

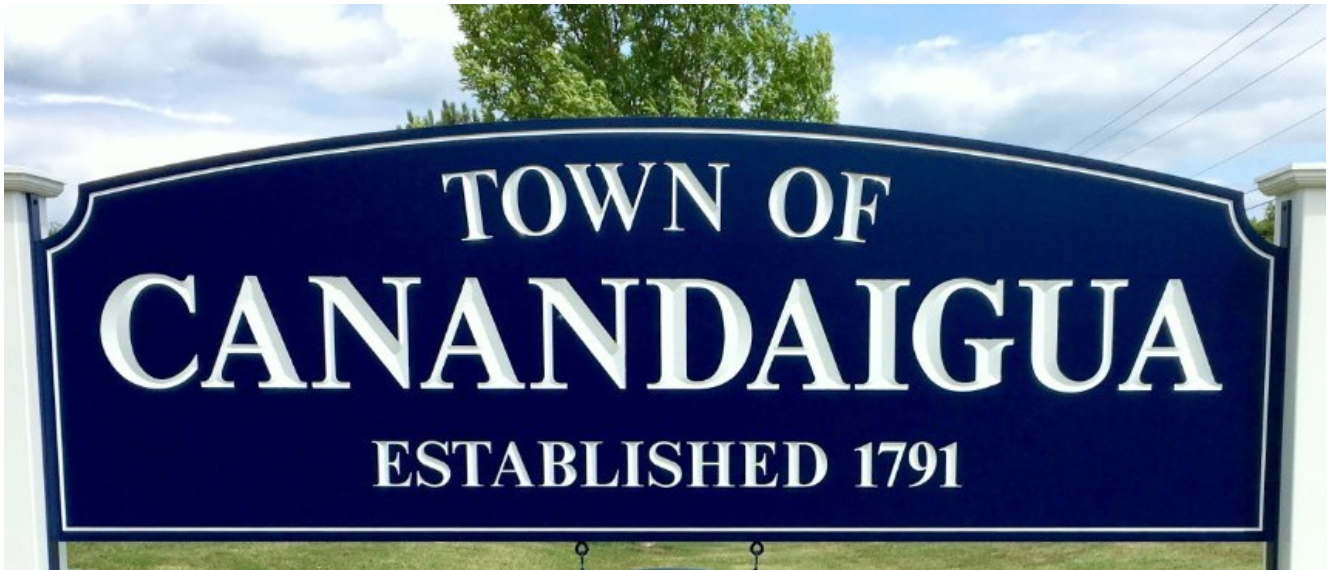
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***\*CORRECTED\****

*See highlighted dates below for corrections.*

## ***January 2020 Town News***

*Some email programs won't display the whole newsletter.*

*Follow link below to view the entire newsletter online.*

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## ***Happy New Year!***

It's a new year and a new decade. We hope you all enjoyed your holidays and are ready for all that 2020 may bring us. With a new year comes a slightly different newsletter format. You may notice a few things have been rearranged. Events and general Town info are now right up top and easy to see. We also will begin to introduce new regular columns such as this

month's "Questions from Residents." Also look for other new information from the development office in the coming months.

### ***Watch out for snowplows!***

Please drive cautiously during winter weather and be sure to give the snow plows (and yourself) extra room to maneuver.

Sarah Reynolds  
Editor

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## **January 2020 Town Meeting Dates**

- 2 – Local History Team, 8:30 am
- 2 – Environmental Conservation Board, 4:30 pm
- 2 – Agricultural Advisory Committee, 6:00 pm
- 3 – Special Events Committee, 8:00 am
- 6 – Ordinance Committee, 9:00 am
- 6 – Town Board, 6:00 pm
- 7 – CIC, 9:00 am
- 7 – Economic Development Committee, 12:00 pm
- 10 – Planning Committee, 10:00 am
- 13 – Planning Review Committee, 9:00 am
- 14 – Drainage Committee, 11:00 am
- 14 – Planning Board, 6:00 pm
- 16 – Finance Committee, 8:00 am
- 21 – CIC, 9:00 am
- 21 – Zoning Board of Appeals, 6:00 pm
- 21 – Finance Committee, 8:00 am
- 28 – Drainage Committee, 11:00 am
- 28 – Planning Board, 6:00 pm
- 29 – Parks & Recreation Committee, 6:00 pm
- 29 – Environmental Committee, 4:30 pm
- 30 – Town Board, 3:00 pm

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### *General Information*

**Town Hall Hours**     Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Town Clerk's Office Hours**    Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Wed- Open until 7:00 pm

**Court Clerk's Office Hours**    Mon, Tue, Wed, and Fri 9:00 am to  
12:00 pm  
Thu 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

