



Town of Torrey

PO Box 280
56 Geneva St
Dresden, NY 14441
Phone: 315-536-6376
Email: townclerk@townoftorrey.com
Website: townoftorrey.org

Newsletter

September 1- December 31, 2025

The Torrey Town Board is sending this newsletter to bring residents up to date on some of the issues the town has considered and/or is working on since the last newsletter (May 1 - August 31).

Town Officials -

Peter Martini	(Supervisor)	supervisor@townoftorrey.com
315.536.9781	Term: January 1,2026 - December 31,2027	
Colby Petersen	(Deputy Supervisor)	colby@ycsoilwater.com
315.536.1014	Term: January 1,2026 - December 31,2029	
Bruce Henderson (Councilman)		1964brucehenderson@gmail.com
315.521.7108	Term: January 1,2024 - December 31,2027	
Kathy McGrath	(Councilwoman)	kmcgrath2205@gmail.com
585.339.8300	Term: January 1,2024 - December 31,2027	
Robert Miller	(Councilman)	lanassist@hotmail.com
315.521.8931	Term: January 1,2026 - December 31,2029	
Betty Daggett	(Town Clerk)	townclerk@townoftorrey.com
315.536.6376	Term: January 1,2026 - December 31,2027	
Tim Chambers	(Hwy Supt.)	townclerk@townoftorrey.com
315.729.2706	Term: January 1,2026 - December 31,2027	
James Smith	(Town Justice)	townclerk@townoftorrey.com
315.536.5655	Term: January 1, 2026 - December 31,2027	
Dwight James	(Code Enforcement Officer)	torreycodes@gmail.com
315.536.6376	(cell 315.730.3291)	
Stephanie Holtz	(Town Assessor)	assessor@townoftorrey.com
315.536.7551	Term: January 1,2026 - December 31,2031	

A Note from Town Supervisor Peter Martini

As the year 2025 has come to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the activities and issues the Town of Torrey experienced this past year as well as the direction for 2026. With the completion of **WD1** on September 1, 2024 the Town Board in 2025 turned its attention to the Perry Point Water District (**WD2**). However, this project is dependent on the Village of Dresden completing its Water System Main Replacement project which is tentatively scheduled to start June 2026. The Town of Torrey has been tentatively (based on Congressional final budget reconciliation) awarded a \$2.05 million grant for the **WD2** project towards the total cost which is budgeted at \$3.4 million.

The Town in 2025 was awarded two grants totaling \$2.3m for culvert replacement work on Perry Point Road. The necessary engineering work is being undertaken and coordinated by the Hunt Engineering firm. The two culvert replacement projects are currently being reviewed by the New York State Transportation Department. If the NYS DOT approval is given, it is anticipated bids will be solicited in the August of 2026 timeframe.

The Town in 2025, contracted with Shanna Williams, an architect in Naples, to assess and provide details for improvements to the Town Building in order to meet the needs and services provided to the Town residents.

The Town Board also continued its environmental initiatives with its annual “Cleanup Day” in June as well as its “Earth Day” roadside pickup in April. The town board members were joined by many community volunteers to make both events a success.

The Town of Torrey held its 103rd Memorial Day Observance at the Gazebo in the Village of Dresden and concluded with a ceremony at the Evergreen Cemetery. In addition this year, Donald Gibbs, Director of the Yates County Veterans Services, organized an October 10, 2025 dedication ceremony of signage for Sgt. James S. Hayes Memorial Highway. Sgt. Hayes died tragically in August 2020 when his vehicle went off the Southside of the bridge on Route 14.



In November there were two announcements from New York State that directly impacted the Town of Torrey. Generation LLC reached an agreement regarding permitted gas emissions (per *Finger Lakes Times* 11/10/25).. The renewed Air Title V permit requires Greenidge to reduce actual greenhouse gas emissions at the plant by at least 25% and potential emissions by 44%. The other announcement came from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (**NYSERDA**) has awarded K&MH Martens Farms \$185,000 to incorporate agrivoltaics into the development of a 300 kilowatt solar array for a microgrid to support an on-site grain processing operation.

