

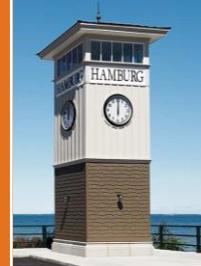
—RANDY—
HOAK
FOR HAMBURG SUPERVISOR



Erie County Fair

Hoak for Hamburg Monthly Newsletter – April 27, 2021

move
Hamburg forward



In this issue >>>

What's New: A Chat with Randy

A History Lesson: Township of Hamburg

Did You Know: The Primary Process

Reminders: Don't Be Silent. Vote.

Fundraiser: Save the Date!

Livestream: Connecting Communities

Volunteer Opportunity: Write Postcards

Updates: Campaign Timeline

Donate: Get a Hoak for Supervisor Mask!

Stay Connected: Get Online

Call to Action: Get Your Yard Signs!

A Chat with Randy

We asked Randy a few questions in honor of Earth Day.

Q: You obviously care a great deal about the environment and have indicated your commitment to helping Hamburg increase awareness around creating an eco-friendly environment. What first steps would you take toward this goal?

A: We need to bring residents into the conversation around an eco-friendly Hamburg. What are we currently doing? What are the possibilities? What is the impact of our actions? As we answer these questions, we need to ensure that town policy aligns with resident expectations. Personally, I believe we have a responsibility to future generations. We also have a responsibility to taxpayers. We need to make the business case for eco-friendly policy and capitalize on the robust grant programs available to governments ready to take on this work.

Q: What recommendations do you have for residents as to how we can contribute to increasing Hamburg's eco-friendly status and decrease our carbon footprints?

A: Hamburg is on track to become a certified Clean Energy Community. We need to build on the momentum of that work. Energy efficiency will require a collaborative town-wide approach and champions throughout Town Hall and among town department heads.

Q: Hamburg offers many outdoor activity options. What needs to be in place in order for residents to participate safely in running, walking, and biking, specifically the older adult and disabled members of our community?

A: Car trips less than 1 mile add about 10 billion miles of driving on our roads each year, according to the National Household Transportation Survey. Those trips produce 2 million metric tons of CO2 emissions! We need to make it easier to power those trips with our feet. It makes for a healthier environment, healthier people, and healthier accessible neighborhoods. Our infrastructure projects and planning must include the voices of cyclists and pedestrians.



A history lesson >>>

Township of Hamburg: A Little History

Last month, we began to tell the story of Hamburg, from its beginnings to the present day. This month, our story continues up to the Civil War, which we will cover next month.

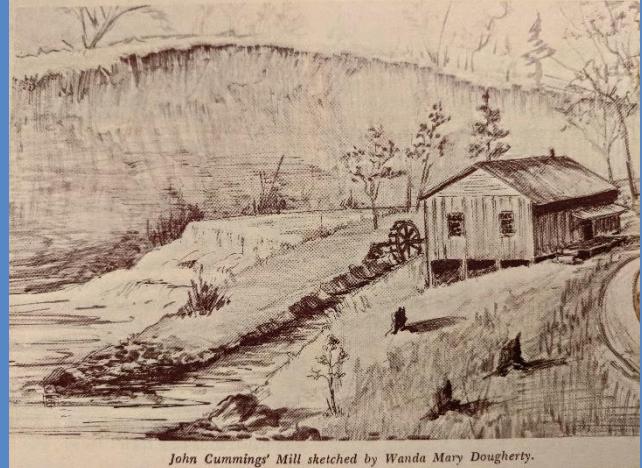
Between the 1820s through the early 1860s, all the available land in town was settled. At the same time, commercial enterprises sprang up. By 1860, Hamburg was home to general stores, a blacksmith shop, tinsmith shop, glass factory, two asheries for making soap, a sawmill, grain mills, a shoemaker, brewery, tannery, and feed stores.

In an article written for the "Erie County Independent," Louis Gottschalk reminisced about the little town where he had lived for seven years of his life.

"The buildings were wooden frame, painted, white, and the homes were enclosed within a picket fence. There were a large number of taverns for so small a village. These taverns usually had a large barn or horse shed to accommodate the beasts, and immense ball rooms or dance halls for the people."

