



Carrier Park 2022

Carrier Park really is... more than you think!

Carrier Park has been building community all year long!

Carrier Park, in partnership with Dickie Woodridge and Jim Smith of Salt City Sports, has been building community with ESM Little League, Syracuse Challenger Baseball, Advocates Kickball, FM – ESM – JD and Liverpool Softball, LeMoyne College and Syracuse Club Softball, and the NJCAA women's softball championship teams from all over the East Coast and Midwest!

From Syracuse Challenger Baseball and Advocates Kickball...to hometown and CNY teams, Carrier Park hosted more than 15 baseball and softball tournaments (with more to come this Fall), Section III semi-final and final softball playoff games for all classes, and of course, the 2022 NJCAA Division III Women's Softball Championship.
(See pages 9-11 & 42)

Carrier Park was also the site of our Town of DeWitt 2022 Summer Concert Series with the Party Nuts, Matt Chase & the Thunder Canyon Band, My So Called Band, Loren Barrigar & the Fab Cats.

Carrier Park is also the proud home of the Syracuse Challenger Baseball Program, one of the largest Challenger programs in the nation. Challenger celebrated their 40th Anniversary this year, see page 34 for a recap of the season.

















To book tournaments at Carrier Park, or with questions, please contact our Carrier Park partner, Salt City Sports at: www.saltcitysports.org

We're building community!

TOWN OF DeWitt
more than you think

parks

community

business

A message from Supervisor Edward M. Michalenko, Ph.D.



As we move toward the close of 2022, I hope this past year, despite its challenges, has provided you many opportunities to come together to enjoy family, friends, and neighbors. It is my hope we will be fully free to gather for the coming holidays, with COVID risks being minimal.

Town government, at its core, is about building community together. While projects and progress, taxes and budgets are integral to the functioning of town government, our shared community values are at the foundation of everything we do.

Ensuring our social and economic well-being and security now – and well into the future – are what projects like Carrier Park and the redevelopment of the Shoppingtown property are all about. Becoming steadfast stewards of our environment – and saving tax dollars – is the purpose of our Solar Array and the reason we seek to secure grant funding for our town's Electric Vehicle charging stations.

Elevating Erie – expanding our parks and trails systems – is about not only making more of central DeWitt pedestrian friendly, but also ensuring our business districts connect to one another and also to our parks and trails.

Partnership is integral to supporting our shared community values. Our Salt City management team at Carrier Park, Klim Center programming at Springfield Gardens, our collaborations with the libraries, providing a permanent home for the Syracuse Challenger Baseball program – and especially residents like you who give of your time on Town committees and commissions – partnership and collaboration make all this possible.

It is also about people like the Place family. We recently celebrated the donation of several hundred acres of land in Jamesville, including waterfront along Butternut Creek, by Ms. Jackie Place and her family. The land, given in memory of her late husband Bryan McNeill Place, exemplifies a partnership that supports our shared community values now, and will continue to do so for many years to come.

Moreover, providing programming for our seniors, our children, and grown-ups, too, via Summer Day Camp, our Senior Centers, the Summer Concert Series, Canal Day – a myriad of interesting, helpful or healthful programs throughout the year – support the community as a whole.

Moving into 2023, we are looking to continue our incremental expansion of Carrier Park, move forward in collaboration with developers on the Shoppingtown site, begin formulating plans for the Widewaters Pond project, and extend the Elevating Erie project down to the business district at the juncture of East Genesee Street and Jamesville Road. We recognize small businesses, as well as major companies are, essential to the economic well-being and quality of life in DeWitt.

We have also received a $230,000 grant from Senator Schumer's office – in addition to a $370,000 grant from NYS – to explore harnessing hydrogen power for our snowplows and heavy vehicles, therefore further reducing our use of fossil fuel in the Town of DeWitt. Our Solar Array project – which we hope to expand to include a community power purchase program whereby you can purchase your electricity from our own solar farm right here in DeWitt – already frees us from using fossil fuels for all of our municipal electric needs. The 2.66 Megawatts of electricity the Solar Array produces is projected to save us over $2 million on our municipal energy costs over the 20-year life

of the project; that represents a carbon reduction of 2,605 metric tons, the equivalent of taking 510 vehicles off the road for 20 years.

There is more information, as well as details, about these projects and several more in my "Notes" in the following section. As always, if you review the covers, "Notes," and this "Message," you will get an across-the-board overview of major town projects from development and infrastructure projects to what's happening inside Town Hall. The remainder of the newsletter then provides more detail about projects, as well as important dates, programming information, service updates, department news, and procedure or policy changes across all departments. The town website also provides a depth and breadth of information about projects, programs, and services; if you have not yet signed up to receive Town alerts and emails, you can go to: https://www.townofdewitt.com/e_notify/index.php.

The Budget Committee is working on the 2023 budget; like you, rising fuel prices and across-the-board inflation significantly impacts our town budget. Approximately 75% of our $18 million dollar budget must go to labor costs. What most folks may not know is, for every tax dollar you pay, only 15 cents goes to the Town. Of the balance, 50 cents goes to the school district and 35 cents to Onondaga County. Fortunately, over the last 15 years, the town budget has only increased at an annual average rate of 1.5%. To date, we expect to keep any necessary tax increases for 2023 below the Governor's 2% Tax Cap.

Unfortunately, we will not be holding our usual Fall Clean-Up this year, too few folks signed up last year, but there is more information about that on page 22. However, if you are looking for an outdoor, environmentally oriented activity for you and/or your family, we will be holding "Mulch Madness" again this year at Carrier Park; it's a simple, fun event and a great way to support children to begin to become active stewards of our environment.

As we do every year, we will be holding a ceremony of Remembrance on September 11th at 2pm at the 9/11 memorial at Town Hall. While our intention is to remember and honor all those we lost – and their families and friends – we also hope coming together in community will serve as a positive reminder to all of us, especially now, there is so much more that connects us, rather than divides us.

I consider myself fortunate to serve the people of DeWitt, to work alongside you tangibly building our community. While I have always been proud to serve the people of DeWitt, never more so than now as we come out of a long period of challenge and change stronger and still united in service to one another and in support of our shared community values. I wish you and your family healthy and happy holidays.

Most sincerely,

Edward M. Michalenko, DeWitt Supervisor

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General Contact Information

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East Syracuse, NY 13057

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Web: www.townofdewitt.com

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Supervisor x 5
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Tax x 7
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DeWitt Parks Department
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East Syracuse, NY 13057
Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:00am-3:30pm

Court
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Judge Young (315) 446-7136

Police
Administrative (315) 449-3640
police@townofdewitt.com

Highway (315) 437-8331
DeWitt Highway Department
5953 Butternut Drive
East Syracuse, NY 13057
Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:00am-3:30pm
highway@townofdewitt.com

SUPERVISOR'S NOTES
FALL 2022
Edward M. Michalenko, Ph.D., Town Supervisor

COMMUNITY

Grants, grants, grants…are building community!

Once again, our thanks to New York Senator John Mannion for securing funding for two important Town projects; $237,000 for ADA compliant bathrooms at Town Hall and $200,000 for repair of the boardwalk at the head of the Butternut Creek Trail.

We expect to begin construction on the ADA bathrooms at Town Hall by the end of this year and repairs on the boardwalk in the Spring of 2023.

Our thanks also to National Grid for $32,400 in grant funds for 6 new charging stations; we expect to install these charging stations in various locations across the town, including at The Community Library of DeWitt and Jamesville. If you are an Electric Car owner, you know the Town has 2 EV charging stations at Town Hall on Butternut Drive and 2 additional stations at our Carrier Park recreation facility in East Syracuse; each charging station can charge up to 6 vehicles. Providing charging stations is one small way we can "build community" while also supporting the environment. If you have suggestions for EV charging station locations, please email me at: supervisor@townofdewitt.com



New! DeWitt Police Dept. 2022

Please join me in welcoming a new officer to our Police Department, Officer Jade Shimer. Officer Shimer is currently attending the 26-week Oswego County Police Academy and is set to graduate in late October, at which time she will begin her Field Training Program with our department. Officer Shimer is also an active member of the New York Army National Guard. Welcome Officer Shimer!

New! Recreation Department Director

Please join me in welcoming Peter Clark to DeWitt Town government. Peter joined us in July as the new Director of Recreation. Since then, he has been working with staff on Summer Day Camp, the Summer Concert Series, and Canal Day. To learn more about Peter, and to offer your ideas and talents to the community, see page 25.

This year's Summer Day Camp (SDC) serves as a great example of fusing progressive ideas with our shared community values. Recreation staff Shannon Shoff, Naerissa Strossner, Brie Hall, and our SUNY Cortland intern Jared Black created several new specialty camps – Flight Camp, Mini Camp, Video Game Coding Camp, and Summer Literacy Help – while day camp itself focused on connection, camaraderie, and encouraging campers to try new things; sports oriented campers to try art projects, art or technology-oriented campers to try a sport or two.



Cultivating SDC counselor's partnership, communication, and collaborative skills was also a focus, with the intention of encouraging camp counselors to not only return for Summer Day Camp 2023 and continue to develop their skills, but also to support their next steps toward college or career.

We were able to accommodate almost 170 campers, with 30 staff this year. Moreover, we hope to significantly increase those numbers next year provided COVID is no longer a critical factor. My thanks to Town Recreation staff Shannon Shoff, Naerissa Strossner, and Brie Hall, camp counselors – campers and parents – for your support of SDC 2022; it is a vital and valuable, "community building" program.

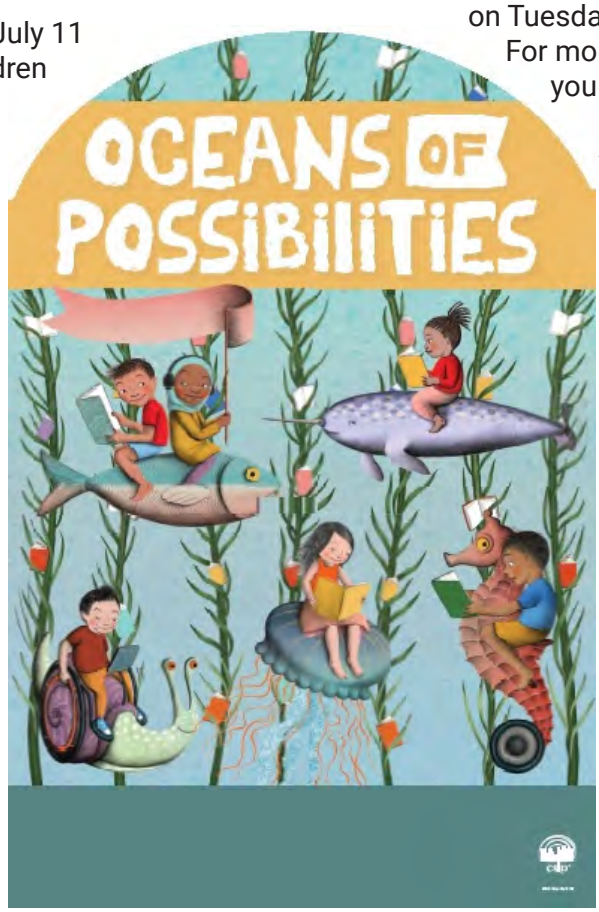


New! Building Community with the Klim Center & Library

This Summer, our David Klim Learning Center partnered with two organizations to present "Summer Youth Literacy Programs." The first was a free Literacy Tutoring program. Shannon Shoff from our Recreation Dept. partnered with SUNY Cortland graduates pursuing their masters in literacy to support children from the Klim Center with their reading and literacy skills.

The second program, the Town's "Oceans of Possibilities," was in partnership with the Community Library of DeWitt and Jamesville's own Summer Program.

Every Monday from July 11 to August 22nd, children created a new STEM or craft activity designed around the Library's Summer Reading Program theme, "Oceans of Opportunities." The program was free and also provided an opportunity for the children to sign up for a library card, borrow new books, and more. Our thanks to Shannon Shoff of our Recreation Dept. for her work with the Klim Center and the library, Town Board member Max Ruckdeschel for supporting a partnership with the library, and of course the folks at the community library.