The 2025 year concluded with the Town Board working diligently on developing the Town Budget for 2026 (see the breakdown in the following section for more details). This proved to be very challenging given the significant rise in the cost of materials, services, and insurances the Town Board confronted. The Town also needed to replace our 1999 Volvo snow

plow/dump truck. The budgetary process uncovered the need to make some changes to the fees and levies charged to the residents and customers in the Town's Water District #1. A letter was sent to the affected property owners explaining these changes. Let me assure you, the Town Board did its best to keep the amount of increase to be raised by taxes to 4.6% in the total Town Budget excluding those who have property in Water District 1 as low as possible while at the same time providing the necessary services you the taxpayers require.

Finally, let me encourage you to attend the monthly Town Board meeting which is held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Town Building on Geneva Street. You will not only have the opportunity to see the issues facing the Town of Torrey discussed, but you will also have the opportunity to bring forward your concerns and comments on town issues.

From the Desk of Town Board:

- The Town Board meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Town Building at 56 Geneva Street, Dresden, NY.
- The Town Board accepted the Stork Insurance Agency insurance proposal from October 1,2025 to September 30,2026 with a premium of \$27,298.34. This compares to the previous year's premium of \$24,862.34
- The 2026 Town Budget was adopted at the October 29th public meeting as follows:

Town Budget for 2026

Summary of Torrey Town Budget

Fund	Appropriations & Provisions	Less Est Rev	Less Unexpended Balance	Amount Raised by Taxes
Gen A	504,169.00	114,285.00	106,783.00	283,101.00
Gen B	42,341.00	18,040.00	0.00	24,301.00

HWY DA				
Townwide	524,908.00	251,031.00	116,000.00	157,877.00
HWY DB				
Outside Village				
	402,699.00	181,244.00	0.00	221,455.00
Subtotal	1,474,117.00	564,600.00	222,783.00	686,734.00
Fire Protection	113,277.00	0.00	- 0.40	113,278.00
Total Town	1,587,394.00	564,600.00	222,782.60	800,012.00
Special District				
Water District 1	83,131.00	15,300.00	7,065.00	60,766.00
Only				
Totals \$ (2026)	1,587,394.60	564,600.00	222,782.60	800,012.00
Totals \$ (2025)	1,160,173.00	235,296.00	1600,00.00	764,877.00
Totals \$ (2024)	1,144,564.00	229,217.00	200,00.00	715,347.00
Totals \$ (2023)	1,133,707.00	402,741.00	15,000.00	584,909.00
Totals \$ (2022)	1,183,209.00	404,916.00	75,400.00	675,502.00
Totals \$ (2021)	992,453.00	259,508.00	75,284.00	657,661.00

Town of Torrey Tax Rate per 1000/Unit

Year	Town Tax Rate Outside Village	Town Tax Rate Within Village	Torrey Fire District
2026	2.341195	1.459401	.373016
2025	2.232295	1.537631	.363862

2024	3.127547	2.143089	.532713
2023	3.0077324	2.212658	.531278
2022	3.009402	2.506435	.535331
2021	3.000419	2.239000	.517019

- Set February 10,2026 for a public hearing on the **2026 Tax Cap Local law**
- Submitted a grant to the Yates County Planning Department for improvements to the Torrey Town Park under the Legislature's Natural Resource and Recreation program.
- Approved the Appointment and Compensation schedule for 2026
- Approved a new health care policy for medicare eligible employees
- Received from the Village of Dresden Fire Department a voucher (**\$113,277.60**) for Fire Protection in 2026. This was accompanied by a **Summary of all Calls by Type of Situation** found for Dresden Fire Department in 2025 as well as a detailed list of their expenditures.
- Robert Miller was elected to the Town Board. He replaces Grant Downs who chose not to seek re-election.
- The Town Board reappointed Mary Joan LeClaire to the Board of Assessment Review to 2030, George Dowse to the Planning Board to 2030, and Mark Gifford to the Zoning Board of Appeal to 2030.

