The HAMLIN XPRESS

www.hamlinny.org Summer 2006

MESSAGE FROM DENNY ROACH SUPERVISOR

If the fun and excitement of Wheel Fest is an indication of good things to come, it appears we will be in for a wonderful summer in Hamlin. I'm sure each of you has your favorite memories of summer. Having grown up in a small, rural community in Ohio, along the banks of the Ohio-Erie Canal and the Tuscarawas River, I'm sure I share similar childhood memories with many Hamlin natives. Although there was always plenty of farm, garden and yard work to be done, we always had time to play baseball, ride bikes, canoe, camp and fish. We are blessed to live in Hamlin where these things are still treasured and enjoyed. Looking at our Recreation Department's and the Hamlin Senior's wide array of offerings this summer (see the reverse side of this Newsletter), I see great recreational opportunities for residents of all ages. The playing fields behind Town Hall and the beach and camping areas at Hamlin Beach State Park should be well used in the next few months. I hope each of you is able to take a little break from the drudgery of your daily challenges to take advantage of all the good things that living in Hamlin has to offer.

It is quite understandable that recent surveys and comments from our residents always seem to emphasize the desire to "keep Hamlin rural." Although staying "rural" has different meanings for different people, I take it to mean we don't want to trade our natural, open areas and productive farmlands for numerous, small-lot, tract home developments, strip malls and traffic. In fact, when I ran for office, I frequently stated that I desire to maintain our rural/residential character. This doesn't mean that I am adamantly opposed to new residential and commercial development. In fact, it is essential to our tax base that we do achieve some growth in those areas. However, in achieving growth, we must be careful to keep our standards high and to not overburden our infrastructure or hazard the delicate environmental areas we are blessed to enjoy.

As you've probably read or heard, areas in the Town are being considered for possible construction of commercial wind energy generating systems or "wind towers." We are currently working on local laws, which would govern the siting (location), number, and other aspects of towers, if the decision is made to permit them and if studies confirm that they would be economically feasible. The benefits of wind energy are numerous. Wind energy is inexhaustible and non-polluting, reduces our reliance on foreign petroleum and is compatible with our agricultural land use. Through proper planning, they would be an excellent way of keeping Hamlin rural while broadening our local tax base (revenue to the Town) without the need for increased services (roads, snowplowing, schools, etc.). If you'd like additional information on this issue, please give me a call and I'll send you some good reference material or you can call the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority at 1-866-NYSERDA. You can also find a myriad of information online. I suggest you start at www.PowerNaturally.org.

As an elected public servant, I remind my peers and myself that our bosses are the good people, who are the residents of the Town of Hamlin. I believe that everyone who works alongside me in Town Hall is very aware of and sensitive to who "pays our salary." You have every right to expect us to perform at a high standard and to provide you the highest possible levels of customer service. At the same time, as good and trusted stewards, we must, in the performance of our duties, comply with the lawful codes, regulations and procedures of the Town and State – some of which may appear to conflict with "customer service." Despite the fact that we must deal in a somewhat bureaucratic manner, we do still care about customer service. We do care about providing the type of service to you, our bosses, that we would expect to receive. Customer service is more than just a friendly person behind the counter. It is listening to your concerns, working with you in an attempt to solve your problems and trying to legally remove, streamline or alter the obstacles, which cause your frustrations. One of our most productive endeavors to date in this regard, is the Zoning Review Workshop, which has been meeting monthly to do just that. Several local laws have already been enacted and several more are being considered, which have or will remove frustrations caused by onerous or unduly restrictive building or zoning codes and regulations. This workshop meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in Town Hall. It is an open meeting with input from residents welcomed. But you don't have to wait until this meeting to alert me to problems. If you have ideas on how things can be done better or experience any frustration in your dealings with us, I encourage you contact me. I may not be able to immediately solve your problem. But, at least I will be aware and can begin to work to remedy the situation. I am typically in the office Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm (lunch between noon and 1 pm). We do work for you and we want to make every visit to and dealing with Town Hall a pleasant and productive one.