Also, if you were not already aware, this past May 1st, The Community Library of DeWitt and Jamesville launched an innovative new program, the Memory Care Collection. Designed specifically to support individuals with Alzheimer's or dementia – and their caregivers – the collection is the first of its kind in Onondaga County; it is available at the Community Library of DeWitt & Jamesville to anyone with an Onondaga County Public Library card. For more information, please see page 30.

Lastly, believe it or not, the Recreation Department has already begun planning fun and challenging new activities and events for the holiday season; see page 28 for details.

New! Congratulations to codFISH

Congratulations to codFISH on their 10th anniversary. codFISH would not have been possible without the steadfast stewardship of Ginny Frey and Jean Kimber, both of whom will be stepping down this September; the Town Board and I thank you for your commitment to our community.

For those of you not familiar with codFISH, the organization provides rides to medical appointments on Tuesdays and Thursdays to all ambulatory folks. For more information, or to become a volunteer, you can call (315) 463-5158l.

Again, our congratulations and sincere thanks to Ginny Frey and Jean Kimber. For more information about codFISH, see page 31, or go to: dewittfish2012@gmail.com.

Update: Town Marijuana Law

As you know, as of 2021, the sale of marijuana is now legal in the state of New York. As such, the Town of DeWitt will allow the sale of marijuana at appropriate retail businesses. At present, the Town is conducting a review of our town codes with regard to allowable locations – which we plan to monitor and will regulate strictly – for on premise use of marijuana and marijuana products, marijuana "lounges" as they are commonly known.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Update: Shoppingtown

Hueber-Breuer, DalPos Architects, Redev CNY, and Housing Visions were selected to redevelop the former Shoppingtown Mall property last year. At present, the development team is working with the County to acquire the Sears and Macy's properties. As of this writing, Onondaga County has not turned over title to the developers and the Town has not been advised as to a timetable. As soon as we are made aware of important details, we will pass that information on to you.

In the meantime, the Town has been reviewing preliminary plans for the redevelopment of the former Shoppingtown Mall property. Our goal is to ensure this highly valuable and visible central DeWitt commercial property – like all of our commercial properties – is redeveloped into a vibrant, profitable commercial center that will strongly support our tax base and our residents; we are keeping a close eye on the project and are encouraged by some of the preliminary plans.

A well-balanced mixed-use project at this pivotal location would allow seniors and other residents to live, work, worship, eat, shop, and recreate "right at home." They would live within easy walking distance of Marshalls Plaza, Erie Blvd., as well as Ryder, Cedar Bay, and Butternut Creek Parks, the Erie Canalway Trail, and also the shops and businesses at the convergence of E. Genesee Street and Jamesville Road.

Via the Elevating Erie project, we are also working on ensuring our essential Erie Boulevard corridor provides safe routes for walkers, runners, and cyclists to enjoy all central DeWitt has to offer. The new Elevating Erie walkway and greenspace now within the median of Erie Boulevard, as well as extensions of sidewalks on both sides down to E. Genesee Street – when the new plan for the former mall property is well underway – will strongly support that goal; over the Summer, NYS was constructing sidewalks along the boulevard, as well as repaving sections of the road from Bridge Street down to East Genesee Street.

We are also working with NYS DOT to extend the Elevating Erie center median greenspace – which now stops at Bridge Street – down to E. Genesee Street, thus providing additional access to the myriad of stores, shops, and restaurants at the junction of Jamesville Road and E. Genesee Street. We recognize that in terms of both economic well-being and quality of life, major companies, as well as Mom & Pop and boutique brick and mortar businesses are integral to "building community" and economic stability in DeWitt.

Update: Elevating Erie - What's Next?



As we outlined above, NYS is presently installing sidewalks along Erie Boulevard in DeWitt. Next, we look forward to completing the planning stages of the Widewaters Pond component of the Elevating Erie project. The Widewaters Pond Park – a large greenspace situated at the crossroads of Erie Boulevard and Bridge Street – will feature trails, water fountains, benches and multi-colored, decorative lighting.

In the near future, as mentioned in the discussion regarding the proposed Shoppingtown development project above, in addition to working with NYS to continue the Erie Boulevard median greenspace from Bridge Street down to East Genesee Street, we are also planning on installing new sidewalks on both sides of Erie Boulevard down to East Genesee Street.

Erie Boulevard is both an essential business district in the town and an important "connector" corridor; we want to ensure it is "pedestrian friendly." Connecting residents and those who work on Erie Boulevard to our parks, greenspaces, and trail systems aligns with our ongoing goal of maximizing greenspace and creating safe pedestrian "link ups" all across the Town of DeWitt. As such, Elevating Erie is an on-going "building community" project here in the Town of DeWitt.

Our objective is not only to add to our quality of life now, but also to ensure our community's quality of life for many years to come. In addition, Elevating Erie is an integral part of the Empire State Trail; as such, it provides much needed economic development opportunities for our community, neighboring communities, tourism, business, the environment, and the overall economy of Onondaga County and New York State.

For more information about Elevating Erie, go to:
Elevating Erie Video: http://www.elevatingerie.com/spanning-the-gap-video
Empire State Trail: https://www.ny.gov/programs/empire-state-trail

Proposed Elimination of I-81

As you are likely well aware, NYS has determined Interstate I-81 through the city of Syracuse will be eliminated and a community grid plan will proceed. I strongly opposed this plan, as did the majority of Onondaga County Town Supervisors and Village Mayors, as well residents. A much more comprehensive, innovative and economically robust plan could have not only altered the landscape of the city of Syracuse in positive and progressive ways, but also provided a myriad of robust economic opportunities for the city and surrounding suburbs.

Moreover, insofar as our community is concerned, the proposed elimination of I-81 will have numerous impacts on DeWitt, not the least of which will be economic, social, and environmental. As I outlined in detail almost a year ago in this newsletter, on October 14, 2021, on behalf of the Town of DeWitt, I submitted an intensive and extensive report to NYS DOT in opposition to the elimination of I-81 through the city of Syracuse and re-routing traffic onto I-481. The 30-page document, plus several attachments, was an in-depth and comprehensive look at all of the impacts the re-routing of I-81 to I-481 will have on DeWitt and the greater community from our Kirkville Road exits into the railyards.

At present, I am looking to NYS DOT for support to reduce our local truck traffic via a direct connection from Route 481 at the Kirkville Road exits directly into the CSX railyards.

For links to our documentation to New York State and my letter outlining the majority of the broader community's opposition to the proposed community grid, please go to: https://www.townofdewitt.com/departments/supervisor/i-81.php

Update: Carrier Park 2022 Season

Our new public-private partnership with JDL Management (Salt City Sports) at Carrier Park has been "building community" with momentum this year! Together we hosted more than 15 baseball and softball tournaments, Section III semi-final and final softball playoff games for all classes, and the 2022 NJCAA Division III Women's Softball Championship Tournament.





Dickie Woodridge and Chris Cafalone have been building relationships, too with ESM Little League, Syracuse Challenger Baseball, Advocates Kickball, FM – ESM - JD & Liverpool Softball, LeMoyne College and Syracuse Club Softball, and NJCAA women's softball championship teams from all over the East Coast and Midwest. For more details about the season at Carrier Park, see the inside front cover (page 2) and page 10 of this newsletter.

Carrier Park was also the new home for our Town of DeWitt Summer Concert Series this year. The Town Board and I want to thank town staff Naerissa Strossner and Ryan Goff for their work on the concert series, and all of our Carrier Park Partners for a successful season – Dickie Woodridge, Jim Smith, Chris Cafalone, Don Beaudry, Challenger Baseball, Advocates, and our own Town Parks and Recreation staff – we look forward to growing our partnership in 2023.

Carrier Park is not only a "quality of life" recreational facility intended to serve the DeWitt community, it is also an economic development engine we are incrementally expanding year to year. Tournaments hosted at Carrier Park generate sports tourism spending – hotels, retail, restaurant, entertainment, and fuel dollars – and that supports the Town of DeWitt, as well as the whole of Onondaga County.

Based on Visit Syracuse data in a marketing report by Venue Strategies for the Town, with just 14 multi-day weekend events, Carrier Park will generate an incremental annual hotel revenue of $945,000, an equivalent of $200,000 in sales tax revenues, and $66,150 in annual Room Occupancy Tax to Onondaga County, as well as a total business benefit in excess of $5,000,000 annually.

For more information about this year's NJCAA Women's Softball Championship Tournament at Carrier Park, see below. For more information about Carrier Park, go to: https://cms8.revize.com/revize/dewittcarrierpark/about/C.P.%20MTG.%20PKG%20Update%

Update: Syracuse Challenger Baseball Program 2022

Carrier Park is the proud home of the Syracuse Challenger Baseball program, one of the largest Challenger programs in the country. This year Challenger celebrated its 40th Anniversary. The Town Board and I offer our sincere congratulations – and thanks – to Challenger Executive Director Dom Cambareri and all of the Challenger players and their families. Dom and Challenger continue to be one of our most valued "Carrier Park Partners." To see more about their 2022 season, go to page 34.



Update: 2022 NJCAA Women's Softball Championship Tournament

Carrier Park is…more than you think! Our own Town of DeWitt Carrier Park served as host of the 2022 National Junior College Division III Women's Softball Championship May 26th to the 29th. Despite a rain delay on Friday – with the final game that evening ending just short of midnight! – the tournament went off without a hitch and was enjoyed by both players, fans, and families. As one player said, "This was the best five days of my life!"





Teams from as far away as North Dakota and Illinois faced off against teams from Corning, Herkimer, and the Bronx. In a tournament packed with outstanding pitching, Corning's Jayden Hill pitched an 8-inning no hitter and North Dakota's Katelyn Strauss tossed 17 strikeouts in the second round.

On Tuesday evening, prior to the start of the tournament our Carrier Park partner Dickie Woodridge hosted a clinic for young, local players with the softball stars of the NJCAA providing tips and instruction. This event was followed by a dinner for all the teams, umpires, softball and NJCAA officials.

The final championship game on Saturday again encountered a bit of a rain delay and so began at 1:00pm with the Rock Valley Golden Eagles, seven-time champions of Division III, facing off against the Corning Red Barons; a repeat of the 2021 Championship game. Rock Valley clinched the championship once again – for a history-making eighth time – with a final score of 9 to 2. See photos on page 42.

The Rock Valley Golden Eagles of Illinois hold the record for most consecutive national titles across all three NJCAA divisions. However, 2022 was their final ride to the Division III championship, as they move up to Division II next year.

Thank you to our own Town recreation, highway, and parks departments, our Carrier Park partners Dickie Woodridge, Jim Smith, Chris Cafalone, and Don Beaudry, Donnie Dutcher and Nick Laino from Herkimer College, Kristen Schuth, NJCAA Softball Chair, and Antonio Cannavaro from NJCAA.

We look forward to an even bigger and better event in 2023! Tournaments like this really do "build

community" for the Town of DeWitt, providing hotel, retail, restaurant, entertainment, and fuel dollars to local businesses, as well as park business. For highlights of the tournament and video footage, see below:
https://www.njcaa.org/sports/sball/2021-22/videos/20220528-1me6dndj?list=/sports/sball/2021-22/div3/national_championship/Video_Headlines
https://www.njcaa.org/sports/sball/2021-22/div3/national_championship/championship_recap

Update: Carrier Park All-Inclusive Playground, Basketball Courts & Pavilion

All facilities at Carrier Park were open to the public during the day and early evenings beginning on May 1st. Bathroom facilities will be closing in October, but the park is still open to the public. To rent the pavilion at Carrier Park, please call the Recreation Dept. at (315) 446-3910, ext. 9

Carrier Park is Building Community

Carrier Park serves the quality of life not only of DeWitt residents, but also of the greater community. For more information about the potential economic benefits of Carrier Park, an overview of the project, as well the ways in which you can become a "Carrier Park Partner" and support this community asset providing DeWitt vital economic development opportunities via sports tourism dollars, see pages 35-40 in this newsletter. Or, go to: https://cms8.revize.com/revize/dewittcarrierpark/about/C.P.%20MTG.%20PKG%20Update%208.9.21.pdf

Are you a Carrier Park Partner?