From the Desk of Town Clerk (Betty Daggett):

- The Town Office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00am - 4:00pm. The office phone number is 315-536- 6376.
- Tax Collection is in full stride.
On the tax bills is the option to pay Town & County Taxes online at <https://www.yatescounty.org/519>. However, standard processing fees will be applied , which can be substantial!
- Services provided by the Town Clerk Office
 - Tax collection for the County and Town
 - Notary Public - No Fee
 - Fee collection such as building permits,fines & fees issued by Code Office, Watershed Inspection for property sales

- Registrar of Birth / Death Certificates Vital copies - \$10.00 fee.
- Handicap Parking Permits
- Hunting/Fishing Licenses are on sale during normal business hours. Fishing licenses are available any business day, while hunting licenses are available starting August 1st
- Marriage License Requirements: Bride/Groom/Spouse must be present to obtain a license. The license is good for 60 days. There is a \$30 fee. Evening or Saturday appointments are available.
- Dog Licenses: State Law requires all puppies to be licensed at 4 months. At time of licensing, a rabies certificate and neuter/spay certificate must be presented. Licensing Fees: Unspayed/Unneutered \$18 and Spayed/Neutered \$10.

(It is NYS Ag & Market law- **ALL dogs** harbored in the Town of Torrey must be licensed yearly at the Town Clerk office.)

- There is an app, **NIXLE**, to be alerted to infrastructure issues specific to Yates County posted by the Sheriff's Department. Those interested should go to **NIXLE.COM** with your zip code to review current alerts and also signup to have alerts sent directly to you.
- The Town of Torrey website can be accessed at www.towntotorrey.org
- Appropriate Public Notices for the Town Board, Planning Board, and Zoning Board are placed in the newspaper (Chronicle Express), on the town website, and at the rear of the Town Building on the Town of Torrey Sign Board near the entrance to the Town Court.

From the Desk of Town Highway Superintendent (Tim Chambers):

- Off hours emergency callout number: 315-729-2706
- Consolidated Local and Highway Improvement Program (**CHIPS**) monies of \$81,000 was submitted to the State for reimbursement for the town highway projects completed in 2024. This included \$43,652.32 for repaving Serenity Road after water main line installation
- The Town Board approved two (2) culvert replacement projects on Perry Point Road through the Bridge NY funds. The approximate cost of the two projects is approximately \$2.6 million with the Town of Torrey tentatively responsible for \$370,000 of the costs.

- The final roadside and cemetery mowing for this year was done in early November with the excavator mower being used in the hard-to-get-to spots.
- With Town Board approval the highway department proceeded with the purchase of a new snow plow/dump truck to replace our 1999 Volvo.
- Has purchased through State contract 160 tons of rock salt of our allocated 250 tons for Winter 2025/26.
- Participated in the Village of Dresden's Fire Department's "Touch a Truck" event for kids held on September 27th at the **ABTEX** parking lot. The Town Highway Department brought to the event a Dump Truck, Loader, Excavator, and a Pick-Up Truck.
- The Town of Torrey Highway snow plows and sanders were called out for the first time this season on November 11, 2025. **A safety precaution- trash cans should not be placed on Town Roads, but at the edge of the road**
- *Reminder according to NYS law:*
 - + placing trash, garbage, rubbish, litter or refuse on Highways and in the highway right of way is prohibited
 - + the town superintendent of highways shall sue for and recover a penalty not to exceed \$100 from any person depositing ashes, snow, ice, stones, sticks, etc. upon a highway or on grass or loose stones adjoining a town road.

