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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

March in the Town Clerk's Office

- *March 1st marks the beginning of the 2% penalty period for Town/County Tax Bills.
- *Tax Bill payments can be made here at the Clerk's office until April 1st.
- *March Dog License Renewals will be out in the mail before March 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. 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:

***The March Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for the 3rd Thursday this month at 7:30 PM* (March 21st)**

***The Water/Sewer Department is conducting a "Customer Service Line Inspection" that is required by the EPA & NYS. You may see the Water/Sewer crew going door to door to complete this survey. Please contact Water/Sewer Supt. Andrew Strine with any questions at 716-736-6000.**

Notes from The Clerk:

- *Board Meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM. **(Except for this month's meeting)**
- * Please contact my office directly before posting on social media with questions or concerns. Social media can be very helpful to us in many ways, but if you have questions or concerns with any business regarding the Town Clerk's Office, the best way to resolve that is to speak with myself or my Deputy directly.

* **We are here to help!**

Phone: 716-736-6881 Email: ripleytownclerk@outlook.com

Fax: 716-736-2202

Address: 14 N. State St. Ripley, NY 14775

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 located
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

Ripley Hose Company No. 1

15 South State Street

Po. O. Box 342

Ripley, NY 14775

Month: February 20, 2024

Total calls answered:

19 calls from Jan. 28, 2024 – Feb. 20, 2024.

(3 of the 19 calls were mutual aid)

Emergency Medical Service Calls: 15

Fires: 1

Motor Vehicle Accidents: 1

Service Calls: 2

Total calls to date for 2024 - 58

Training completed by our members:

-On Tuesday February 13th, our members practiced how to perform post fire gross decontamination and steps to take to prevent cross contamination. Occupational cancer due to firefighting is a silent killer - Firefighters face a 9% increase in cancer diagnoses and a 14% increase in cancer related deaths.



We learned how to reduce our levels of contamination after fighting fire and recognize the spread of contamination.

Chief Mark Smith rinses firefighter Brad Hectick. Firefighters Chris Rotunda and Brooke Smith decontaminated the bunker gear.

In addition to Doc Hamels column on the history of Ripley, we will periodically add an article of some interest from the past, printed under the title **Ripley in Review**.

Ripley In Review (from the Westfield Republican 2009)

The weather has always been a perennial favorite topic, especially among farmers. This past winter of 2008-09 was one of the snowiest folks around here can remember, followed by a summer that was cold and wet, followed by a cold and wet autumn. Global warming is a concern to many. A report on the news recently stated that 85 per cent of the glacier on Mount Kilimanjaro has disappeared in the last 100 years. The causes of weather changes continue to elude us, but always fascinate. Fifty years ago James Towery wrote a partial history of weather in these parts. It is as interesting now as it was then for those of us interested in an historical perspective to our world.

Everybody Talks About the Weather and History Records Some Freakish Acts It has Given Area In Past Years

By James D. Towery

I doubt that any other topic is more popular than the subject of "weather." It is a topic that often makes the first break for conversation when you meet with a stranger. Seldom do you say "good morning" but that you or the person you greet hasn't a word to say about the weather. The proverbial almanac is popular because of its weather predictions.

There has been much discussion as

to what, if any, degree of disturbance to our weather has been created by the testing of nuclear weapons. There are strong arguments pro and con. A few scientists have said that the testing of the bombs has caused some seemingly abnormalities in the behaviors of our weather.

I recently read where some meteorologist has reported that we have had a very strange year this 1958, as far as weather goes. The summer has been an unusual one in many parts of the nation. Here in our lake region, we have hardly had any summer. It has been cold and rainy most of the season. The autumn has been about average – perhaps with a bit toward the wet side. We recall too, how the earlier part of the year brought us more winter weather than we had seen in years. The month of February was an especially hard month for deep snows. We shall long remember the big "deep freeze" which hit the area then covered the whole section with deep snows that lingered for many days, accompanied with dropping temperatures.

With winter just around the corner and the possibility of a snow any day, we are wondering what the weatherman has in store for us. We are wondering, too, if we could have a repeat performance of the phenomenon that visited us on Thanksgiving Day in 1956 when a freakish snow storm came in, heralded with flashes of lightning and thunder and buried us under three feet of snow!

Old Records Tell of Rough Winters

I have found some interesting reading in some recordings of unusual

weather in Chautauqua County that that been published in a weather history. One of these was the winter of 1937-38. It was recorded as the mildest winter ever known up to then. It is said of this winter of a hundred and twenty years ago, that vessels navigated Lake Erie throughout the year, including January.