Please consider becoming a "**Carrier Park Partner**." Our state-of-the-art, all inclusive, multi-sport recreation facility for children and adults needs **your** partnership. (See pgs. 35-40 for more information.) Or go to: https://cms8.revize.com/revize/dewittcarrierpark/about/C.P.%20MTG.%20PKG%20Update%

Update: Booking Carrier Park for the 2022-2023 seasons

To book tournaments at Carrier Park, or with questions, please contact our Carrier Park partner, Salt City Sports at: **https://www.saltcitysports.org/**

To book fields at Maxwell or Carrier Park, or with questions, contact Salt City Sports at: **https://www.saltcitysports.org/contact-us**

Carrier Park Events:

If you are interested in hosting an event – personal, company or corporate, community fundraising, etc. – please email us at: **recreation@townofdewitt.com,** or call (315) 446-3910, ext. 9



How can you support Carrier Park?
Carrier Park Lawn Signs

You can support our award-winning, multi-sport recreation facility right now by purchasing a couple of Carrier Park "more than you think" lawn signs. Just $10, lawn signs are available at the Town Hall Recreation Office, 2nd floor.

A sign on your front lawn – or at your business – shows neighbors, colleagues, and passing motorists you are a part of "building community" by supporting Carrier Park; your contribution supports future park development.

For more information about Carrier Park see pgs. 35-40 or to learn more about sponsorships and donations, download a PDF at: https://cms8.revize.com/revize/dewittcarrierpark/Sponsorship.pdf

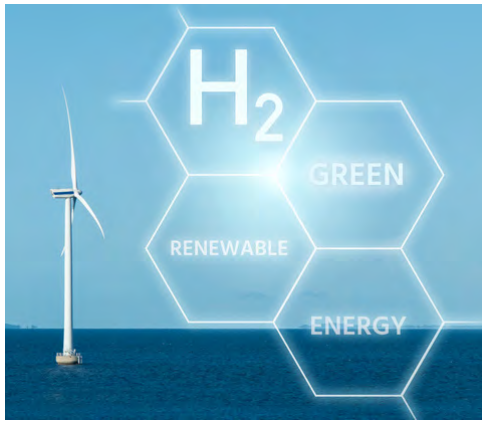
Syracuse Bottle & Can Return

East Syracuse Bottle & Can Return, located on East Manlius Street right next to the Thrifty Shopper in the Village of East Syracuse will accept your returnables and donate the proceeds to Carrier Park, home of the Syracuse Challenger Baseball program.

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Environmental & Energy Initiatives

New! Electric and Hydrogen Power



At present, there is no technology yet developed that would allow snowplows and other heavy trucks to become Electric Vehicles (EV's). There are possibilities however, using hydrogen power. In line with our commitment to fully reduce our use of fossil fuels in DeWitt, the Town is exploring the possibility of harnessing hydrogen power. We have received both state and federal grant funds to pursue this project: $370,000 from NYS and $230,000 from Senator Schumer. Going forward, this could be an exciting, progressive project for the Town of DeWitt; we will keep you updated as opportunities unfold. Our thanks to NYS and to Senator Schumer for helping us to "build community" in innovative and environmentally responsible ways.



Update: DACC Fall Clean-Up 2022 Cancelled

Unfortunately, The DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission (DACC) will not be conducting a Fall Clean-up in September of this year. This difficult decision was made because very few people participated in our clean up in Fall 2021. If enough people express a serious interest in holding a Fall Clean-up next year, then it can be restarted; if you would like to help facilitate a Fall Clean-Up for 2023, please contact our Town of DeWitt DACC Chair Dennis Payne at paynedennis1@gmail.com.

Our Spring 2023 Clean-Up will go on as scheduled; the exact date is determined by OCCRA, but the event will likely be held on April 22, 2023; details will be posted online on the Town website and in the Winter 2022 Newsletter, which comes out in January.

Interested in joining the DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission?

If you are interested in environmental and conservation issues, please see the link below and consider becoming a member of the DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission (DACC). Or, go to page 22 for more information.

https://www.townofdewitt.com/government/dewitt_advisory_conservation_commission/index.php

Did you know you can become a Town of DeWitt Tree Steward-Volunteer?

If you would like to become a Tree Steward in the Town of DeWitt, go to: http://cceonondaga.org/environment/forestry/communitree-stewards for more information.

Solar Array: Sustainability & Bird Sanctuary & Kiosk

Our Town Solar Array is "building community" for the short-term and the long-term. The array has been in operation since the Fall of 2020, In the short-term (and long-term) the 2.66 Megawatts of electricity the Solar Array produces not only frees the Town from using fossil fuels for all of our municipal electric needs, in the long-term it is projected to save us over $2 million on our municipal energy costs over the 20-year life of the project; that represents a carbon reduction of 2,605 metric tons; the equivalent of taking 510 vehicles off the road for 20 years.

If you walk, run, or cycle along the Erie Canal, you know the 50-acre site of our former town landfill is also a grassland bird sanctuary; by instituting a minimal lawn mowing regime at the site of the Solar Array, we maintain a grassland habitat that accommodates several *Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern* and *High Priority* bird species, including: Northern Harrier, Grasshopper Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, and Bobolink. (For a detailed list of other bird species observed at the landfill and surrounding habitats, please see Cornell's eBird website: https://ebird.org/home)

Going forward, we intend to expand the solar array with a community power purchase program whereby residents can purchase their electricity from their own solar farm right here in DeWitt.

To learn more about the construction and the myriad economic and environmental benefits of the array, stop by the educational kiosk we installed in the Fall of 2021. The Town kiosk is located to the left over the Cedar Bay Bridge at Cedar Bay Park, across from the site of the Solar Array and several feet past the NYS kiosk featuring information about the Erie Canal. Looking for an activity that supports your children to grow into smart, sensitive stewards of our environment? Bring them out for a walk – or bike ride – along the Erie Canal and stop by our Solar Array kiosk; the kiosk describes the construction process and the benefits of the array over the short and long-term.

As I have said many times, I want my grandchildren and great grandchildren to view polluting fossil fuels – natural gas, oil, and coal – like we view using horses as a mode of transportation. Our Solar Array not only benefits Town of DeWitt residents, but also will improve the quality of life for our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren for many years to come.

To learn more about the Solar Array, go to: https://www.townofdewitt.com/departments/planning___zoning/sustainability/solar.php

Assisting Residents with Energy Costs

If you would like information about how to save on your energy costs and/or bill payment options and financial assistance programs, contact the NYS Office of Consumer Services, at: https://www.nyconnects.ny.gov/results.

HEAP can help income-eligible households pay the cost of home heating. For more info., go to: https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/

Also: https://mybenefits.ny.gov/mybenefits/begin

HeatSmart CNY is a community-based campaign that helps owners of residences (single & multi-family), commercial, and community buildings learn about and install renewable technologies for heating/cooling and energy efficiency/weatherization measures; various incentives can be combined to bring down costs. For more information about the technologies, incentives, and upcoming virtual events please visit: https://heatsmartcny.org/

Also: https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Clean-Heating-and-Cooling-Communities/Campaigns/HeatSmart-CNY



Fiddlers Green Park

This Spring, we were at last able to come together with Jackie Place and her family to hold an event in appreciation of her donation of several acres of land – including several hundred feet of waterfront along Butternut Creek in Jamesville – to the Town of DeWitt. The land is located in an area behind the former Glen Lock restaurant.

Jackie generously donated this beautiful swath of land in honor of her late husband, Bryan McNeill Place. Jackie and Bryan's children - Ryan, Jacob, Abigail, and Lauren - Bryan's mother, and many members of the Fiddlers Green Park Association were present at the event. Heartfelt words were spoken and refreshments shared; however, I would venture to say it was the spirit of Bryan, the spirit of community, and a sincere appreciation of finally being able to come together with one another – after a two-year delay due to COVID – that made the event most enjoyable. The Town Board and I thank Jackie Place, her children and family, for such an extraordinary and generous gift.

Interested in joining the Fiddlers Green Park Association?

Fiddlers Green Park in Jamesville is one of DeWitt's most beautiful, natural parks; the Fiddlers Green Park Association welcomes new members from the Jamesville area, or from any area of DeWitt and the greater community. They meet the first Monday



of every month, usually at the Half Moon Bakery in Jamesville; if you are interested in the FGPA, or would simply like to know more, go to: http://www.fiddlersgreenpark.org/.

Update: Deer Management 2022-2023

DeWitt's Deer Management program is essential not only to the balance of our local environment, but also to our personal health and well-being. Effective deer management helps to mitigate the negative impacts on health and property via deer and ticks.

The Town of DeWitt has an exceptionally high deer population. Deer populations in natural forested areas average about 10-20 deer per square mile; it is estimated that populations in DeWitt are as high as 85 deer per square mile in some areas!



Since 2018, we have culled 320 deer providing 9,523 pounds of venison to local food assistance programs; environmental responsibility goes hand-in-hand with helping people directly. Food insecurity is a significant and serious challenge – in our county and in our country – especially given the economic changes, challenges, and rising inflation we all face right now; we sincerely appreciate the opportunity to contribute to food assistance in this way.

For information about our deer management program, go to: https://www.townofdewitt.com/i_want_to/find___learn_about/sustainability/white-tailed_deer_management.php

Gaining access to large parcels of land that meet the conditions of our NYS Department of Conservation permit is essential to the success of our Deer Management Program, if you are a property owner interested in supporting the Town's deer management efforts, please contact the Planning and Zoning Dept., (315) 446-3910, ext. 3

As a reminder:

- All town parks are closed from dusk to dawn.
- Always be sure you have a property owner's explicit permission before entering private property.
- Regardless of deer culling season, it is always highly advisable to have permission to enter private property.



INSIDE TOWN HALL

New! Congratulations to Town Clerk, Angela Epolito, RMC

In June, the New York State Town Clerks Association awarded Angela Epolito the association's certification as a Registered Municipal Clerk (RMC). This prestigious award acknowledges the professional competency of Angela; certification is only awarded after an applicant has demonstrated they have met the stringent education and experience requirements established by the NYSTCA.



Some folks may not know, Angela not only serves as DeWitt Town Clerk, she also serves as our Town Tax Receiver. I know I speak for the Town Board – and for all Town staff – when I offer not only our most sincere congratulations to Angela, but also our sincere appreciation for all she does not only within her office, but also across all departments. Congratulations on your RMC designation and thank you for all you do, Angela!

See pages 18 – 19 for Town Clerk /Tax receiver Department updates.

Update: Town of DeWitt Website

Please be sure to sign up for email and/or text notifications; help us better connect to you with important information, as well as meeting dates, special events, newsletters, before and after school and day camp updates, programming additions and changes, town hall closings, and seasonal and services news. For more information, go to: https://www.townofdewitt.com/e_notify/index.php

Plus: We now also have Water Alerts:

https://www.townofdewitt.com/e_notify/index.php

Update: Town Board Meetings

The Town Board continues to hold meetings in person and via Zoom. We also broadcast via Facebook. For more information, go to: https://cms8.revize.com/revize/dewittny/government/dewitt_town_board/index.php

Update: 2022 Budget, Assessments & Taxes

The budget committee is diligently working on our 2023 budget. Like you, rising fuel prices and across the board inflation have significantly impacted our budget this past year. The overall town budget is approximately $18 million dollars per year; our town budget has only increased at an annual average rate of 1.5% over the last 15 years.

Approximately 75% of our budget must go to labor costs; maintaining the workforce for Police, Courts, Highway, Water, Parks, Recreation, Planning and Zoning, and the offices of Assessor, Comptroller, Clerk and Tax Receiver; the services residents and businesses rely on every day.