I hope your summer is healthful, enjoyable and productive. As you go about your daily life, please do so safely. Thank you for all you do to make Hamlin a wonderful, beautiful place to live, work and play.

The 2006 Hamlin Wheel Fest was once again a huge success. On behalf of the committee, we would like to thank the community for your continued support. For those resident and business donations, whether it was an item or certificate for the Silent Auction or support for the entertainment and Kid's Corner, a big **THANK YOU**. Without your continued help the event would not be as well received. We hope next year on our 10th Anniversary celebration we can count on you once again.

NY STATE PARKS ARE EASY TO USE

If you are a New York resident and **62** years of age or older, you can enter New York State Parks Monday through Friday on non-holidays free by showing your New York State Driver's License. If you like to walk or just enjoy the view, why not visit New York State Parks? For all other frequent visitors to State Parks, you might find it more economical to purchase an Empire Passport for a fee of $59.00. These also make a great gift. Call 964-2462 for more information.

SUBURBAN DISPOSAL USERS

If you are a Suburban Disposal customer and are a low volume consumer, you can purchase ten blue bags for $37.80 from the Town Clerk's Office and put your bag at the curb on your regular scheduled pick up day when it is full. If you need more information you can call Suburban Disposal at 352-3900 or the Town Clerk's Office at 964-2421.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE HOURS

The Hamlin Town Clerk's Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm. Starting on August 14th, 2006 we will resume our Monday evening hours and will be open from 8 am to 6 pm. If for some reason you would need the services of the Town Clerk's Office, please call 964-2421 and a special appointment can be scheduled. For your convenience a drop box is located inside the Town Hall next to the Town Clerk's door. Many times you will find the building is open for a variety of activities and meetings.

Town Hall will be closed July 3rd and July 4th and September 4th for the holidays.

HUNTING LICENSES

Critical Dates for the 2006-2007 Season

License Sales Start		08-14-06
DMP Instant Lottery begins		08-14-06
Northern Zone Archery Deer Season		09-27-06
9-27-06 - 9-30-06 you will need your 2005-2006 license		
DMP Instant Lottery Deadline	COB	10-01-06
Southern Zone Archery Deer Season		10-14-06
Northern Zone Regular Deer Season		10-21-06
Southern Zone Regular Deer Season		11-18-06 Sat.

HAMLIN HERITAGE AWARD

July 4th is the deadline for submission for the Hamlin Heritage Award which is awarded each year at a ceremony on Hamlin Heritage Day. If you are interested in submitting someone's name that has made a significant and lasting contribution, you may pick up an application at the Town Hall or download it from our website. Contact Mary Smith for more information on Heritage Day.

ASSESSMENT NEWS

HAS YOUR MAILING ADDRESS CHANGED?

If for any reason your mailing address changes,
We need to know

If you have changed from a Post Office box to a street address or from a street address to a Post Office box,
We need to know

If you do not sell your property in Hamlin but are living in a different location with a new address,
We need to know

Please help us, help your mail find its way to you by dropping us a note, stopping in the office or calling us at (585) 964-8748

OPEN FIRES

No person shall burn any refuse in any open fire.
Fires in outdoor grills and outdoor fireplaces for the purpose of preparing food should be located far enough away as to not create a fire hazard.

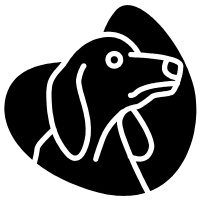
Safety precautions should be taken for campfires and fires used solely for recreational purposes and only allowed if a nuisance is not created.
Portable Fire Pits that are currently being sold should not be placed on or near a combustible surface.

The burning of leaves and lawn and garden debris shall not be considered recreation burning and is prohibited.

The Hamlin Fire Marshal's should be consulted for further information on other restrictions.
Page 529-0844 or 463-4268

BRINGING ALBANY CLOSER TO HOME

A representative from State Assemblyman Steve Hawley's office is available on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Hamlin Town Hall during the hours of 9 am to 11 am.