From the Desk of Town Code Enforcement Officer (Dwight James):

- Call the Town Office at 315-536-6376 (cell 315-730-3291) or email at torreycodes@gmail.com to inquire about permits. Office hours are 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm on Tuesday and Thursday at the Town Building.
- Residents are reminded *When in doubt ask!* Building permits are required for any electrical, plumbing, or structural work undertaken whether alteration, addition, or new construction.
- Reminder all Short Term Rentals (**STR**) must be registered with the Town. The Torrey Town Board adopted the following fee schedule for Short Term Rental (**STR**) permits
 - Initial Fee \$500.00 for 2 years
 - Renewal Fee \$250.00 for 2 years
- The Town of Torrey Code Enforcement 2024 Annual Report is as follows:
 - Total Building Permits issued- 60

Total Value of Projects- \$5,710,000

Total Short Term Initial Permits and Renewals- 18

Total Short Term Rental Permits in the Town- 49

- The fees for a permit include \$3000.00 for agriculture barn for chickens

From the Desk of Town Planning Board (George Dowse):

- Meets the third (3rd) Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Town Building. Although because of the Federal holidays in January and February, the meetings for those months will be January 26th and February 23rd.
- The Town of Torrey Short Term Limit of 51 residents has been reached. The Planning Board will review the resolution setting the limit to determine if it should be adjusted.
- New York State has finalized the rules and procedures for implementing the Cannabis Law. Licenses are now being issued. The Town of Torrey did **not** opt out of participating in the sale and dispensing of Cannabis. The Planning Board is finalizing a draft law for the implementation and location in the town where sale and dispensing will be allowed.
- Looking to 2026 the Planning Board intends to review and update if necessary:
 - The Town Comprehensive Plan
 - Solar Farm decommissioning
 - Noise measurement metrics
 - Distinction between Agriculture designation versus Agriculture/Residential
 - Allowing Manufacturing/Light Manufacturing in Agriculture or Agriculture/Residential
 - Building permits including charges for professional services
- There is currently an opening for a new member to the Planning Board. Anyone interested should check at the Town Office for details.

From the Desk of Town Judge (Hon. James Smith)

- Court is held each Tuesday at 2:00pm on the West side of the Town Building. The phone number is 315.536.5655
Town Court has jurisdiction over a broad range of matters, including

vehicle and traffic, small claims, evictions, State and Local code, environmental conservation and civil matters as well as criminal cases involving the prosecution of misdemeanors and violations that are committed within the town's geographic boundaries. The Town Court also conducts arraignments and preliminary hearings in felony matters.

- Criminal court cases are heard on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 2:00 pm
- All Yates County Town and Village justices are also responsible for a scheduled share of arraignments at the County Jail where defendants are arraigned every day at 8:00AM and 6:00PM. It is called CAP Court, an abbreviation standing for Central Arraignment Cases. These may involve issuance of orders of protection, contempt of court charges for violation of orders of protection, harassment, DWI chemical test refusals, aggravated unlicensed operators, arrests for failure to appear for past citations causing bench warrants to be issued, initial arraignments for felony charges, to name a few. A representative of the District Attorney and a member of the Public Defender's office also appear at CAP arraignments to make recommendations on holding or releasing defendants or requiring bail.
- Yearly audit of Town of Torrey Court's accounts was done on November 3, 2025 by Town Councilman Grant Downs, and Town Councilwoman Kathy McGrath. The audit showed the records were current, complete, and accurate with no discrepancies found.

From the Desk of Town Assessor (Stephanie Holtz)

- The Office of the Assessor for the Town of Torrey is located in the Town Building at 56 Geneva Street, Dresden. Office hours are on Thursdays from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm through September 31st. Starting on October 1st, office hours will be 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- I attended the NYSSAA Conference the week of October 6th.
- I attended a one day presentation on the new real property software we will be

using on October 16th in Batavia.

- Exemption renewals have been printed and mailed at the end of December. An important reminder: **exemption renewal applications** are due by **March 1, 2026**.
- The Town of Torrey website www.towntortrey.com has the **2026 Final Assessment Roll**. The website also has the **2026 Special Assessment Roll** for Water District 1 in the Town of Torrey.
- The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance notified us that our 2024 Revaluation Aid was sent. The amount was \$2,169.99 (parcel count x \$2.2168).
- The new residential trend from NYS Tax & Finance for the Town of Torrey was 2%. This indicates that on average residential sales are still selling *above* the current assessments.

