



VARNA NEWS

Free Admission—Everyone Welcome

3rd Annual Summer Family Festival

Saturday, August 29th Noon-4pm, at the
Varna Community Center, 943 Dryden Rd (Route 366)

Physics Bus (12-2pm) Bounce House Puppets (2-4pm)
Bubbles & Games Silent Auction White Elephants Lots More!



VARNA HISTORY: 1953-54, Annual Report of the Public Dinner Committee

The Public Dinner Committee this year has been composed of a crew of 6 – Gibby Cornelius – Chairman, Fay Briggs, Mary James, Maurice Mix, Ben Sheffy and Bud Munch. The group is so organized that 2 or 3 of the Committee can run a dinner, thus taking turns. The Committee has found that the dinners are run most efficiently by having one person in charge of the dining room, obtaining their own help, one person in charge of the kitchen with their own help and a dish-washing and clean-up crew, who come just for that job.

Although this Committee was not very active during the winter months, while the building was under construction, there has been a total of 7 dinners given from June 25th, 1953, to June 1st, 1954. The total profit derived from these dinners was \$586.97. Some of the food has been solicited during the year as well as all of the labor. The Committee wishes to thank the Varna Community for their wonderful help and cooperation in making our dinners a success and profitable.

Freese Road Bridge, 2027

Dryden Town Council member Dan Lamb: "The bridge project is progressing and we expect to put the work out to bid this fall. Due to the nine-year delay, some studies had to be resubmitted. These include an updated hydraulic study submitted in July and a new Threatened and Endangered Species study submitted in June. The hydraulic study found that flows increased a minor amount (1-2% since 2017 when they were initially obtained). We still show a reduction in backwater for the new bridge and 6'+ of freeboard on a 50-year storm. No change to the design is required. There were no findings of significance regarding the endangered species study.

The revised cost of the project is \$3.8M and we expect NYSDOT and the county to cover any cost that exceeds the original grant award."

For more, see <https://www.tompkinsweekly.com/news/dryden-sees-progress-on-freese-road-bridge-b11136f7>

Varna Church Update

Greetings! Please remember that we are not having a clothing giveaway this year. Please do **not** leave clothing at the church.

Habitat for Humanity replaced our shared storage shed's metal roof. Photos by Matt Stope and Jan Morgan.



We do wish to thank all of you leaving egg cartons and small (band aid to cereal size) boxes. The SPCA says thank you for the boxes. Our Pew Knitters are busy getting ready to donate to many local agencies for cold weather wear. We always appreciate yarn donations to keep us busy.

Thank you to those picking up trash in our area. You don't get the credit you deserve. School will be starting soon, so please be aware of stopped buses and children walking. Enjoy the rest of summer and early fall. -Sis Johnson

Varna Volunteer Fire Company

We are pleased to congratulate several members of the VVFC who recently completed the training required to become EMTs and firefighters. Their commitment to serving our community helps ensure that we have trained responders available when our neighbors need help.

In recent weeks, our volunteers have also responded to several calls involving carbon



monoxide (CO) leaks. CO is an invisible, odorless, and potentially deadly hazard.

Every home should have carbon monoxide detectors as well as smoke detectors.

Combination smoke/CO detectors are a convenient option. Install detectors according to the manufacturer's recommendations, test regularly, and replace batteries as needed.

A working CO detector can provide an early warning and potentially save a life. Please take a few minutes to check your detectors and make sure your home and family are protected.

Fall Creek Community Questionnaire

Tompkins County wants to hear about your experiences with flooding, erosion and water quality issues in the Fall Creek watershed.

Tompkins County is working with local partners to better understand stream conditions and identify areas where improvements may reduce erosion, flooding, and water quality issues. Your answers will help guide practical solutions that benefit both landowners and the wider community.

As part of the United Way Day of Action, volunteers from Alternatives Credit Union repainted the basketball court, filled the driveway, and improved the inside of the community center.

If you have questions about the project or would like to receive a paper copy of the questionnaire, please contact Darby Kiley at dkiley@tompkins-co.org or at 607-274-5560.

Complete the questionnaire now! <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/GZEVQsCzmh>

Keep up to date

The Varna News is published only 4 times a year, so we've started sending emails between newsletters with updates about goings on in Varna. If you would like to be added to (or removed from) the mailing list, contact chair@varnacomunityassociation.org To make sure VCA messages don't land in your spam folder, please add CommunityAssociationVarna@gmail.com to your contacts.



Hummingbird Clearwing Moth in the pollinator garden.

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Also in this newsletter—

- Freese Road bridge: 2027
- New barn roof installed
- Varna dinners from the '50s

The VCA is pleased to be a United Way
of Tompkins County Impact Partner.



Every Monday, 9:30—Balance & Conditioning for 50+

August

29—Family Fest,

September

14—VCA Board Meeting, 7pm
20—Knitting Club, 2-4pm

October

12—VCA Board Meeting, 7pm
18—Knitting Club, 2-4pm

November

7—Chicken & Biscuits Dinner, 4-7pm
9—VCA Board Meeting, 7pm
15—Knitting Club, 2-4pm
26—Free Thanksgiving Dinner

2026 VCA Board of Directors

Members: Laurie Foster (Treasurer), Mason Jager (Secretary), Deb Lecoq, Janet Morgan (Vice Chair), Matt Perry, Dawn Potter, Simon St.Laurent (Chair)

Meetings: usually held the second Monday of the month, 7pm, at the Community Center

You: Guests are welcome at board meetings. Come and help us make plans for Varna.

Email: Chair@VarnaCommunityAssociation.org



The *Varna News* is published quarterly, in February, May, August, and November. Simon St.Laurent (simonstl@simonstl.com) is the editor.