



RENSSELAER CITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2025

Rensselaer 2024 Year in Review—Rising Together

Office of the Mayor



Mayor Mike Stammel
518-426-9511

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Highlights in this month's issue



Assessment Updates



Food Pantry Events



Presidents' Day

Rensselaer has long carried the legacy of its industrial past, designated a “disadvantaged community” due to the environmental burdens of that era. But today, we are witnessing the city’s transformation as part of New York State’s historic shift toward cleaner energy, reduced pollution, and expanded economic opportunities. Our port operations now house companies that prioritize environmental responsibility while providing meaningful employment opportunities for residents.

One shining example is **Curia**, a global leader in pharmaceutical manufacturing, which invested over \$35 million in state-of-the-art facilities right here in Rensselaer. This expansion not only brings new technical jobs but also reflects a commitment to environmental stewardship by optimizing energy usage and meeting enhanced environmental standards. Other port operations, including asphalt storage and natural gas-to-electricity conversion, similarly embrace cleaner, more efficient practices. Neighboring facilities like **Regeneron** further anchor the city’s economic growth, offering hundreds of jobs to our community.

Housing Growth and Pro-Housing Community Designation

The expansion of job opportunities has driven an increased demand for housing—a challenge the City of Rensselaer has eagerly embraced. Between 2020 and 2024, housing units grew by 2.7%, from 4,753 to 4,881. Key developments include:

- **Barnet Mills:** 72 new apartments
- **McManus Property:** 49 apartments
- **Railroad Place:** 32 apartments (recently approved)
- **DeLaet’s Landing Expansion:** 138 units under construction

Plans for another 300 waterfront apartments and a mixed-use building on Broadway (26 apartments).

This success earned Rensselaer **Pro-Housing Community** status—one of the few communities to achieve this based on actual housing growth rather than planning goals.

Commercial and Community Development

The City’s vision extends beyond housing, with significant strides in commercial and community projects:

- A **100-room hotel** near the train station is in the planning stages.
- An **event space, gallery, and artist studios** will enhance downtown.
- Efforts are underway to attract a **grocery store and bank**, essential services that will meet residents’ needs.

New businesses continue to thrive, evidenced by ribbon-cuttings for a gas station, Mexican restaurant, ice cream stand, and upcoming retail projects along Columbia Street Corridor.

Continued on Page 2

Rensselaer 2024 Year in Review—Rising Together—continued from page 1

Improving Quality of Life

Mayor Stammel's administration has made quality-of-life improvements a cornerstone of its efforts:

- **Livingston Avenue Bridge Replacement:** A \$600+ million project that includes a waterfront trail connecting Rensselaer to Troy.
- **Hollow Preserve Trail:** Under development to link neighborhoods with the school campus.
- **Park Renovations:** Nearly \$2 million invested in upgrading four parks with modern playgrounds, picnic areas, improved courts, and water features.
- **Riverfront Enhancements:** Improved views of the Hudson River and Albany skyline, with the addition of a monument to the USS Albany.
- **Farmers Market:** Continued success in connecting the community with local goods.
- **Train Station Ambassador Program:** In development to assist the 800,000+ travelers passing through Amtrak's 8th busiest station annually.
- **Capital Roots History Walk:** Highlighting Rensselaer's rich past for both residents and visitors.

Rensselaer Rising: A Vision for the Future

The **Rensselaer Rising Revitalization Plan** is nearing completion, with public review underway before submission for a Brownfield Opportunity Area designation. This ambitious plan focuses on reactivating sites with environmental challenges while creating new opportunities for growth. The plan's name, "Rensselaer Rising," embodies the city's resilience, likened to the phoenix rising from the ashes—symbolizing hope, renewal, and a stronger future.

Mayor Stammel, the Common Council, and the citizens of Rensselaer have stood firm against industrial activities that could harm the environment, echoing the anthem "We're Not Gonna Take It" as a call to action. This unified determination has fueled a collective effort to transform Rensselaer into a thriving, beautiful, and sustainable community.

