

Published by Ripley Public Library
(716) 736-3913
Editor: Nancy McIntosh
<https://www.ripleylibrary.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/ripleyny/>
<http://www.ripley-ny.com/>

Fire Department Emergency Call 911

Ripley Hose Company #1
P.O. Box 342
12 South State Street
Ripley, NY 14775
716-736-2001
Mark Smith, Fire Chief
716-736-2490
Ripley Hose Company #2
South Ripley Fire Hall
10268 NE-Sherman Road
Ripley, NY 14775
James Spacht, Deputy Fire Chief
716-269-4754

Police Department Actual Emergency Call 911

Chautauqua County Sheriff's Dept.
Mayville, NY 14757
716-753-4231

RIPLEY TOWN HALL

14 North State Street
P.O. Box 352
Ripley, NY 14775
Town Supervisor: Doug Bowen
ripleyts@fairpoint.net
Office: **716-736-2209**
Home: **716-736-4418**

RIPLEY TOWN CLERK OFFICE

Rebecca Rowe Carvallo **716-736-6881**
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9:30 a.m. – Noon 1:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saturday Mornings 9 a.m. – Noon
Closed Wednesdays
The Town Clerk's Office is also closed
during various Holidays
The Town Clerk may also be reached
during her off hours at: 736-6856(H)
or 736-9341(cell) Rebecca Rowe Car-
vallo

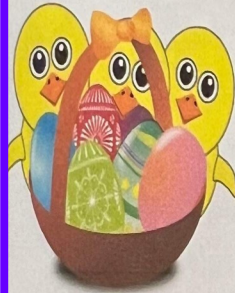
If you or someone you know is in need
of help, contact the following numbers:

Chautauqua County Crisis Helpline
1-800-724-0461 (24-hours)

**Victims of Domestic Violence & Rape
Crisis Hotline**

1-800-252-748 (24-hours)

Mobile Crisis Team (supports & ser-
vices) 716-363-3684



Saturday APRIL 8TH...Easter FUN!!!

8:00am - 11:00am Breakfast with the Easter Bunny at Meeders Restaurant.

Carrot Cake Cupcakes and Peep Pancakes!!

11:00am - 11:45am Easter Stories at the Ripley Library

12:00noon sharp - Easter egg hunt on the front lawn of the school. Ages 0-10

Sponsored by: RCS PTO, FIREMENS AUXILIARY, AND COCHRANE FARMS, INC.

12:00pm-1:00pm - Visit with the Easter Bunny at the Ripley Firehall.

COOKIES, PICS WITH THE EASTER BUNNY, AND GOODIE BAGS FOR ALL.

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR EASTER EGG HUNT WINNERS.

TAKE YOUR OWN PICTURES WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

**Ripley Firemen's Auxiliary Member-
ship Drive on April 8th during the
Visit with the Easter Bunny. We will
be accepting applications between
Noon and 1p.m.**

**Must be 18 and a Ripley resident for
at least One Year.**

See application on page 5

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Justice Vera L. Hustead
P. O. Box 573
Ripley, NY 14775
Office: **716-736-7575**
Clerk: **716-736-7575**
courtclerk@ripley-ny.com
Monday Evenings 4-6pm
Tuesday & Thursday 9a-3pm
Traffic Court held Monday 6:00pm
Calendar Call Held:
2nd Thursday of each month 2pm

BUILDING/ZONING CODE

OFFICER –Melanie Eddy

P.O. Box 2
Ripley, NY 14775
716-736-3737
ripleybz@fairpoint.net
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 am-
3:00 pm

RIPLEY TOWN BOARD Meets
the 2nd Thursday of the month at
7:30 pm at the Town Building lo-
cated in the Ripley Central School
14 North State Street.

RIPLEY PLANNING BOARD
Meets the 2nd Monday of the
month at 6:30pm at the Town Of-
fices located in the Ripley Central
School on N State St
The Public is welcome to attend
these meetings.

