 10 to schedule a ride.

### Dry Weather Brings Fire Danger

According to the US Drought monitor our area and the entire lower Hudson Valley and the Catskills is classified as being in the 1<sup>st</sup> stage of drought = Abnormally Dry.

Implications are; with the dry soils, dried vegetation and leaves falling off the trees places us in a higher risk of wildland fires. Please be very careful when performing burning outside. Douse any camp fires, do not leave fires unattended and for larger brush burns a permit is required.

Homeowners are responsible for their actions should a fire spread. A couple of factors that are in our favor is high humidity levels overnight and we are not seeing extremely low humidity levels during the day. There is some much needed rain in the long forecast Friday night into Saturday morning. (submitted by Tom Rinaldi, Chair, Stillwater Emergency Planning Committee)

### Malta Career Expo and Job Fair

A Career Expo and Job Fair will be held on Thursday, October 9 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Malta Community Center, to connect local job seekers with area companies seeking to hire. On-going events include resume critiques, mock interviews, small business start-ups and more.

If you are a job seeker, this career expo puts you in the heart of NYS's fastest growing economic region and in a position to network with some of the most competitive employers in the region.

It is more than just your average job fair. To receive more information and stay up to date, visit:  
<http://theballstonjournal.com/maltacareerexpo/>



## Town of Saratoga News

*Thomas Woods, Supervisor*

Warm Greetings to Everyone!

The arrival of October places us in the final quarter of the year. Our energies are now divided between working on this year's business and making plans for next year. The next meeting of the Town Board is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Some of the items that will be covered at this meeting include: public hearing on the SRA Regatta, zoning officer's report, town clerk's report, supervisor's report, and court report. The Town Board Agenda meeting will be held on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. The town offices will be closed Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Columbus Day Holiday.

### 2015 Town Budget

To date we have conducted two budget workshops as we put the 2015 budget together. We will be reviewing it closely for needed adjustments. We will be staying within the 1.56% Tax Cap limit suggested by the State of New York. Given certain increases in expenses over which the town has little control, such as insurance rate increases, state retirement contribution increases, salt increases, black top increases, this has proven to be a big challenge. We will continue to review the budget and will have a vote to adopt the budget on November 6th.

### Town and SLPID Building Update

We are moving forward in our arrangements with SLPID for the building of a SLPID storage building on town land adjacent to the highway garage located on Route 32 south of the Village of Victory. The Town attorney is currently finishing the contract and it is expected that construction will start sometime later this fall.

### 2014 Women of Distinction Recognition

Senator Kathleen A. Marchione conducted an Awards Ceremony on September 24<sup>th</sup> to recognize 15 Women of Distinction from throughout her Senate District. Three individuals from within the Town of Saratoga were among those recognized. They included: Michelle Larkin for her leadership in Rebuilding Together, Margaret Kirkpatrick for her work in the Quaker Springs Fire Department, and Windy Lewitinn for her work at the Schuylerville Public

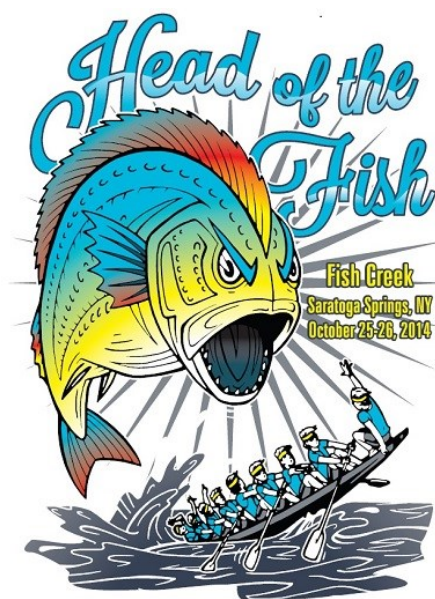
Library. This is an annual event and I know there are many other deserving candidates from throughout the Saratoga Lake area that should be considered for this award. Early next year the identification and nomination process will begin for the 2015 Nominees. Please keep this in mind and look for information about the process so that you can nominate candidates.

