



# THE BULLETIN

VOLUME 65, ISSUE #3

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## President's Message

Paula DiSanto, President

Greetings!

I am very proud and excited to be serving another year as President of our Association. I can't believe a whole year has come and gone. The year proved to be very productive with the adoption of the Association's new By-laws and the near completion of our new website. Please look out for an email blast letting you know when it's ready for viewing.

I'd like to thank the staff of NYCOM and the NYS Comptroller's Office for once again organizing and executing an exceptional training week in Lake Placid. As I have said in the past, the training and education received at this conference each year is invaluable; as well as the sharing of ideas with fellow clerks and enjoying the camaraderie with one another.

The holiday season came upon us fast as it usually does and with all that goes on in preparing for the holiday we sometimes get side tracked and forget to be thankful for what we have in our lives. I hope you all took the time to remember to take a break from all the hustle and bustle and enjoyed some quality time with your family and friends. The holidays are all about spreading a little joy and kindness to those we know and don't know. Hopefully you were able to lend a hand to those in need. Who knows maybe by doing this, we can set an example for others and perhaps, just perhaps, someday there really will be peace on earth, and goodwill towards all.

I hope you all had a happy, healthy and safe holiday season!





## Editor's Message

James R. Koury, Bulletin Editor

Welcome to the last issue of The Bulletin for 2018!

It is with heavy heart that after much thought and consideration, I have decided it is probably in my best interest as well as the associations, that I relinquish the reigns of Bulletin Editor.

I have thoroughly enjoyed doing The Bulletin. It was a connection to a very memorable part of my life that I wanted to maintain. However, after attending the Fall School, I began to realize that it might be time to move on and put my past to bed, and just look back upon the memories I have of my time as a clerk with a degree of fondness, without being entangled in the world of which I am no longer part of.

I look forward to helping my successor to undertake this Godless task, (only joking), in the transition. When a successor is chosen, I will contact current advertisers and let them know of the change. I want this to be as seamless a transition as possible.

I want to extend my thanks and gratitude for being able to continue to be involved with a great bunch of volunteers. I commend all of

### The NYSACVC needs YOU!

If you are interested in serving on a committee, helping out at the NYCOM/OSC Fall Training School, or just wanting to participate in a way that you are comfortable, please contact any member of the Executive Committee! They will help you and direct you to the best option to utilize your skills and expertise to the maximum benefit of the association.

For a listing of Executive Committee members please refer to the listing below.

## 2017 - 2018 NYSACVC Officers

President: Pauline DiSanto, RMC  
Village of Croton On Hudson  
(914) 271-2013 pdisanto@crotononhudson-ny.gov

1st Vice President: Joe Scalero  
Village of Mineola  
(516) 746-0750, info@mineola-ny.gov

2nd Vice President: Cheryl Douglas, CMC, RMC  
Village of Malone  
(518) 483-4570 cheryldouglas@westelcom.com

Director: Angela Arasim, CMC, RMC  
Village of Fishkill  
(845) 897-4430 angiea@vofishkill.com

Director: Bob Juliano, CMC, RMC  
Village of Port Jefferson  
(845) 897-4430 clerk@portjeff.com

Treasurer: Bonnie Page, CMC, RMC  
Village of Speculator  
(518) 548-7354, speculat@frontiernet.net

Secretary: Tamara Bonomo, CMC, RMC  
Village of Camden  
(315) 245-0560, camdengov@yahoo.com

Immediate Past President: Brenda McConnell, MMC  
Village of Brownville  
(315) 782-7650, bville@nnyemail.com

Association Counsel: Shawn Cullinane  
Village of Lindenhurst  
(631) 957-7504, voladmin@optonline.net

The Executive Committee wants to hear from you! Let us know what your thoughts are about our Association and things it can do for you to make you a better clerk!



those on the Executive Committee and the other committees, as I know what is involved in your roles as volunteers. Having had been a Director, the Secretary, the Treasurer, Bulletin Editor, AND President, I FULLY am aware of the demands of each of the volunteer positions of which you hold.

With that said, I hope you enjoy this issue of The Bulletin. It has a lot of great stuff in it. The Fall Training School was a great event. I attended the Annual Meeting and was pleased to see many of my colleagues that I spent so much time with.

