

Town of Elbridge

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Historian's Report

Town of Elbridge

July, 2027

The month of July saw 11 inquiries, including an uptick in interest of genealogy pertaining to Canadian citizenship applications. This includes searches for marriage and/or death records to provide proof of lineage for said applications.

Michelle Alcock, Town of Elbridge Historian Clerk, and myself are continuing to come to the Town Hall for half of the month working with Patricia Cooper, Town Clerk, on indexing and organizing the Inactive Records. All three of us met with Michael Martin from the New York State Archives to discuss, receive some training, and consulted with him on procedures. One thing that resulted from this is a revamping of the level of detail that is involved in this process. Michelle and I had been working one level below where we needed to be. Also, we had to change the method of organizing and sorting the records we were using to match the regulations outlined by the New York State Archives. This has resulted in Michelle and I going back over the previously indexed boxes and reorganizing the records to fit the proper format.

I have spoken briefly with Carissa Stone about her Eagle Scout Project, she shared with me that she is in the process of organizing everything, and will reach out once she is prepared for the next step.

Councilor Mary Jo Davis and I met to discuss the budget planning for the Historian's Office. However, there was some confusion and concern over expenditure total Mary Jo had verses what had actually been spent. Thankfully, due to the budget tracking that I keep as well as the budget tracking that Supervisor Clerk provides, this was able to be cleared up. We both agreed that the current allocated operational budget is working well, allowing us to cover expenses as well as plan and execute programs such as the Cemetery cleanings, continued improvements to Archival Storage of the Archives Collection, but also programs that promote our Town's history. I am also pleased to report that the mid-year expenses audit I do to ensure that the expenditure tracking I keep is accurate with what the Supervisor Clerk's office has was accurate to the penny.

At the Town Board's request I, along with Mary Jo, met with the owner of the new about monument/headstone cleaning service company. We touched base with her discussing the techniques used to clean headstones, her services, and a copy of her fees for future reference. We also spoke about how I can include her company's contact details along with the other cemetery memorial cleaning services in our area to anyone who asks my office about it.

Finally, Myrna Sullivan the Village of Elbridge Public Historian, and myself have been given a spot in the Jordan Fall Festival. Specifically we will be where the Alumni Association traditionally was located. Both of us are excited about the opportunity this gives to reach out to our communities and share with them not only what and where we are, but also what we offer to our community and how people can more easily access and learn about our history; such as finding the digitized records available at the New York Heritage Digital Collections website, or New York Historic Newspapers.

Jason Parkman, Historian for the Town of Elbridge