### Gateway Regional Visitors Center

Progress continues to be made for the building of a Gateway Regional Visitors Center on the site of the old Town Hall at 30 Ferry Street in Schuylerville. At the Historic Hudson - Hoosic Partnership meeting on Monday the 29<sup>th</sup> of September the Town of Saratoga will be named the financial agent for the project. As the financial agent the town will manage all of the flow through money from the state for the construction of this project. Construction plans will be developed this winter and actual construction is expected next fall.

### Underground Railroad Historical Marker

Under the leadership of Historian Sean Kelleher the Town of Saratoga is applying for a state historical marker to be located at the intersection of county routes 67 and 70 (Deans Corners) to designate a large meeting that occurred their promoting the release and freedom for all slaves in the United States. The Town of Saratoga played an important part in the underground railroad movement and it is important that this information be communicated to the public.



*continued*

You may want to consider avoiding the bridge area on October 25 and 26!





Caroline Daly, daughter of Neal and Nadine Kramer, gets her love of animals from her mother. Neal likes to chase the ducks away!



The Make Your Own Way Girls are again on the move. Lunch at the Whistling Teakettle. Pictured – Julie Wash, Donna Bove, Marian Luce and Pinky Morahan.



Dianne Fedoronko's daughter, Jennifer, talked her into trying paddle boarding and to her credit, she managed not to get wet!



The adventurous Seerys shared a few pictures of their trip (their second, we believe) to Africa. Thanks for sharing, Tom and Eileen!!

Eileen, their grandson, Nathan Constable, from Clifton Park and Tom at Cape of Good Hope



Elephant ride in Sambia

## News from New York State Federation of Lake Associations (NYSFOLA)

### *Watercraft Inspection Steward Workshop*

Planning is underway for a day-long workshop that will highlight logistics of managing the watercraft inspection component of a water-based stewardship program. Groups experienced in these programs will be presenting on topics such as: development of a watercraft inspection steward program; the art and skill of data collection; regulations related to watercraft inspection; panel discussion on other steward responsibilities (AIS canvassing & monitoring; publication development; etc.) to consider when developing your program; and panel discussion on a day in the life of a steward.

### *When & Where: Spring 2015; exact date and location TBD (we need your input)*

The workshop planning partners want to make this workshop as accessible to interested groups as possible. By close of business on **Wednesday October 15<sup>th</sup>**, please click on the survey link below and indicate your preferences for date and regional location for the workshop being planned.

### *Watercraft Inspection Steward Workshop date/location survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LRJYTBZ>*

### *Who Should Attend:*

People interested in starting a new program or those managing a newly started program that includes watercraft inspection. Information presented will benefit those involved in both paid and volunteer based programs. ***This is NOT a funding opportunity***, but a workshop that will provide the information necessary to help groups with new /recently developed programs or those interested in developing one.

This workshop is being sponsored by New York Sea Grant and New York State Parks.

Megan Phillips  
Water Quality Program Specialist  
Environmental Management Bureau  
NYS Office/Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation  
Albany, NY 12238  
Phone: 518-402-5587  
[Megan.Phillips@parks.ny.gov](mailto:Megan.Phillips@parks.ny.gov)

Follow our Boat Steward blog by scanning the QR code above, or visiting [www.parksboatstewards.wordpress.com](http://www.parksboatstewards.wordpress.com)



*This runaway made the news last week when he was rescued after swimming the entire length of the lake. Luckily, he made it to shore with the help of SLA member and resident Will Connolly, and was reunited with his owner. A comment from "Junior's" owner:*

Hello Everyone — Junior is my dog. He was at home safe and sound when a contractor came to work on my house. When the door opened he fled. . . . I received a call at work that my dog ran away. I was completely devastated after looking for him for 2 hours and could not find him. . . . I searched and searched for my dog but didn't yield any luck. I called animal control and the proper Authorities immediately. Thank god for the construction men who I will be rewarding this afternoon as they helped to keep him there until my partner arrived. Thank God they have kind hearts and helped us. . . .

### Saratoga Sailing School News

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club's sailing school has wrapped up for the summer and is already planning for next year.



A record-breaking 160 people attended at least one instruction session of the Saratoga Sailing School. With so many friends, neighbors and club members taking sailing lessons, we are looking to expand the offerings next

year and hope to start taking registrations for summer 2015 by this Thanksgiving.