**General Town Email**    [info@townofcanandaigua.org](mailto:info@townofcanandaigua.org)  
(This email address is checked regularly)

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*Key Personnel*

Town Supervisor, [Cathy Menikotz](#)  
Town Board members: [Gary Davis](#), [Linda Dworaczyk](#), [Terry Fennelly](#), and [Jared Simpson](#)  
Town Manager, [Doug Finch](#)  
Deputy Town Supervisor, [Tina Bloom](#)  
Town Clerk, [Jean Chrisman](#)  
Highway/Water Superintendent, [James Fletcher](#)  
Town Assessor, [Christopher Lyon](#), IAO  
Code Enforcement / Zoning Officer, [Chris Jensen](#), P.E., MCP, CFM  
Town Planner, [Eric Cooper](#)  
Town Historian, [Ray Henry](#)

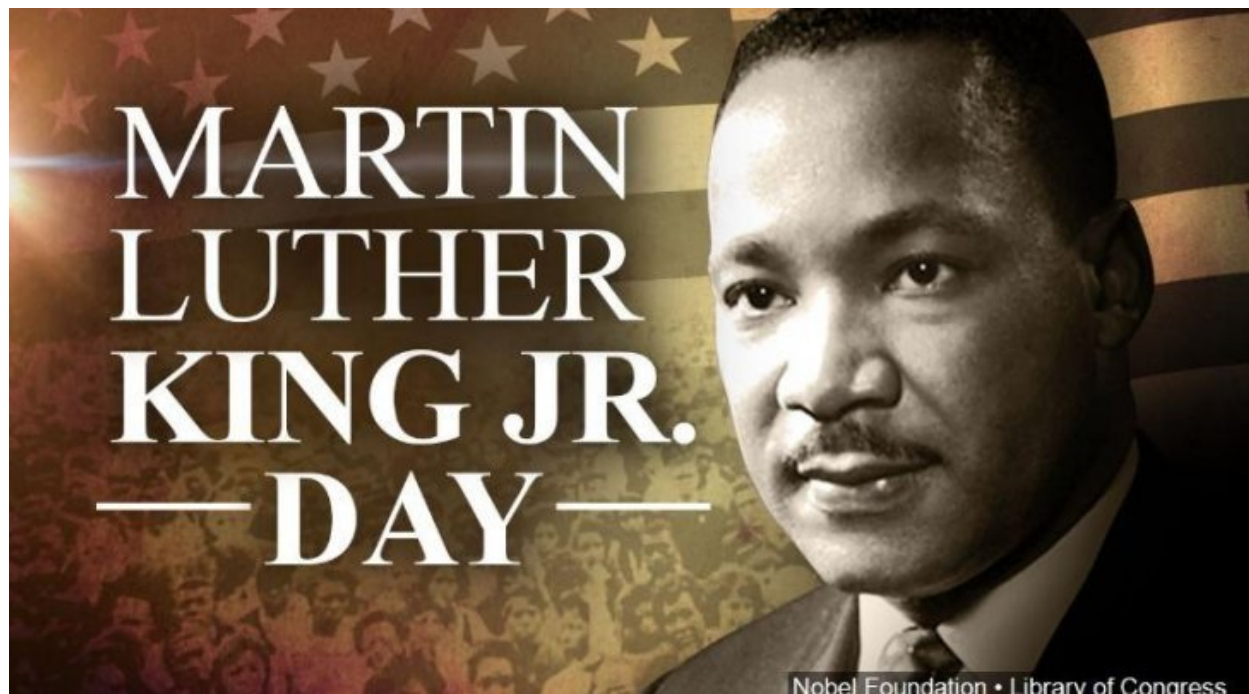
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## Holidays

Important Dates to note.

Also see the "Flyers" heading at the end of the newsletter for information on several upcoming events of interest.

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Town Offices will be closed Monday, January 20, 2020  
in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

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From the Desk of the Town Manager

## **PARK FACILITIES RESERVATIONS NOW ONLINE**



As part of our continuous effort to better serve our residents, the Town of Canandaigua Parks and Recreation reservation system has now gone online for your convenience.

Have you thought about reserving a pavilion in one of our parks? Maybe you want to reserve the lodge at Outhouse Park for a baby shower, or perhaps Gorham Lodge at Onanda Park for a family reunion, or the old school building at West Lake School House Park on Butler Road for a party. All of those options and many more including parks programs reservations are now available online through the Town of Canandaigua's website at [www.townofcanandaigua.org](http://www.townofcanandaigua.org).

Of course, you are welcome to stop by the Town Hall and make a reservation in person as you have done in the past. However, now, even in the middle of the night, you can check cabin availability or make your reservation through our convenient

online registration system.