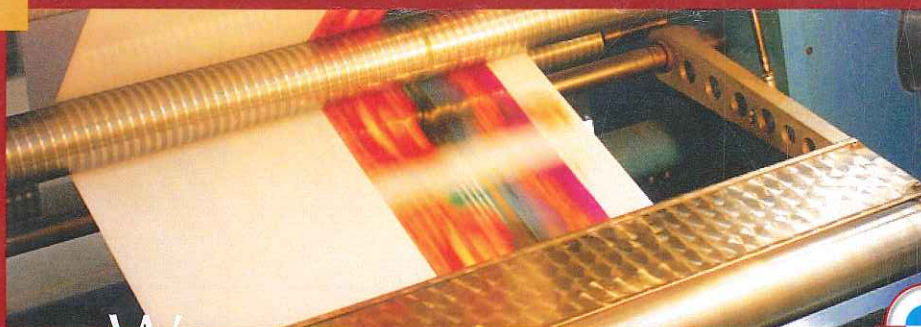
Congratulations to the award winners of the Clerk of the Year and Distinguished Service. Having had won the Clerk of the Year, I do know what an honor it is to be selected. Ku-

dos to Patricia and Shawn for thier award designations.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and holiday season, as well as a great New Year. I am sure the new year will be filled with many challenges as well as opportunities in your roles and municipal officials.

Please feel free to drop a line from time to time... or not. I will plan on attending the Annual Meeting in September again, so I shall see some of you again soon enough.

Peace to you all ... and GOOD LUCK, as I know being a municipal official now can be stressful, as it always has been.



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## NYCOM/OSC Fall Training School

September 24 - 28, 2018, Lake Placid, NY

The 2018 Fall Training School for City & Village Officials was held from September 24-28 in beautiful Lake Placid at the Crowne Plaza Lake Placid. NYCOM and the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) collaborate each year to create an exciting program designed not only for Clerks and Finance Officers, but also Managers, Administrators, Attorneys, and Elected Officials -- with more than 60 separate sessions on various aspects of municipal law, government operations, local finance and professional development. The Fall Training School also hosted the annual business meetings for the NYS Association of City and Village Clerks and the NYS Society of Municipal Finance Officers.

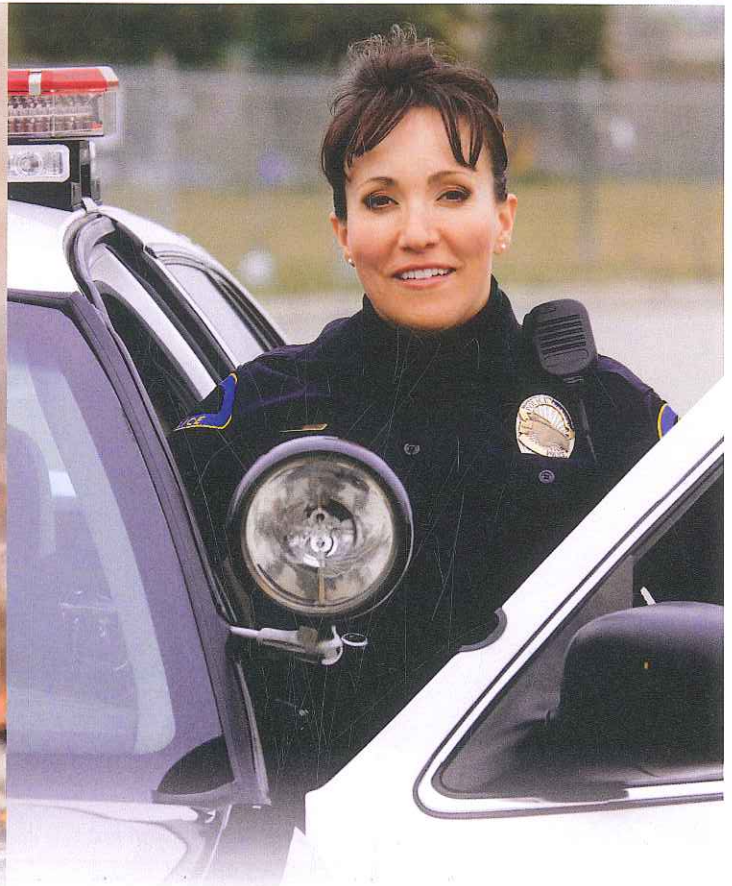
Both the FULL PROGRAM and ONE-DAY registration rates included participation in all sessions, the trade show, breaks and the reception Thursday evening. All meals were included with hotel reservation package if you are stayed at a host hotel. If you attended the Fall Training School, you were privy to a great educational



experience. Make plans to attend next the 2019 school and make sure you let your colleagues know about this great educational opportunity.