WATER/SEWER DEPT

10168 W. Lake Road
Ripley, NY 14775
ripleywp@fairpoint.net
Office: **716-736-6000**
Cell: **716-581-3281**

HIGHWAY DEPT

Jim Spacht, Highway Supt.
50 Ross Street
P.O. Box 506
Ripley, NY 14775
ripleyhs@fairpoint.net
Office: **716-736-3434**
Cell: **716-753-6553**

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Gloria McCormick
716-269-9882

TOWN HISTORIAN

John "Doc" Hamels
H. 716-736-4255
C. 716-223-0112

Be Kind Initiative

We often despair that nothing will ever change. No one cares. Our young people are content to sit on the sidelines and not get involved, and don't care to work. And it often takes a tragedy to initiate a change.

Such a change is coming about through a tragedy here in Ripley. In 2018 a young man, Owen Miller, took his own life in response to the bullying he endured at the hands of other young people. Be Kind Initiative was born of that heart-wrenching event.

The Mission Statement of Be Kind Initiative is as follows:

“As a community nonprofit, we focus on connecting with our community and helping those in need. We work with the community and schools to help people and students who are struggling day to day. We assist schools with anti-bullying projects and do community drives to help families and people in need. We want to change the world with one act of kindness a day, big or small.”

Kristian Snyder and Kasey Conley, two local young people, organized a group to initiate positive change. Initially with the guidance of Ripley's Methodist church, they set about to organize an anti-bullying campaign in our communities. Now a stand-alone non-profit, they have reached out to three school districts and over 500 students.

“We went into Chautauqua Lake School and did a project with the students, making magnets with positive sayings on them, like “You are Enough,” “Be Kind,” and “Kindness Counts,” and we talk about community service and discuss topics about how to make a positive difference,” Kristian explained.

“We're just getting started,” Kristian continued, “but it's more than just an anti-bullying program. We reach out with community service as well. We are the ones who put together the Blessing Bags that are available at the Methodist Church (in Ripley).

Local Worship

- ♦ First Baptist Church
716-736-3800
- ♦ First Presbyterian Church
716-736-3042
- ♦ St. Dominic Roman Catholic Church
716-326-2816
- ♦ South Ripley Methodist Church
716-252-2005
- ♦ Stateline United Methodist Church
No information
- ♦ Still Waters Mennonite Church
716-252-6515
- ♦ United Methodist Church
716-736-3090
- ♦ Victory Family Church
716-338-3199



Be Kind Initiative, Continued from Page 1

These bags are filled with mostly hygiene items such as toothbrushes, combs, soap and are free to those in need. Some people are embarrassed to be seen taking the bags, so we put them in a discreet place,” he continued. “At first we lost some to kids just messing around and taking them, but we think we have that mostly resolved.”

As the seasons change, so do the contents of the Blessing Bags. The money to buy the products given away comes partially from donations and from various fund-raisers, such as the Shoe Drive that is ongoing until early April. Donations of shoes, in ANY condition, can be made at the Ripley Library. The upcoming Wine Dash at 21 Brix Winery on Saturday, May 6th will partner with Be More Fitness to raise funds for local nonprofits, including Be Kind Initiative. A collection for items for the Blessing Bags will be taken at that time.

For more information about Be Kind Initiative, visit their website at kind-initiative.org or with your phone, scan the QR code below.



Ripley VFW Post #2769

Veterans & Active Duty Military Honor Banner Project

Our post will be starting a program where we will try to get banners for Ripley veterans to put on the poles in town. A lot of towns are doing this to honor their veterans and we should do the same. It will take time and a lot of work, but we can get it done! Look for the application on page 4.



The Veterans & Active-Duty Military Honor Banner Project Application for 2024

Brought to you by:

The VFW- Ripley Memorial Post # 2769

Deadline for the Application is January 31st, 2024

Mail Applications, photos and payment to PO Box 168, Ripley, NY 14775

Call (716)736-5805 or (716)269-9304 for more information

Veteran's Full name being sponsored: _____

Rank: _____ Branch of Service: _____

Dates of Service: _____

Era of Service (i.e.: WWI WWII Korea Vietnam Desert Storm or Active Duty): _____

Your Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

Relationship to Veteran: _____

Sponsored By (this name will appear on the banner): _____

Banner and Bracket cost is \$150.00 and is Payable to : VFW Post 2769

******Application must be submitted with picture and payment along with a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned******

Signing below grants permission to use the attached photo for the veterans honor banner project and certifies the provided information is correct and accurate to the best of your knowledge