To access the Town of Canandaigua Parks and Recreation reservation system, simply go to the town website, click on services, then choose the type of reservation you would like to make. Once in the facility option selection you can select the date you wish, the type of rental—such as a daily rental or weekly—and then completely make your reservation online.

The Town of Canandaigua continues to look for new ways to make our services convenient and friendly for all our residents. We very much welcome your feedback and comments.

If you have an idea for something we should consider as an area for future improvement, please feel free to contact either myself or any of your elected officials. All our Elected Officials and Employees care very much about making the Town of Canandaigua a great place to live, work, and play. Please feel free to contact me anytime.

Doug Finch

Town Manager

[dfinch@townofcanandaigua.org](mailto:dfinch@townofcanandaigua.org)

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## Questions from Residents

*By Town Board Member Linda Dworaczyk*

On January 6, 2020 at our Town Board meeting, a town resident, Ms Yvonne Chavez, submitted some questions to the town board about our Town Manager structure of government. As we answer her questions, in the interest of transparency, we wanted to share the information with all residents of the town.

Almost three years ago we adopted a new structure implementing a professional Town Manager. The Town Board was so pleased with the results that we extended the contract with our Town Manager, Mr. Doug Finch, for an additional 5 years. For those of you who don't know Doug, he is a highly respected professional that has been working tirelessly on behalf of you. Through his efforts we have been able to upgrade many of the functions of the town while keeping a stable tax rate. Improvements include new financial software, increases in grants obtained, improved climate control at Town Hall,

better cooperation with our neighboring towns and the City of Canandaigua... the list is long.

Since the town operates every day of the year, having good employees is key. Our elected officials determine the policies and make the decisions for the town but it is up to our employees to implement those decisions. We hope you agree that our town employees are some of the best.

Thank you to [Ms. Yvonne Chavez](#) for submitting these questions. To be totally transparent, we have made some minor formatting changes to the questions that don't change the meaning. I hope everyone finds this information helpful. I speak for the entire Town Board when I say we value transparency and have a strong desire to address questions from residents.

[CHAVEZ](#): I am addressing the Town Board as a concerned town resident. This is not an attack on personalities but a question about the roles of Town Board and Town Manager. These are sincere questions, not insinuations, in my attempt to understand the way things are operating in the town today. Some answers to my questions might seem obvious to those serving but please respect my desire to learn the Town Manager form of government and the role it plays versus the role of elected Town Board members and Supervisor. As some of you are aware I've not been as active having had to deal with a family member's serious health issues over the last two years and now I am trying to play 'catch-up.'

I am speaking specifically of Resolutions 2020 – 014 and 015. First, it should be pointed out the Town Manager does not serve the residents of the town as the resolution states. The elected representatives, the Supervisor and Town Board, do.

[LINDA DWORACZYK, Town Board Member](#): Please do not overlook our town employees who work every day "serving" our residents. Serving the residents is not reserved for elected officials. All Town employees serve the residents including the elected officials.

[CHAVEZ](#): As I understand them, these resolutions give a town manager, an un-elected official, the authority, powers and duties of day-to-day administration, personnel officer, supervision of all town and special district



facilities and employees (excluding those elected and their appointees), signing documents relating to day-to-day administration of appointed personnel, personnel management and personnel records and shall only offer new employment or termination employment after first receiving direction from the Town Board.

It is also stated that by ‘this delegation to the Town Manager, the Town Board does not abdicate to the Town Manager or surrender to him the board’s statutory responsibilities.’

Questions I have:

What exactly is left for the Town Board’s statutory responsibilities? I had asked a similar question a few meetings ago – “What exactly is left for the Supervisor to do” and the response was the Town Board had basically signed away a lot of the previous Supervisor’s responsibilities.

**DWORACZYK:** We don’t recall anyone ever saying that the Board signed away any responsibility. All Town Board members are aware that the Town Board still has ultimate responsibility. Every Town Board Member has the same responsibility including the Supervisor. The Supervisor role has one additional role that other members do not have - Financial Officer. Many policies of the town are re-confirmed at the organizational meeting. As the head financial person, a Supervisor is also the budget officer unless they choose to assign that responsibility to the Town Manager which is how it has been done in our town. If you can identify any other specific Supervisor responsibilities that you are concerned about, we can address them for you.

**CHAVEZ:** In regard to the Town Manager’s ability to sign documents related to daily administration of appointed personnel/management and records and only offer new employment or employment termination after receiving direction from Town Board. What is the procedure for this? Is it discussed in Executive Session and a decision made immediately following?

