

# ROCHESTER REPORTER

**Published by the Rochester Town Board to Keep Citizens Informed and Involved**  
(To receive copies electronically, visit [www.townofrochester.net](http://www.townofrochester.net). Click "Subscribe to News" on the Home Page)

## CONTACTS

(dial 626 plus)

### Supervisor:

Pam Duke 3043

### Council Members:

Francis Gray 4527

Alex Miller 8144

Ron Santosky 4314

Tony Spano 4822

### Town Offices:

Town Clerk 7384

T.C. Fax 3702

Assessor 0920

Building/Codes 2433

Planning/Zoning 2434

Highway 7221

Transfer Station 5273

Dog Control 5979

Town Court 2522

Youth Dept. 2115

## Meetings Schedule

**Aug. 9, 7 p.m.** Environ. Commission, Town Hall

**Aug. 14, 7 p.m.** Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Hall

**Aug. 15, 9:30 a.m.** Youth Comm. Board, Community Center

**Aug. 15, 7:30 p.m.**, Fire Comm. Board, Accord Fire House

**Aug. 20, 4 p.m.** Historic Pres. Comm, Town Hall

**Aug. 21, 7 p.m.**, Planning Board, Town Hall.

**Aug. 23, 7 p.m.**, Public Hearing: Zoning & Subdivision Law, Accord Fire House

**Aug. 29, 4:30 p.m.**, Town Audit Mtg.

**Sept. 3, Labor Day**, Town Offices closed

**Sept. 5, 7:30 p.m.**, Fire Comm. Board, Accord Fire House

## Code Task Force Completes its Work Public Hearing on Zoning & Subdivision Changes Scheduled for August 23

Code Task Force Chairman, Mike Baden, reported to the Town Board that the group has completed its deliberations and recommendations for changes to the Town's zoning and subdivision laws. The last set of revisions are being incorporated by the consultant, Tom Shepstone, who expects the final product to be completed within days. The group's final report will be sent to the Supervisor on or about August 8.

Baden reported that

the work is the result of 37 workshop meetings and 4 public meetings, and that every comment made by audience members has been reviewed and thoroughly considered before the committee produced its final recommendations and report. On behalf of the Town Board, Supervisor Duke praised the group's work and thanked it for the momentous effort.

The Board has scheduled a Public Hearing for Thursday, August 23 at 7 p.m.

at the Accord Firehouse for the purpose of receiving input from residents on the proposed changes. If the changes are adopted by the Town Board, the result will be to repeal and replace certain sections of Local Law #4. Sections to be repealed are Section 125 (Subdivision), Section 130 (Telecommunications), and Section 140 (Zoning). These would be replaced by a new Section 125 (Subdivision) and new Section 140 (Zoning). Also, the existing Zoning Map of the Town of Rochester would be repealed and replaced by a new Zoning Map of the Town of Rochester. The recommended changes to the building and subdivision codes will be posted on the Town website when received by the Supervisor. The proposed new Zoning Map has already been posted.

## New Hamlet Signs Coming

Based on a design by local architect Frank Dunn and with the help of resident John Dawson, new sign posts are being

prepared for six new hamlet signs, in addition to the one recently erected at Rt. 209 and Main St., Accord. The Historic Preservation Commission, which is directing the project, expects that the signs will be planted in our hamlets over the coming months.



## 2nd Twilight Concert Held #3 (Last!) in Series will be August 11

The second of three free Concerts-in-the Park shows was performed to a crowd of about 40 residents on Saturday evening, July 28th. The featured musician — Dorothy Scott — treated the audience



with her guitar artistry to a wide repertoire of folk, jazz, blues and rock music.

The last concert promises to be a fitting finale to this increasingly

popular town event, with a performance by renowned recording star Rebecca Coupe Franks. Rebecca, a resident of the Town, will show off her mastery of the jazz trumpet from 6 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, August 11 under the pavilion in the Town park, rain or shine.

Her name will be familiar to all those who've attended this and last year's concerts, as the person who has taken the lead in conceptualizing and organizing these community events, "as a way to bring a better sense of community to the town."

The Town Board owes a large debt of gratitude for Ms. Franks for her efforts, and for demonstrating that music is indeed a wonderfully harmonizing force. Thanks, Rebecca!!!

### Town Cleanup Options being Explored

Based on recent reports from residents of areas of the town that repeatedly suffer from the illegal dumping of tires, appliances and other trash, the Board will consider additional means of controlling roadside litter. The once-per-year Town

Cleanup that occurs every April, is seen as insufficient to keep the Town looking its best throughout the year. The Board has asked residents for ideas on how to address the problem. Give your suggestions to the Supervisor by phone (626-3043), mail (PO Box 65, Accord) or email ([pduke@townofrochester.net](mailto:pduke@townofrochester.net)).

### Seminar on Wills, Estates & Trusts

On Tuesday, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Community Center, the Rochester Senior Group will host a guest speaker, Attorney Louis Kline, who will give a presentation on the

subject of wills, estates and trusts. This free seminar is open to all who are interested. It is expected to run for about one hour and there will be time reserved for questions.

## Back to School (Way Back)

Don't miss this opportunity to experience (or re-experience, if you're old enough) what it was like to attend a one-room schoolhouse. This historic gem — the Palentown School — has opened its doors for visitors on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month until the end of October. Group and school tours are available by appointment. (Call 626-4281 or 626-7628 for information.)

The school, which is on the State register of historic properties, has recently been given a much needed facelift by a group of local volunteers, including town historian Alice Schoonmaker and Gary Miller. It is now functioning as a museum, furnished with old-fashioned desks, blackboards, and other artifacts from the past.

More volunteer workers are needed and always welcomed as are financial donations. Anyone wishing to contribute muscle or money should contact Gary Miller, who can be reached at 626-4281. Checks should be made out to the Friends of Historic Rochester, with a note that the contribution is to be used for the school.



### August 2 Town Board Meeting Highlights

- The Board approved the bid from Don Oakley & Co. for \$17,900.00 to provide new roofing for the Community Center.
- Following 8 interviews, the Board approved the hiring of Ruthann Rabuffo for the position of Assessor Aide. She is expected to assume her new position on August 13.
- The Town is now being paid \$180 per ton for recycled metal. The Board recently approved a bid from T.A.M. Enterprises Roll-Off Services for disposal

of all metal scrap. While revenues are already being realized, the amount expected over the year is yet to be projected.

- Code Enforcement Officer, Jerry Davis, requested the Board to approve a more comprehensive and up-to-date Manufactured Home Permit Application. The Board will decide the matter following the August Audit meeting, during which Mr. Davis will provide more details of the proposed changes.
- A July 2007 update to the TOR Veterans Database is in the Town Clerk's Office and posted on the Town web site.