Print: _____ Sign: _____

Date: _____

Admin only: Paid in full Check number _____ Cash _____ Date _____ Initial _____

**Ripley Hose Co. #1
Firemen's Auxiliary
Application for Membership**

Date _____

Date Approved _____

Date Disapprove _____

Name _____

Birth Date _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

(home)

Telephone _____

(work)

Parent or Spouse _____ Fireman: _____

Non Related: _____

I agree to obey the By-Laws of the Ripley Firemen's Auxiliary and to participate in all activities of the organization. I have enclosed \$5.00 with this application and if I am not voted into the organization, the \$5.00 fee will be refunded to me. If I am voted into the organization, the \$5.00 fee will go towards my first year's dues.

I also understand that if I am voted into the Ripley Firemen's Auxiliary, I am placed on a one year's probation. During my probation period, I cannot hold office of the organization or sponsor any new applicants.

Signature of Sponsoring

Auxiliary Member _____

Signature of

Applicant _____

Please list 3 references, including 1 Fireman or Auxiliary member (other than sponsoring member)

Name _____ Telephone Number _____

Name _____ Telephone Number _____

Name _____ Telephone Number _____

From the Director's Desk April 2023

April is here!!! It's April Showers!!! Spring is coming, believe it or not. Remember where we live. We have later winters but they seem to drag on forever. Rest assured though the nicer weather will get here.

In the mean time, let's have some fun with April Fools Day. As many of you know, I love a good harmless practical joke. April Fools Jokes have been played for centuries, I guess humor is just born into us. Which is why we played this prank on our readers this year. I am wondering if anyone picked up on it.

Origins of April Fools' Day

Some historians speculate that April Fools' Day dates back to 1582, when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar, as called for by the Council of Trent in 1563. In the Julian Calendar, as in the Hindu calendar, the new year began with the spring equinox around April 1. People who were slow to get the news or failed to recognize that the start of the new year had moved to January 1 and continued to celebrate it during the last week of March through April 1 became the butt of jokes and hoaxes and were called "April fools." These pranks included having paper fish placed on their backs and being referred to as "poisson d'avril" (April fish), said to symbolize a young, easily caught fish and a gullible person.

There are other accounts that date this

back even further. I just like it and have fun with it every year. My family is so used to it though that I have a hard time pranking them.

Anyway, read on to see the prank that was done in London way back in 1749.

Prankster in a Bottle

In January of 1749, London newspapers advertised that in an upcoming show, a man would squeeze his entire body into a wine bottle and then sing while inside of it. The ad promised that, "during his stay in the bottle, any Person may handle it, and see plainly that it does not exceed a common Tavern Bottle." The ad promised the show would feature other tricks as well, including communicating with the dead. Legend has it that the ad was the result of a bet between the Duke of Portland and the Earl of Chesterfield. Reportedly, the duke bet that he could advertise something impossible and still "find fools enough in London to fill a playhouse and pay handsomely for the privilege of being there." And apparently, he was right. The night of the show, every seat in the house was filled, but no performer ever showed up. Realizing they had been duped, the audience rioted.

Have fun with this,
And I will see you at the library,
Rhonda Thompson; Library
Director



FROM the DESK of the RIPLEY TOWN HISTORIAN

Doc Hamels

What is it and where did it come from?



Last month I gave you an inside look of a very historical structure that is part of the Ripley transportation history! Per Bill Mulson, local nonagenarian, he reports that the stone structure that you all pass regularly on the south side of Route 20 just past Shortman Road was once the Trolley Stop situated at the corner of Shortman and Rt. 20! It was moved when the Thruway was being developed at Shortman Rd. to its present location. Imagine waiting in there to catch a ride to Erie!!!



This month is a puzzle for you. At this point there are two of these in Ripley. Have you seen them or taken the time to read them? There is a third which we hope will be installed soon. This one is a bit tricky to find, but I'm sure you'll be surprised to find out what it says!

