



# Town Times

ISSUE

14 Quarter 2  
2023

## Upcoming:

\*Please check website  
and/or facebook for  
updates!

June 17<sup>th</sup>: Paper  
Shredding Event

June 17<sup>th</sup>: Free Rabies  
Prevention Clinic

July 22<sup>nd</sup>: Residential  
Tire Recycling Event

August 5<sup>th</sup>: Free  
Rabies Prevention  
Clinic

August 26<sup>th</sup>: Mattress  
Recycling Event

September 9<sup>th</sup>:  
Residential Tire  
Recycling Event

September 16<sup>th</sup>:  
Household Hazardous  
Waste Collection  
Event

September 16<sup>th</sup>: Free  
Rabies Prevention  
Clinic



## this issue:

- Harmony Park Installed
- Business Highlight: The DeLong  
Co, Inc.
- Updates from Departments &  
Committees

## From Supervisor Mark Venuti

Greetings to all as summer approaches.

We have changes in the **Water and Sewer Department**. Long-time superintendent and town employee Charlie Bracko has retired. His are big shoes to fill, but we have the good fortune to have Charlie's assistant of many years, Howard Bailey, to step into the position. Howard will continue Charlie's tradition of providing excellent service to town residents and businesses on water and sewer. We also welcome Shaun Kunes to the department.

We have a new addition to the recreation offerings at the town hall. A **Harmony Park** of four outdoor instruments has been added to the bike park, box field and community garden. Check it out with your budding musicians.

The town has received a grant to expand opportunities to **divert food waste** from the trash. The breakdown of organic materials like food waste in a landfill is what creates harmful gas and odors. This "waste" can instead be put to good use. The town already offers a backyard compost box for those who want to compost at home, and bins at the Recycling and Disposal Station for those who use the station. The grant will allow senior citizens and others who cannot take advantage of those opportunities to have home pick-up. Contact us if you are interested. We will be working on grant goals with the City of Geneva, Hobart & William Smith Colleges and non-profit BluePrint Geneva over the next 18 months. Part-time town employee Jacob Fox will lead the effort as Sustainability Coordinator with expanded hours supported by the grant.

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## From Supervisor Mark Venuti (cont'd)

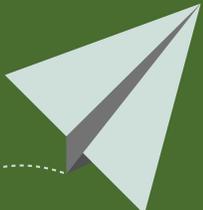
We held another successful **Fix-it Clinic** and **Free Stuff Day** on Sunday, June 4. Our volunteers put lamps, appliances and furniture back into service, and many people passed on toys, appliances, sporting goods, games and furniture to others instead of to the landfill. Thanks to Jennifer Grant, Jacob Fox and the many volunteers who made the clinic and exchange another win-win for all.

Cornell's **Design Connect** team completed an analysis of needs using a survey of residents and other information, and completed a design in mid-May for a new Recycling and Disposal Station for the town, including a reuse center that will make Free Stuff Day every day. We have a long way to go but are pointed in the right direction with lots of food for thought. The plans will be posted on the town's web site in the near future.

Watch out for a **"Your Speed"** sign on town roads in the near future to make drivers more aware of their speed compared with the posted legal limit. The town is looking into purchasing a unit to move around on town roads.

The town and city have launched a **HeatSmart** campaign. Sign up for a free home energy audit and find out about solutions for saving energy and obtaining subsidies and tax breaks to help pay for it. Contact Brett Peters at 585-445-3239 or [brett@climategfl.org](mailto:brett@climategfl.org).