From the Desk of Town Watershed Inspector (Yates Cty Soil & Water)

The Town's inspectors can be contacted at the Yates County Soil and Water Conservation Department 315- 536-5188.

FEMA has produced a new Floodplain Map for the Town of Torrey resulting in a number of residences being taken *out* of the floodplain.

The Yates County Soil and Water Conservation District provides the watershed inspection services for the Town of Torrey and Village of Dresden. Educating homeowners on the function of their wastewater treatment systems has proven to be a tremendous benefit.

In November of 2014, the Town of Torrey passed a local Wastewater Law effective January 1, 2015. Under the new law, any onsite wastewater treatment system within 200' of Seneca Lake or a DEC classified stream is required to be inspected every 5 years which are termed **Zone 1** properties. The cost of the inspection is borne by the Town of Torrey (unless this is a property transfer). However any pumping of the septic or repair is a cost to the homeowner. We are now in year 11 of these inspections. There are a total of 649 properties in the Town of Torrey of which 295 are Zone 1 systems and there are 2 Holding Tank systems.

The Watershed Inspection Reports for the Town of Torrey over the last five years (the program has a 5 year cycle) are:

2021- 81 inspections to date

44 Zone 1

13 Real Property Transfer

9 Repairs

3 Tank Replacement

3 Construction

9 Misc

2022- 61 total inspection conducted, 15 more Zone 1 is due in 2022

27 Zone 1

17 Real Property Transfer

2 Repairs

7 Replacement System

2 Construction

6 Misc

2023- 54 total inspections conducted, 12 more Zone 1 is due in 2023

24 Zone 1

11 Real Property Transfer

10 Repairs

2 Replacement System

5 Construction

2 Misc

2024- 115 total inspections conducted, 15 more Zone 1s due in 2024, 9 past due from 2020- 2023

55 Zone 1

19 Real Property Transfer

13 Repairs

5 Replacement System

9 Construction

14 Misc

2025- 87 total inspections conducted, 25 more Zone 1s due in 2025, 9 past due

63 Zone 1

12 Real Property Transfer

0 Repairs

1 Replacement System

6 Construction

2 Reinspections

3 Misc

If any residents have questions regarding the watershed inspection program, they may call the office at 315-536-5188.

Soil & Water also continues to interact with all of our local farmers utilizing NYS's Agricultural Environmental Management program. This program has been utilized in the county since 1997. We have worked with local farmers on a suite of practices including soil erosion and field runoff, manure storage, barnyard runoff, and manure and nutrient manage

From the Desk of the Mayor of Dresden (Brian Flynn):

- Mayor Brian Flynn (Term: April 1, 2025 - March 31, 2027)
- Village Trustees

John Stryker (Term: April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2026)

Bret Siegrist (Term: April 1, 2025 - March 31, 2027)

Village Board meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm

- Colleen Riviello is the Village Clerk and Kathy Whitney is the Deputy Clerk. The Office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 2:00pm. The Village Office phone number is 315-536-2477 and email address is villageclerk@villageofdresden.org
- Village of Dresden election for Village Trustee will be held Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at the Village Office.
- The **Seneca 7 Relay Race** which passes through the Village will be held Sunday, April 26th.
- The village is designated as the lead agency under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (**SEQRA**) for the Village of Dresden Water System Main Replacement Project which was awarded a \$4.166 million grant.
- The Water System Main Replacement Project is expected to go out to bid in February/March 2026. Although, there is a need to obtain 3 more easements before bids can be requested. Construction is slated to begin in the late Spring of 2026 and completed in the early Summer of 2027.
- The Village received two bids for the Generator projects – Hunt Engineering has made their recommendation based on the lowest bidder. The Bid for the Water Tank/bldg. Generator came in under and the FD/Village Hall bid came in over by \$43,900 – the board will need to look at the General Reserve to see if the difference can be paid out of that.
- The Village of Dresden Highway Department has refurbished and enlarged the parking lot at the Bruce I. Hansen Community Park
- Dresden Fire Department meets the first Tuesday of the month. The Fire Department handled 162 calls in 2025- 65 fire and 97 EMS. The Department now has 4 certified EMT volunteers. There is always a need for volunteer firemen in Dresden. All residents of the Town of Torrey are encouraged to volunteer.