Looking Ahead

Through collaboration and a shared vision, Rensselaer continues to rise. With growing residential and commercial development, enhanced public spaces, and a strong commitment to environmental stewardship, the city is poised to become an even greater destination for residents, businesses, and visitors alike. Rensselaer's journey of renewal is well underway, and the future is brighter than ever.

Mayor Maintains an Open Door Policy for City Residents

In an era where accessibility to local government can sometimes feel limited, our Mayor stands out as a leader who is always willing to engage with residents about any city-related concerns. Whether it's scheduling an appointment, sending an email, making a phone call, or simply stopping by the office, the Mayor remains open and available to listen and provide guidance.

City matters can range from routine neighborhood concerns to larger community-wide issues. While some problems may be beyond his direct control, the Mayor is always ready to assist, offering advice and direction to help residents find solutions. His commitment to open communication ensures that voices in our community are heard and that residents have a direct line to leadership.

Residents are encouraged to take advantage of this accessibility. If you have questions, concerns, or ideas to improve our city, do not hesitate to reach out. Call the office and schedule a time—your input matters, and we are always glad to see you (518) 462-9512

Rensselaer Has Much to Offer

Ken Crowe recently wrote an article in the *Times Union* entitled “Rensselaer no longer wants to be the 'backyard' of Albany.” The article was very well written, but the focus on the city’s past environmental woes in the city could be misleading. Yes, Rensselaer was designated a “disadvantaged community” due to the environmental burdens that occurred during our heavily industrial period, but we have also been a part of, and benefitted greatly from, “the state’s historic transition to cleaner, greener sources of energy, reduced pollution and cleaner air, and economic opportunities.” Current operations in the Port of Rensselaer are now cleaner, less polluting companies.

For example, Curia provides contract development and manufacturing services to pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device companies worldwide. In 2021 Curia announced they were investing more than \$35 million in these state-of-the-art manufacturing and product-handling solutions for complex small molecules. The expansion is generating new technical jobs in Rensselaer. Consistent with Curia’s commitment to environmental stewardship, the expansion plans include optimization of energy usage and enhanced environmental standards. Other operations in the port focus on benign storage of asphalt and petroleum products and the cleaner, energy efficient conversion of natural gas to electricity. These entities, along with the nearby Regeneron facility, provide numerous jobs to residents in our community.

The expansion of jobs has led to a greater demand for housing which has long been an emphasis of Mayor Stammel and the City of Rensselaer is accommodating the need. Between 2020 and 2024 the number of housing units in the city increased from 4,753 to 4881 (2.7% growth). Two Restore NY initiatives are well underway, Barnet Mills (72 apartments) and McManus Property (49 apartments) and a third, Railroad Place (32 apartments) was recently approved. Plans have also been approved for DeLaet’s Landing expansion (138 units) and are being reviewed for a separate mixed-use building on Broadway (26 apartments) and are anticipated for another 300 waterfront apartments. This resulted in the City of Rensselaer attaining Pro-Housing Community status as a result of actual housing growth in the city (Option 1).

While most communities are obtaining Pro-Housing Community status via option 2, setting a goal and developing plans to increase housing growth, Rensselaer became a Pro-Housing Community based on our success, not our desire to be successful.

Other developments include plans for a 100-room hotel near the train station as well as an event space / gallery and artist studios in our downtown area. Additionally, the City of Rensselaer Industrial Development Agency and Planning Department continue to work to bring new businesses to the city, both large and small. This includes efforts to attract a grocery store and bank to our community. We have also had several recent successes as demonstrated by ribbon cuttings for a new gas station and convenience store, Mexican restaurant and an ice cream stand. Presently, we also have several new retail projects being planned for the Columbia Street Corridor. As Council President John DeFrancesco suggested, we will continue to focus on bringing new businesses to the City of Rensselaer.