On April 5 parts of the town experienced a 25-year rainstorm event that caused **flooding** in many areas. Although most stormwater infrastructure is not built to handle that kind of event, we are aware of areas that have stormwater problems during lesser storms and are looking into possibilities for making changes where we can. The town normally cannot get involved with problems on private property that are not caused by town facilities, but where there are landowners willing to sacrifice land for water retention and control, and we can obtain funding for a project, we try to help. We all have a role to play in stormwater control and pollution prevention. Look at your property and take responsibility for the water coming from it. Add a rain barrel and garden to catch roof run-off; reduce impervious surfaces; and let natural vegetation do its job absorbing and slowing stormwater. A mature tree can absorb 50-100 gallons of water a day; close-cut grass, very little. When is the best time to plant a tree? Twenty years ago. When is the next best time? Now.



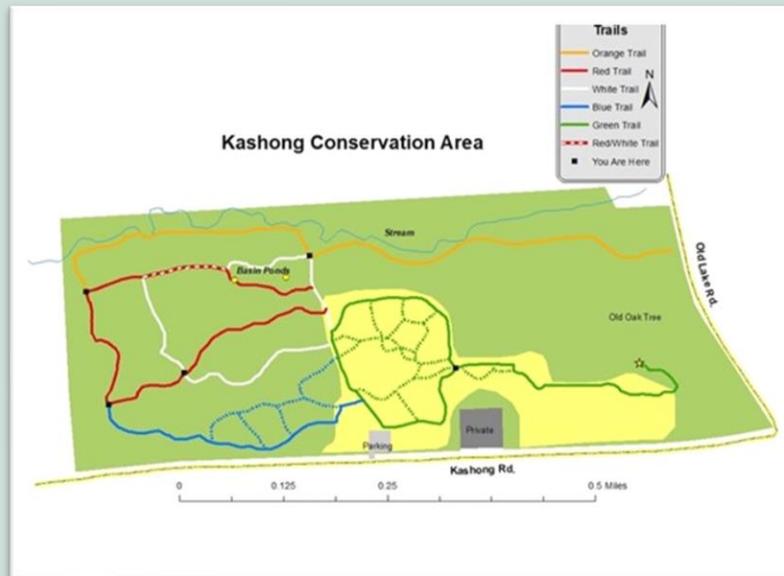
### Stay Informed!

Email users, give us your email address and we'll include you on periodic messages about important town and area events. Send an email to [supervisor@townofgeneva.com](mailto:supervisor@townofgeneva.com) to sign up! Your email address will never be shared with others, and you can be removed from the list at any time by hitting the unsubscribe button at the bottom of town messages.

## News from the Kashong Conservation Area Committee

By Committee Chair, Mitch Wilber

The Kashong Conservation Area [KCA] provides Town residents and visitors with a unique public open space for recreational hiking and enjoying the outdoors. Since 2008 the Town has stewarded its 83 acres and the trail network that has developed throughout the property.



Much of the maintenance and improvements to the trails are from the efforts of the staff of the Town's Water and Sewer Department. Over the years the Department's team has designed, built, and installed structures to bridge some of the trail sections where surface water flows create boggy patches. Recently Water and Sewer Superintendent Howard Bailey (on the right) and Department Assistant Jeff Ilacqua (on the left) surveyed the next areas for the installation of new bridges to enhance the hiking experience in the northwest section of the trail network.

Howard and Jeff take well deserved pride in their work to improve the trails. Look for future Town Times editions to document their next installations.

## Water & Sewer Department

- From Superintendent Howard Bailey

Charlie Bracko, the town's Water and Sewer Superintendent for the past 17 years, and department employee for 43 years, has retired. Charlie oversaw upgrades to the town's water plant that provides water to parts of the Towns of Geneva, Seneca and Benton, and miles of new and replaced water main in the Town. He has also served as the Town's Safety Officer for the past 17 years. He will be missed, and we wish him the best in his retirement.

In other department news, the Town's water plant improvement project, undertaken with the Town of Seneca, is moving ahead after delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. A fourth well was added to the well field on Kashong Point to increase capacity, and construction of the well house, piping to the treatment plant, new pumps and other upgrades are underway. A new 1.5-million-gallon storage tank will be added in the Town of Seneca to increase storage and flow. These improvements will allow for growth in the Town of Geneva and surrounding towns well into the future.

