TOWN OF CAMPBELL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2017 - Quarterly

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HELP WANTED
SNOW SHOVELING/ HANDYMAN POSITION FOR 2017 - 2018.

The Town of Campbell is looking to fill a snow shoveling/handyman part-time position for the 2017-2018 season. Duties would include general inside & outside maintenance including landscaping at the Campbell Town Hall, (excluding mowing). Other duties would include cleaning out gutters and the Town Hall winter shoveling of sidewalks.

Interested persons should submit a resume letter to the Campbell Town Clerk, 8529 Main St., Campbell, NY 14821 by 11/08/17.

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MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Town of Campbell is looking for Town residents in Campbell and East Campbell interested in filling vacant Town positions.

These are volunteer positions. Currently there are vacancies for alternate Planning Board members and one vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals. We would like to find interested persons in the community who are interested in being of service to their local government and in being on these boards. Interested persons should write a letter of introduction and qualifications to the Campbell Town Clerk, at 8529 Main Street, Campbell, NY 14821 by 11/08/17.

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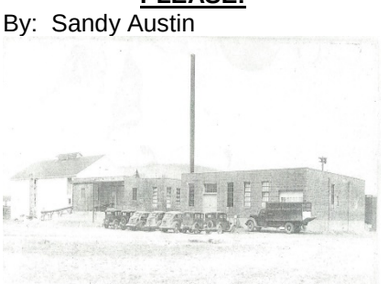
KEEP THE CHEESE HERE, PLEASE!

By: Sandy Austin



This picture was from an old photo which Matt Cacace allowed me to copy. It shows the original cheese factory, now the site of the Town's long-time cheese factory, which in recent years was operated by Kraft Heinz and this year was transferred to Upstate Niagara Cooperative.

The history of the cheese facility dates back to 1899 when Guiseppe Pollio and his son, Albert, came to the United States from their native town, Sorrento, Italy. They first settled in Brooklyn on the Coney Island Shore. On the beach was lots of driftwood and an abundance of dairy farms in the area. Guiseppe used the skills he learned in Italy to make ricotta and mozzarella according to the open-fire method. The young Albert, who was about 8 years old, would gather the driftwood for fuel and Giuseppe would make the cheese. As the business grew, more of the family immigrated to America. After a while they set up a cheese plant in Millerton, PA.

A man, with family connections, by the name of Pietro Russo who also came from Italy, joined the Pollio cheese factory team in 1922 and the group purchased a cheese factory in Thurston. Pietro moved to a house on Main Street in Campbell and ran the plant in Thurston. Soon they switched up from producing American cheese to Italian cheeses, of course, and soon outgrew the facility. In 1937 the Pollio group built a cheese factory on the Main Street site along the Erie Railroad Tracks and relocated here from Thurston. Pietro Russo ran the plant with his sons, Tony, Lou and Sal.

With the family running the operations, they hired local people to work in the plant; they used milk from local farms and the company prospered. The traditional pronunciation of the founder's name sounded the same as the polio epidemic which had appeared each summer in the early 1900's, in at least one part of the U.S., with the most serious occurring in the 1940s and 1950s. The company was becoming somewhat Americanized and it was thought that this polio epidemic might be giving a bad image for a cheese factory to be named that, so the name of the company was changed to Polly-O with the smiling parrot as its trademark.

In 1986, the company was purchased by Kraft General Foods. For the next 29 years, the company operations grew, with more than 400 employees in the plant and a number of local milk haulers bringing in milk; the local economy was doing well.

On July 2, 2015, Kraft signed a merger with the Heinz Company and the company became known as the Kraft-Heinz Company. Only about 3 months later they made an announcement that they would be closing the Campbell plant.

The workers, the locals, the dairy farmers in the Southern Tier and the Towns people, were not happy to hear the news. Things were up in the air for a couple of years. Some of the workers agreed to go to other Kraft-Heinz plants and it was a waiting game to see what would happen. Kraft said they would stay another year and then close. Time went by and the news was that they were searching for a new buyer and talking and negotiating. People remained hopeful to keep the plant open.

This past summer, we learned that Kraft Heinz had reached an agreement to sell the Campbell facility to Upstate Niagara, who then took ownership about August 14th, 2017. The cheese factory lives on in our Town and we all have renewed hope that Campbell will continue to sustain itself with a number of jobs at the facility and a place for the local farms to bring their supply of milk. Upstate Niagara is a farmer-owned cooperative of 360 dairy farms throughout western New York. They make a variety of dairy products and the Campbell facility is their only cheese plant.

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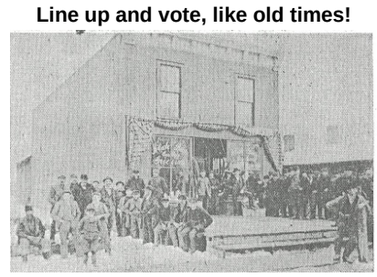
ELECTION DAY
November 7, 2017
6:00 am to 9:00 pm

Positions on the ballot are: Town Supervisor, Town Clerk, Highway Supt., Tax Collector, 2 Town Board seats and 1 un-expired Town Board seat.