Beyond housing, construction and commercial projects, the City of Rensselaer has consistently focused on making quality of life improvements for our residents. For years Mayor Stammel has advocated for the replacement of the Livingston Avenue Bridge, as a City Council member, while on the County Legislature and, most recently as Mayor. This \$600+ million project is finally well underway and will include a beautiful waterfront trail on the Rensselaer side of the river that will one day lead all the way to Troy. Another trail is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Rensselaer Has Much to Offer—continued from page 3

being developed through the Hollow Preserve that will connect several neighborhoods in Rensselaer to the Rensselaer City School Campus. The City of Rensselaer also just completed a nearly \$2 million renovation of four city parks, including new playground equipment, picnic tables, benches, water bottle filling stations, handwashing stations, walkways and improved basketball and tennis courts. We have also added a new monument to the USS Albany, made other improvements to Riverfront Park to improve our phenomenal views of the Hudson River and Albany skyline and continued our Farmer's Market for another through our city via the

Amtrak Train Station, the 8th busiest train station in America and, with the help of Capital Roots we are creating a history walk highlighting some of the many great accomplishments that have occurred in the city over the years.

The City of Rensselaer's efforts also take into consideration the many visitors that come through our city. We are currently developing a City of Rensselaer Train Station Ambassador Program to provide assistance to the over 800,000 travelers that come

Currently, our Rensselaer Rising Revitalization Plan is nearly complete and is under review by the public before submission for a Brownfield Opportunity Area designation from New York State. The Brownfield Opportunity Area is focused more on "Opportunity" than it is on actual Brownfields, and includes reactivating sites that may have had environmental issues

caused by former owners that have been or will be cleaned up. The Rensselaer Rising Revitalization Plan was developed with significant input from the community (residents, business owners, employees working in office complexes and other establishments in the city and developers). The plan name, Rensselaer Rising, epitomizes the mythical "phoenix rising from the ashes" which is a symbol of hope, of life and of better things to come, born from the knowledge and experience of difficult times and challenging circumstances. The City of Rensselaer is embarking on a period of renewal, rebirth, and the ability to overcome adversity and emerge stronger from past difficult situations. That was the underlying message of Ken Crowe's article. The article also mentions that Mayor Stammel, the Common Council and the People of Rensselaer have been pushing back against industrial development and other activities in the city that come with environmental consequences. The anthem song "We're Not Gonna Take It Anymore" by Twisted Sister epitomizes the sentiment of the city. Through the combined efforts of Mayor Stammel, the Common Council, City Administration and the community, Rensselaer will rise up, become stronger and even more beautiful and be a destination for even more residential and commercial development.

Many thanks to Ken Crowe for highlighting this in his article.

News from the Assessment Office

Renewal applications for the Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property of Senior Citizens (RP-467-rnw) and Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property of Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes (RP-459-c-rnw) were mailed out in October of 2024. Please return the signed application with a copy of your 2022 Federal Income Tax before March 1, 2025.

If you do not file income tax, please return the signed form, the Income Worksheet for the Senior Citizens Exemption (RP-467-Wkst) or the Income Worksheet for the Disability Exemption (RP-459-c-Wkst) with copies of your 2023-year end **1099** statements from Social Security, Banks, Pensions, etc.

Rensselaer County has increased the income limit for the above-mentioned exemptions to \$40,000 based on your 2023 household income.

If you are over 65 years of Age and your 2023 household income is less than \$40,000, contact the Assessment office for information to apply for the above mentioned exemption by March 1st.

If you have questions, please email sharon.martin@rensselaerny.gov or call the Assessment office at (518) 462-5421.

City Newsletter - Subscription & Article Submission

The Rensselaer Newsletter began its first launch this past January. Since then it has become the place City Residents look to for news and facts about what's going on in the City. The Newsletter is produced and designed by volunteers Dave Ellis and Madeline Rizzo with content provided by City Hall employees and residents.

