

THE TOWN OF COLUMBUS

Quarterly Newsletter



DECEMBER 2016

Residents, Voters, & Taxpayers: Please read the enclosed letter from the Town of Columbus Planning Board (on reverse), and complete the enclosed survey. Your responses will help guide the Town's comprehensive plan.

On Sunday, Nov. 6, the former Presbyterian and Congregational Church building, as well as former Columbus Town Hall, was sold at auction to Robert Huot of Spurr Street.

The winning bid was \$10,000 and the property is slated to be transferred this month. At the auction with Bob was his son, Jesse Huot, who will help guide restoration and programming efforts.

Bob, a former two-term Town Board member, has determined the building will be renamed the Carol Kinne Memorial Columbus Center, in honor of his late wife, Carol Kinne.

Artist, teacher, public citizen, Carol served as Columbus Planning Board Chair for many years. A master of computer art at Colgate, where she designed the University's art laboratory, she lent her talents to the Town and brought Columbus into the computer age.

Named Columbus Citizen of the Year in 2013, she was a member of the steering committee that developed Norton Park and recently served the Town as Deputy Supervisor.

Her artwork may be showcased in the Center, along with the work of other artists, said Bob. "Carol loved this building. She spent many hours working on it," he noted just after the auction.

The Town has retained the bell and a lot that includes the monument at the corner of Columbus Hill Road and NYS Route 80.

In other news, the Town Board has adopted a 2017 budget that will reduce property taxes by an average of 12 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, while providing modest raises and absorbing increased health insurance costs. The 2017 budget will complete a three-year refund program for taxpayers in the New Berlin Fire Protection District, who were overcharged for ambulance service in 2014 before the Town changed providers.

The budget increases funds for road materials, sets aside funds for equipment purchases and infrastructure upkeep, and provides for a generator and new furnace at the Highway Garage-Offices in 2017.

The Town's website—www.columbusny.us— has been updated with news, images and additional historic documents. Check it out to keep up with news or to contact an official.

Your Town Board:

*Roger Adams, Jane Prohaska, Marsha Guzewich,
Pamela Weidman and Tom Grace*

**PLEASE SEE THE LETTER
ON REVERSE
ABOUT THE SURVEY**

*Town Board meetings are held in the courtroom at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday;
Planning Board meetings, same place, at 7 p.m. third Thursday. If you have questions,
please contact a Board member or call the Town Clerk at 607-847-8891.*