**DWORACZYK:** The town has many written policies that it follows. Regarding employment, the employee handbook is a good reference for you to review to become as familiar as you wish. All executive sessions are announced in advance as well as if any action would follow from it. The majority of the sessions do not have actions planned after so actions that may result are

handled in open meeting at the next meeting. Every action that follows from an executive session is handled in an open meeting. In executive session, the Town Board (TB) gives guidance on the confidential topic to the town staff. Personnel discussions are private but ALL hiring decisions are made by majority vote in our public meetings.

**CHAVEZ:** How much time lapse between a Town Board learning of the Town Manager's suggestion and the Town Board issuing direction?

**DWORACZYK:** Again this would be easier to answer with a specific situation. TB members are often at the Town Hall for other meetings and drop in on the Town Mgr so there are many opportunities during the month for active TB members to get updates. TB direction in the form of voting occurs at the monthly meetings. TB direction can come from discussions at other open meetings like committee meetings of the main committees. Our town is rigorous in adherence to the open meetings rules and prides itself on transparency. Any direction must come from a majority of TB members and cannot come from one board member.

**CHAVEZ:** Does the Town Board member have time to do their own research or personal evaluation of a potential issue or action?

**DWORACZYK:** The TB members all make up their own minds prior to voting. Each TB member is only one vote and the majority of the board is what is needed to pass any vote.

**CHAVEZ:** If an employee is terminated, is there an exit interview provided by the Town Board?

**DWORACZYK:** Like any business our HR function holds the exit interview.

**CHAVEZ:** Is there an exit interview given by the Town Board when an employee is resigning?

**DWORACZYK:** Like any business our HR function holds the exit interview.

**CHAVEZ:** If an employee is hired, is there a personal interview by the Town Board of the candidate before being hired?



**DWORACZYK:** There is not a personal interview by the TB for most positions.

**CHAVEZ:** Based on my recent observations during TB meetings, how involved is the Supervisor and Town Board in various meetings with professionals providing services to our town – or in developing contracts and agreements – with BPC, Inc, Law offices, MRB, Engineering, Payroll, etc.

**DWORACZYK:** It varies with the topic and availability of TB members.

**CHAVEZ:** When a Town Manager represents the Town at all meetings – does he represent the Board's wishes in discussions or his own?

**DWORACZYK:** Our town manager is a sought after professional, who operates in the town's best interest. IF and when there is a difference between what the TB thinks and the Town Manager thinks, the manager always does what the majority of the board directs. The TB majority is the decision maker for all matters.

**CHAVEZ:** At these meetings, is it just the Town Manager or are Town Board members aware and given the ability to attend if they desire?

**DWORACZYK:** It varies with the topic and availability of TB members, TB members are as involved as they want to be but a single town board member cannot direct the Town Manager. Only the majority of TB members can make decisions.

**CHAVEZ:** You are authorizing the Town Manager to engage the Town's approved attorney, engineer, fiscal advisors, human resources, insurance reps, payroll consultants, contract providers, state and local agencies and staff in any matters the Town Manager may deem required and then to update the Town Board on those action, when appropriate, at the next scheduled meeting.

**DWORACZYK:** The town is active every single day and all of our TB members cannot be there all day every day. It would be difficult to expect every decision to need a full board vote. We have full confidence in the actions taken by our Town Manager and that the actions are consistent with TB direction. In the almost 3 years since his appointment, the TB has never needed to address any

oversteps by our Town Manager. We are lucky to have him.

**CHAVEZ:** Who determines the appropriateness and does this mean if deemed not appropriate by whomever, that the Town Board is never updated?

**DWORACZYK:** Our Town Manager is a professional and we have never found him to be slow to update us on any issue especially when it is an urgent issue.

**CHAVEZ:** And this 'update' doesn't happen until the next scheduled meeting, possibly a month later???

**DWORACZYK:** Our Town Manager is a professional and we have never found him to be slow to update us on any urgent issue. Information is sent to us in a timely manner and if a decision is required a special public meeting is scheduled.

**CHAVEZ:** How is a contract or service agreement reached with BPD, Attorney, MRB, PC Engineering and Payroll? Is the Town Board involved or is it only the Town Manager? Is the Town Board apprised of agreements/contracts before they are signed?

**DWORACZYK:** Contract deliberations are discussed in executive session, guidance is given to the Town Manager and Town Attorney. They negotiate on our behalf, following our direction, and all contracts are voted on in open meetings prior to signing.

**CHAVEZ:** All these questions are representative of my concern that, if I understand what is happening correctly, a Town Manager has been given the authority to make a lot of decisions that the Town Board (elected officials) are not involved in.