Inquires regarding articles, submission of articles or to be added to the Newsletter distribution list please send an email to Info@rensselaerny.gov

We look forward to hearing from you!

Common Council Workshops & Meetings

Are you interested in what's happening in Rensselaer? Then please consider attending the Common Council Workshops & Meetings to get the real scoop on what's happening in your City. The Workshops are held every 1st and 3rd Monday of each month and the Council Meeting are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays both at 6:30 PM at City Hall (see attached Calendar for dates for this month at the end of this Newsletter).

Agendas are posted on the City's website at <https://rensselaerny.gov/meeting-agendas-and-minutes>

each Monday prior to the Workshops. Your attendance and input are important and your community needs your support. We hope to see you there!

Help Maintain Neighborhood Catch Basins

What is a Catch Basin? It is simply an underground box that helps reduce flooding damage by directing the water through a drainage pipe underground. These Basins require regular cleaning and maintenance and should be cleaned and pumped out at least once a year but sometimes more. If you see that a Catch Basin in your neighborhood needs some maintenance, please contact the Rensselaer City Water Department at 518-462-6466 for assistance.



Brush Cleanup & Preparation of Yard Waste

BRUSH: LEAVES / GRASS CLIPPINGS MUST BE IN PAPER BIODEGRADABLE BAGS. WE WILL NOT PICK UP LEAVES / CLIPPINGS IN PLASTIC BAGS. ALL BRUSH / BRACHES, TWIGS SHALL BE NO LONGER THAN 4 FT (NOT OVER 40 LBS) AND MUST BE TIED TOGETHER. CUT DOWN TREES / LIMBS OR EXTREME LARGE PILES WILL BE CHARGED BASED ON SIZE.

YARD WASTE PICK UP SCHEDULE: *MONDAY MORNINGS (EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS)*
BRUSH / TWIGS, LEAVES, GRASS CLIPPINGS (PLACE CURBSIDE SUNDAY NIGHT)

HOLIDAY PICK UP SCHEDULE CHANGE:

PRESIDENTS' DAY MONDAY 2/17/25 NO BRUSH PICK UP

Trash Pick Up Day will remain as normally scheduled, there will be no brush pick up



Free Water Testing Available for Homes with Lead Pipes

The City Water Department is committed to ensuring safe and clean drinking water for all residents. If your home has been identified as having lead pipes, the Water Department will conduct a **free water test** to assess any potential contamination. This is provided on a first come first serve basis and the free testing is limited

This initiative is part of the city's ongoing efforts to protect public health and address concerns related to lead exposure. If you have received notice that your property may have lead pipes, we strongly encourage you to take advantage of this free service. This is provided on a first come first serve basis and the free testing is limited

To schedule your free water test, please **contact the City Water Department directly at 518-462-6466**.

Protecting your home and family's health is our top priority. Don't wait—reach out today to ensure your drinking water is safe!

Keep Sidewalks Clear & Safe

As winter settles in, we want to remind all property owners and tenants that keeping sidewalks clear of snow and ice is **your responsibility**. Safe sidewalks ensure that everyone—especially children, the elderly, and individuals with mobility challenges—can move safely through our community.

Please do your part by following these simple steps:

Shovel promptly after snowfall to keep sidewalks clear.

Apply salt or sand to prevent dangerous icy conditions.

Ensure pathways are wide enough for safe passage, including strollers and wheelchairs.

A little effort goes a long way in keeping our neighborhood safe and accessible for all. Let's work together to make winter a little easier for everyone. Thank you for your cooperation!



Planning Commission Public Hearings

The City of Rensselaer Planning Commission will hold its regular meeting on Monday, February 10th, at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

Key Highlights:

- **Two Public Hearings:** The meeting will feature two public hearings, providing residents with an opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns on important local planning matters.
- **Community Input:** The Planning Commission values community input and encourages all residents to attend the meeting and actively participate in shaping the future of Rensselaer.