So, don't store your life jacket too far back in the garage. It'll soon be time to grab it and go sailing again!

*(submitted by Laura Rappaport)*



### Saratoga Springs Waterfront Park Breaks Ground

By Lauren Mineau  
Saratogian, September 22, 2014

Shovel has finally met sand in the long awaited start of allowing public lake access in the city of Saratoga Springs.



Current council members and many members of past administrations officially broke ground on the Waterfront Park project Monday, which will provide additional public access to Saratoga Lake within city limits. . . . .

. . . . In the early 2000’s, city residents voted to pass a bond referendum that would allow the project to continue moving forward. The passing of this referendum allowed the city to purchase the land in 2006 for \$2 million, but it remained nearly untouched.

Mike Ingersoll of the LA Group worked to draw up a design for the property, keeping with the general theme of the 2006 master plan. The first phase of the project will begin at the water, by returning the lower terrace to a sand beach and create a space for picnicking and kayaking and restoring the water’s edge.

A small amphitheater will be built on the middle tier of the land, ideally for gatherings of community events and the upper tier will be the main parking lot with a staircase town to the middle tier and the beach.

The plans for the park going forward are a modified version of the 2006 master plan. There are no plans for swimming at the new park yet.

“The hope is that next year or the year after, once the park operations are in place the picnic pavilions, bath-rooms and other amenities can come into play,” Ingersoll said.

The city will be reimbursed for two state grants, one at \$200,000 and another at \$350,000.

“What we needed to do was really show the state that we were doing something with the land that they could then reimburse us for. Without any invoices, without any contractor in hand, or work being done, we had nothing to submit to the state,” Yepsen said.

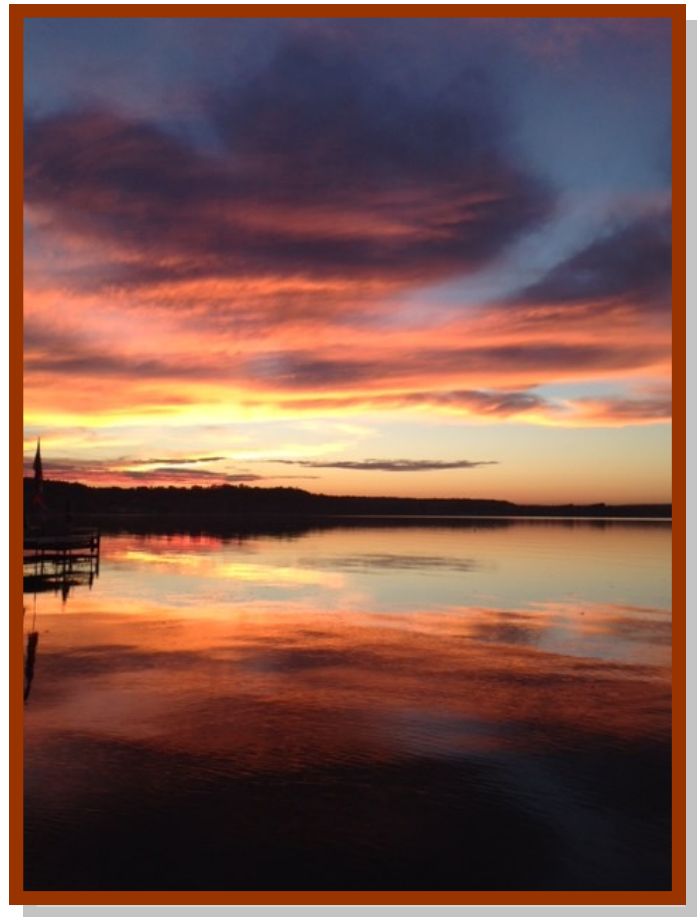
With the ground breaking Monday, the city can now submit invoices to the state for reimbursement.

Before the city purchased the four-acre space, it served as a space for the seasonal Waterfront Restaurant from 1982 until its sale in 2005. Prior to that, it was known as Ryall’s Beach House, a private bathhouse in the 1940’s that was a popular summer hangout. . . . .

. . . . Alan Richer, president of the Saratoga Lake Association, said he’s looking forward to being able to add the beach to Saratoga’s arsenal of attractions.

“When you think of Saratoga, you think of horses and everything else. But in terms of being a diamond, this is something people don’t always think about,” he said.