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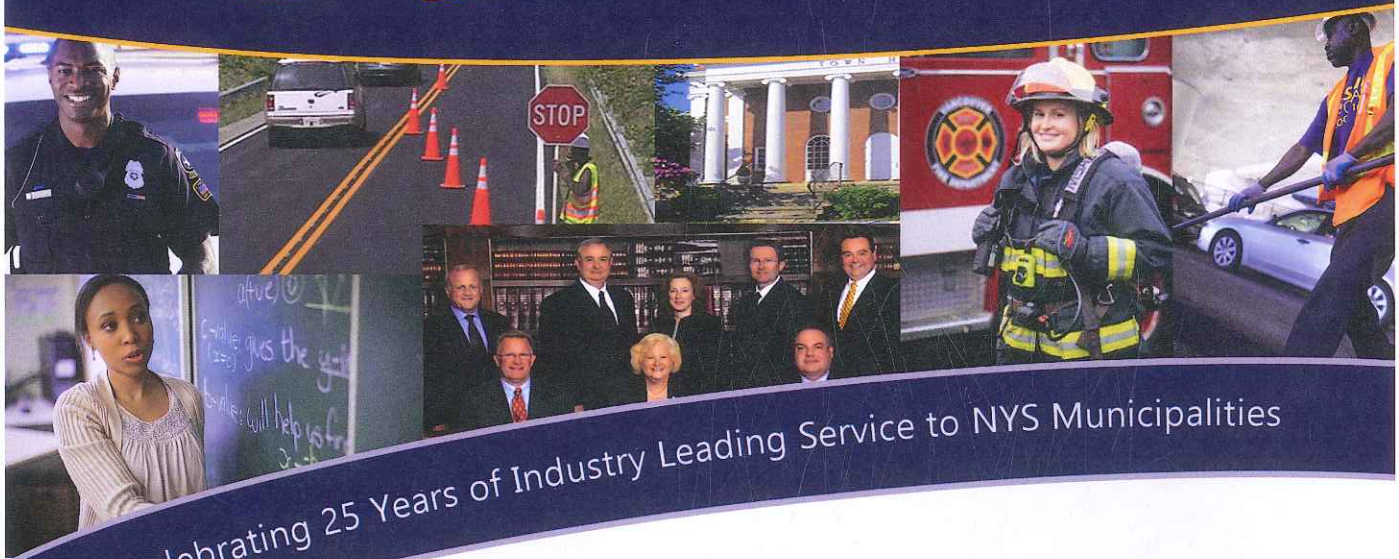
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The Comp Alliance is a group self-insured workers' compensation program, designed exclusively for municipal corporations and school districts in New York State. Sponsored by the Association of Towns of the State of New York (AOT) and the New York State Conference of Mayors (NYCOM), the Comp Alliance has more than 280 participating members. Its main purpose remains today what it was in 1994, to ensure that its members are able to meet their long-term workers' compensation liabilities while maintaining stable funding contributions.

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## Award Winners Announced At Annual Business Meeting

### Clerk Of The Year Selected

The Clerk of the Year Award was presented to Patricia Seal, Clerk, Village of Patchogue at the Annual Business meeting of the NYSACVC held in Lake Placid during the Fall Training School.

Patricia is an individual who is very dedicated professionally and her commitment, dedication and work ethic has been an asset to the community, committees and associations she has been a member.

She began her career in local government as a Trustee in her Village in 2004, and then appointed Village Clerk in 2005. She has been a member of the Long Island Village Clerks and Treasurers Association and has served on the Board of that Association as Suffolk Director, Second and First Vice president and as President from 2012-2014.

As President of the LIVCTA, her generosity and commitment to giving back to the community was evident when she organized the very successful Annual "Toys for Tots" Holiday meeting. The Toy Drive continues to be an enormous success each year.