**DWORACZYK:** The Town Manager is not making decisions that the TB is not involved in. The Town Manager is ensuring the wishes and decisions of the TB are executed. As was explained at the meetings when we went to the Town Manager format of Town government, having a Town manager is a bonus for continuity in our Town. We have had high turnover in our board and in our Supervisor position. Elected officials come and go and many are new to municipal law. There is no guarantee an elected official can spend the amount

of time required to keep our town business moving appropriately. Our town manager has training and experience that is extremely valuable in keeping our town from making errors because of untrained elected officials.

As Town Board members, we see first hand the benefits of this style of government and hope that by providing these answers you can become as comfortable as we are. The Town Manager has brought a level of professionalism to our town that is the envy of many towns. The town board voted unanimously to extend the contract with our Town Manager and is grateful for his service to the town.

**CHAVEZ:** I truly appreciate your patience with me and for spending the time involved to respond to my questions.

**DWORACZYK:** Thank you for your interest in the town. We hope you continue to ask questions that show us where the residents may need additional information to be confident that everyone who is elected in our town or is employed by the town works for the best interests of all the residents.

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## Town Thanks Retiring Board Members and Staff

Four members of boards and Town staff retired at the end of 2019 and were celebrated at an event at Star Cider, the Town's only cidery. Even Senator Pam Helming was on hand to recognize their years of service to the community. Help us congratulate these dedicated public servants the next time you see them!

- Tom Schwartz, long-time Planning Board member and Chairperson
- Joyce Marthaller, long-time Environmental Conservation Board member and Chairperson
- Kris Singer, Bookkeeper
- Kevin Reynolds, Town Board member and former Environmental Conservation Board member

Pictures of the December 19 event follow.

From top to bottom, left to right:

Photo 1: Joyce, Tom, Kris, Kevin with Town Supervisor Cathy Menikotz, Town Board members Terry Fennelly and Gary Davis, Senator Helming, and Town Manager Doug Finch.

Photo 2: Doug, Cathy, Kevin, and Terry with Kevin's plaque.

Photo 3: The four retirees with their cake.

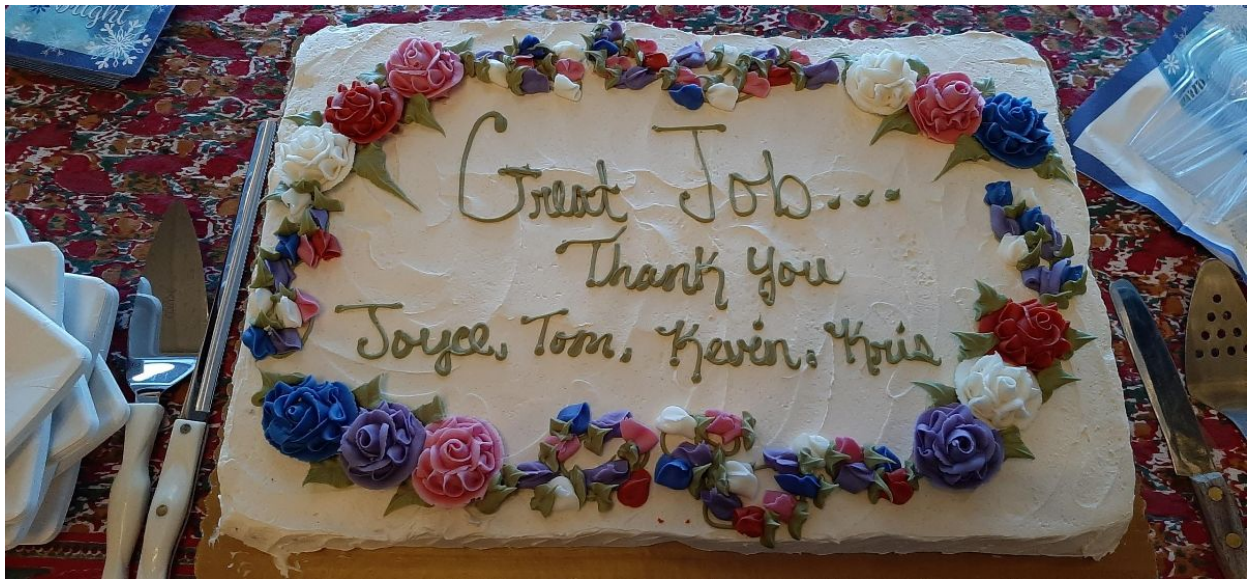
Photo 4: The cake.

Photo 5: Senator Helming and Joyce.

Photo 6: Senator Helming and Tom.







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**Natural Resource Protection News**  
***From the Town of Canandaigua Environmental  
Conservation Board***

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# Winter Birding in Canandaigua

By ECB member, Saralinda Hooker

Looking for a winter pastime that keeps you in touch with nature? The winter months in the Finger Lakes offer great opportunities to hone your bird identification skills. Setting up a feeder is one way, but watching the water birds on the lake is another great method. While many species of birds are on a long-term decline in numbers as development trends reduce the amount of suitable woodland and grassland habitat, the numbers of waterfowl are actually on the rise, and it's not just the Canada Geese.