Mark Your Calendars:

The meeting will take place on Monday, February 10th, at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

Stay Informed:

For more information on the meeting agenda and any related documents, please visit the city website or contact the Planning Department.

We encourage all residents to attend and make their voices heard!

Welcome Aboard and Congratulations!

The City of Rensselaer is thrilled to welcome new employees and congratulate those advancing within our organization.

We extend a warm welcome to **Dan VanWie**, who has joined the Building Department as a Senior Clerk for Code Enforcement. Dan brings valuable experience in clerical roles from his previous work with Rensselaer County, and his skills will be a significant asset to our team.

We also congratulate **Norbert Leppig** on his advancement within the City. Norbert recently transitioned from the Building Department as a Code Enforcement Officer to the Engineering Department as an Engineering Aide. His extensive construction background will be invaluable in his new role.

We are confident that both Dan and Norbert will make significant contributions to the City of Rensselaer. We wish them the very best in their new endeavors.

To all our new and advancing employees:

We are delighted to have you join the City of Rensselaer team. Your skills, dedication, and hard work will be instrumental in serving our community. We are committed to providing you with a supportive and rewarding work environment.

We encourage you to explore the many opportunities for professional growth and development available within the City. We look forward to working with you and achieving great things together.

History of Presidents' Day

Presidents' Day is a federal holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February; Presidents' Day 2025 will occur on February 17. Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, the holiday became popularly known as Presidents' Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers. While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents' Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents, past and present.



The story of Presidents' Day date begins in 1800. Following the death of George Washington in 1799, his February 22 birthday became a perennial day of remembrance.

At the time, Washington was venerated as the most important figure in American history, and events like the 1832 centennial of his birth and the start of construction of the Washington Monument in 1848 were cause for national celebration.

While Washington's Birthday was an unofficial observance for most of the 1800s, it was not until the late 1870s that it became a federal holiday. Senator Stephen Wallace Dorsey of Arkansas was the first to propose the measure, and in 1879 President Rutherford B. Hayes signed it into law.

The holiday initially only applied to the District of Columbia, but in 1885 it was expanded to the whole country. At the time, Washington's Birthday joined four other nationally recognized federal bank holidays—Christmas Day, New Year's Day, the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving—and was the first to celebrate the life of an individual American. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, signed into law in 1983, was the second.

The shift from Washington's Birthday to Presidents' Day began in the late 1960s, when Congress proposed a measure known as the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. Championed by Senator Robert McClory of Illinois, this law sought to shift the celebration of several federal holidays from specific dates to a series of predetermined Mondays.

Did you know? Presidents' Day never falls on the actual birthday of any American president. Four chief executives—George Washington, William Henry Harrison, Abraham Lincoln and Ronald Reagan—were born in February, but their birthdays all come either too early or late to coincide with Presidents' Day, which is always celebrated on the third Monday of the month.

Rensselaer Seniors Spotlight



Spotlight into events
at Rensselaer
Senior Center

Our new Senior Center is open and waiting for you to join us. As of December 20th, the Schodack Senior Center will be getting a brand new facelift and we are pleased to host the seniors from there. We serve lunch Monday - Friday at 12:00 noon. We do ask for a reservation by calling 518-487-4427 so we are prepared for you. The suggested contribution is \$3.00. Activities will be available starting in January and yes we will be having Bingo every fourth

Tuesday of the month. We will try to incorporate the Schodack classes with ours so you won't miss out on anything. We are also in need of gently used quality clothing for our Boutique. At this time, we are accepting all clothing, shoes, pocketbooks and jewelry emphasizing spring and summer. You can donate from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM Monday - Friday. We hope to see you soon at our new center located at 6 Ridge Road in Rensselaer.

Welcome Aboard and Congratulations!