"Some of the prominent citizens...at this time were Marcus Schwert, the watchmaker, leader of the brass band, and later a lieutenant in the Civil War; Mr. Kronenberg, the elder, who was good natured...; Mr. Culbertson, the gentleman farmer, who wore a high silk hat every day and did not have to work like other farmers; Mr. Spittler, a good shoemaker, who always grumbled when he had to renew his stock of leather...; Marshall Austin, a good temperance man and elegant preacher against liquor, who one day was caught sampling some workmen's whiskey just to find out what the stuff tasted like; Mr. Riffel, a cabinetmaker and undertaker, who measured the corpse and built the coffin to fit...; Horace Boies, the lawyer, a Republican who later turned Democrat and later became Governor of Iowa; Hoel White who made good cheese...; Dr. George Abbott, who led the Wide-Awakes on the Lincoln-Douglas campaign; and Emmett Williams, who led the Democrats."

It appears that Hamburg was becoming a stable, livable town, whose citizens were industrious and financially comfortable. People had enough leisure time to support a brass band and enjoy dancing. And then came the Civil War.



John Cummings' Mill sketched by Wanda Mary Dougherty.

Did you know >>>

The Primary Process

Did you know there is a primary election for our Democrats this year?

It's pretty simple. A primary is an election that's held when two or more candidates in the same party want to run for the same office. The winner of the primary is then the candidate on the ballot in the general election in November.

This year, each of our Town of Hamburg endorsed Democrats are facing a primary election – Randy for Town Supervisor, [Carly Story](#) and [Megan Comerford](#) for the Town Board, and [Ed Hughes](#) for Highway Superintendent.



So, guess what we need you to do? That's right – vote in the primary election in June to make sure our candidates are on the ballot in November! Here are your options for voting:

- Vote early from **June 12 until June 20** at the Hamburg Moose Lodge on Church Street in the village
- Vote by absentee ballot and be postmarked no later than **June 15** - [Request now!](#)
- Vote at your normal polling location on **June 22**

Reminders >>>

Don't Be Silent. Vote.

[Are you registered to vote? Do you need an absentee ballot?](#)



Register to Vote

Make sure you're registered to vote for the primary! Only registered Democrats can vote in the Democratic primary.

If you are not registered or want to change your party affiliation, get an application, or change your registration on the [NY State Board of Elections website](#). You can also stop by the Erie County Board of Elections at 134 West Eagle Street in Buffalo, NY, and pick-up an application.

The last day to register to vote for the primary is May 28!

Absentee Ballots

Due to COVID-19, anyone can vote by absentee ballot in the primary and general elections. Go to [www.elections.erie.gov/absentee](#) to request an absentee ballot no later than June 15.

Ballots will be mailed out after April 29 and must be postmarked no later than June 15 or returned in person to the Erie County Board of Elections no later than 5 pm ET on June 21.

Did you know that there are 43,422 registered voters in Hamburg and of that, 17,561 are registered Democrats?

Volunteer opportunity >>>

Get the Word Out: Write Postcards

Would you like to help the campaign, but don't have a lot of time? Are you staying close to home during the pandemic, but still want to contribute? Postcards may be your answer!

"Postcarding" is a highly effective tactic for getting out the vote (GOTV). Even people who are lukewarm about politics pay attention to a piece of mail that has their name on it.

If you want to volunteer, here's how it works: The volunteer coordinator will give you some blank postcards, a short script, and a list of names and addresses. You hand-write the script, address the postcards, and return them to the coordinator. Some writers enhance their postcards with colored pencils or simple artwork, but it's not required.

If you would like to write some postcards, please fill out the form on Randy's website on our [Get Involved page](#) and our volunteer coordinator will be in touch soon!



A Night in the Village

We are planning a fundraiser on Tuesday, May 25 from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Village of Hamburg. We're hoping for a COVID-safe in-person event.

Save the date and stay tuned for more information!



Livestream: Connecting Communities Series

Join us for another episode of our Connecting Communities livestream series on Sunday, May 2 at 5 p.m. via our [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#).

To kickoff Mental Health Awareness month, Randy and fellow Town Board candidate and endorsed Democrat, [Carly Story](#), will be discussing the importance of mental health and how to cope during the pandemic and after.

Then on Wednesday, May 5 at 6:30 pm we will livestream a guided meditation with Beth Licata Cooke of [Village Yoga & Wellness](#).

