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(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
Ripley, NY 14775

Town Supervisor: Lauree Pless

ripleyts@fairpoint.net

Office: **716-736-2201**

RIPLEY TOWN CLERK OFFICE

Ryleigh Enterline, Town Clerk
716-736-6881

ripleytownclerk@outlook.com

P.O. Box 2, Ripley, NY 14775

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

TOWN ASSESSOR

Jason Jones

Ripley, NY 14775

716-736-4050

ripleyja@fairpoint.net

Tuesday 9:00am-1:00pm

Dr. Lauree Pless, Ripley Town Supervisor

Let me begin by first thanking the Ripley Town Board for their confidence in my ability to serve the community as Ripley Town Supervisor. I am looking forward to working with members of the board, the town and the community.

My educational and employment experiences include over 34 years in Western New York as a School Educator and Administrator. Thirteen of those years I was employed as a School Superintendent, three of those years at Westfield Academy and Central School and 10 years at Amherst Central School District until my retirement from Amherst 8 years ago. In 2012, I also earned my Doctoral Degree in Educational Leadership and Policy from the University of Buffalo.

Outside of wanting to assist and be actively involved in the Ripley community, I initially decided to run for Town Supervisor because I believe that many of my work experiences parallel the job responsibilities that will be required of me as Town Supervisor. I have had experience in writing and securing grants, collaborating and working with Local, State and Federal agencies and organizing and presiding over various Board of Directors/Trustees. The process of budgeting in both schools and municipalities is also similar. As a School Superintendent, I was responsible for managing a budget that exceeded \$50 million dollars and an organization that employed over 400 individuals.

Although the local town budget is significantly less, the process of managing the funds and allocating resources while being mindful of the impact our expenditures have on tax payers is critical in both these situations. I take this responsibility seriously and understand the impact my role as Town Supervisor has on our community and our tax payers.



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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
rosco3737@gmail.com
Tues& Thurs 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

Andrew Strine
10168 W. Lake Road, Ripley NY
ripleywater@outlook.com
Office: 716-736-6000
Cell: 716-223-0740

HIGHWAY DEPT

Jason Jones, Highway Supt.
50 Ross Street
P.O. Box 506
Ripley, NY 14775
ripleyhs@fairpoint.net
Office: 716-736-3424
Cell: 716-223-0130

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Gloria McCormick
716-269-9882

TOWN HISTORIAN

John "Doc" Hamels
C. 716-223-0112

Continued from Page 1—Ripley Town Supervisor

On a more personal level I have lived in Chautauqua County for over 30 years and have resided in Ripley for 8 years. I am married to Lisa Babcock. We are the proud "foster" Moms to our daughter and son-in-law and super proud grandmas of our four grandchildren who also live in the area. We are both volunteers of Ripley Hose Company #1 where I am an EMT and served as past Vice President. Lisa is also an EMT and is currently 2nd Assistant Chief of the Hose Company. I also volunteer at the Ripley Food Pantry and am a member of the Town of Ripley Comprehensive Plan for Development. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family, running, hiking, reading, baking and being outdoors.

Many have asked what my goals are as Town Supervisor. First and foremost, I plan on applying my leadership style which focuses on a collaborative and common-sense approach to decision-making with input from all stakeholder groups. I also intend to set priorities and execute action plans that were identified in the Ripley Comprehensive Plan completed in September 2023.

It is truly my honor and my privilege to serve Ripley as your Town Supervisor. I will work hard to meet the diverse needs of families that live in our town. I truly believe we are all interested in continuing to improve the quality of life for our families and our overall community and I look forward to meeting and working with all of you.

Ripley Town Supervisor Resigns; New Supervisor Appointed

Last November's election saw South Ripley resident, Don Rice, elected to the position of Ripley Town Supervisor, winning by 69 votes over Lauree Pless, along with the election of Jeff Lyons and Calvin Janes to Town Board. On January 18th Don Rice, Jeff Lyon and current board member Don Henry, turned in their resignations, Rice and Lyon effective January 19th, Henry effective immediately. The reason for the resignations was undisclosed. Jeff Lyon then rescinded his resignation and remains on the town board.