What most folks do not know is, for every tax dollar you pay, only 15 cents goes to the Town; of the remaining, 50 cents goes to the school district and 35 cents to Onondaga County. Moreover, every town and village in New York State – including the Town of DeWitt – must keep their annual budget below the Governor's 2% Tax Cap.

While it is a challenge every year – especially this year – to stay below the Governor's Tax Cap, given the volatility of the overall economy, the low growth of our CNY economy the last decade, and the economic challenges we have faced due to a prolonged pandemic – inflation and soaring fuel prices – maintaining the tax cap for the past 15 years has served our residents and businesses well.



As you are no doubt aware, home sale prices have risen dramatically over the last two years; in some markets increasing as much as 30%+. You may not be aware however, that New York State requires all towns to maintain their valuations each year; as such, because the Town of DeWitt assesses at full value (100%), every year each property must then be assessed at its full value.

Accordingly, when homes in your neighborhood sell at higher prices, the Assessor must then re-evaluate the value of similar homes in the area in order to ensure all homes are assessed at full value. In addition, when a buyer closes on their new house, they pay a mortgage tax to New York State. A portion of that mortgage tax is then distributed back to the "home" municipality. The Town of DeWitt collects a mortgage tax of about $800,000 a year. Failing to fully assess our homes here in DeWitt would cause a loss of revenue that would then have to be compensated for in some other area of the budget.

Finally, while the Assessor is appointed by a vote of the Town Board – and the Town Board directs the Assessor to maintain 100% valuation – the Town Board has no power over the Assessor and cannot legally seek to influence the decisions of him or her in any way; this is a function of the separation of powers. The Assessor is independent of the Town Board and all other municipal officers.

Update: Zombie Homes 2022

Our community is also tangibly "building community" when it comes to our Zombie Homes program, DeWitt is one of the few municipalities in the greater Syracuse area with an active Zombie Homes program. We recognize abandoned and neglected properties adversely affect the aesthetics of your streets and neighborhoods and that negatively impacts property values. The objective of our Zombie Homes program is to protect the value of your home and neighborhood and thereby ensure DeWitt continues to be a highly desirable community to live, worship, work, learn, shop and play. If you have an abandoned property or seriously neglected in your neighborhood, please contact the Planning and Zoning Dept. at (315) 446-3910, ext. 3.

For more information, go to: https://www.townofdewitt.com/departments/planning___zoning/planning___sustainability/ongoing_projects___initiatives/zombie_homes.php

ASSESSOR

It's Exemption time again and the State has given us a choice between the Star exemption and the Star credit for the first time this year and it may be time for people to consider switching from the STAR exemption to the STAR credit.

For people with Questions about switching to the Star Credit from the Star Exemption, New York State has provided this explanation below.

Star Credit vs. Star Exemption

Onondaga County

Municipality	School district	Tax class	Enhanced STAR credit	Enhanced STAR exemption savings	Difference between Enhanced STAR credit and exemption savings	Basic STAR credit	Basic STAR exemption savings	Difference between Basic STAR credit and exemption savings
Town of Dewitt	East Syracuse-Minoa		$1,729.58	$1,649.00	**$80.58**	$733.91	$733.91	**$0.00**
Town of Dewitt	Jamesville-Dewitt		$1,550.00	$1,461.00	**$89.00**	$705.88	$700.00	**$5.88**
Town of Dewitt	Fayetteville-Manlius		$1,785.02	$1,698.00	**$87.02**	$757.44	$757.44	**$0.00**

Why switch to the STAR credit from the STAR exemption

If you currently receive your STAR benefit as a reduction on your school tax bill (the STAR exemption), you may receive a greater benefit if you switch to the STAR credit to receive a check instead.

The value of the STAR credit savings may increase by as much as 2% each year, but the value of the STAR exemption savings cannot increase. The STAR exemption savings can never be higher than the STAR credit savings.

The STAR credit benefit can continue to grow

By switching to the STAR credit, your benefit could grow by as much as 2% each year, and it can never be lower than the STAR exemption benefit.

For example, if your STAR exemption benefit was $800 on your 2020-2021 school tax bill, that's the most you can receive in any future years, **unless** you switch to the STAR credit.

If you switch to the STAR credit, your benefit can grow by as much as 2% each year.

- *In the first year*, that could mean up to $816—an extra $16 in savings.
- *Five years later*, the STAR credit benefit could reach as high as $900 due to the power of compounding,

STAR benefits can change each year

Whether you're receiving the STAR credit or exemption, the benefit can change each year due to a variety of factors, including school tax rates, changes in property values in our community, and local assessment practices.

As a result, the STAR credit benefit may not always increase; however, when it does increase, it may do so by 2% or less.

However, the STAR exemption benefit can *never* increase, even when the STAR credit benefit does increase. The STAR exemption benefit will *never* be higher than the STAR credit benefit.

How much will I save?

To determine how much you could save by switching to the STAR credit:

1. Find the amount of your STAR savings on your most recent school tax bill.
2. Multiply the STAR savings by 1.02 to see how high your STAR credit benefit can be this year if you switch to the credit.

How to switch?

To get started see Switching to the STAR credit from the STAR exemption.

Over the last four years everyone who applied for the Enhanced Star Exemption has had to sign up for the IVP program, whereas the State will verify your income and eligibility going forward. Everyone who did this will not be receiving a renewal application this year for the STAR program. Anyone on the Basic Star Exemption that is turning 65 in 2023 will have to pick up an application for the Enhanced Star. To qualify, your income for 2021 must be under $93,200 and turn 65 by December 31st, 2023. You do not need to be 65 by March 1st, 2023, which is the deadline to apply.

All other renewal applications will be mailed the first week of January. That includes Senior Citizens, Veteran's disability, Disability, Clergy and Non-Profit.

All Exemption Forms MUST be in our office no later than March 1st, 2023. Any form received after that date; the exemption will be denied. For Senior Citizen and Disability, you will need to provide us with your 2021 income information. If you file a tax return, we will need that, if not, we need your year-end income statements, including Social Security. For Disability, as well as Veteran's Disability, we need a current Award Letter. Be sure to return all renewal applications by March 1st 2023. We can wait for income information and Award Letters, but we cannot extend the deadline for receiving the application.

The STAR exemption process has been changed in New York State for new property owners. If you have purchased your home since March 1st, 2015, we can no longer accept applications from the homeowners for the Basic STAR or for the Enhanced STAR Exemption. You must apply online for the Star Credit through the New York State office of Tax and Finance at www.tax.ny.gov or call at (518) 457-2036.

STAR eligibility

Eligible types of property

- houses
- condominiums
- cooperative apartments
- manufactured homes
- farm houses
- mixed-use properties, Including apartment buildings (but only the owner-occupied portion)

Eligible homeowners

Requirements for Basic and Enhanced STAR

Factor	Basic STAR	Enhanced STAR
Residency	The property must be the primary residence of an owner:	The property must be the primary residence of at least one age-eligible owner.
Age	No age restriction	65 or older All owners must be at least age 65 as of December 31of the year of the exemption, except where the property is jointly owned by only a married couple or only siblings, in which case only one owner needs to meet the age requirement. Surviving spouses may be eligible to retain the Enhanced STAR benefit. See Surviving spouse eligibility •
Income...	$500,000 or less for the STAR credit $250.000 or less for the STAR exemption The income limit applies to the combined incomes of only the owners and owners' spouses who reside at the property.	For 2022 benefits: $92,000 or less For 2023 benefits: $93,200 or less The income limit applies to the combined incomes of all owners (residents and non-residents), and any owner's spouse who resides at the property.
Ownership	The property must be owned by the eligible applicant(s). A married couple can receive only one STAR benefit regardless of how many properties they own, unless they are legally separated.	

Please contact our office at (315)-446-0973 x 8 for any questions concerning exemptions.

Office of the Town Clerk/ Tax Receiver

Angela Epolito, Town Clerk/Tax Receiver

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Phone: (315)446-3910 ext. 2
Email: clerk@townofdewitt.com



Welcome Fall! The Town Clerk's office is gearing up for the 2022 Fall season; August begins Hunting Licenses and September is the start of the School Tax Season.

Our office will continue to offer in-person, mail, drop box and online transactions for dog licenses, water bill payments, taxes, hunting and fishing, and more. Please note, credit card and electronic check payments are subject to a Merchant Fee; these fees go directly to the merchant, a third party processor, and are not retained by the Town.

Town Board meetings will continue to be held in person, via Zoom and Facebook Live.

The Town Hall will host early voting beginning on Saturday, October 29th – be sure to check the dates and times found on the next page. As always, if you need assistance, please reach out and we will do our best to accommodate you.

New! Renew your Dog License Online
You may renew & pay for your dog license(s) online at: https://dogs.egov.basgov.com/Dogs/Search?munirecid=148 by using your Credit Card, Debit Card or Electronic Check. There is a $1.75 convenience fee added to allow for this online service.

*Please keep in mind; you will need to contact the Town Clerk's office first if your rabies certificate is expired.

2022 – 2023 School Tax Bills
The Tax Office is now accepting in person payments, as well as continuing the acceptance of payments by mail, drop box, or online. Please include the entire bill when submitting your payment so a receipt can be returned to you. Online payments for taxes are charged an additional Merchant Fee; these fees go directly to the merchant, a third party processor, and are not retained by the Town or the County.

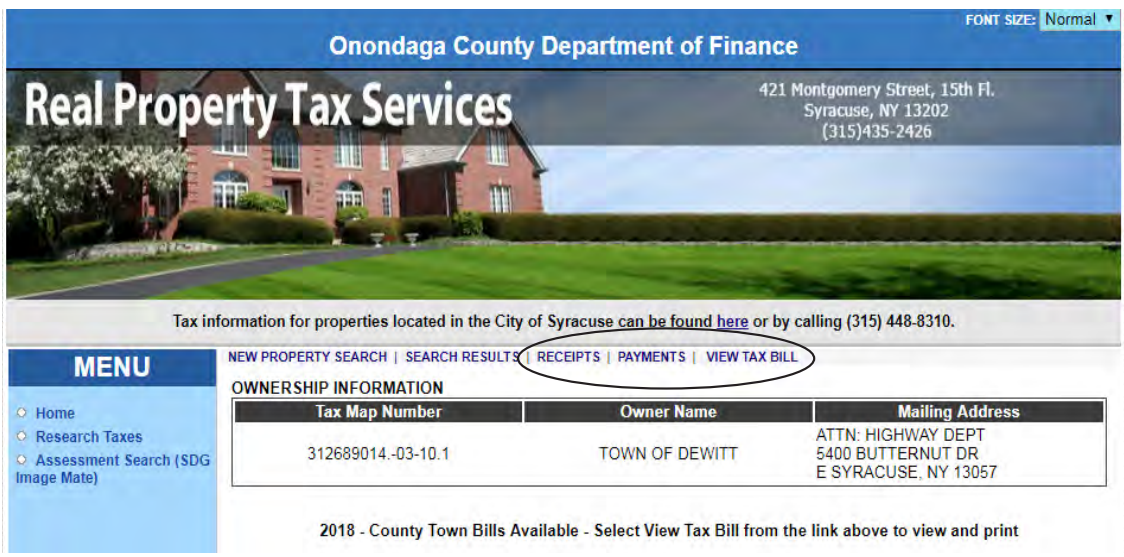
The Tax Office will be open special hours on Saturday, September 24th, 2022 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm for school tax bill collection.

The 2022-2023 School tax bills are mailed in the beginning of September. If you do not receive your tax bill, please call the office at (315) 446-3910 x 2. You can also print a copy of your tax bill, print previous tax receipts, and pay your taxes by e-check or credit card using the Onondaga County website:

https://onondaga.go2gov.net/faces/searchBySitusAddress.jsp.

Please note that the Onondaga County Department of Finance has a website for tax information. The link above will allow you to search by property address or if you wish to search by tax map number, you can select "New Property Search".

After you locate your property, click on the Tax Map Number. To view your tax bill, payments, or print receipts, see "Ownership Information" located directly above (View is shown below).