Happy Hunting! Doc



Ripley Hose Company No. 1

_Month: February 26 – March 26, 2023

Total calls answered:

(11 of the 39 calls were mutual aid)

Emergency Medical Service Calls: 29

Fires: 8

MVA's 2

Total calls to date for 2023 - 90

Training completed by our members:

- Members completed the NYS Department of Health 800 inventory report for ambulance 272 (required monthly inventory of the ambulance) and truck checks on Engines and Miscellaneous Trucks. Truck checks consist of pulling all equipment from the engines and miscellaneous truck (M-271), checking to make sure all equipment is operable and clean. All items are inventoried and documented to ensure all equipment is ready for an emergency situation.



Tim Batts, Vice President Lauree Pless, and Fire Commissioner Bruce Utegg during Fire Extinguisher training.

On Tuesday March 14, 2023, Ripley Hose Co members completed fire extinguisher refresher training. Members learned about the types of fires and the class of extinguisher to use to extinguish the fires.

Community outreach participation:

On Monday, March 20, 2023, Ripley Hose Company No. 1 members instructed Troop 20172 on how to splint an injured limb, how to help a person who has a suspected head and neck injury, how to triage an event with more than one person, and how to assist with a possible drug overdose.

Members of Girl Scout Troop 20172 and Hose Company President Lisa Babcock after First Aid instruction at Ripley Hose Company No. 1.



Ripley Hose Company No. 1, cont.

Featured Ripley Hose Company No 1 Volunteers of the Month



This month we'd like to welcome our newest member, Gavin Segovia! Gavin is a senior at Chautauqua Lake Central School. He and his family live in Ripley and he is super motivated to help his community! We are excited to welcome him as Ripley Hose Company No. 1's newest member!

NOAH'S ARK Clothing Store



**Open the 2nd and 4th Saturday
of each month from 10 am to Noon**

**CLOTHING FOR INFANTS TO ADULTS!
(most items are just 25 cents)**

**First Presbyterian Church
20 West Main Street
Ripley, NY 14775**

Made with PosterMyWall.com



SAMI

NCCR WISH LIST

CURRENTLY NEEDED ITEMS:



MORGAN

**Bleach
Paper Towels
Gently Used Old Bath Towels & Flat Sheets
Lemon PineSol or Lemon Fabuloso
Mr. Clean Citrus Antibacterial Liquid Cleaner
Spray Cleaner w/Bleach
Hot Dogs
Canned Food
Tractor Supply: 4 Health Dry Puppy Food
Chewy: American Journey Dry Puppy Food
Small Chewy Training Treats (not Chinese)
Money is always appreciated as it pays
the vet bills and the utilities.**

**Most Importantly-
Good Homes For The Dogs!**

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Northern Chautauqua Canine Rescue

7540 N. Gale St. Westfield, NY 14787

716-326-7297 (PAWS)

www.caninerescue.org

Monday-Saturday 1-3pm

501(c)(3) NYS Registered Rescue #028



OPEN LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY:

Tired of listening to people complain about Ripley? “There’s nothing to do.” “The town is a dump.” “It used to be a nice town.” “Who’d want to live here?”

Me too. I’m tired of people running the town down, but I’ll just bet those same people don’t bother to DO anything about it!

Want a better town? Then DO SOMETHING about it! Volunteer for one of the many organizations in town. Take part in programs offered by the library. Attend Town Board meetings. Be part of the community members of the fire department.

And **very importantly**, fill out the survey below. The Ripley Comprehensive Plan is there to recommend the changes you’d like to see! Mad about the sidewalks? TELL THEM! Want more street lights? TELL THEM! Want water/sewer/internet in your neighborhood? TELL THEM! The opportunity to voice your concerns and gripes is here. You just need to tell the planners what you want.

Be part of the solution, not part of the problem.

Robyn Near Albright



Update of Ripley Comprehensive Plan!

Want to see change and growth in our community?

The Town of Ripley is updating their comprehensive plan and we need your feedback! Go to the link below and complete a short survey.

The comprehensive plan communicates a community’s vision and goals and provides a guide for decision making. It also informs future land use, and serves as the basis for zoning, subdivision, and land use codes.

As much input is needed as possible. Please copy and paste the link and encourage others to do the same!

<https://ingallsplanning.mysocialpinpoint.com/ripley-comprehensive-plan/9cve>

Ripley Mobile Food Pantry

April 26th, 12:30p.m.

Call (716)223-0345 or text

ripleymobilefoodpantry@gmail.com to pre-register each month.