Together with several other Finger Lakes, Canandaigua Lake has been named an Important Bird Area (IBA) by the Audubon Society, especially for providing a winter home for waterfowl. The IBA listing, made over 10 years ago, mentions mallards and redheads in particular, but the diversity of winter waterfowl on the lake is remarkable, and unlike spring and summer birds, waterfowl can be quite cooperative for identification purposes.

- Being out in open water, they are easy to spot, especially with binoculars.
- As long as you observe them from inside your car, they don't get spooked and move away.
- The City and Town have a number of sites where you can get a good look at the water birds from a lakeside parking spot.
- With the help of the eBird Hotspot system, you can often get great hints about what you are likely to see from a particular vantage point, helping to narrow down your identification choices.

Developed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, eBird is an online database of bird observation linking scientists, researchers and amateur observers worldwide to share information about bird distribution and abundance. It offers amateurs a free digital tool for saving your bird sighting lists privately, and/or for sharing your data for scientific research. The Hotspot network allows you to see what species other birders have observed at a particular site over the past days, months and years. Anyone can join at [eBird.com](https://eBird.com).

There are waterside Hotspots to be found throughout the City and Town: the City Pier, Lagoon Park, Muar Lakes, Butler Road Schoolhouse Park, the Water Plant, and Onanda Park. Inland Hotspots include Miller Park, Outhouse Park,



the Risser Road swamp, Blue Heron Park, and the north end of Woolhouse Road, as well as Sonnenberg Gardens and Woodlawn Cemetery.

Here are some of the easy-to-spot waterfowl that will soon become familiar to you if they are not already. Images are courtesy of Audubon Field Guide to American Birds.



**American Coot** - These small duck-like birds are the only ones that are all black except for a white bill. They gather in a group of up to 100 off the City Pier during the fall months, and gradually move down the west side of the lake as the ice sets in around the Pier. By early winter you can see them off the Yacht Club, Butler Road Park, the Water Plant, or in between.

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**Mallards** are familiar because they stay around all year. The distinctive green heads of the males and the brown speckled females are easy to spot in a crowd of waterfowl.



**Redheads** - These medium sized diving ducks are return to Canandaigua Lake each winter in the thousands, and make such dense raft formations in the lake



that they can seem like a floating island. The males have rusty chestnut rounded heads with a dark chest and light gray back, while the females are a lighter brown and grey. Redheads churn the water into a froth with their repeated diving for aquatic plants.



**Mergansers** - Another year-round resident, the merganser has several different looks depending on gender and type. The Common Merganser male is distinctive for its large mostly white body, dark green head and orange bill. The female is mostly grey with a lighter breast and a reddish crested head.



**Buffleheads** - These cute little guys are hard to miss, with their bright black and white bodies. Females are brown, with white patches on the side of the face.



**Swans** - The large white swans are easy to pick out in a crowd of waterfowl in the water or on the ice, and more often than not they are Mute Swans, identified by their large white bodies, long necks, red-orange bills and black facial markings. Mute Swans often move in pairs or small family groups. Trumpeter and Tundra Swans, with subtle differences in their bill color and facial marks, also migrate through the area.





**Snow Geese** - Like the Redheads, snow geese move around in an impressive crowd, and often pass through the area by the thousands, or even hundreds of thousands, in the later winter months. As the ice is receding, if you see a great white floating object in the middle of the lake, it is likely to be a raft of snow geese. Seen in the air, they are distinctive for their black wing tips and for their flight pattern, which looks like a loosely knitted coverlet across the sky.

Birding is a very flexible pastime that you can enjoy on your own or with companions. You will find a pair of binoculars and a birding guide very useful. There are several free phone apps that can assist you in identification - try Cornell Lab's Merlin app at [merlin.allaboutbirds.org](https://merlin.allaboutbirds.org) or Audubon's guide at [Audubon.org/app](https://audubon.org/app). Two area bird clubs offer field trips, lectures and abundant advice and support for new birders - see [eatonbirds.webs.com](https://eatonbirds.webs.com) and [rochesterbirding.com](https://rochesterbirding.com).

This summary only scratches the surface of the diversity of waterfowl you can find if you frequent our waterways and lakeshore in winter. Soon you will be able to distinguish a scaup from a scoter, a canvasback from a goldeneye and a gadwall from a wigeon. As winter rolls into spring with the return migration of

the warblers and other bright and musical species, you may find yourself hooked on birding!