We are thrilled to announce a new transportation service designed to make life easier for our senior community! Thanks to the dedicated efforts of the Mayor in collaboration with CDTA, **weekday transportation (Monday-Friday) is now available** for seniors traveling to and from the East Greenbush-Rensselaer Senior Center.

But that's not all—we're also introducing **twice-weekly transportation to the grocery store** to ensure seniors have convenient access to essential shopping. This service is aimed at promoting independence, reducing transportation barriers, and keeping our seniors connected to the community.

Seats are limited, so don't wait to reserve your spot!

☎ Call the Senior Center at **(518) 487-4427** or **(518) 487-4471** to register.

We're committed to supporting our seniors and making everyday life more accessible. We can't wait to see you on board!

Vendor Opportunity: Flea Market/Yard Sale @ Food & Music Festival

Calling all vendors! The Food and Music Festival at the scenic Riverfront Ballpark is set for June 14th, and we are looking for vendors to participate in our exciting Flea Market/Yard Sale. This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase your goods and services to a lively crowd in a beautiful setting.

Spaces are limited, so don't miss your chance to be a part of this vibrant community event. Whether you specialize in handmade crafts, vintage treasures, or unique products, we welcome your participation.

Secure your spot today! For more information or to reserve your space, contact Gloria Fonda at the East Greenbush-Rensselaer Senior Center, 166 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer. You can reach her at (518) 487-4427 or via email at bfonda84@gmail.com.

Join us in making this festival a success!

MENU

Rensselaer County Department of Unified Family Services- AGING Nutrition Services- 518-270-2730

To Reserve or Cancel Call: Troy: 518-270-2740 *GRAB & GO CALL* Rensselaer 518-487-4427

Hoosick Falls: 518-686-7561 Grafton: 518-279-3413

****MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

February 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3) Shepard's Pie Seasoned Beef in Gravy Buttery Mashed Potatoes Peas & Carrots Biscuit Fruit Cocktail	4) Simple Baked Chicken w/Rosemary Gravy Baked Sweet Potato Wax Beans Wheat Bread Fresh Fruit	5) Ham Steak w/Pineapple Glaze Red Potato Whole Baby Carrots Rye Bread Granola bar	6) Salisbury Steak w/Smothered Gravy Mashed Potatoes Brussel Sprouts Dinner Roll Fresh Fruit	7) Creamy Macaroni & Cheese Zucchini & Tomatoes Normandy Blend Strawberry Applesauce
10) Cheeseburger Tater Tots Steamed Broccoli Round Roll Diced Pears	11) Lemon Garlic Cod w/Tartar Rice Diced Carrots Peanut Butter Crackers	12) Sausage w/Pork Gravy Garlic Butter Noodles Peas & Onions Dinner Roll Cookie	13) Chicken Patty Parm Pasta w/Sauce Italian Blend Veggies Garlic Bread Stick Fresh Fruit	14) Turkey Burger Ruben w/Russian Dressing Seasoned Sauerkraut Steak Fries Marble Rye Tropical Fruit
17)  President's Day	18) Chicken Cordon Bleu Mushroom Garlic Pasta Spinach Diced Peaches	19) CHEF'S CHOICE	20) Beef Stew w/Garden Veggies Fluffy Potatoes Carrot Coins Biscuit Fresh Fruit	21) Raviolis & Sauce Eggplant Cutlet w/sauce Peas w/Garlic Mushrooms Italian Bread Yogurt
24) Sloppy Joe Cut Corn Cut Green Beans Round Roll Fresh Fruit	25) L/S Hot Dogs w/Mustard Vegetarian Baked Beans Seasoned Sauerkraut Hot Dog Roll Mandarin Orange Cup	26) Turkey A 'la King Diced Potatoes Peas & Carrots Biscuit Ice Cream Cup	27) Butter Crumb Cod w/Tartar Rice Spinach Fresh Fruit	28) Roast Beef Cold Plate w/Horsey Mayo Potato Salad Pickled Beet Salad White Bread Diced Peaches
			Nutrition Abbreviations: NCS-No Concentrated Sweets L/S-Low Sodium (salt) Soft-Low Fiber UNS-Unsweetened	This Program is funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging Older Americans Act, NYS Office for the Aging and Rensselaer County. Suggested Contribution \$3.00 per meal