\*\*\*\*\*



Wow – photo by John Pamper

continued



We'd like to share this letter to the Saratogian Newspaper from Public Works Commissioner, Skip Scirocco, with our readers interested in the ongoing drinking water issues in the City of Saratoga Springs.

[Commissioner Scirocco Reader's View: Some clarity on Saratoga Springs' water supply](#)

Saratogian, September 21, 2014

A series of letters having to do with the adequacy of the city's water supply have been published in The Saratogian over the past few months and it has become difficult for readers who are not familiar with the issue to separate fact from fiction. As commissioner of Public Works, I thought I could shed some light on the subject.

Our city is fortunate to have a number of viable water sources. Bog Meadow and Geyser Crest are just two of them. Making the best use of our existing sources and developing new ones at the lowest cost to the rate payers makes the most sense. Contrary to [James Sutherland's allegation that nothing has been done during the past 26 years](#) and [Pat Design's criticism, Wilma Koss was right in citing several improvements that have been made over the last several years](#) to supplement and perhaps even to replace Loughberry Lake.

It's hard to know why Design attacked Koss' Reader's View or whether he even read it since he made so many mischaracterizations. It is especially difficult to know whether he understood James Sutherland's Reader's view. Mrs. Koss used the Sutherland test regarding Loughberry Lake for determining acceptability of a water source, and based on Sutherland's criteria, concluded that Saratoga Lake would not pass the test. Sutherland didn't discuss Saratoga Lake, but rather laid out several issues that make Loughberry questionable. Those same issues apply to Saratoga Lake.

In his haste to rehabilitate Sutherland, Design claims that Sutherland simply suggested that after 26 years we need to update the study. Design may not recall that Sutherland flatly said in his report 26 years ago that we would run out of water in 10 years and immediate action was needed. Sutherland himself acknowledged that his recommendation was "unrealistic" but attempted to provide an excuse why he made an unrealistic recommendation in what was supposed to be a scientific study. Design conveniently avoids that topic.

Finally, Design lays out some worst-case scenarios and dire consequences, not unlike the rhetoric we heard during the prior Public Works administration and continue to hear from the former commissioner and the former director of

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Public Works. Design makes no attempt to support his conclusions about the volume of water that could be supplied by the aquifer in the Bog Meadow. He has no studies to refute the engineering reports I have, which draw quite different conclusions and were not fully explored during the last administration. Design has no basis for even suggesting that the water from the Bog Meadow could be incompatible with the water in Loughberry Lake, nor is it relevant since the water from the wells can go directly to the treatment plant.

I take very seriously the responsibility to make sure we have an adequate supply of quality drinking water for the city. But even though we can easily meet our demand for water, we are always seeking ways to improve the system while keeping the cost of water low compared to the surrounding area.

### From the Department of Transportation

When you gather leaves, weeds (lake weeds) and other lawn materials, DO NOT DEPOSIT IT IN THE DITCH LINES. This causes drainage problems. Some ditch line work was recently completed along Route 9P.

Problems that occur on private property that affect the state right of way, such as mud slides, water, ice fallen trees, could legally be enforced by the cost of repair falling to the landowner. Boats and docks stored on the right-of-way are considered a hazard and are illegal. Docks should be stored at least 15 feet from the road's edge. Fixed objects present safety issues for vehicles, including snowplows.

A driveway owner is responsible for maintaining his/her driveway beginning at the back edge of the shoulder pavement inclusive of removing snow from the end of his/her driveway. It is the responsibility of the driveway owner to remove enough of the snow banks as to allow anyone leaving the driveway the ability to see in both directions before entering the highway (9P). It is against Vehicle & Traffic Law to place it back onto Route 9P. If a person pushes it across Rt. 9P, it is their responsibility to clean snow that may be left on Route 9P.

**OUR COOPERATION IS NECESSARY FOR THEM TO DO THEIR JOBS!**

## Arvin Hart Fire Company Fire Company Short Subjects

The Arvin Hart Fire Company would again like to thank everyone for their donations during this year's fund drive. We have exceeded last year's monetary total even though only about 15% of the envelopes sent out were returned.