DID YOU MISS OUR FREE RABIES CLINIC?

If you missed the Town of Hamlin Free Rabies Clinic here are the next scheduled clinic's in Monroe County:

Chili 7/15 2 pm to 4 pm at N. Chili Community Center
4400 Buffalo Rd.

Parma 7/29 12n to 2 pm at Parma Town Hall
1300 Hilton-Parma Corners Rd.

For more dates and times call 753-5864

SECOND EDITION

The hard-bound second edition of REMEMBERING HAMLIN 1802-2002 is available from the Town Clerk's Office at a cost of $22.50. A soft bound copy is $15.00. What a great gift idea.

Reminder ---Schools are out drive with care.

FROM THE JUSTICE COURT

The Hamlin Town Court serves the people of the Town of Hamlin. The Civil part of the Court hears Small Claims and Evictions and the Criminal part hears all Penal Laws and Vehicle and Traffic Offenses, which occur in the Town of Hamlin. The Court also handles all Town Ordinances, Environmental Conservation Law and Park Rules and Regulations from Hamlin Beach State Park. The Town Court only has jurisdiction over violations and misdemeanors. Felony cases occurring in the Town of Hamlin are transferred to Monroe County Court. Misdemeanor cases are entitled to a Bench Trial with the Judge presiding or a Jury Trial. The Judges for the Town of Hamlin are Paul W. Rath and Richard W. Moffett. Patience McPherson is the Court Clerk. The Court office hours are Monday through Thursday 8 am to 1 pm and on Friday from 8 am to 12 noon. Court is held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm. If you have a question related to the court call 964-8641.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Summer is here and so is the Summer Reading Program at the Hamlin Public Library. This program is much more than a way to keep the kids busy this summer. Public Library programs and children's literacy have been studied for several decades. By the time they are in middle school, children who do not read at all during the summers can lag in reading ability by two years compared to their peers. Children who participate in summer reading programs improve their reading ability and do better academically. Reading improves children's ability to spell and increases their vocabulary (even with comics and other books that adults don't appreciate)! If you want your kids to do well in school, it makes sense to bring them to the library this summer.

The theme for this year is "Books: A Treasure!" from June 26th to August 4th. Our Children's Area will be transformed into a dragon's lair, where they hoard their treasure. Our library dragon will be up all summer and we hope you will stop by to have a look. Each Thursday, we will have a special program, craft or story time and of course there will be a Pirate Week. The program is open to all children from Pre-K to High School. Our teens will once again be in competition for reading the most hours with the teens from Ogden, Parma and Seymour libraries. Prizes may be earned for hours read, and certificates will be awarded to those children who read 450 minutes during the program. We look forward to seeing you this summer.

COMMUNITY CALENDER

6/24	Hamlin Beach opens for swimming
6/25	Chicken BBQ at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton 3747 Brick Schoolhouse Rd. 11:30 am till gone, cost $7.00 call 964-8627
7/12	Free Brockport H.S. Band Concert 7pm Hamlin Town Hall, bring a lawn chair.
7/17	Vacation Bible School starts at the Hamlin Community Baptist Church at 50 Hamlin Clarkson Tn. Ln. Rd.
7/27 & 7/30	Empire State Games at Hamlin Beach
8/5 & 8/6	Hobie Cat Regatta – Racing on Lake Ontario at HBSP
8/19 & 8/20	Civil War Re-Enactment – Area 3 Hamlin Beach State Park
9/19	Blood Drive 1pm to 6pm – Hamlin Town Hall. Public Welcome

Next deadline is 9/1/06 for submitting your organizations event that will take place October through December.

BRUSH/WEEDS/GRASS

According to the Code of the Town of Hamlin, property owners are required to cut, trim or remove brush, grass, rubbish or weeds and to cut, trim, remove or destroy poisonous shrubs or weeds on their property. Failure to comply with this code can result in a violation notice. If you have any questions please contact the Building Department at 964-8181.