Classes and Workshops

MON 3	TUE 4	WED 5	THU 6	FRI 7
● 10am Chair Yoga ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Chorus	● 10am Board/Card Games ● 10:15am Line Dancing ● 12pm Lunch	● 10:15am Line Dancing ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Exercise Class	● 11am Counting Breaths Medit ● 11am Tech Help Drop In ● 12pm Lunch	● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Darts
10 ● 10am Chair Yoga ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Chorus	11 ● 10am Board/Card Games ● 10:15am Line Dancing ● 12pm Lunch	12 ● 10:15am Line Dancing ● 11:30am Food Demo w/ Nick ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Exercise Class	13 ● 11am Counting Breaths Medit ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:30pm Craft Class	14 ● 11am Yellow Dot Program W ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Darts
17 ● 10am Chair Yoga ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Chorus	18 ● 10am Board/Card Games ● 10:15am Line Dancing ● 12pm Lunch	19 ● 10:15am Line Dancing ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Exercise Class	20 ● 11am Counting Breaths Medit ● 12pm Lunch	21 ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Darts
24 ● 10am Chair Yoga ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Chorus	25 ● 10am Board/Card Games ● 10:15am Line Dancing ● 12pm Lunch	26 ● 10:15am Line Dancing ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Exercise Class	27 ● 11am Counting Breaths Medit ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:30pm Craft Class	28 ● 12pm Lunch ● 12:45pm Darts



RENSSELAER PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library will be **CLOSED**
Monday February 17

Drop-in Computer help:

Wednesday, February 5
from 2-3 PM.

Comell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County's Digital Literacy Educator is ready to answer your technology questions. No sign up needed, bring your device if possible.

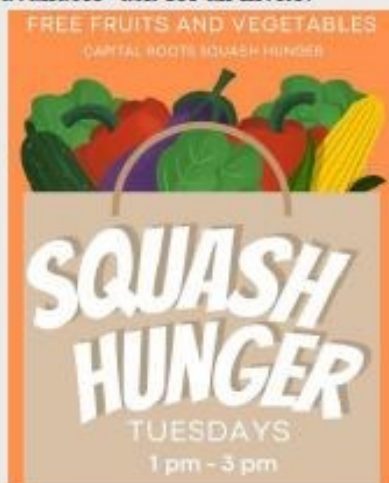
Drop-in tech help

every Thursday at 11 AM.

Stop in with a question or problem and our staff member Amber will help!

Friends of the Library

Meeting Thursday, February 20 at 6 PM. Looking for new members! Zoom meeting connection available- ask for an invite!



Take Your Child to the Library Day



Preschool Music Time Saturday February 1 at 11 AM with Miss Lisa! Ages 2-6 with their caregivers. Dance, sing and play while learning. Please call or visit our website to save your spot.

Scavenger Hunt- bring your child to the library on February 1 between 11 and 2 for a scavenger hunt through the library. Ages 5-10. No sign up needed.

Teen Time

Thursday February 20, 2 PM. Teens are invited during school break to come visit us. Stop in to socialize, have hot cocoa and cookies, and play games. Ages 12-18, no sign up needed.



For information or to sign up for events, call 518-462-1193 or go online at rensselaerlibrary.org



Weather closure policy: We will be closed if the Rensselaer School District is closed for bad weather. On non-school days, the Director will decide based on conditions.

Library Board will meet the first Monday of the month



Like us on Facebook for updates and city info.