Also, there are two separate proposals as to whether the terms of the Town Supervisor and the Town Highway Superintendent should be changed from a 2-year term to a 4-year term.

Line up and vote, like old times!



[photo from Benjamin Look]

Picture taken about 1898 shows farmers in town on an election day posing in front of McCabe Grocery at Campbell.

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Trick or Treat

OCTOBER 31st
5:00 – 7:00 PM

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From the Assessor's Corner.....

Exemption time is coming up soon as with the Taxable Status Date of March 1st, 2018. I will be sending out renewal exemption applications for Enhanced STaR, Senior Citizen, and Agricultural Exemption in late December. You will need to provide your 2016 income to determine eligibility for Enhanced STaR, your 2017 income to determine eligibility for Senior Citizen, and a current 5 year written lease if you lease your land for the Agricultural Exemption. Renewal exemption applications need to be submitted

by March 1, 2018. New STaR Applicants need to register with the Department of Taxation and Finance. You may register on-line at www.tax.ny.gov/star or by phone at 518-457-2036 between the hours of 8:30am - 4:30pm.

All other new exemptions need to be submitted to me by the Taxable Status Date, March 1st, 2018.

The Assessor's hours are Tuesday's from 8:30am - 3:30pm. You may also email me at assessor@campbellny.com.
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TOWN CEMETERIES
"STORIES FROM THE PAST"

This is the second in a series of articles written by Sandy Austin for the Town Newsletter about the Town cemeteries. There are some very old and interesting cemeteries which bring up some "stories from the past".

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY

Riverside Cemetery is located on County Route 125 across from the Cohocton River. Some of the burials date as far back as the 1830's but it was apparently part of the Platt Farm.

The old Town map from the earlier 1800's show a farm in this area under the name Fred T. Platt of about 272 acres. There are several of the Platt family buried there but he was not listed. Among them were Ira Platt who died in 1886 and his wife, Phebe, who died in 1895.

About that time is when the cemetery must have been divided off from the farm. In the late 1800's it had an active leadership; there were Articles of Incorporation written up dated July 7, 1891**.** These Articles were recorded in the County Clerk's Office on December 19, 1893. There is also a map of the Riverside Cemetery which was recorded in the County Clerk's Office in April of 1895. The actual Seal of the "Riverside Cemetery Association" is in our historical collection at the Town Hall.

It appears that the graves soon were filled and the persons caring for their loved ones' burial plots had also passed on. As the years went by, the cemetery became badly in need of maintenance. By the year 2000, this cemetery was in a sad state of disrepair with overgrown brush, broken trees and broken pipe fencing. A local Boy Scout, Stephen Nguyen, for his Eagle Scout project, cleaned up the cemetery and installed a new perimeter fence. This gave the Riverside Cemetery a much-revived look in the Town.

Riverside Cemetery is one of the abandoned cemeteries now maintained by the Town.

A listing of the burials can be viewed on paintedhills.org. – Steuben tab – Cemeteries – Listed by Town – Campbell - Riverside.

Go Solar Without Rooftop Installation
Community Shared Solar for Town of Campbell

Do you want to save on electricity costs through solar power but can't or don't want to put panels on your roof? Residents in the Town of Campbell are now eligible to participate in a regional community shared solar program. Instead of installing solar on your roof, you subscribe to a share of a community solar farm serving the entire utility service area.

Due to new NY State policy, community solar farms are sprouting up throughout the region and you can directly offset your NYSEG electric bill by subscribing to one. Right now, a solar farm in Newfield is being built by one of the nation's top solar developers, Nexamp. With Nexamp's *Solarize My Bill* program, you receive a 10% discount on electricity offset by their solar farm. It costs nothing to enroll and there is no long-term contract.

To learn more, please visit www.SolarizeMyBill.com and enter code: Campbell. Or call 800-945-5124 to speak with a member of the Nexamp Community Solar team.

Campbell Town Hall
8529 Main Street
Campbell, NY 14821
607-527-8244
607-527-8280 FAX

2017 CALENDAR AT A GLANCE
Oct. 9 – TOWN HALL CLOSED
Oct. 16 – Town Board 7:00 pm
Oct. 18 – Planning Board 6:00 pm
Oct. 31 – Trick or Treat 5:00 – 7:00 pm
Nov. 7 – Election Day 6 am – 9 pm
Nov. 10 – TOWN HALL CLOSED
Nov. 13 – Town Board 7:00 pm
Nov. 15 – Planning Board 6:00 pm
Nov. 23 & 24 – TOWN HALL CLOSED
Dec. 11 – Town Board 7:00 pm
Dec.22 –TOWN HALL CLOSING AT NOON
Dec. 25 – TOWN HALL CLOSED

ELECTED OFFICIALS
Town Board Members
Jeff Horton – Acting Town Supervisor
John Tschantre – Acting Deputy Supervisor
Jamie Drumm
Terry Wheat
Glenn Vogel – Appointed to 2017 Vacated Office

Sandra Austin – Town Clerk
Tom Austin – Highway Superintendent
Doug Horton – Town Justice
Patty Horton – Town Justice
William Rosplock – Tax Collector

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