Fire prevention week is coming up and this year's theme is Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives, Test Yours Monthly. In an average fire, do you know how long it takes for your smoke detector to activate, under ideal conditions less than 30 seconds. [The Arvin Hart Fire Co will try something different this year with an open house on Wednesday evening October 15<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 8pm. This does a couple of things, changes the time so as to not take away from resident's weekend and is a regular training night for our members. We do hope that you would stop by and see us. It's very discouraging when our members try to put together a good program and no one cares enough to show up. After a while we feel that as long as we show up with the big red trucks, no one cares. Please just stop by for a few minutes at our main station on Campbell at Kellogg Roads.](#)

Do you have any idea what the number one cause of residential fires is? Give up? Cooking fires! During a four year period ending in 2011 more than 150,000 home fires involving cooking equipment were reported causing over 400 annual deaths, 5,800 injuries and \$853 million in damages. What's really a shame is that they are easy to prevent, don't walk away with the stove on, keep a lid to smother fires if they do occur, and don't try to move a burning pan.

We have covered this subject before, house numbers. We responded to a call recently and were unable to find the correct address because the numbers on the mail box were unreadable as were the numbers on the house, the home owner had to walk up the street to find us. It's embarrassing to not be able to identify numbers but it's really not our fault. According to the International Fire Code house numbers should be at least 4" high and contrast with the background they are mounted on. Numbers on the front of a mail box are impossible to read, especially from a fire truck which is higher than the mail box. Small numbers over the garage door are impossible to read as are numbers that are written in script. Large numbers under the porch light are a good idea. The other thing that drives us nuts is no one flags us down, you respond to a call, everyone is outside to see what the commotion is but the residents where the call originated from just stand there. Please get excited wave your arms, jump up and down and at night wave your flashlight. Don't worry we won't have a problem finding your house if it's on fire, we just look for the smoke, but what if it's a CO detector or a medical call where time is of the essence. I know we are going to have to talk about this forever but please post a number large enough to be seen from space, well maybe just the road. Help us help you.

There are misconceptions about sprinkler systems, especially residential systems. On TV when a sprinkler system goes off, all the heads activate, very dramatic but not how it works. On TV the hero runs through the smoke and flame to rescue his true love, nope, not how it really is. On TV, firefighters go into a building without air packs on or coats buttoned, nope, doesn't work that way. On TV fires last forever and then go out all of a sudden, nope, no instant fire out switch. Residential sprinklers are part of the plumbing system and are designed to use minimal water to enable you to escape. When it reaches 155 degrees at the ceiling, a sprinkler head will activate, knocking down the fire, giving you a path to escape and limiting damage, usually in less than a minute. It's like having a fire department parked in your home.

Firefighting is a tough job and in your community all the members are volunteers. There are career fire fighters in Saratoga Springs, Troy, Albany, Watervliet, Cohoes, Green Island, Schenectady, Johnstown, Gloversville and Amsterdam. Volunteers are required to be trained are provided personal protective equipment, air packs, helmets, gloves and hoods which cost about \$7,000 per firefighter. In career departments, in addition to the protective equipment there are salaries, benefits, and retirement costs which is a bulk of their budgets. Career departments are short staffed in an attempt to contain staffing costs; volunteer departments are short staffed because few people have the inclination, time or passion to do the job for free. Firefighters are not invincible heroes, they get injured and they die. In 2013 there were 101 firefighter deaths and in 2012 there were 69,400 injuries in the line of duty. If you are a career firefighter it's your job, if you are a volunteer it may interfere with your job. Wonder why it's hard to entice volunteers but if we had to pay for firefighters our budget would likely increase 10 fold. It's inevitable that some day we may have to entice members with pay because we have fewer volunteers and those we do have are aging out. Think about it! Want to keep your taxes down, think about volunteering it's more exciting than a roller coaster ride.



If you would like to pay your respects to fallen firefighters, the New York State Memorial Service will be held on Tuesday October 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am at the Empire State Plaza in Albany. Nine names of fire fighters who died in the line of duty will be added to the memorial wall this year for a total of 2,390 names dating back to 1811.

Do you have questions about fires or fire departments, please email me at [commissioners@arvinhart.org](mailto:commissioners@arvinhart.org).  
(submitted by Tom Rinaldi, Commissioner Stillwater Fire District)

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