

**TOWN OF MONTEZUMA NEWSLETTER**  
**SEPTEMBER 2016**  
**TOWN WEBSITE <http://townofmontezuma.org>**  
**Town's Community Facebook Page**  
**<https://www.facebook.com/MontezumaNY/>**

In this issue you will find a list of town meetings along with information from the Town Assessor, Town Historian, and Town Clerk.

**Town Board**

For the month of Sept. the regular Town Board Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday September 20 @ 7 PM**  
**THIS BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE MENTZ CHURCH corner of McDonald and Mentz Church Roads**

**Town Clerk Notes:**

The town clerk reminds everyone that she will no longer be selling DEC hunting or fishing licenses. The clerk's office will be closed Monday Sept. 5 for Labor Day. It will also close at 12: 00 Noon on Sept 13<sup>th</sup> due to a Primary

**Water Clerk Notes:** The next water billing will be mailed Oct. 1, 2016. Water rates will be going up with the new rate to be yet determined as a result of the county raising the cost of the water to us.

**Water Committee Meeting** – Sept. 27, 2016 at 6:30 PM

**Tax Collector Notes:** Donna Burleton

The tax collector reports that she can no longer accept any unpaid tax bills. Any unpaid tax bills must be paid to the Cayuga County Treasurer and must be paid in full payments only including penalties.

**Notes From the Assessor:** Kim Stone-Gridley

The town assessor reminds everyone that she will be out updating pictures in preparation for the 2017 revaluation. She will have ASSESSOR TOWN OF MONTEZUMA signs on her car. If you have questions call her at 315-776-8844 ext 3 or on her cell 315-246-3160

**Fire Department:** Fire Department meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at 7:30 PM. any one who might be interested in joining should stop by the firehouse any Monday night and speak with either Chief Ken Zimmerman or President Steve Thurston.

The Fire Department has **REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKERS** for sale for only \$15.00 each. Contact any member or call the firehouse at 776-4353 and leave a message or visit the Town Clerks office for a flyer.  
**REMEMBER THEY CAN'T HELP YOU IF THEY CAN'T FIND YOU.**

**Fire District Commissioner Meetings** are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 7:00 PM. Department President / Commissioner Chairman Steve Thurston reminds everyone that both of these meetings are open to the public and all are welcome.

**Planning Board Meeting** Mon. Sept. 12th 7:00 PM at Town Hall

**Heritage Park Design Committee Meeting.** Thursday, September 8, 6:30 PM. at Town Hall special planning meeting with EDR Companies on Park's Interpretive Plan. New members welcome.

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**From the Town Historian:**

**Montezuma Historical Society Board Meeting.** Thursday Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM at Historic Mentz Church, McDonald and Mentz Church Roads. Meeting open to all members.  
Visit our website at: <http://montezumahistoricalsociety.org>

*NEW* -- Visit the Memorial Butterfly Garden in Montezuma Heritage Park at the High Street entrance. The Town has received a donation of bricks from Dan Randolph to create an entrance to the gazebo. Thank you, Dan! Volunteers will be needed to help install the brick. Two benches donated by the Decker/Shaw family will be added soon. The Montezuma Historical Society will also be starting a memorial brick program to invest further in this project area eventually adding handicap accessibility.

One of the benches in the park has been recently donated in memory of Leon and Leona Jones. Thank you Donna Donovan for making this donation in honor of her parents. A plaque will be added to the bench in their memory.

Recently Arthur Cohn, Research Fellow at the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan presented the Montezuma Historical Society with a framed print of a drawing done in Montezuma by Rev. John Henry Hopkins in 1825, discovered at the Clements Library. The print shows the elevated towpath walkway used by horses and mules to pull boats through the Seneca River and marsh as part of the Erie Canal. Art and Jean Belise, an archaeologist from Canada, traveled by tugboat along the Canal stopping in communities to deliver these prints sponsored by the New York State Canal Corporation. Montezuma was one of the fortunate communities where Rev. Hopkins drew scenes while traveling the Erie Canal to New York City in 1825. A set of four other prints by Hopkins along the Erie Canal were also received, and are being framed for display in the Historic Mentz Church built the same year. The prints will be shown at the next Town Board Meeting to be held at the church. While touring the park Art confirmed that several pilings that still remain along the shoreline of the river north of the Richmond Aqueduct are from this original 1300-foot long towpath bridge. Mike Riley volunteered his time to conduct a day long tour for Art while visiting Montezuma, Port Byron, Weedsport, Jordan and Camillus.

**Community Volunteers Wanted:** You can make a huge difference in helping create a shared sense of belonging to strengthen the social, cultural and economic vibrancy of the Town. Both the Montezuma Historical Society and the Heritage Park Design Committee are inviting new members to join to plan for economic development, preserving our heritage, and making the community a better place to live so we can sustain what matters most. If you are interested, please call Cheryl Longyear at 776-4656 to join the committee or help with trail maintenance.

**Updates for Town's Website and/or Community Facebook Page:**

Items may be submitted for publishing events or other notifications pertaining to the community. Please contact Cheryl Longyear, Town Historian at [315.776.4656](tel:315.776.4656) or email: [cml115@tds.net](mailto:cml115@tds.net)