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Continued from Page 2—Supervisor Resigns

Thursday, January 25th, a special board meeting was held to appoint a new Supervisor. With standing room only, board member Lee Swoap read a statement from the by-laws allowing the board to appoint a new Supervisor. After the Resolution was read, Councilman Calvin Janes moved to nominate Lauree Pless, and was seconded by Councilman Jeff Lyon. The motion was passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION #52-2024 TOWN OF RIPLEY TOWN SUPERVISOR VACANCY SEAT

WHEREAS, the Town of Ripley Town Supervisor, Don Rice, submitted his resignation effective January 19, 2024

WHEREAS, Town Law Section 64 “General powers of town boards” gives the Town of Ripley Town Board the authority to fill vacancies of elected officials.

WHEREAS, Town of Ripley resident, Laura Pless, is willing to serve as the Town of Ripley Town Supervisor.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Ripley Town Board appoints Laura Pless as the Town of Ripley Town Supervisor, effective immediately.

Moved by **Councilman Janes**, seconded by **Councilman Lyon**.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Lyon **YES**, Mr. Janes **YES**, Mr. Swoap **YES**. **Carried.**

“We need to get right to work,” Councilman Janes said. “We’re a month behind already.”

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 & services) 716-363-3684

FEBRUARY in the TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

*Town/County Tax Bill Payments without penalty are due on February 6th.

*Water/Sewer Bill Payments without penalty are due on February 9th.

*February Dog License Renewals will be out in the mail before February 1st.

Tax Collection Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thur, & Fri - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 1:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sat 9:00a.m-12:00 p.m.

CLOSED WEDNESDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

*Cash and check payments are accepted.

*Checks can be made payable to "Ripley Tax Collector"

*Payments can be made in person, made via drop box at 14 N. State St. Ripley, NY 14775 or mailed to P.O Box 416 Ripley, NY 14775.

Announcements:

*I am so pleased to announce that my Deputy Town Clerk is Nicole Gollhardt. She is eager to learn and is always happy to assist our residents. You can reach her at **ripleydc@fairpoint.net**.

*Due to some technical difficulties, I have a new Town Clerk email address. Apologies if anyone has had emails rejected from the old address. It is **ripleytownclerk@outlook.com**.

Notes from The Clerk:

*Board Meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM.

*Please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. I am happy to help in any way I can.

Phone: 716-736-6881

Fax: 716-736-2202

Email: ripleytownclerk@outlook.com

Address: 14 N. State St.

Ripley, NY 14775

FROM the DESK of the RIPLEY TOWN HISTORIAN

by Doc Hamels

This past month I had the pleasure of discussing town history, covering nearly 200 years, with Ripley resident, David Hawker. David was kind enough to make copies of various news articles, family photos and diagrams. Additionally, he gave me CDs that chronicle part of the rich music scene here in Ripley over the years. The Town Historian's job, in part, is to collect and archive local stories and documents about families and events. David's items are now part of the permanent historical records for future researchers! If you have a story to share or a "small" item that you would like to bring to my attention, please don't hesitate to visit me Thursdays at the town building from 9-11 a.m. You can just drop in of course but if you contact me at hamels@fairpoint.net I'll be happy to make an appointment with you! Ripley has a wonderful history and you may have something that will tell more of what happened over the past 208 years! This month's I am conducting research on a gentleman from Ripley who went to war in 1862, was captured at Gettysburg, and died sadly in prison in 1863. If you have any information on Isaac Jenkins, please let me know!

Ripley Mobile Food Pantry Coordinator, Debbie Dean

Call (814)440-8490 or text
Debbie Dean to pre-register each month.

You must pre-register EVERY month, so that we know how many boxes of food to prepare. Food available from the Mobile Food Pantry varies from month to month.

Pre-register by texting Debbie Dean @ 814-440-8490 or if necessary by phone. Also check Ripley Community Mobile Food Pantry on Facebook for information.

2024 Dates

	May 29	Sep 25
Feb 28	Jun 26	Oct 30
Mar 27	Jul 24	Nov 27
Apr 24	Aug 28	Dec to be decided



Ripley Hose Company No. 1

15 South State Street

Po. O. Box 342

Ripley, NY 14775

Month: January 1 – January 27, 2024

Total calls answered:

39 calls from January 01 – January 27, 2024. (4 of the 39 calls were mutual aid)

Emergency Medical Service Calls: 25

Fires: 5

Motor Vehicle Accidents: 4

Service Calls: 5 (trees/wires down)

Total calls to date for 2024 - 39

Training completed by our members:

- Member Lisa Babcock completed On-Scene Rehabilitations for Emergency Operations (OREO) training on January 27, 2024. This was a New York State 12 hour training class to learn how to take care of our emergency personnel during prolonged emergency events.