You must pre-register EVERY month, otherwise we don't know how many people to box food for. Food available from the Mobile Food Pantry varies from month to month.

Pre-register by calling Leigh Lyon at (716) 223.0345 or by texting ripleymobilefoodpantry@gmail.com



PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

TOWN OF RIPLEY

TOWN BOARD MONTHLY MEETINGS

Regular Monthly Town Board Meetings

are held at 7:30 p.m.

the 2nd Thursday of each month.

The Town Board meetings are also held through a Zoom link.

Zoom link can be found on the Town of Ripley Website

ripleyny.org



Ripley United Methodist Church now has a Prayer Box set up in front of the church at 84 West Main St, Ripley, NY. Inside there are slips to fill out with your prayer request. We will bring up all your requests in deep prayer. There is a place to mark if you want to hear from a Pastor.



Every Sunday
10:30-11am
Invite a
Friend!

Ripley United Methodist Church

We Need Your Help!

The Ripley Community Food Pantry is in need of volunteers 2 hours a week once a month either on a Tuesday or a Saturday. For more information please contact Phil Chimera via email at shaver58@roadrunner.com

You may be eligible for food assistance with the new higher income guidelines. The Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 2 until 4p.m., and Saturdays, 10 until noon.

A person is eligible is they verbally attest that they fall into one of the following guidelines: Income falls within the guidelines and/or:

Someone in the household participates in on of the following assistance programs: SNAP, WIC, TANF, Unemployment, Disability, SSI, or Free/Reduced lunch program.



Office of General Services Food Distribution

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) Attestation of Eligibility

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Annual Income	\$32,805	\$44,370	\$55,935	\$67,500	\$79,065	\$90,630	\$102,195	\$113,760

For each additional family member add \$11,565.

Please be advised there are two different programs. Mobile Food Pantry (at the fire hall) has no income requirement. Feed More WNY (in the school building) income guidelines are listed above.

April 2023

Resources for Ripley News

Please check these Facebook pages for up-to-date information concerning Ripley and its residents.

Ripley Hose Company—www.ripleyfire.org

Ripley NY-Alive and Well-Administrator Ruth Blackman

Ripley Central Alumni (Ripley NY)-Administrators Mark Dickey & Connie Wright Middleton

It's Ripley's (Believe it or not) Community Page-Administrator Cindy Eddy

You may be from Ripley, NY if...no administrator listed

Ripley Community Mobile Food Pantry-Administrator Leigh Lyon

Ripley NY Perennial Exchange-Administrator Ruth Blackman

Ripley NY Buds- Administers Coralee Shearer and Stephanie Eimers

The Bookworm/About Time-thebookworm14775@gmail.com

Christmas in Ripley-Facebook

From Desk of Post Command 2769, David Bower

- 
- Apr 1 April Fool's Day
 - Apr 2 Palm Sunday
 - Apr 5 Passover begins
 - Apr 6 U.S. entry into WW1, 1917; Persian Gulf War ends 1991
 - Apr 7 Good Friday
 - Apr 9 Easter Sunday
 - Apr 13 Passover ends
 - Apr 17 Tax Day
 - Apr 22 Earth Day
 - Apr 27 Post 2769 Meeting @10:30am, Town Hall
 - Apr 28 Arbor Day

Veterans Banners: We are getting a committee started to work on this project. It will take some time, but we will get it done. I will keep everyone updated each month. We are always looking for new members. Until then, be safe and pray for our troops.

To have About Town and The Bookworm newsletters sent to you directly, send your name and email address to:
thebookworm14775@gmail.com

Businesses or individual supporters of the Ripley Library who donate \$5 per month will receive business card space in The Bookworm.

Ripley Trash & Recycle Days

Located near the Highway Barn on Ross Street, open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 8a.m. until noon. Ripley bags may be purchased at the Town Building. Recyclables may be dropped off on those days. Please enter via North State Street.

**LOCAL CHURCH INFORMATION IS
NOW ON PAGE 3**

**PLEASE CALL FOR INFORMATION
REGARDING SERVICES.**

The Bookworm and About Town newsletters are here to inform, enlighten, and entertain you. However, your help is needed to make these newsletters the best they can be. You are encouraged to send information or news to:

thebookworm14775@gmail.com