### Harmony Park Installed!

Come check out the Harmony Park!  
Located behind Town Hall.



## Local Company Secures \$40 Million USDA Grant

- Bob McCarthy, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee

The DeLong Co, Inc recently announced it received a \$40 million grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to develop a new brand that will track greenhouse gas reductions resulting from farmers implementing climate-smart practices. These practices include the use of cover crops, nutrient management implementation, reduced or no-till planting, and windbreak establishment and renovation. These practices of farming are championed by the USDA, Ontario County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Town of Geneva's own Lake Friendly Farm program.



Grown Climate Smart is the name brand that DeLong Co, Inc gives these grower incentives. Early estimates forecast farms operating under the Grown Climate Smart brand will capture a total of 900,000 tons of carbon over the program's first five years. More information can be found at the Grown Climate Smart website, [growncimatesmart.com](http://growncimatesmart.com). The DeLong Co, Inc has a local branch in the Town of Geneva on Rt 14 on the north side of Town. It's hard to miss the four huge grain bins there, two holding 250,000 bushels of grain, one holding 790,000 bushels, and the largest holding 1.2 million bushels. This last bin is the largest grain bin east of the Mississippi River. Altogether the bins could hold 20% of all the grain grown in New York State, according to manager Greg Creeden.

While DeLong has a fleet of trucks to pick up corn, wheat, and soybeans from area growers, many area farmers deliver their crops directly to the Rt 14 facility. DeLong leases 150 rail cars to then ship much of the grain to be exported from port terminals in New Jersey. Some of the products are shipped directly to feed mills for processing or to ethanol plants.

The DeLong Co, Inc. has owned its Geneva location for the past three years and employs eight people. It is a six-generation family business with headquarters in Clinton, Wisconsin. The 110-year-old business has grown from a local ag retailer and grain elevator to a worldwide agricultural and logistics corporation with 38 locations, 6 divisions, and subsidiaries around the U.S. The company employs over 400 people and is the largest U.S. exporter of agricultural products via shipping containers.



Greg Creeden is the manager of the Geneva location and is rightly proud of this state of the art facility with its four large grain bins and tower grain driers. Greg can be reached at [gcreeden@DeLongCompany.com](mailto:gcreeden@DeLongCompany.com). Their hours of operation are 7-5 Mon-Sat during the harvest season, and 7-4 Mon-Fri the rest of the year.

## Highway Department

-From Bernie Peck, Highway Superintendent

The Highway Department has started our annual roadside mowing and with construction season starting I would like to ask motorists to please be cautious when approaching mowing tractors and work zones.

Also, we will be paving Reed Road and oil and stoning Ansley Road, a section of Snell Road, Jay Street, Cornwall Drive, Braewood Lane, Gambee Road, and North Genesee Street.

Have a happy and safe summer!

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## Upcoming Area Events!

- **June 18:** Rose Hill Summer Concert Series 5-7pm @ Rose Hill Mansion, Free and open to the public (also on 7/16 and 8/20)
- **June 25:** Airmen of Note Free Concert 3-5pm @ Smith Opera House, Free, info and registration at <https://www.music.af.mil/USAFBand/>
- **June 28:** Start of Lakefront Concert Series @ the Lakefront Gazebo 6-8pm, Wednesdays through August 30<sup>th</sup>
- **July 1:** Linden Wine Series 5-8pm Linden Street, More info @ <https://lindenwineseries.com/> (also on 7/29, 8/26, and 9/23)
- **July 8:** Geneva Fireman's Parade 7-8pm Downtown Geneva
- **July 9:** Ironman 70.3 Musselman Triathlon
- **August 5-6:** Garlic Festival, Geneva Lakefront
- **August 13:** Geneva Half Marathon <https://genevahalfmarathon.com/>

## Contact Us

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