Since 2012, she has been instrumental in facilitating the annual "March on Hunger" drive every year in March to benefit Island Harvest. The success since its inception has supplied thousands of meals to feed the less fortunate.

She continues to participate in educational programs and associations and regularly attends NYCOM Fall Training School and earned her Registered Municipal Clerk designation.

### Distinguished Service Award

The 2018 Distinguished Service Award was given to Shawn Cullinane. He qualified for this award not only for his unique and special contributions as an advisor to the New York State Association of City and Village Clerks, but his continued support and assistance to promote the goals of the Association. His experience, knowledge and professionalism exceeded the criteria for this award.

His attributes included:

- Serving on the Executive Board for the NYS Association of City and Village Clerks
- Serving as President of this Association from 2000-2001
- Current Counsel for the Association
- 2016 IIMC Quill Award Recipient
- Earned his Master Municipal Clerk Certification
- Former Village Administrator/Clerk for Village of Lindenhurst for 29 years
- Past President of the Long Island Village Clerks and Treasurers Assoc. 1997-1998
- President of the Board of Directors Babylon Citizens Council on the Arts
- Lindenhurst Business Improvement District Board

Along with these attributes and as an advisor, advocate and his significant contributions to the NYSACVC membership he has remained a valuable asset to the Association.

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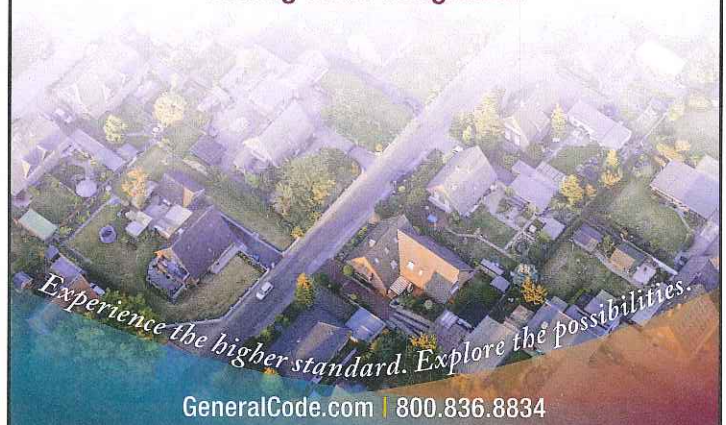
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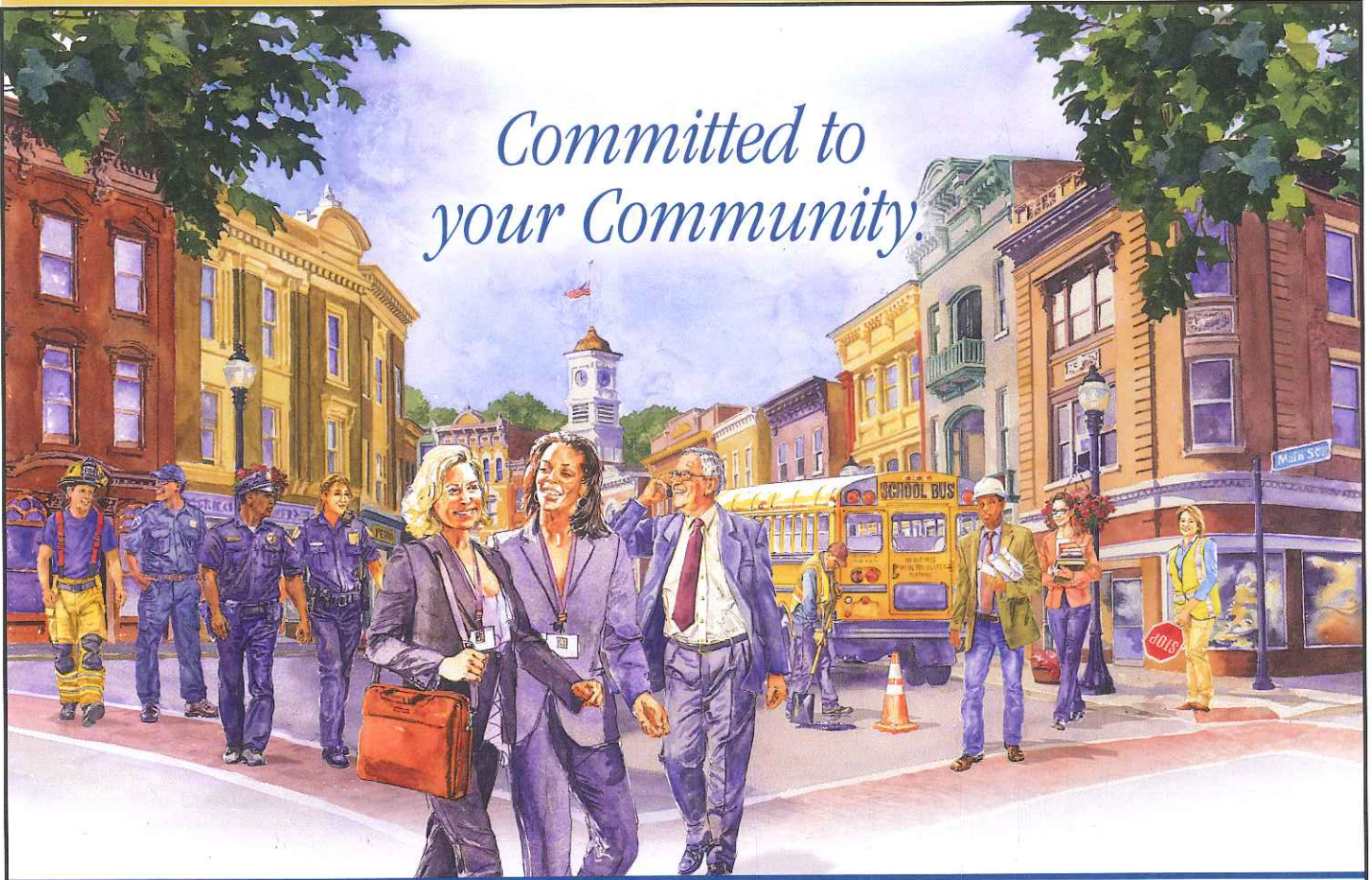
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# Spotlight On The Village Of Mineola