Board Meetings, Agendas & Minutes

Town Board, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals meetings, agendas, and minutes can be found on the Town of DeWitt website at: http://www.townofdewitt.com/OpenMeetings2.aspx . The DeWitt Town Board will continue to hold all meetings in person, via Zoom and live on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/TownofDeWittNY

Credit Card Payments

The Town Clerk's office is now accepting credit cards for in-person payments. Note, the merchant charges 2.45%, with a minimum of $1.75. These fees go directly to the merchant, a third party processor, and are not retained by the Town.

Parking Permits for People with Severe Disabilities

Parking permits or hangtags are issued to Town residents who meet New York State requirements. Application forms are available at the Town Clerk's office, can be mailed to the applicant or you can find them online at https://dmv.ny.gov/forms/mv6641.pdf . Please note: A new application form signed by a medical provider needs to be filled out each time a hangtag is issued or re-issued. Applicant must show their drivers' license or non-drivers' license ID if they have one.

Dog Control Complaints

SPCA: (315) 454-0928
Emergency or After Hours: 911

Dog Licenses

Dog Licenses are required for all dogs over the age of four months and can be obtained from the Town Clerk's office. For more information, please visit our website at: www.townofdewitt.com/DogControl3.aspx

DeWitt Ordinances Concerning Dogs

Leash Law: A dog is required to be on a leash "…and accompanied by and in full control of the owner or other responsible person" when the dog is off of its owner's property. Dogs must be leashed at all times in Town of DeWitt parks.

Pooper Scooper Law: Owners are responsible for preventing their dogs from defecating on the property of others.

Barking Dogs: DeWitt's noise ordinance states that "…a noise disturbance from a barking dog shall be defined as that created by a dog barking continually for ten (10) minutes or intermittently for thirty (30) minutes unless provoked."

Early Voting

Below is a list of the early voting sites, dates and times. Should you have any additional questions, please contact the Board of Election at 315-435-8683 or www.ongov.net/elections. Absentee ballots and voter registration cards are available in the Town Clerk's office.

Every voter who lives within Onondaga County is eligible to vote at any Early Voting Site.

2022 EARLY VOTING DATES & TIMES FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION AT THE ABOVE LOCATIONS

November 8, 2022 General Election:
Saturday, October 29, 2022: 9:00AM – 5:00PM
Sunday, October 30, 2022: 9:00AM – 5:00PM
Monday, October 31, 2022: 10:00AM – 6:00PM
Tuesday, November 1, 2022: 12:00PM – 8:00PM
Wednesday, November 2, 2022: 12:00PM – 8:00PM
Thursday, November 3, 2022: 10:00AM – 6:00 PM
Friday, November 4, 2022: 10:00AM – 6:00 PM
Saturday, November 5, 2022: 9:00AM – 5:00 PM
Sunday, November 6, 2022: 9:00AM – 5:00 PM

2022 ONONDAGA COUNTY EARLY VOTING SITES FOR GENERAL ELECTION

ARMOND MAGNARELLI COMMUNITY CENTER AT MCCHESNEY PARK
2300 Grant Boulevard, Syracuse NY 13208

BEAUCHAMP BRANCH LIBRARY
2111 South Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13205

CAMILLUS MUNICIPAL BUILDING (Gym)
4600 West Genesee Street, Syracuse NY 13219

CLAY TOWN HALL COURTROOM (Rear Entrance)
4401 Route 31, Clay NY 13041

DEWITT TOWN HALL COURTROOM
5400 Butternut Drive, East Syracuse NY 13057

LAFAYETTE FIRE STATION #1 (Rear Entrance)
2444 Route 11 South, LaFayette NY 13084

LYSANDER MUNICIPAL BUILDING
8220 Loop Road, Baldwinsville, NY 13027

ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE – Mulroy Hall
4926 Onondaga Road, Syracuse, NY 13215

NORTH SYRACUSE COMMUNITY CENTER
700 South Bay Road, Syracuse, NY 13212

SYRACUSE COMMUNITY CONNECTION (SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CENTER)
401-425 South Avenue, Syracuse NY 13204

Town of DeWitt Police Department

Chase L. Bilodeau, Chief of Police

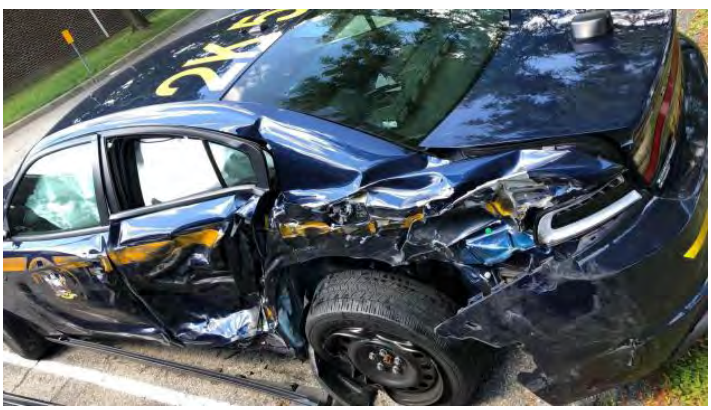
Reminder! NYS Move Over Law
The DeWitt Police Department would like to remind motorists of the New York State Move Over Law; this law helps protect the lives of Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, Emergency Workers, Tow Operators, and other maintenance workers that are stopped along roadways while performing their duties.

Drivers must use due care when approaching an emergency vehicle that displays red - or any combination of red, white or blue - emergency lighting or a hazard vehicle displaying flashing amber lighting, or a vehicle displaying blue or green lighting.

- On ALL roads and highways, drivers must reduce speed.

- On Parkways and Controlled Access Highways (ex. 481 & 690) with multiple lanes, when approaching an emergency vehicle that displays any lights described above, drivers must move from the lane immediately adjacent to the emergency or hazard vehicle, unless traffic or other hazards exist to prevent doing so safely, but all motorists must still reduce speed.

Any motorist who fails to use the due care as described above could be issued a traffic ticket for NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law 1144a(a).



This photo was taken as a result of a motorist failing to move over safely.

Highway Department

Rocco Conte, Highway Superintendent

Brush Pick up
The Town of DeWitt takes pride in offering this service to our residents.

REMINDER: OCTOBER IS THE LAST MONTH for Town sponsored Brush pick up.

Collection dates are listed below:
Area 1: October 2nd- October 7th
Area 2: October 9th – October 14th
Area 3: October 16th – October 21st
Area 4: October 23rd – October 28th

We ask that you place your brush in front of your house on **the Sunday of the week of your pickup;** that way you do not miss your last pickup. We cannot go back once we have completed your street.

DO NOT place brush in the road or curbside **after your scheduled pick up,** it is a violation of Town code. Brush piles can be a safety hazard. Also, the brush interferes with the storm water system.

Brush pick up runs April thru October. The 2023 brush pick up schedule will be available on the Town's website after the New Year (March), as well as published in the Spring/Summer Newsletter.

Leaf Collection-No Set Schedule
Pick up will start in **November and run thru December.** (There is no set schedule for leaf collection.) Please deposit your leaves in piles along your property and our vacuums and loaders will collect the leaves.

Leaves placed in cardboard boxes, paper bags, or plastic bags **will not be collected.**

DO NOT MIX sticks or other debris in the leaf piles, as these can cause damage to our equipment or our



employees. **If the piles are mixed,** they will not be collected. Leaves should be placed at the edge of your property, **NOT** on the pavement, or in the gutters.

For safety reasons, please do not allow your children to play in leaf piles by the road. Please do not place leaf piles behind obstacles such as trees, cars, mailboxes, fire hydrants, or light poles, etc.

Christmas Tree Collection



The Town will collect Christmas trees **curbside during the month of January.** Place your tree at the curb – **no plastic bags, metal, lights, tinsel, stands, or ornaments** –and the Highway Department will pick them up. (There is no set schedule.)

Wreath Disposal



Please take the wreath apart. You can put the greenery curbside in the spring with other brush pick up. The support structure can be disposed of in the trash or recycling depending upon what the material is. **We cannot pick up wreaths when collecting the Christmas trees.**

Overnight Parking

Overnight parking (between the hours of 2:00 AM and 6:00 AM) on streets and roadways is prohibited in the Town of DeWitt from November 1st thru April 1st. This regulation is in effect at all time and is not weather dependent, or "suspended" during school vacations!

Storm Water

Storm Water drainage and Sanitary Water (sewer) are two separate systems. The Town owned storm drainage systems includes the underground storm-water pipes, catch basins, and drainage ditches on Town roads. The Highway Department is responsible for installation and maintenance of the Town storm water drainage system throughout the Town of DeWitt.



Please contact the Highway Department at (315) 437-8331 to report issues with a catch basin or other storm water areas/issues on Town roads.

Storm drainage systems are cleared of obstructions on a regular basis with critical areas inspected and cleared before and after major storms.

Sanitary Sewer System

Onondaga County Department of **Water Environment Protection 315-435-3157 is responsible for the Sanitary Sewer System.** If you are having a backup into your house from the sanitary sewer

<u>Please call WEP</u> and they will check from the street to your vent. The homeowner is responsible for issues from the cleanout vent to the house.



9/11 Remembrance Ceremony 2022

As we do every year, we will hold a ceremony of Remembrance on September 11th at the memorial at Town Hall on Butternut Drive. As always, we remember the day and the many, many families and friends who suffered such enormous loss. However, on that day we also remind ourselves that truly "building community" is about coming together to remember…there is so much more that connects us, than divides us. Please join us at 2:00pm at the memorial; all are welcome.

DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission

DACC 2022 Fall Clean-Up Event

Unfortunately, the DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission (DACC) will not be conducting a September roadside clean up this year. This difficult decision was made due to the fact that so few people participated in our clean up in 2021. The clean-up has always been a popular event for families and neighbors to come to together in community; it's also a great way to encourage and empower children to become stewards of their environment.

Our Spring Clean-Up will be held as usual in April 2023, the date is in conjunction with OCCRA's Earth Day Clean-Up. We should have that date for the Winter 2023 newsletter, out in January; the information will also be posted on the Town website.



If enough people express a serious interest in holding a Spring or Fall 2023 effort then we will revive the event 2023. People who would like to schedule support that effort, should contact me at paynedennis1@gmail.com.

Interested in joining the DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission?



If you are interested in environmental and conservation issues, please see the link below and consider becoming a member of the DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission (DACC).

The DACC provides valuable input and recommendations regarding the preservation and protection of our local environment, supporting the Town with everything from critical environmental reports and information regarding sustainability, to educational forums. The DACC also facilitates the popular annual Spring and Fall town clean-up events. (See information above.)

The DACC is actively looking for new members. We meet the first Wednesday of each month at DeWitt Town Hall, Room B, at 7:30pm; interested members of the public are encouraged to attend.

For more info., go to: https://www.townofdewitt.com/government/dewitt_advisory_conservation_commission/index.ph

You can also contact Dennis Payne at paynedennis1@gmail.com.

New! Mulch Madness 2022

Volunteers Needed! The Town of DeWitt Tree Committee, in partnership with the Onondaga Environmental Institute, the Town Recreation Dept., and the DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission are looking for volunteers to help with "Mulch Madness;" a tree mulching event at DeWitt's Carrier Park recreation facility.

The event is Saturday, October 15th from 9:00 to 11:00am. Bring the kids, too! Mulch Madness is a great way for young people to



be a part of a fun community-building event and also gain practical experience supporting their environment.

The Town will provide the mulch and the tools; volunteers are asked to bring their own work gloves and to dress both for the weather and to protect against ticks, which are still active in Fall.

Carrier Park is located at 1033 Kinne St., East Syracuse, 13057. For more information, please contact Amy Samuels, Education and Outreach Coordinator, Onondaga Environmental Institute, asamuels@oei2.org or 315 424-9485 x13.