Ripley Hose Company No 1 Volunteer of the Month for January 2024

Please join us in congratulating Lisa Babcock on being appointed as 2nd Assistant Chief. Lisa has been a member of Ripley Hose No 1 for a little over 12 years. She has held the office of President and currently serves as Ambulance Lieutenant as well as 2nd Assistant Chief. She has been an EMT for a little over 4 years, certified as an Internal Firefighter and an American Heart Association CPR Instructor.

Business Cards

Please consider placing your business card or a personal message in The Bookworm. It's a economical way to show your support for the Ripley Public Library! Businesses or individual supporters of the Ripley Library who donate \$5 per month will receive business card space in The Bookworm.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

CODE OFFICER
716-736-3737
TUESDAY & THURSDAY
9:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

ASSESSOR
716-736-4050
TUESDAY & THURSDAY
9:00 A.M.—3 P.M.

COURT CLERK
716-736-7575
MONDAY 9 A.M.-3:30 P.M.
TUESDAY 9 A.M.-NOON
THURSDAY 9 A.M.-3:30 P.M.

Bottle and Can Collection

The Library has a collection bin in the lobby for returnable cans and bottles. Don't throw out those water bottles and pop cans! Donate them to the library.

Please be sure all bottles and cans are empty before you place them in the bin.

Also, you can designate Ripley Library receive funds from cans and bottles you take to CanKing in Fredonia!

Notary Services


Ryleigh Enterline is now a Notary Public and is available during Town Clerk hours to notarize documents, free of charge.

Food Assistance Program

Open Tuesdays from 2 until 4p.m., and Saturdays, 10 until noon.

The Food Pantry is available if a person verbally attests that they fall into one of the following guidelines: Income falls within the guidelines and/or someone in the household participates in: SNAP, WIC, TANF, Unemployment, Disability, SSI, or Free/Reduced lunch program.

Contact Phil Chimera via email at shaver58@roadrunner.com for more information.



NEW YORK

STATE OF OPPORTUNITY

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.

Local Worship

- ♦ **First Baptist Church**
716-736-3800
- ♦ **First Presbyterian Church**
716-736-3042
- ♦ **St. Dominic Roman Catholic Church**
716-326-2816
- ♦ **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



PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

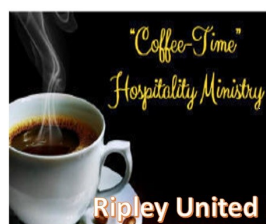
TOWN OF RIPLEY **MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS**

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 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

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

Resources for Ripley News

Please check these Facebook/Websites 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 Debbie Dean

Ripley NY Perennial Exchange-Administrator Ruth Blackman

Ripley NY Buds- Administers Coralee Shearer and Stephanie Eimers

The Bookworm/About Time-thebookworm14775@gmail.com

From Desk of Post Command 2769

FEB 1st NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY

FEB 2nd GROUNDHOG DAY. LETS HOPE FOR A SHORT WINTER.

FEB 3rd FOUR-CHAPLAINS DAY**

FEB 12th LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

FEB 13th MARDI GRAS

FEB 14th ASH WEDNESDAY, VALENTINE'S DAY. BE GOOD TO YOUR SWEETHEART.

FEB 15th SINKING OF THE U.S.S. MAINE (1898)

FEB 19th PRESIDENTS' DAY, WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY (OBSERVED)

FEB 22nd VFW POST MEETING AT 10:30am

FEB 23rd IWO JIMA FLAG RAISED 1945

FEB 27th BATTLE OF JAVA SEA (1942)

FEB 28th END OF OPERATION DESERT



**** February 3rd** marks the anniversary of the sinking of the United States Army Transport Dorchester and the selfless acts of four Army chaplains aboard during World War II. The four chaplains, also known as the "Immortal Chaplains" or the "Dorchester Chaplains," represented three faiths: Catholic, Jewish and Protestant.

The Four Chaplains died rescuing civilian and military personnel as the American troop ship SS Dorchester sank on in what has been referred to as the second-worst sea disaster of World War II.

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. Recyclables may be dropped off on those days. Please enter via North State Street and Park Avenue. Ripley bags may be purchased at the Town Building and at Coffee on Main.