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## **Local History Notes**

### **Squaw Island**

### **New York's Smallest State Park**

By Local History Team member Donna West



**H**ave you ever looked out just southwest from the Canandaigua City Pier, or read the historic marker at the end of the Pier, and wondered about the small island a short distance away? Or perhaps you've been curious enough to have paddled around it in a canoe or kayak. The island is located within the Town of Canandaigua boundary lines even though it is only about 600 feet from City Pier, which is in the City of Canandaigua.<sup>1</sup>

Currently under DEC's Bureau of Wildlife jurisdiction, Squaw Island is designated a Unique Area even though it's listed as the smallest State Park and smallest Wildlife Management Area in the state. Since it's so small, they don't perform any management activities on the island.<sup>2</sup> However, in 1977 DEC did install a cedar log buffer to help protect it from continued erosion. The



erosion is caused by the water current, ice, wind and development (which changes the wave patterns).<sup>3</sup>



Photo courtesy of Ontario County Historical Society collection

**Just how small is the island?** It wasn't always the approximate 55 feet wide and 145 feet long – 7,975 square feet – that it is today. At less than a quarter-acre today, in 1853 it was about two acres.<sup>3</sup> Preston Pierce's book, ***Small Wonder***, notes that by 1875 gravel was being removed from the island and used to improve local roads; a practice that continued for many years, much to the dismay of village authorities who in 1881 ultimately prohibited it. Gravel and sand even ended up on private properties. During this time, local papers noted that cattle grazed there, and when the lake level was low, you could even walk from the shore across to the island, making it a peninsula rather than an island. The fact that a sand bar made Squaw Island a peninsula seemed a point of consternation even into the early 1900s.<sup>4</sup>



Photo courtesy of Ontario County Historical Society collection

Throughout the years, various attempts have been made to preserve and protect the island. One such effort was the formation of the Squaw Island Preservation Society in 1999. Although not currently active, the group did work with the state on a conservation project. Fundraising efforts and state monies made it possible to reinforce the shoreline by constructing a rock seawall around the island. The project was completed in 2001.<sup>4</sup> Today the island terrain is level. From the pier, it looks like it's just barely above the water level.

**How did the name Squaw Island come about?** Legend has it that during the American Revolutionary War, Seneca women and children took refuge on the island as the Sullivan Expedition advanced against the Six Nations in 1779.<sup>3</sup> Although the island was larger than it is today, historians find it hard to believe the natives would have retreated to the island.<sup>4</sup> Artifacts, including arrowheads found there, suggest perhaps it was used for hunting, or even for a staging area to mobilize against the Sullivan Expedition.<sup>1</sup> Even though the exact location is unknown, a Seneca-Iroquois village is believed to have been about a mile from

**Water biscuits?** Water biscuits – or “*oncolites*” – are disc-shaped white rocks made of “... an extremely rare form of carbonate of lime deposits on pebbles. A feathery light rock calcified from algae, filtered by sand and pond scum are hard in the water but crumble if allowed to dry out.”<sup>3</sup> Sucker Brook, at the northern end of Canandaigua Lake, was identified by Dr. John M. Clarke as the source of the lime-carbonate for the oncolites. Although found in only a few places around the world, they were discovered all over the lake bottom around Squaw Island, making it a place of scientific importance. In 1900, Dr. Clarke, a geologist and paleontologist, and nephew of Mary Clark Thompson (of Sonnenberg), wrote about them and their significance. He even proposed making the island a State Museum Reservation.<sup>4</sup> The scientific importance of their existence around Squaw Island led Mary Clark Thompson to have a 10-ton boulder moved to the island in 1919. She had a plaque, which remains today, placed on the boulder telling about their scientific significance.<sup>4</sup>



Photo courtesy of Ontario County Historical Society collection - Note the boulder

### Did you know?

- Squaw Island is one of only 2 islands known to be in the 11 Finger Lakes. The other island is Frontenac Island in Cayuga Lake, near Union Springs.<sup>1,3</sup>
- There are 2 other islands named Squaw Island in the United States; one in Massachusetts and the other in Michigan.



You can learn even more about this little island by utilizing the resources below, which were used in writing this piece. For a series of images of Squaw Island over the years, [click here](#).

Footnotes:

1 – Squaw Island (Canandaigua Lake), Wikipedia website:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Squaw\\_Island\\_\(Canandaigua\\_Lake\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Squaw_Island_(Canandaigua_Lake))

2– Squaw Island Wildlife Management Area, New York Department of Environmental Conservation website:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/101178.html>

3 – Canandaigua Lake Facts, Town of Canandaigua website:

<http://townofcanandaigua.org/page.asp?id=82>

4 – *Small Wonder, Squaw Island, Canandaigua Lake* by Preston E Pierce, Pages 3, 5-6, 9, 11-12, 19-20 and 25. Available at Wood Library or for purchase from the Ontario County Historical Society.