Town of Dewitt Tree Committee Update on Nottingham-Colvin Triangle Planting and Now Accepting Requests for Street Trees

Last fall the Tree Committee, in conjunction with DACC, planted a Swamp White Oak as the first step to creating a native plant landscape in the Nottingham-Colvin triangle. In June, several members of the Tree Committee planted 10 species of native flowering perennials and grasses to add visual interest at different times during the growing season. These ground-cover plants should fill in over time, limit weed growth, reduce the area to be mowed, and also provide food and habitat for pollinators.



Street Trees

If you are interested in having a street tree planted within the right-of-away of your front yard (generally 10-12 feet from the curb), call Dewitt Tree Committee member, Pam Wildridge at (315)446-6247. If your site is approved, a Tree Committee member will work with you on tree selection and how to get your new tree(s) off to a great start!

Join the Town of Dewitt Tree Committee for a Tree Care Workshop at the Community Library!

The Town of Dewitt Tree Committee is holding a hands-on Tree Care Workshop at the Community Library of Dewitt and Jamesville on Saturday, September 24 from 10 am to noon (rain date is Sunday, September 25, 1 to 3 pm). Find out how to care for trees as they age and work side-by-side with knowledgeable Tree Stewards to remove stakes/wires/ties; prune to remove deadwood, sprouts, and shape/train new growth; and do maintenance on the mulch rings. Take home what you have learned to keep the trees on your own property healthy and strong! You will also hear about Cornell Cooperative Extension's Tree Steward Training Program and future tree planting and tree care volunteer opportunities. Visit the Community Library's event calendar at https://onlibdewitt.evanced.info/signup/ to register. This is an outdoor work event so please wear long pants, closed-toed shoes or boots, and dress for the weather conditions and to protect against ticks.



Holidays in DeWitt

Holiday Photo Contest

Holiday Fare Contest

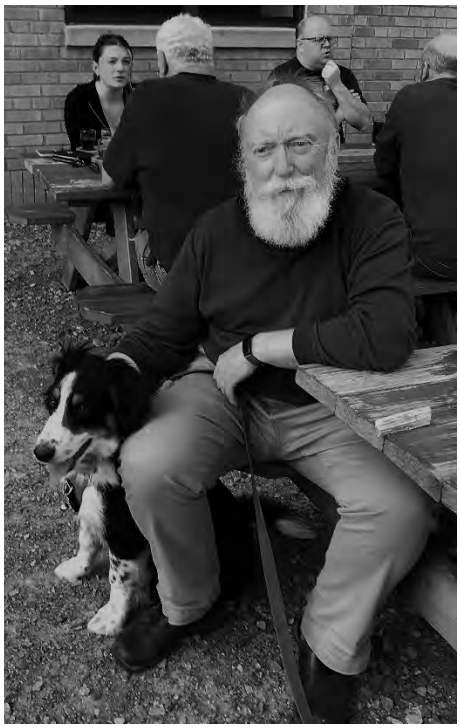
Holiday Home Décor Contest

See exciting details about our holiday programs on page 28!

Recreation Department

Peter Clark, Director

New! Recreation Director, Peter Clark…



It has been a busy couple of months in the Recreation Department this summer; staff have worked hard to ensure not only a successful Summer Day Camp – including special weeklong camps – but also to plan and facilitate both Canal Day and the Summer Concert Series. As the new Director of Recreation I watched, assisted, and advised as needed and couldn't help but be impressed by the knowledge, drive, and enthusiasm of my new team; new not just to me, but to a certain degree to each other and to the Town.

As we now move forward together this fall, I see my role as a guide and resource, a spokesperson, and the voice of reason and experience when needed. My professional background is not in Recreation per se, but instead is in management and customer service. However, thanks to my children, recreation has become a huge part of my life; I became involved in youth soccer when the eldest was seven. In 1993, I joined the East Side Soccer organization and went on to serve as President, Treasurer, field painter, Division Coordinator, and Coach. I am still a coach and an honorary board member.

Starting in 2007, my youngest son got involved in Rugby and once again, my time is split, serving as club founder, treasurer, and coach. Starting in 2018, I have worked 3 winters with the SU cross-country ski program at Drumlins. In each of these experiences, the most rewarding part of the assignment was seeing the learner gain confidence and become excited about building a new skill or learning something new. In Dewitt, our motto is "building community," and in the recreation department we believe we can do that through creating the programs, events, and trips that will encourage every citizen to learn something new or try something different.



I was asked "Given your background, why recreation"? Honestly, it is to challenge myself to see if my experience – both professionally and personally – can be blended into a role where I can make a difference for a larger, more diverse community than that of the players and parents of Eastside Soccer and CNY Rugby. I believe that I can; I believe that the team in place in the Recreation office at the Town of Dewitt can do just that, make a difference to the community.

I would also like to encourage everyone who has a skill or passion they want to share to please contact us at the Recreation office. Whether it is teaching guitar or bird watching, Christmas wreath making or Easter Egg painting, easy home maintenance or mastering digital photography…let us know what you can do and together we can help build our community.

recreation@townofdewitt.com, 315-446-3910, ext. 9

WORK OR VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Before and After School Programs

The DeWitt Recreation Department is seeking motivated, caring, individuals to work with us this school year.

Enjoy the rewards of working with kids! Facilitate games, activities, and crafts. Help different age groups with homework!

Are you or someone you know interested in any of the following career paths?

1. Education
2. Physical Therapy
3. Law Enforcement
4. Recreation
5. Social Work
6. Sports or Sports Administration
7. Psychology or Sociology

If so, we are a great job to gain experience and knowledge in your field of choice.





Learn leadership skills, teamwork, networking, confidence, and discipline while making a difference in your community.

Positions include: Before and After School Aide, Homework Tutor, Scorekeepers, and umpires.

Email your interest, completed application and/or your resume to recreation@townofdewitt.com. Applications are available on the town website: https://www.townofdewitt.com/departments/recreation/employment_opportunities.php

Instructors, Lecturers, and Trainers… OH MY!

Do you have a hobby or interest you would like to share with others?

We would love the opportunity to work with you to create a workshop, camp, or class for residents and neighboring communities! Our goal is growing and diversifying our programming.

We will provide the venue; you provide the fun!

Over the past year the Recreation Dept. has been working with a variety people and organizations to create new programs. For example, JD School District Technology teachers facilitated week-long summer camps about flight and video game coding!

If you are interested; contact us via phone 315-446-3910, ext. 9. or email us at recreation@townofdewitt.com!

Volunteer Opportunities

Would you like to be more involved in our community? We would love for you to volunteer with us!

Here is a list of ways to get involved:

1. David Klim Learning Center for literacy and homework help.
2. Town-wide events, such as Canal Day, 9/11 Remembrance, Holiday Lighting, etc.
3. Sports and League Programming
4. Before and After School Programming
5. Food Sense Order Pick Up Day

Contact the recreation office if you are interested!
recreation@townofdewitt.com

315-446-3910 EXT: 9

Food ene - Food Bank of CNY

Food ene is a program of the Food Bank of CNY designed to help individuals and families save money on their monthly food bill; the program is open to anyone and everyone! There are no income or other requirements to participate and no obligation.

New menus are offered each month featuring a variety of different food items: meats, fruits and vegetables, pasta, cheese, snacks. We post the monthly menu on our town website and social media accounts.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list; please email us at: foodsense@townofdewitt.com





A Summer Summary

Dear community members,



Thank you for all the fun this summer! We are so thankful for your participation in our programs!

Summer Day Camp was an absolute blast! Over 160 campers – and 30 staff members - joined us for six weeks. Each day, campers rotated through six stations: Arts and Crafts, Camper's Choice, Nature and Environment, Dance and Music, Sports and Exercise, and S.T.E.M.

We can't review Summer Day Camp without mentioning our fantastic staff! Our campers could not have asked for better counselors. Thank you to each of you and all of you for your hard work, collaboration and care!

This summer, we also offered several new camps including Flight Camp, Sports Mini Camp, Video Game Coding Camp, and Summer Literacy Help. We hope the kids enjoyed these programs. Parents, let us know your feedback! We are already working on new program ideas.

Do you have a programming idea? Email us at recreation@townofdewitt.com or phone us at: 315-446-3910, ext. 9

Finally, we hosted our annual Summer Concert Series at Carrier Park this year! Five different bands joined us for five weeks: The Party Nuts, Matt Chase and the Thunder Canyon Band, My So-Called Band, Loren Barrigar, and The Fab Cats.

Thank you to the bands for helping us "build community" all summer! And of course, thank you to Wegmans and Community Bank for helping to sponsor this popular program.



PROGRAMMING FOR EVERYONE

Upcoming!

Your Move!

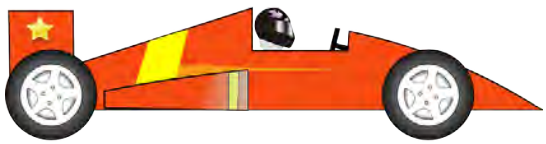


Are you interested in chess, but unsure where to begin? This winter, learn how to play chess with us!

Chess is a great way to exercise the mind with healthy competition, so look out for more information coming soon!

Special Events

Father/Son Pinewood Derby!
Everyone is invited and included!
Saturday, September 17, 2022
Ryder Park
(5400 Butternut Dr, East Syracuse, NY 13057)
1:00pm – 4:00pm
Who wants to go racing?!



The Father/Son event, open to everyone, will be hosted by BSA Troop and Pack 22!

Children in grades Pre-K - 8 *and* their father figure/ special adult are invited to join the Dewitt Recreation and The BSA Troop and Pack 22 Derby Race! Assemble, decorate, and race your own car!

Those who register can pick up their pinewood derby car kits from the Recreation Department prior to the event; kits were available beginning August 15th. For information, call (315) 446-3910, ext. 9.

Enjoy refreshments, snacks, a photo "booth", music, fun activities, and…prizes, of course!

****Space is limited!****
Pre-registration is required.
No registrations will be taken at the door.

Registration: $20 (Team + 1 Car Kit)
Add a car kit: $10 (Additional Car Kit)

The Holidays in DeWitt!

Holiday Tree Lighting!
Friday, December 9, 2022
6:00pm – 8:00pm

DeWitt Town Hall, Ryder Park
5400 Butternut Dr., E. Syracuse, NY 13057

Rock around the holiday tree with the Town of DeWitt this holiday season! Celebrate the holiday season – no matter what your holiday - with food, caroling, cheer, and a special guest!

We are excited to announce more activities this year. More specific event information to come, check out the Town of DeWitt website, or sign up for emails too!

Holiday Contests!

1. **Holiday Photo**
2. **Holiday Fare**
3. **Holiday Home Decorating**

Holiday Photo
Tues., Nov. 1 – Sun., Jan. 8 at 10:00am

Calling all amateur photographers! This holiday season we will be taking submissions for Best Holiday Photo! Every holiday photo taken after November 1 and before January 8 at 10:00am, may be submitted.

The top five pictures, chosen by the Recreation Department, will earn prizes, bragging rights, and will be featured in future newsletters!

Go to townofdewitt.com/recreation to fill out and submit your contest application and release, then email your photo to:
recreation@townofdewitt.com

Holiday Fare
Monday, January 9, 2023
6:00pm – 8:00pm

DeWitt Community Room
148 Sanders Creek Pkwy, E. Syracuse, NY 13057

Do you have a famous holiday dish that everyone raves about at gatherings? Well…

"Bring us some figgy pudding - fruitcake, egg nog, kugel, latkes - and bring it right here," to the Town of DeWitt Recreation Department! This year the Recreation Department will be judging a holiday foods contest. We will have two categories;
1. Savory and 2. Sweet.

Participants can pick up a registration form and photo release (you and your dish will be featured in our Town Newsletter) at the Holiday Tree Lighting on Friday, December 9, 2022 or after the event at the Recreation Dept., 2nd floor, Town Hall. On Monday, January 9th , bring your dish to the DeWitt Community Room, to be judged. Participants…bring your friends, family, and neighbors, too!

Make sure to bring your dish to the Community Room by 6pm as judging will begin at 7:00pm and winners will be announced at 7:45pm.