The year 1899, however, brought out a real, old-fashioned winter. The early part of the winter, November and December of 1898, was about normal. But from then on, it was a tough one. It was listed as the worst winter in twenty-five years.

On the night of February 10, the thermometer dropped to ten degrees and more below zero. To add to the severity of the intense cold, a biting wind with much velocity accompanied the cold. It was said to have "forced its way into the best constructed dwellings." For almost a week the weather remained bitterly cold. For three days in succession the thermometer fell to twenty degrees below zero, and in some remote sections a drop to thirty below zero was recorded. That was seventy years ago.

In January 1904, we find that a rough winter came in with the New Year. At 8 p.m. on this date the U.S. government thermometer at No. 5 Garfield Street in Jamestown, recorded a shivering thirty-one degrees below zero. This was the lowest reading ever recorded for the area since government readings had been kept. It was abnormally cold all over the county.

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Abnormal weather prevailed throughout the year of 1904. On September 21st of that year, a killing frost swept over central and southern Chautauqua County. Ripley and other townships along the lake, escaped without very much damage from the heavy frost because of the lake and the heavy foliage of the grapes. In the town of Carroll and along the Cassadaga Valley, the mercury dropped to a shivering twenty above zero.

The summer of 1914 had its unusual visit of winter weather also. During June of that year, from about the thirteenth to twentieth, there was an extremely cold week. Frost was reported in many parts of the country. A great deal of damage was done to early crops, particularly corn and beans and the fruit harvest was impaired.

Summer of 1859 was worst

The most unusual summer of all has been that of 1859, just about a century ago. It was a summer that was a subject of conversation for many years afterward.

It is said that a more beautiful and

propitious spring had hardly been known. The lovely spring weather, early and warm, no doubt created a situation that made the damage from the frost even greater. On June 3 the air became cold and chilly. It started raining about mid-day. The rain was cold and on the following day, it changed to snow.

During the night of June 3, the thermometer took a tumble. It dropped fast to the freezing point. Ice froze from a half to an inch thick on the ponds, and streams. The ground was frozen to a corresponding depth. This was a severe blow to the crops and fruit orchards.

When the area was beginning to rally from this cold onslaught, just a week later, on June 11, a frost even more severe than that of June 4 struck. All the crops of grain, fruit and even the grass were completely killed. The leaves on the maples, elms, ash and the nut bearing trees were all killed. A few days afterward, the foliage was yellow and the trees appeared as if they had been scorched by fire.

The summer of 1859 was one that didn't confine its peculiar onslaught to this area alone. Nature extended its frigid blast as far west

as middle Ohio, south into Pittsburgh, almost to Cincinnati and north into Canada. The desolate, cold weather remained to plague the section most of the summer. Even the shrubbery and young saplings were killed.

Certainly, these freakish acts of our weather were in the days long before there was ever a dream of nuclear energy becoming a possibility. Had there been nuclear explosions then, I assume someone would have said it was on account of these that such weather prevailed. And yet, when we evaluate this force of an atomic of hydrogen explosion being set off into the atmosphere, we see the logic in the reason that it could affect our weather. Who knows?

Now that we are entering into the winter season, the prophets are making their usual predictions. There are omens of all sorts. Yet, to a great extent the weather remains unpredictable despite the advances made in our meteorological studies. Poets will continue to wax about it, songs will be written about it and we will continue to talk about it. That's weather's role

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.

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

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

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.

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

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

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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.

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

MAR. 10th DAY LIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS. TURN CLOCKS AHEAD

MAR. 15th THE AMERICAN LEGION BIRTHDAY MARCH 15-17 1919

MAR. 17th ST. PATRICK'S DAY

MAR. 19th FIRST DAY OF SPRING; START OF OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM 2003

MAR. 24th PALM SUNDAY

MAR. 25th CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY

MAR. 29th GOOD FRIDAY. VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY. TO ALL MY VEIT-NAM BROTHERS WELCOME HOME.

MAR. 28th POST MEETING AT 10:30 AT TOWN HALL.

MAR. 31st EASTER SUNDAY.

WE HAD A GOOD TURN OUT FOR THE HOME TOWN HERO BANNERS. 36 WERE TURNED IN AND WILL BE PROCESSED IN ABOUT A WEEK. WE WILL DO A SECOND ROUND LATER THIS YEAR FOR NEXT YEAR. THERE MIGHT BE A PRICE INCREASE FOR THE NEXT ROUND BUT NOT FOR SURE YET. I WILL KEEP EVERYONE POSTED. AS ALWAYS WE NEED NEW MEMBERS. REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE STILL SERVING.

**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.