By Joseph Scalero, Village Clerk

The land now known as Mineola was part of Henry Hudson's original claim in the name of the Dutch East India Company dating as far back as 1609. By the 19th century Dutch and English settlers worked to clear land for farming to start their life on the Hempstead Plains.



These early founders began with a simple idea: to create for themselves a place in which they could live as a community, where they could determine for themselves how best to govern, and where they could meet their future needs directly and with responsibility to one another.

It was in 1858 when this land first became known as Mineola, in fitting tribute to the Native American Chief Miniolagamika, whose Algonquin name meant "pleasant village" or "pleasant place."

Mineola was legally incorporated in 1906 and run by a president. The president and trustees worked to meet the needs of the growing community which later became the judicial and legislative heart of Nassau County. The County Seat found its home in Mineola on Friday July 13, 1900, when Governor Theodore Roosevelt laid the cornerstone of the Nassau County Court House.

Main Street was the center of village business as well as a popular meeting place for farmers and the business community alike. The general store offered an array of goods that would fulfill most everyday needs, such as hardware, wool, dry goods, clothing, food, candy, and toys. Small glass-fronted mail and delivery boxes filled the existing six-foot post office.



Mineola's first theatre, Allen's Hall, drew in many early moviegoers to see "the flickers." Motion picture success drew in other theaters to the area, the most lavish being the Century Opera House. In addition

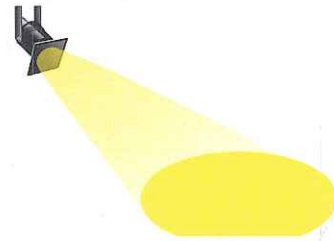
to becoming a major cultural center and the County Seat of a fledging Nassau County, Mineola became America's cradle of aviation, an early hotbed for a new sport called "auto racing," and answered our nation's call of duty as an early military encampment during times of war.

Mineola was a familiar place to many of the most famous pilots in history. The Wright Brothers, Igor Sikorsky, Captain Rene Fonac, and the famed duo of Clarence Chamberlain and Bert Acosta, dubbed "twins of derring-do," all spent time in Mineola taking advantage of the rolling grasslands and favorable winds. Charles Lindbergh was for a time a resident of Mineola where, on May 20, 1927, he started his historic flight from nearby Roosevelt Field. 33 hours later he landed in Paris becoming the first person to complete a solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean.