Holiday Home Decorating
Tues, Nov. 1 – Fri., Dec. 9 at 12:00pm

It's time to break out the lights and lawn decorations to win the best decorated house in DeWitt!

The Town of DeWitt Recreation Department is hosting a home decorating contest for all Town residents! Decorate for your favorite winter holiday or simply to celebrate the winter season.

Judging will take place from the street; judges will be looking at theme, design, creativity, and execution.

All winners will receive a prize (TBA).

Nominations/Entries will be accepted November 1 – December 9 at 12:00pm.

To nominate a house, send the name, address, and phone number of the entrant to recreation@townofdewitt.com, or call the Recreation Office at (315) 446-3910 x 9. If you are entering your own home, you can do so online at townofdewitt.recdesk.com.



Trips

Dicken's Christmas!
Saturday, December 17, 2023
11:00am – 4:00pm

"Bah humbug!" It's the holidays again…let us lift your spirits by joining us for "Dicken's Christmas" in Skaneateles!

Join us in the fun of seeing the Village of Skaneateles transform! Picture yourself going back in time to 1842. Carolers sing on the corner, roasted chestnuts fill the air, and top hats, canes, and corsets walk about.

More event information to come!

Registration: $15

Register online via RecDesk or come see us at Town Hall, 2nd floor!

Seniors

DeWitt Community Room Senior Center

(148 Sanders Creek Parkway, East Syracuse, NY 13057**)**

Tuesdays and Wednesdays
9:30AM - 2:00PM

All Onondaga County seniors are welcome!

The DeWitt Community Room Senior Center offers card games, such as, Pitch and Bridge.

We also provide frequent hypertension screenings.

DeWitt Community Room Senior Center is a PEACE, Senior Nutrition site on both Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Lunch served at 12:00PM.

To reserve a meal, call 315-470-3331. A $3.50 fee is suggested for lunch.

Center Director: Sue Slack

Closed: Holidays, Election Days, or if the Jamesville DeWitt School District has a snow day.

Trinity Fellowship Senior Center

(1235 Old Stonehouse Rd, Jamesville, NY 13078**)**

Mondays
September 12, 2022 – May 15, 2023
9:00AM - 3:00PM

Do you love creating and learning about different art media?

If so, the Trinity Fellowship Senior Center is for you!

Learn Chinese Brush Painting, Drawing, and more! Intermediate classes offered too.

Each week, local off-site locations deliver low-cost lunches. A $5.00 fee is requested for lunch. We also require a lunch reservation one week in advance. There is also a suggested $1.00 coffee fund donation each week.

We also provide frequent hypertension screenings.

Annual Membership: $25/Year

Center Director: Lisa Owens

Closed: Holidays, Election Days, or if the Jamesville DeWitt School District has a snow day.

Jamesville Young-at-Heart Senior Center

(Jamesville Fire Station: 6661 E Seneca Turnpike, Jamesville, NY 13078**)**

Tuesdays:
9:00AM - 2:00PM
Wednesdays:
9:00AM - 12:30PM

Interested in ceramics or greeting card making?

Come socialize with us at the Young-at-Heart Senior Center.

On Mondays, Jamesville Young-at-Heart Senior Center invites you to enjoy pre-poured ceramics with our instructor, Robyn Elliot Ferris. Choose from over 3,000 molds to make beautiful gifts for your friends and family. Learn various techniques as well!

Ceramics Fee: $5.00 + cost of ceramic choice.

On Wednesdays, enjoy stamping artistic creations and creating greeting cards, with our instructor, Lee Ann Farr!

Stamping Fee: $4.00 + $1.00 Coffee Donation

We also provide frequent hypertension screenings.

Annual Membership: $25/Year

Center Director: Corrinne Brown

Closed: Holidays, Election Days, or if the Jamesville DeWitt School District has a snow day.

Senior Bowling League

(Green Lakes Bowling Alley, 7930 E. Genesee St., Fayetteville, NY 13066)

Wednesdays
September 14, 2022 – April 12, 2023

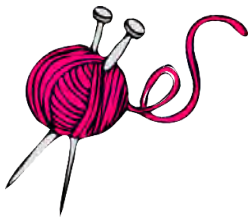
3 games/$10.00
9:50 am – Practice
10:00 am – Begin Bowling

Come join DeWitt Sr.'s for laughs, exercise, and tons of fun! Holiday party & Banquet following last day of bowling, April 13, 2022.

For more information, contact Kathy Santangelo, Sr. Director, at 446-6335 or Town of DeWitt Recreation Office at 446-9250 x9.

Knitting & Crochet at Town Hall

(Recreation Activity Room: 5400 Butternut Drive, DeWitt, NY 13057**)**



Mondays
1:00PM – 3:00PM

Would you like to learn how to knit?

Would you like to meet and socialize with people who also love knitting?

Come join our DeWitt knitting and crochet group!

DeWitt Choraliers

We hope to sing again in Summer 2023. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

We miss you all!



Light Weight Training

(DeWitt Town Hall Activity Room: 5400 Butternut Drive, DeWitt, NY 13057)

Light weight training is for adults 50 and older. This class will offer techniques and step-by-step training from a fitness professional.

The class begins with a standing warm-up. After the warm-up there are light weight exercises standing and sitting. These are designed to help strengthen muscles. The class ends with a full body stretch. Each participant must provide his/her own weights. We recommend 2-5lbs.



Tuesdays and Thursdays
8:30am - 9:30am.

Session 1: September 6th-October 20th

Session 2: October 25th-December 15th

Cost: $35 - Residents
$40 - Non-Residents

Syracuse Memory Café

The Syracuse Memory Cafe started in January 2017. We are a ministry of Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church in DeWitt.

The cafe meets once a month and provides individuals with memory changes (Alzheimer's and other types of dementia) and their care partners an opportunity to get out of the house and socialize with other people in similar situations. We are not a support group or a day program.

We meet from 10:30-noon on the second Wednesday of each month and drink coffee, sing songs, laugh, have a bite to eat and enjoy some type of activity or entertainment.

There is no charge to attend and anyone experiencing memory changes is welcome.

Contact Info: 315-446-0960
syracusememorycafe.com
info@syracusememorycafe.com

NEW! Memory Care Collection @ the Community Library of DeWitt & Jamesville

This past May 1st, The Community Library of DeWitt and Jamesville launched a new Memory Care Collection to support individuals with Alzheimer's or dementia and their caregivers.

The collection includes caregiving books and resources, and activity and picture books for adults, games, puzzles, and more! There are also several Memory Kits available; interactive bundles of library materials (books, CDs, DVDs, activities, etc.) that are focused on a specific theme. The materials in



the kits are designed to support those living with Alzheimer's or dementia - and their caregivers - to spark reminiscing and help them connect over fun and relaxing activities.

This collection is the first of its kind in Onondaga County and is available at the Community Library of DeWitt & Jamesville to anyone with an Onondaga County Public Library card starting May 1, 2022.

For more information about this exciting, innovation, and support program, go to: https://cldandj.org/collections.html#MCC

CODFISH

codFISH is a volunteer organization providing transportation to and from medical or dental appointments for ambulatory residents of the Town of DeWitt, who are unable to drive themselves.

Call codFISH at (315) 463-5158 between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm to request an enrollment/release form. The forms are also available on our website **https://www.communitylivingadvocates.com**

Enrolled residents should call at least one week prior to their appointment to request a ride.

Rides are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

All drivers have been vaccinated and will be wearing a mask. We ask that clients be vaccinated and wear a mask as well.

When you call, you will reach a dispatcher or their voice mail. Please speak clearly and leave your name and number for a return call. Volunteer drivers will call clients to confirm the details of the appointment.

Drivers can only transport ambulatory clients. Clients are responsible for any parking fee and should bring their handicapped parking tag if needed.

codFISH is an all-volunteer organization with 501c3 status, supported entirely by donations.

If you would like to volunteer some time to do this important work, please contact codFISH for more information at (315) 463-5158 or dewittfish2012@gmail.com.



ADDITIONAL SENIOR RESOURCES

Due to COVID-19 some programs may be closed or operating with limited hours.

CNY Kidney Foundation
(315) 476-0311

Jewish Community Center
(315) 445-2360

Manlius Assisted Living Program
(315) 682-6725

Oasis Senior Education Program
(315) 464-6555

Senior Companion Program
(315) 449-3453

Senior Home Care Solutions
(315) 469-1000

YMCA/Livestrong Program
(315) 637-2025

WHERE TO TURN FOR ASSISTANCE

- Alzheimer's Association, CNY Chapter
  (315) 472-4201
- Catholic Charities Elderly Services
  (315) 424-1810
- Elder Abuse Community Education
  (315) 425-0818
- Hiscock Legal Aid Domestic Violence Unit
  (315) 422-8191

- National Center for Elder Abuse
  (202) 898-258
- New York State Office for the Aging
  (800) 342-9871
- Onondaga County Department of Adult & Long Term Care Services
  (315) 435-2362
- Onondaga County Human Services Info and Referral
  (315) 435-8300
- Onondaga County Protective Services for Adults
  (315) 435-2815
- Victim Resource Center
  (315) 422-7273
- Vera House 24 Hour Crises and Support Line
  (315) 468-3260

Adult

Defensive Driving

(Point and Insurance Reduction Program)
Branch's Driving School is pleased to offer this 6-hour Defensive Driving Class which is approved by the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles and is sponsored by the Empire Safety Council.

Branch's
Driving School, Inc.

Be part of a program that sets the standard for accident prevention and vehicle safety in New York State. No formal testing is required, everyone passes. Participants receive the following benefits:

- Insurance Premium Reduction of 10% for 3 years (base rate of liability, no fault and collision premiums
- *Principle Operator*
- Up to a 4-point reduction with NYS DMV

This class is for licensed drivers of all ages!



Class Times offered:

Tuesday, September 27
9:00AM – 3:00PM

Tuesday, December 13
9:00AM – 3:00PM

Classes held at DeWitt Town Hall, on the second floor, in Meeting Room B.

Resident:	$50
Non-Resident:	$55

Youth

Saturday Soccer



This structured program, held at Maxwell Park in East Syracuse, will implement the fundamentals of soccer, along with scheduled playing time. The program is for kids in grades K-5 in the fall of 2022. Held Saturdays, September 10th – October 15th from 9:00-10:30am.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We need adults who can act as coaches and assistants. If you like working with children or if you know someone who does, please call 315-446-3910 x9. The success of this program depends on volunteers.

Resident:	$40
Non-Resident:	$45



Food ene Shopper

A Program of the Food Bank of Central New York

September 2022

Order/Pick-Up Information

Order Deadline: Friday, Sept 9th **by 3:00pm**

Orders must be made in person

EBT Cards Charged: Friday, Sept 9th

Pick-Up 1:00-3:00pm: Wednesday, Sept 21st

Many items are perishable

Pick-Up Location: DeWitt Town Hall

Payment: Cash or EBT due at time of order.

Qualifications: None - Anyone can order!

Order Location/Times: *Excluding Holidays*

- Town Hall: Mon-Fri, 8:00am-3:30pm

Contact Information:

- DeWitt Town Hall: (315) 446-3910 x 9
- foodsense@townofdewitt.com

Food Sense News

- **Need help at pick up?** Pull your car up in front of the Town Hall and we will carry the food out to you and help load it into your car. A pull cart is also available for large orders.



Food Unit: $20.50
All Items Included

Italian Meatballs, 1 lb.
Italian Sausage, 1 lb.
Chicken Drumsticks, 1.2 lbs.
Marinated Pork Portions, 1 lb.
Pepperoni Pizza, 18.5 oz.
Shredded Mozzarella Cheese, 8 oz.
Spaghetti, 1 lb.
Spaghetti Sauce, 24 oz.
Diced Tomatoes, 14.5 oz.
Apple Sauce, 14.5 oz.
Fresh Produce (TBA)
Fresh Produce (TBA)

Specials
Individually Priced

1. St Louis Style Ribs, 4.5 lbs., $9.50

2. American Cheese, 5 lbs., $13.50
Sliced, not individually wrapped

3. French Fries, 5 lbs., $6.50
Ready to be cooked in oven or fryer

4. Meatloaf, 5lbs, $10
Traditional meatloaf, 100% beef

5. Lobster Bites, 15oz., $5
Can be deep fried or baked in oven

6. Chicken Nuggets, 5 lbs., $14.50
Uncooked, Tyson family product

CHALLENGER BASEBALL!