Rensselaer Public Library
676 East Street
Rensselaer NY 12144
(518) 462-1193

RensselaerLibrary.org

HOURS:

MON 12-5
TUE 10-5
WED/THU 10-8
FRI 10-5
SAT 10-3
SUN- CLOSED



H.O.P.E. Food Pantry
85 Aiken Ave., Rensselaer, NY
OPEN to the General Public
email greaterhope20@gmail.com

Our Sponsors

Rens. County Youth & Office of Family & Childrens Services

Feb. 2 2025
12:00-12:30

FOOD Distribution
FREE Meat, Fruit, and Vegetables
FREE Groceries by Hannaford
FREE Bread by Panera

Feb. 9, 2025
12:00-12:30

FOOD Distribution
FREE Meat, Fruit, and Vegetables
FREE Groceries by Hannaford
FREE Bread by Panera

Feb. 16, 2025
12:00-12:30

FOOD Distribution
FREE Meat, Fruit, and Vegetables
FREE Groceries by Hannaford
FREE Bread by Panera

Feb. 23 2025
12:00-12:30

FOOD Distribution
FREE Meat, Fruit, and Vegetables
FREE Groceries by Hannaford
FREE Bread by Panera

An IMPACTMinistry of The:
Greater Hope Family Life Center

Made with PosterMyWall.com



NEW H.O.P.E. (HELPING OTHER PEOPLE EXCEL)
GREATER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, INC.
RENSELAEER BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
RENSELAEER POLICE DEPARTMENT

The "HOPE"
Drive Thru Pantry
Meat, Fruit, Vegetables, Dairy & More

CHANGE OF LOCATION TO RENSELAEER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Saturday January 18, 2025 at 9:30-11 am
Saturday February 15, 2025 at 9:30-11 am
Saturday March 15, 2025 at 9:30-11 am
25 Van Rensselaer Drive, Rensselaer, NY
(go up the main pathway and take your first right)

Volunteers NEEDED:

1. email us at: greaterhope20@gmail.com
2. arrive and register by 7:30 am

Office of Children and Family Services

Regional Food Bank
OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK



Carbon Monoxide Safety



Often called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide.

- CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.
- Choose a CO alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Call your local fire department's non-emergency number to find out what number to call if the CO alarm sounds.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.
- If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel declare that it is safe to re-enter the home.
- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.
- A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO — only use outside.

HOME HEATING EQUIPMENT



Have fuel-burning heating equipment and chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in. When using a fireplace, open the flue for adequate ventilation. Never use your oven to heat your home.

FACTS

- ❗ A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.
- ❗ In 2010, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 80,100 non-fire CO incidents in which carbon monoxide was found, or an average of nine calls per hour.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards



City of Rensselaer Events and Meetings

FEBRUARY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2 NOPE Food Pantry 85 Aiken Ave 12:00—12:30	3 Common Council Workshop 6:30 @ City Hall	4 Squash Hunfer 1-3! @ Library	5 Common Council Meeting PUBLIC HEARING 6:30 @ City Hall	6	7	8
9 NOPE Food Pantry 85 Aiken Ave 12:00—12:30	10 Planning Commission Meeting 6:30 @ City Hall	11 Squash Hunfer 1-3! @ Library	12	13	14 	15 Street Soldiers @ Reiverfront Bridge 10:00 am Drive Thru Pantry Rensselaer School 9:30—11:00
16 NOPE Food Pantry 85 Aiken Ave 12:00—12:30	17  CLOSED	18 Squash Hunfer 1-3! @ Library Common Council Workshop 6:30 @ City Hall	19 Common Council Meeting AND PUBLIC HEARING 6:30 @ City Hall	20	21	22
23 NOPE Food Pantry 85 Aiken Ave 12:00—12:30	24 IDA Meeting 4:15 @ City Hall ZBA Meeting 6:00 @ City Hall	25 Squash Hunfer 1-3! @ Library	26	27	28	

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CITY CLERK	518-462-4266	nancy.hardt@rensselaer.ny.gov	NANCY HARDT
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