Want to know more about Mental Health Awareness Month?
[Learn more here.](#)

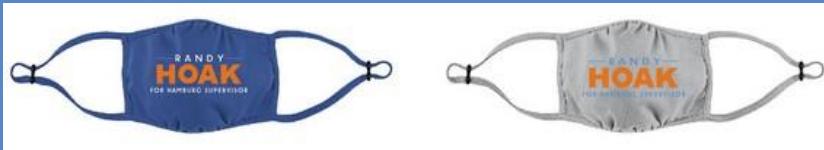
[Donate >>>](#)

Want a Hoak for Supervisor Mask?

All you need to do is be one of the first 50 people to donate \$27 or more to Randy's campaign as part of our "\$27 from NY-27 on the 27th Challenge" at this ActBlue link:

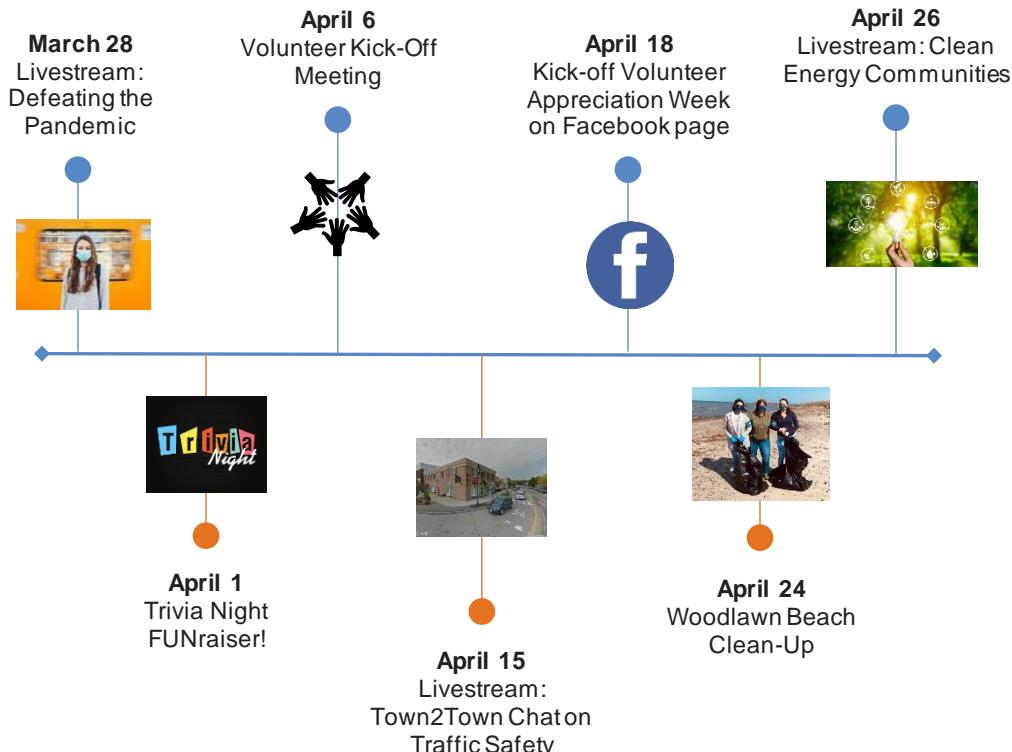
<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/hamburg-for-hoak-masks>

We will let you know if you are one of our first 50 donors and arrange for you to get your special mask as a "thank you" so you can start wearing it around Hamburg and show your support for Randy!



[Updates >>>](#)

Campaign Timeline



Call to Action: Get your yard signs!

If you'd like a Hoak for Supervisor yard sign for the primary election, visit our [Get Involved page](#) on the website and fill out the form. Signs can be displayed beginning May 12 for the primary. We'll deliver and pick-up!



[Staying connected >>>](#)

Websites:

www.randyhoakforsupervisor.com
www.townofhamburgny.com
www.hamburghistoricalsociety.org

Email:

info@randyhoakforsupervisor.com

Facebook:

[Randy Hoak for Hamburg Supervisor](#)
[Hamburg NY for Hoak](#)
[Hamburg Village Bike Rides](#)

Twitter:

[Hoak4Supervisor](#)

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[Hoak4Supervisor](#)

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