

Town of Johnsburg Newsletter

Supervisor's Report

Beach Meeting Slated

Public input is being sought by the Johnsburg Town Board with respect to the future of the North Creek Town Beach.

The bulk of meeting time at the Board's regular meeting on April 5, 2011 will be devoted to exploring opinions on what should be done about the beach.

The beach was closed last August by order of the New York State Department of Health after having failed a water quality test. Simply put, the berm installed to warm beach water has also stagnated it and efforts by volunteer groups to reinvigorate as well as raise the beach water by installation of a creek connecting pipeline have largely failed.

Previously the Town was committed to a state fish grant project which restricted work around the historic dam. While it appears the grant requirements may have been eliminated, cost challenges for restoring a dam structure at the historic dam site remain problematic. Such a dam could raise water enhancing flow between the stream and pond through pipelines in the berm. The project would likely exceed \$50,000.00.

Other citizens wish to explore aeration and chemical treatments of the existing pond as part of a long term solution.

Still others believe the time has come to let the area return to a pond and not permit public swimming. Even this solution carries problems since the State requires an engineered closing plan for any areas that were once public swim facilities.

Have an opinion? An idea? Please join us on April 5.

Park Flooding

Kudos to Johnsburg Highway Superintendent Dan Hitchcock and the town highway department for their hard work during a brutal mid-March. In addition to heavy snow and ice storms, a flooding event occurred in Ski Bowl Park which the department was able to clean up and resolve. Future discussion will be had between the Town and ORDA officials as to how best to control run off from the enhanced ski experience into the Park.

Crunch Time with Iowa Pacific

By publication of this newsletter it is expected that County and Iowa Pacific representatives will be hammering out the last contract revisions prior to full board review, of an operations contract for the train. Summer operations remain on track unless further delay occurs.

Kellogg Waddell Meetings

The first meeting to discuss operation of the newly owned town buildings took place on March 24, with many meetings to follow. These meetings are open to the public and all are welcome.

Short Takes

Ice Jam 2011

Here are some statistics on the Hudson River ice jam at North Creek that finally broke on Sunday, March 12, sending a four foot wall of ice and water southward.

- The River peaked on Saturday, March 12 at 12:20 feet
- The previous record for water height in an ice jam in this area was in December of 1948 when the water was recorded at 12.14
- Approximately ten residents were evacuated on Old River Road while 3 decided to wait it out.

Shuttle Gains 4K

The Warren County Board of Supervisors has awarded an additional \$400,000 in occupancy tax funding to the free ski shuttle running between Gore, the Ski Bowl and the village of North Creek.

County Bed Tax Formula

Occupancy tax, commonly referred to as bed tax, is distributed by the towns across Warren County and by Warren County itself. The following is the formula that the county uses in making its bed tax awards.

| <u>Bed Nights</u> | <u>Points</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 20,000 + | 30 |
| 15,000 - 19,999 | 25 |
| 10,000 - 14,999 | 20 |
| 5,000 - 9,999 | 10 |
| 3,000 - 4,999 | 8 |
| 1,000 - 2,999 | 6 |
| 1 - 999 | 3 |

| <u>Economic Impact</u> (Based on \$100 per day for day-tripper and \$200 per day for overnight visitor) | <u>Points</u> |
|---|---------------|
| 20 million + | 20 |
| 15 - 19 million | 16 |
| 10 - 14 million | 12 |
| 5 - 9 million | 8 |
| 2 - 4 million | 5 |
| 1 - 3 million | 3 |
| Under 1 million | 2 |

| <u>Length of Event</u> | <u>Points</u> |
|------------------------|---------------|
| 6 + days | 10 |
| 4 - 5 days | 8 |
| 2 - 3 days | 5 |

| <u>Month of Event</u> | <u>Points</u> |
|---|---------------|
| January, February, March, April, November, December | 10 |
| September and June | 6 |
| October and May | 6 |
| July and August | 2 |

| <u>New Event</u> | <u>Points</u> |
|------------------------|---------------|
| New Event - First Year | 8 |
| Second and Third Year | 4 |
| Fourth Year + | 2 |