



Newsletter June 15, 2026

Town Board Members

Town Supervisor - Brian Walsh

Town Council - Jeanine Sisco, Kevin Walsh,
Trevor Roush, Murphy Birdsall

***“a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of
sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals”***

The spirit of COMMUNITY rang true on June 13th as people joined in the festivities of the 2026 Community Day. The amazing generosity of our businesses, community groups, civic organizations, and individuals rang through with the resounding sense of what it means to be a community. There are not enough words to express gratitude to all those who organized, contributed, and attended. I would like to extend a personal “Thank you” to Pine Plains for reminding me of why I love our town and why I ran for a seat on your town council.

It has been a busy month for everyone! Our students prepare for end-of-school activities, some even readying themselves for the end of their high school careers and looking forward to what comes next. Our students have so much to be proud of and it is our community that helps to shape their future and the future of our town. The town boards and committees are working hard to make sure our laws encourage and support businesses to consider opportunities in a mindful way. It is all about ensuring that our town looks and feels like a place where people want to live. At the root of this effort is the spirit of volunteerism. It is neighbors joining in a combined effort to support others and support our town. As we think about the future of Pine Plains, I would like to pay tribute to those who contribute to this effort and encourage others to join in.

We continue to explore affordable solutions to ensure our street lighting is dark sky compliant, improving the walkways in the town center park, and expanding the programming area for the library. If residents are interested in learning more about our water district, Ray Jurkowski has offered to host an informational session that could be scheduled during a town board workshop meeting. If anyone is interested, they should email me and I will set this up.

Hope to see you around town!

~ Jeanine jsisco@pineplains-ny.gov

I missed the newsletter last month because I was away on a well-needed vacation. I returned renewed, ready to move forward.

Accolades for the Community Day committee are well deserved. They really put their minds together to bring Pine Plains together. I am not sure how they planned the weather, but we couldn't have asked for better. The feedback I have received about the day's events is very positive. Thanks to the fire department for kicking things off with breakfast at the firehouse. Unfortunately, I missed it but I heard it was good. People loved the lunch bites served by our local restaurants. It was nice to have such a variety. Of course kids loved the bounce house. The high point for me was the music in the park. I was asked to provide sound, but had never heard of Bob and the Boys. I was delightfully surprised. Jim Petrie serenaded us with finger style guitar and all original

songs. The day concluded with great music at the Back Bar Beer Garden. All in all, I think it was a complete success. It really shows that we have the potential to accomplish great things if we put our minds to it.

Quite a while back, the town board passed a local law requiring the utility company to remove redundant poles within thirty days. Although they were slow to comply, I was just informed that they have begun to remove them. I look forward to this being completed in a timely fashion.

I continue to work on the Climate Smart Community grant process. There are a lot of requirements to be met before funding can be received.

Lastly, I would like to remind everyone that this is the time of year for turtles to lay their eggs which often requires them to cross roads. Unfortunately, many turtles are killed or injured in the process. Please keep an eye out for them and help them across the road in the direction they were traveling. If you find one that has been injured, contact a wildlife rehabber.

NYS Rehabbers: appfactory.sdec.ny.gov/SpecialLicensesSearchSystem/rehab

~ Kevin Walsh kwalsh@pineplains-ny.gov

June feels like the month when you can never check off all your to-do list items! I am actually writing this from a tractor cab in the middle of mowing a pasture which we have just moved our sheep off of. This past Saturday was Pine Plains Community Day and what a great day it was! In reflection on that day I can only think about how most of the time the only way a person can check off all the to-do list items is with the help of others. When I think about all we as a board want, and plan, to get done (which is a lot!), we need help from the community, we need your voices, your patience at times and your muscles! Together, we can get so much done! The town beach is open! Summer camp starts July 6! Also when driving past Patchin's mill in the next weeks take extra care as FOSL is about to start major repairs! Enjoy the summer-like weather & a congrats to all the graduates!

~ Your councilman Trevor Roush troush@pineplains-ny.gov

Having just come off a wonderful Community Day, it is impossible to not write about it. Being part of the Little Nine Partners Historical Society, I had the distinct pleasure of spending most of the time at the Graham-Brush House. While feeling gratitude for the many who made this unique log home, right in the center of town, inviting, interesting and educational, I am narrowing my focus to just two of them.

Bob Hedges, restorer extraordinaire, speaks from a vast wealth of knowledge about the building, rebuilding, dating and use of this 18th century structure. More visitors walked through the house than at any previous event, and he, among others, answered questions as well as providing commentary; I got to listen and learn.

Marie Stewart, well known for her public speaking on Memorial Day, stood in front of the G-B House to powerfully read the Declaration of Independence, at noon, the hour of its first public readings on July 8, 1776. In this 250th anniversary of the July 4th ratification, the words resonate deeply.

A couple of other things – the Natural Resources Inventory will begin soon — the first of the streetlight modifications for a darker sky will be done in a defined area, so we can all observe and weigh in — and, a resident asked if the town has taken steps to limit AI data centers; the answer is no, the question is a good one, worthy of discussion.

~ Murphy Birdsall mbirdsall@pineplains-ny.gov



Town of Pine Plains
Brian Walsh
Town Supervisor

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June 15, 2026

Dear Residents,

There are a few things happening around town:

This weekend is graduation, so please drive safely.

Town Cleanup Day is this Saturday from 8am-10:30am

The Triathlon is coming up on June 27. Please use extra caution while driving, as there will be bicyclists and heavier-than-normal traffic around town.

Community Day was a great success, with a strong turnout.

A few reminders:

The Pine Plains Central School District will be completing summer capital projects. During this time, the high school tennis court and track will be unavailable during this time as they are being replaced with new surfaces. The work is expected to be completed by the beginning of the school year in September. At Seymour Smith the playground will not be usable during the asbestos removal and will be closed.

Summer is here with hot days ahead. If you have elderly neighbors, please check on them and make sure they are staying cool and hydrated.

Honoring Our Veterans: Memorial Day

The Memorial Day Parade brought many people out in town to honor our veterans, and I thank you for showing this support as we always do.

~ Brian Walsh brianwalsh@pineplains-ny.gov

Town Board Meeting - Thursday, June 18 7 PM at Town Hall