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**From NY State DEC**

## **The Nursery's Seedling Sale is Coming...**

Mark your calendar - [DEC's Colonel William F. Fox Memorial Saratoga Tree Nursery's](#) annual seedling sale starts January 2nd! Dozens of native tree and shrub species will be available for purchase at low costs. [Browse this year's selection on our website](#), and get your order in early because many favorites go quickly! We recommend [placing your order](#)



by phone for the most up-to-date species availability information. The sale runs until May 15th, and seedlings are shipped mid-April through early May.

*Photo: Seedlings from the Nursery are sold bare-root and range from 5-14 inches in height.*

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## **Agriculture Awareness**

From the Agricultural Advisory Committee

**DID YOU KNOW...**the Town of Canandaigua has local farming information on its website? We have a page listing [local farmers](#) and their available products with contact information. If you would like to be included on this list, or if something on it needs to be updated, please contact Sarah Reynolds at [sreynolds@townofcanandaigua.org](mailto:sreynolds@townofcanandaigua.org).

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Got this Forwarded to you? Sign Up to Receive Emails From the Town

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## **FLYERS**

**Lots of things happening around Town!**  
**Check out the flyers below for local events coming up in the next few weeks.**



# Soil Health Workshop

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

8:30am-2:30pm

Location: Ontario Produce Auction, 4860 Yautzy Road, Stanley, NY

## 1.5 DEC Pesticide Applicator Credits & 4.5 CCA CEUs

8:30-8:45	<b>Registration and Refreshments</b>
8:45-9:00	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>
9:00-10:00	<b>Keynote Speaker: Blake Vince, Farmer: #RootsNotIron</b> A discussion of both on-farm and field scale research on conserving farmland with cover crops and promoting biodiversity.
10:00-10:10	<b>Break</b>
10:10-11:10	<b>Mike Stanyard, CCE Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock &amp; Field Crops: Glyphosate Resistant Weeds: ID, Biology &amp; Management</b> A closer look into each of these glyphosate-resistant weed species (marestail, waterhemp and Palmer amaranth) and how their biology has allowed them to survive and spread in NY; including a review of the most effective herbicide programs to use in corn and soybeans in 2020.
11:10-12:00	<b>Karl Czymmek &amp; Peter Wright, Cornell PRO-DAIRY: Manure Storages: building, filling, emptying &amp; maintaining</b> Considerations for planning, design, construction and O&M of manure storages for a dairy operation. How this will affect your farm operation and your neighbors will be discussed.
12:00-1:00	<b>Lunch, Exhibitions, and Raffle Prizes</b>
1:00-1:30	<b>Anthony Prestigiacomo, Research Scientist, Division of Water, Finger Lakes Watershed Hub: Threats to Water Quality and Clean Water Planning</b> Discussion of Harmful Algal Blooms, watershed clean water planning, and strategies to reduce nutrient losses from watersheds.
1:30-1:40	<b>Break</b>
1:40-2:30	<b>Blake Vince: #RootsNotIron</b> Putting Healthy Soils and Water First



### Blake Vince

*Merlin, Ontario, Canada*

Blake is a fifth generation farmer and Canadian Nuffield Scholar from Merlin, Ontario, Canada. Working with his father, Elwin Vince they produce commercial corn, soybeans and winter wheat on 1200 acres. Their farm management practices are centered on soil health and they are considered to be no-till pioneers in their corner of Canada where they adapted to no-till farming techniques in the early 1980's. Blake considers himself very fortunate to have been taught, from a young age, the merits of no-till farming. His claim to fame, as a 47 year old farmer, is that he has never used a moldboard plough. Knowing that soil is not an infinite resource and working with the objective to leave his farms in better condition for future generations, Blake has been using a multi-species cover crop blend to protect and enrich them. His practices are in stark contrast with others in his area of Southwestern Ontario where more and more farmers are reverting back to conventional tillage.

To register, please return this form to: **Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association**, PO Box 323, Canandaigua, NY 14424, with **check made payable to CLWA**. You may also pre-register by calling 585-394-5030 or [info@canandaigualakeassoc.org](mailto:info@canandaigualakeassoc.org) by **February 7, 2020**. To pay with credit card, please go to the following link: <http://www.canandaigualakeassoc.org/get-involved/soil-health-workshop/>

\$15 per participant with pre-registration (includes lunch).

\$20 per participant for walk-ins (payable by cash only).

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This event is sponsored by: Ontario and Yates County Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Ontario County, Seneca Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization, and Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association.



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