



# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

*...keeping residents informed of important town news*

**TOWN CLERK:** Marie Cronin  
Hours: **Mon., Tues.** Thurs., Fri. — 11 AM - 4 PM  
**DEPUTY TOWN CLERK:** Shawn Dingman,  
Hours: Wed — 8 - 11 AM; 3:30 - 4:30 PM  
8102 Dock Street, Montezuma, NY 13117  
Phone: (315) 776-8844. Ext. 1  
Fax: (315) 776-9943  
Email: [montezumaclerk@tds.net](mailto:montezumaclerk@tds.net)

**TOWN BOARD MEMBERS** - Supervisor: David Corey; Councilman & Deputy Town Supervisor: Lee Brew, Councilmen: Thomas Fitzsimmons, Joel Glimpse, Thomas Hitchcock Jr.

**BOARD MEETING** - Third Tues.— 6:00 PM

**TOWN HIGHWAY DEPT** - Ken Cook, Deputy Supt., Chapman Road; Phone & Fax: 315-776-4315; Email: [montezumahighway@gmail.com](mailto:montezumahighway@gmail.com); **NEW HOURS** Effective 4/11/22: 5:30 AM–4 PM Mon.-Thurs; on duty as needed for weather conditions

**TOWN ASSESSOR** - Jeff Lowe Office: 315-776-8844: **Cell** :315-783-4104 - Hours: Wed. 5:00-8:00 PM or by appointment

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER** - John E. Greer; Office: 315-776-8844: Cell 315-730-2408. Hours: Tues., 4-6 PM

**PLANNING BOARD CLERK/HISTORIAN**- Cheryl Longyear; Call for appointment: 315-776-4656

**PLANNING BOARD MEETING** - 2ND TUES - 7 PM as required.

**TAX COLLECTOR** - Donna Burleton; Phone: Office: 315-776-8844, Extension 4; Home 315-776-8583

**COURT CLERK** - Kathy Smith; Clerk Hours: Mon. & Thurs.-10 AM-1 PM Phone: 315-776-9163; Fax: 315-776-9908

**COURT HOURS:** First, Second & Third Wed, - 7 PM; Fourth Wed. - 6 PM; Fifth Wed. - No Court.



**Saturday, October 8, 2022**

Two Performances: 2 PM & 7 PM  
Samuel Center for Canal History(Former St. John's Church),  
Rt 31, Port Byron

Howland's Island, located in the Seneca River, has a long and varied history that continues to reveal fascinating stories. One recently uncovered true story is about the life of Eliza, an escaped enslaved woman. As she neared her 100th birthday, Eliza shared her life story with a newspaper reporter, and now, over 120 years later, Eliza's story has been adapted as a play.

In the newspaper account Eliza revealed her path to freedom escaping at age 19, from what she described similar to a southern plantation where she was born on Staten Island, NY. After being recaptured and escaping several times, she finally found her way to freedom in Central New York. She lived with her husband farming on Howland's Island for over 20 years as it was being developed from what was described as a wasteland into a 3500-acre garden plantation. The dramatic story of Eliza's courageous life will show how it began by paralleling the local history of the anti-slavery movement as it evolved throughout New York State. After the death of her husband she lived her remaining years at the Cayuga County Poorhouse in Sennett. She died in 1896.

Joni Lincoln, Conquest Town Historian, has adapted the newspaper account into a play. It is being co-sponsored by the Montezuma and the Port Byron Lock 52 Historical Societies. The public is invited to attend the free performances at the Samuel Center for Canal History in Port Byron. (The former St. John's Catholic Church on Rt 31.) Two performances will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2022, with a matinee at 2 PM and in the evening at 7 PM.

The Samuel Center for Canal History is operated by the [Canal Society of New York State](http://www.canalsociety.org). The event is funded in part through the generous grant support of the [Cayuga County Tourism](http://www.cayugacountytourism.com), [NYS Canal Corporation](http://www.nyscanal.com), and the [Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor](http://www.eriecanalway.com).

For more information, please visit the website at <http://www.portbyronhistorical.org/elizas-story>

## Water Department

### Water Billing Clerk

#### Heather Tanner

Office Hours:

Mondays 4 - 5:30 PM

Wednesdays 9 - 11 AM

Phone: 315-776-8844

Email:

[montezumawaterclerk@yahoo.com](mailto:montezumawaterclerk@yahoo.com)

### Payments:

Please mail or use the drop box outside the Town Hall for the safety of our customers.

#### Montezuma Water District #1

PO Box 357

Montezuma, NY 13117

#### Billing Information:

Water Meters are read quarterly. Bills are due 30 days from billing date; 10% penalty added to bill after thirty (30) days. Water bills **not paid after 60 days**, the water will be shut off. Full payments (ONLY)

### Emergency Water Contacts

#### Water Operator: Stan Longyear

315-406-6572 (cell); 315-776-4656 (home); if not available, call:

#### Deputy Highway Supt; Ken Cook

315-776-4315 (garage); Cell: 315-224-7759

#### Water Committee: Councilman Tom Fitzsimmons 315-776-5222 (home)

Water Committee meetings are held monthly. Please contact the Water Clerk during office hours for date & time of the next meeting.

Let us know if you have a community event to promote.

It can be placed in this newsletter, on Facebook and the Town website.

Cheryl Longyear, Editor  
315-776-4656  
[cml115@tds.net](mailto:cml115@tds.net)

## Upcoming Meetings

Meetings are open to the public and held at the Town Hall, 8102 Dock Street unless otherwise specified. Please sign-in when entering the meeting room and save public comments for time given at the end of the Town Board's meeting.

#### Town Board Budget Workshop Meeting:

**Thursday, October 6, 2022 - 6 PM**

#### Planning Board Meeting:

**Tuesday, October 11, 2022 - 7 PM**

#### Town Board Meeting:

**Tuesday, October 18, 2022 - 6 PM**

## Announcements:

#### Hazardous Materials Waste Day — October 29th

- Registration will open October 3, 2022. For more information call 315-255-1183

#### Medication Disposal

- Now you can safely dispose of unused prescription and over-the-counter medicines 24 hours a day at the: Cayuga County Public Safety Building  
7445 County House Road, Auburn

#### New Visions Phone/TV/Internet

- Services are now available in certain areas in the Town of Montezuma including the following roads: Carner, Fosterville, Laraway, Mills, Salt Block, Pine Tree Drive and Goldstar Drive. For more information call: 315-472-6300; Ext. 2

#### Property Tax Questions?

- Property owners must now contact the Cayuga County Treasurer's office at 315-253-1211 with any questions regarding payment of property taxes.

#### Cemetery Headstone Cleaning Demonstration

- When cleaning headstones, it's important to know how and what products can be safely used to prevent further damage. On **Saturday, October 15th, at 9 AM**, Mike Riley from Port Byron Lock 52 Historical Society will give a demonstration at the Mentz Church Cemetery. The cemetery is located at the corner of McDonald & Mentz Church Road in the Town of Montezuma along with the former Mentz Church building. An Open House will be held to visit the Mentz Church also on that day. The former church, one of the oldest existing early founded in Cayuga County, was incorporated in 1825. Services were held there for first early settlers of the Methodist faith and included shared clergy services with the churches in Fosterville and Montezuma. It is now owned by the Town of Montezuma. The Montezuma Historical Society helps to maintain the church building which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

<http://townofmontezuma.org>