As years passed, Jericho Turnpike was turning into the "main street," farmland was being sold off, and homes and offices were being built. Mineola continued to be a community of growth and progress. Our residents of old chose to build roads, install sewers, provide for improved sanitation, and to promote the general welfare and well-being of our community. Mineola

**Mineola - Con't on page 12**

## In The Spotlight



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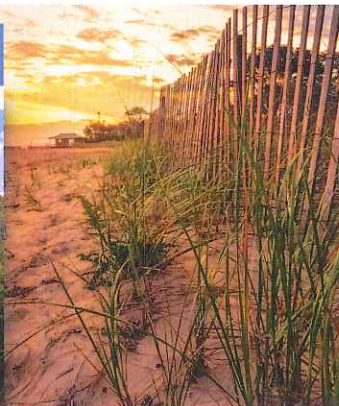
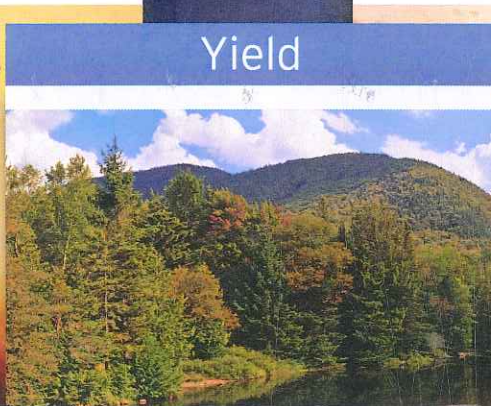


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## Mineola - Con't from page 9

flourished for decades as a center of government and business while maintaining its "small-town" feel.

Like all established communities, Mineola also weathered its share of challenges. By the 1980's and 90's Mineola had stagnated. Due to its thriving commercial district, Mineola's daytime population approached 30,000 bringing with it growth and infrastructure challenges. Our residential community, still comprised mostly of single-family suburban homes, had to bear the burden of an aging infrastructure, shrinking tax base, and a decades-old broken tax assessment system.



Perhaps as a testament to its residents, who have always demanded the best from their village government, in 2003 Mineola began its current renaissance, and in doing so has become a leader among villages on Long Island, and throughout the New York State. Positive management initiatives implemented by successive Village Boards have resulted in real and lasting positive tax relief for our residents. Village debt has been decreased by over 75%, our tax base has grown allowing existing services to be enhanced and new services added at no additional taxpayer cost. We are investing in our infrastructure at greater rates including aggressive commitments to roads, curbs, water, and parks. Perhaps most significantly, Village taxes have been stable with most years seeing less than 1% growth with no new borrowing.

Mineola has embraced Smart growth concepts, implemented Next Generation and First Responder housing preferences, adopted a Master Plan, and successfully



reassessed its entire tax base ensuring that every taxpayer pay only their fair share of taxes. Many of these were firsts on

Long Island or statewide.

Mineola's resurgent economic strength has resulted in the first new park being built in over 40 years, \$2.2 Million in improvements at Memorial Park – including the construction of a state-of-the-art amphitheater (believed to be the largest village amphitheater on Long Island) – our community pool, and our youth athletic facilities. In addition, enhancements are underway at our lighted little league and soccer fields and at our hockey rink.



Mineola has become one of the communities most attractive to young professionals, while preserving the community standards our residents' value, and is rated statewide as the community with the best home resale value.

Mineola is vital to Long Island's transportation network, a center for healthcare and biomedical research, and enjoys a thriving and evolving downtown business community. Mineola features the finest recreational facilities, and continues its earliest traditions



of being a cultural center, hosting numerous cultural events throughout the year, including our annual summer Concerts in the Parks series.

Mineola celebrated its Centennial in 2006. In our first 100 years, we evolved from a farming crossroads to one of the largest, preeminent suburban villages in America. While most of us will undoubtedly not live to see Mineola's bicentennial, we are certain, given our history, that our future residents will hold dear the same principle our residents value today: that we must leave for the future a village better than the one we inherit, so that one day our children and grandchildren will enjoy for themselves the same sense of community we treasure, and that they might make their homes in a pleasant village called Mineola.