Syracuse Challenger Baseball, the largest and oldest special needs Challenger Division in the country, returned to Carrier Park in 2022 to celebrate and participate in its 40th Anniversary season!

Highlights included a triumphant Opening Day Ceremony, a record number of players in the Adult Division, a visit from the Syracuse Spartans of the NY Collegiate Baseball League, and lots of great energy, good sportsmanship, high fives, and smiles for all!





We are again grateful to the Town of Dewitt, Dickie Woodridge, Chris Cafalone, Don Beaudry & staff for their amazing dedicated support of Syracuse Challenger Baseball!

Best regards,
Dom Cambareri, Executive Director
Syracuse Challenger Baseball

Carrier Park is…more than you think!

What's planned? Willis Carrier Park is a $12.5 million state-of-the-art, all inclusive, multi-sport facility for children and adults, including those with special needs. When finished, the park will be one of the first fully integrated, fully handicap accessible outdoor complexes in the CNY region. Conveniently located in the northern corridor of DeWitt right off the NYS Thruway at Exit 35, and next to the Carrier campus off Thompson Road and Kinne Street, the park sits on 20+ acres of land generously donated to the Town of DeWitt by Carrier Corporation.

The original design of the park includes up to 9 championship tournament quality fields, including 2 dynamically designed super turf fields which can be utilized for baseball, softball, lacrosse, soccer, football, field hockey and special events. An ADA compliant, refurbished pavilion and a walking trail are also planned, as well as additional parking.



What's completed? May 2016 marked the official unveiling of Phase 1 of Carrier Park with 2 completed playing fields, a beautiful state-of-the-art entry plaza and gateway building, walkways, concession and concession patios, extensive parking, and utility infrastructure.

Phase 2 of construction was completed in the Fall of 2020 and includes turf infields, an all-inclusive, cutting edge playground – the only one of its kind in Central New York - and three specially designed basketball courts, funded in part by the Jim and Juli Boeheim Foundation, with adjustable backboards and rims so that players of all ages and abilities, including those with special needs, can play basketball.

(continued on next page)

Carrier Park is also the proud home of the Syracuse Challenger Baseball program, the local division of Little League for children and young adults with physical and developmental disabilities. The special needs children of Syracuse Challenger Baseball represent one of the largest single districts of the Challenger Baseball program in the United States.

Who's involved? The Town of DeWitt has worked closely in partnership with the Friends of DeWitt Parks and Recreation, Inc. and Syracuse Challenger Baseball Inc. to develop Carrier Park. Both of these organizations have been integral in soliciting and securing contributions from foundations, corporations, local businesses, individuals, and families. The Town of Dewitt has also been successful in obtaining multiple grants from state and local agencies to support various components of the project.

For more information about Carrier Park, please email: supervisor@townofdewitt.com or call (315) 446-3910 x 5.

To book tournaments at Carrier Park, or with questions, please contact our Carrier Park partner, Salt City Sports at: https://www.saltcitysports.org/



TOWN OF DeWitt

Field of Dreams Carrier PARK

FRIENDS OF DEWITT PARKS & RECREATION

Challenger BASEBALL

We're building community.

Why is Carrier Park important to you? Your family? CNY businesses?

Carrier Park is a positive, proactive community project that's also providing economic growth opportunities for Town of DeWitt residents and businesses, while also enhancing the quality of life and economic growth of Onondaga County and the broader community. **Here's how:**

Carrier Park is an award-winning, state-of-the-art, multi-sport outdoor recreational facility for adults and children from all across the Central New York region.

Carrier Park also provides a "Field of Dreams" for special needs children, young adults and their families through the **Syracuse Challenger Baseball Program.**

The park was made possible by the extraordinarily generous donation of 20+ acres of land by Carrier Corporation and is located next to their Thompson Road campus.

The park supports DeWitt's tax base; Carrier Park helps to keep our 28 hotels occupied; **those busy hotels pay $4 million in property taxes each year.**

That $4 million in property tax dollars from DeWitt hotels provides approximately $2 million to local schools: $1.5 million to Onondaga County, with just $500,000 to the Town of DeWitt.

A strong tax base strengthens the value of our homes and makes DeWitt a highly desirable community for home buyers, businesses, and corporations.

Of the $7 million Onondaga County collects in room occupancy taxes (ROT) **for the entire county,** Town of DeWitt hotels contribute 30%+!

That means **the town of DeWitt pays a third of the total room occupancy taxes for the entire county;** our hotel tax dollars support not only DeWitt, but Onondaga County and the CNY region, too.

Carrier Park draws tournaments from all over CNY and is projected to provide local businesses an additional $2.5 million in economic activity.

Carrier Park provides DeWitt residents, and the greater CNY community, a state-of-the-art park and recreation facility for adults and children, including those with special needs; the park has the potential to strengthen DeWitt's tax base for many years to come.

Over the past 15+ years our tax base has lost more than $100 million in assessed value due to the dramatic reduction of manufacturing jobs and thus, the exodus of many large manufacturing companies. DeWitt's 28 hotels are helping to compensate for that shortfall; Carrier Park tournaments and special events can help keep those hotels busy.

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Field of Dreams Carrier PARK

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The completion of Phase 2 of the project, including the installation of two turf infields for youth baseball and fastpitch softball, offer greater playability; that means more games, practices, and tournament bookings. Moreover, that translates to tangible economic development opportunities; based on data from Visit Syracuse, Carrier Park will generate an incremental annual hotel revenue of $945,000 – and a total business benefit of $5,000,000 – from just 14 multi-day weekend events! Plus, an associated $66,150 in Room Occupancy Tax and $200,000 in sales tax revenues. These sports tourism dollars support not only DeWitt, but the whole of Onondaga County.

For more information, please go to: http://carrierpark.org/story/

For more information about Carrier Park, please email: supervisor@townofdewitt.com or call (315) 446-3910 x 5.

For information about tournaments & renting the fields at Carrier Park, please contact our Carrier Park partner, Salt City Sports at: https://www.saltcitysports.org/

Follow us on Facebook for updates and information on upcoming events! https://www.facebook.com/carrierparkdewitt



TOWN OF DeWitt

Field of Dreams Carrier PARK

FRIENDS OF DEWITT PARKS & RECREATION

Challenger BASEBALL

We're building community.



Challenger Baseball 2023

We're building community with Challenger Baseball!

While building a thriving community for Town of DeWitt residents has been a driving force for the development of Carrier Park, what lay at the heart of the project is the Syracuse Challenger Baseball program.

Challenger Baseball is a Little League division that provides children with physical and developmental disabilities the opportunity to do something we all take for granted…play baseball. The special needs children of Syracuse Challenger Baseball represent one of the largest single districts of the Challenger Baseball program in the United States. Until 2016 however, those kids and their families did not have a "home" for their extraordinary program.

In 2008, through a relationship dating back to their childhood, Town of DeWitt Supervisor Ed Michalenko and Syracuse Challenger Executive Director Dom Cambareri came together and the dream of a home for the Syracuse Challenger Baseball program was born.

The "Field of Dreams" at Carrier Park fulfills the vision to provide the Challenger program a permanent home. Carrier Park is one of the first fully integrated, fully handicap accessible multi-sport, outdoor recreational complexes in the Central New York Region. It's an extraordinary place where children and adults of all ages and abilities can play together.

Key to making the dream of Carrier Park a reality has been partnership…the Town of DeWitt, Carrier Corporation, our Town of DeWitt Friends of Parks and Recreation, and Syracuse Challenger Baseball coming together to "build community."

We're building community.

Carrier Park Sponsorship Program

Help us build community now!

Multi-Sport Turf Field	$250,000
Observation Pavilion	$150,000
All-inclusive Playground	$125,000
Grass Baseball Field	$100,000
90’ Turf Diamond	$75,000
50-70’ Turf Diamond	$50,000
Meeting Pavilion	$50,000
Score Board	$35,000 each
Concession Stand	$35,000
Entrance Message Board	$25,000
Concession Food Patio	$10,000 each
Batting Cages	$5,000 each
Dugouts	$5,000 each
Bleachers	$4,000 each
Walkway Fence Banner	$2,000 each *(2-year sponsorship)*
Outfield Fence Banner	$2,000 each *(2-year sponsorship)*
Backstop Banner	$1,500 each *(2-year sponsorship)*
Benches	$1000 each

For more information about sponsorship opportunities for you, your family, business or corporation, contact us: supervisor@townofdewitt.com or 315.446.3910, ext. #5.



TOWN OF DeWitt

Field of Dreams Carrier PARK

Friends of DeWitt PARKS & RECREATION

Challenger BASEBALL

We’re building community.

How can I register for programs, classes and events?

Before You Register

All registrations including online, mail, and in person, require a RecDesk account. Setting up your RecDesk account is quick and easy. Visit townofdewitt.recdesk.com on your computer or mobile device and click "Create Account" to get started. If you don't have access to the internet, we can set up your account for you in person or over the phone.



Online Registration

Online registration is available for most programs, classes and events. Sign in to your RecDesk account at townofdewitt.recdesk.com and click on the "Programs" tab for a complete list of available programs, classes and events. Once you have added your items to your cart, you can check out using a credit card. Accepted cards include Visa, Master Card, and Discover. **Please note that there is a 3.09% service charge applied to all credit card transactions.**



Mail-In Registration

Mail-In Registration is available for most programs, classes and events. Complete the Mail-In General Registration Form that can be found at https://townofdewitt.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pageId=15994. Be sure to include an email address on the form if you wish to receive a receipt. Send the completed form with check made out to *Town of DeWitt* to:

Recreation Department
5400 Butternut Drive
East Syracuse, NY 13057



In Person Registration

In person registration is available for all programs, classes and events at the Recreation Office in the DeWitt Town Hall. Office hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:30pm, excluding holidays.

NOTICE: For the health and safety of our customers, we recommend doing business **online, over the phone or through the mail/Town Hall drop box** whenever possible.


NJCAA Div. III Women's Softball Championship
Carrier Park, May 26th–29th 2022
100+ Women Strong!
1st
CHAMPIONS
NJCAA
FIELD #1
BALL







Town of DeWitt Summer Concert Series
Carrier Park, July 14th-August 11th 2022

Our Thanks to: Party Nuts, Matt Chase & Thunder Canyon Band, My So Called Band, Loren Barrigar & Fab Cats

Newsletter cover designs and select photos by:
Kelly Grace Smith, Mariel Mirra & MamaB Photography

TOWN OF DeWitt
more than you think

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www.townofdewitt.com

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Town Projects 2022-2023

- Elevating Erie/Widewaters Pond
- Waterfront Revitalization Planning
- New! $600,000 in Grants for Hydrogen Power Projects
- 2.66 Megawatt Solar Array
- Carrier Park: Salt City Mgmt. Partner, Tournaments, Summer Concert Series & NJCAA
- Shoppingtown Redevelopment
- More Grants: $32,000 EV Charging Stations, $237,000 ADA Bathrooms & $200,000 Boardwalk Repair
- Before & After School Program & Summer Day Camp
- PIA, New Klim Center Programs & Library Partnership Programs
- Park Expansions: Fiddlers Green & Butternut Creek Trail
- Deer Mgmt. & Zombie Homes Programs
- Tree Program & Tree Stewardship
- Inland Port Highway Access
- Sewer Offset Plan & Storm Water Programs
- Ley Creek Naturalization/Flood Control Projects
- Jamesville Masterplan Projects & Hamlet Mixed-Use Expansion
- Water System Improvements, GIS & Inventory Mapping, Interactive Public Notification
- Town Hall Net Zero Energy Efficient Designs

We're building community!

parks community business