## About IIMC

Taken from [www.IIMC.com](http://www.IIMC.com)

### The Mission of IIMC

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) is a professional, nonprofit association that promotes continuing education and certification through university and college-based institutes and provides networking solutions, services and benefits to its members worldwide.

Leading Professional Association Since 1947

Founded in 1947, the International Institute of Municipal Clerks is the leading professional association serving the needs of municipal clerks, secretaries, treasurers, recorders and other allied associations from cities and towns worldwide.

Inspiring Advancement & Development

IIMC's primary goal is to actively promote the continuing education and professional development of municipal clerks through extensive education pro-

grams, certification, publications, networking, annual conferences and research. As an educational catalyst, IIMC inspires clerks to expand and ad-

vance beyond their present levels of development.

IIMC also engages in municipal research administration, enhances critical professional skill development and fosters a spirit of mutual assistance and good fellowship among municipal clerks around the globe.

Membership & Board of Directors

IIMC's 9,500-plus members represent municipalities with populations ranging from 250 people to more than 10 million people in North America and 15 other countries. Find out how to join IIMC.

IIMC is governed by a 26-member Board of Directors with 22 directors from IIMC's 11 regions.

## Local Clerks Associations

Contact Your Local Organization and Join!

### North Country Association

(Meets 2nd Thursday March, May, October, December)

President: Geneva Phelps Miller, Village of Clayton  
(315) 686-5552 / [treasurer@villageofclayton.org](mailto:treasurer@villageofclayton.org)

### Municipal Administrative Officers - Erie County (Meets 2nd Tuesday Each Month)

Mary McKee, Village of Hamburg  
(716) 649-0200 / [mmckee@villagehamburg.com](mailto:mmckee@villagehamburg.com)

### Association of Monroe County Village Clerks

President: Gina Hurley, Village of Honeoye Falls  
(585) 624-1711 / [clerk@villageofhoneoyefalls.org](mailto:clerk@villageofhoneoyefalls.org)

### Westchester County Mun. Clerks/Treas. Association (Meets 4th Thursday Each Month)

President: Sara DiGiacomo, Village of Sleepy Hollow  
(914) 366-5106

### Central New York Association

President: Deborah Barron, Village of Groton  
(607) 898-3966

### Long Island Vil. Clerks/Treas. Association

President: Marianne C. Lobaccaro, Village of North Hills,  
[villageadministrator@villagenorthhills.com](mailto:villageadministrator@villagenorthhills.com)  
(516) 627-3451

### Capital District Chapter

Contact: Betsy Cothren, Village of Catskill  
(518) 943-3830 / [bcothren@villageofcatskill.net](mailto:bcothren@villageofcatskill.net)

### Rockland County Village Clerks/Finance Officers Assoc.

President: Frances Arsa Artha, Village of Pomona  
[Fran.arsaartha@pomonavillage.com](mailto:Fran.arsaartha@pomonavillage.com)  
(845) 354-045



## Calendar of Events

February 10-12, 2019: NYCOM Winter Legislative Meeting, Albany.

May 5-7, 2019: NYCOM Annual Meeting/Training School, Otesaga Hotel, Cooperstown.

May 19-22, 2019: IIMC Annual Conference, Birmingham, AL.

June 2-4, 2019: NYALGRO School, Bonnie Castle, Alexandria Bay.

July 2019: New York Municipal Clerks Institute (NYMCI) - Specific date to be announced.

If you have an event you would like to have publicized, contact the Editor at [clerkbulletineditor@gmail.com](mailto:clerkbulletineditor@gmail.com) or call 607.435.1587.

**Make plans to register and attend NYCOM schools and conferences.**

**Make plans to register and attend the 2019 IIMC Annual Conference in Birmingham, AL**

**Make plans to register and attend the 2019 NYALGRO School in Alex Bay**

**Make plans to register and attend the 2019 NYMCI in July.**

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## NYSACVC Committee Assignments 2017-2018

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Make plans to register and attend NYCOM schools and conferences.

Make plans to register and attend the 2019 IIMC Annual Conference in Birmingham, AL

Make plans to register and attend the 2019 NYMCI in July.

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