From Yates County Legislators (Terry Button, Richard Harper, Rick Willson)

- A public budget hearing on the 2025 spending plan was held on November 21, 2024. The adopted \$58,186,074 budget is 1.35% less than the 2024 spending plan. The tentative budget set a tax rate of \$4.01 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The number for 2024 was \$4.48.
- The County has purchased software that identifies properties that are being used as rentals. The data will be shared with the nine(9) towns in the County

- The County has voted to go with Regional Transit Service (**RTS**) as its public transportation provider in Yates County by signing an agreement with Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority. This replaces the current provider, Yates Transit Services.
- Additional information regarding Yates County Government can be found on the website- www.yatescounty.org

Community Events

- **Yates County 3 Important Phone Numbers**
 - # 211**
Transportation, Legal Services, Counseling and Support Groups, Disaster Aftercare
 - # 911**
Medical Emergency, Fire, Reporting a Crime, Disaster Response, Life Threatening Situation
 - # 988**
Thoughts of Suicide, Mental Health Crisis, Substance Abuse Crisis, Emotional Distress
- **The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation** (DEC) puts out each week a bulletin detailing proposals and actions throughout the State.

The Environmental Notice Bulletin (ENB) is available at:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html>

Yates County is in Region 8

The January 2026 News and Events in region 8 are:

- [DEC Summer Camp 2026 Registration Opens March 22, 2026](#)
- [Northern Harrier \(spot the rodent it is carrying?\)](#)

- [Food Relief Organizations Receive Grant Funding](#)
- [Give your Christmas Tree a Second Life](#)
- [Cleanup of Former Vacuum Oil Facility, City of Rochester](#)
- [Seeking Public Comment](#)
- [Project FeederWatch](#)
- [Beat the Price Increase—Subscribe to Conservationist Today](#)

Be aware since 2009, there is a **no burn** regulation in Region 8 from March 15 - May 15!

- **YATES COUNTY Board of Elections**

An election for the following offices in the Town of Torrey were held on November 4, 2025 with the elected being

Town Supervisor	Peter Martini
Town Councilperson (2)	Robert Miller
	Colby Petersen
Town Clerk	Betty Daggett
Town Highway Superintendent	Tim Chambers
Town Justice	James Smith

Additional information regarding the Board of Elections can be found on their website- boardofelections@yatescounty.org

- **Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization (SWIO)** last meeting was held on October 28, 2024 at the Geneva Town Hall. Mark Venuti was elected Chairman and George Lawson Vice Chair with Jim Smith reappointed Treasurer and Ian Smith as Secretary.
- Emily Bolt, the Association Director of **Seneca Lake Pure Water Association (SLPWA)** reported on its activities since the last **SWIO** meeting (see below).
- The Seneca Watershed Steward (Ian Smith) gave status on various projects that he is spearheading for SWIO. These include:
 - Odessa Green Infrastructure Initiative which is being closed
 - Seneca & Cayuga Road Drainage Assessment mapping roads and culverts
 - Keuka Outlet Wetland Creation which is awaiting a NYSDEC permit

- Keuka Lake Level Management looking to install equipment in the Spring of 2026 to get information on the flow at the gates in Penn Yan.
- Municipal Guidance Manual for the towns has been initiated
- Castle Creek assisting the City of Geneva. Delineation is complete.
(Those seeking additional information can contact Ian at ismith@hws.edu)
- The next SWIO meeting is Wednesday *January 29, 2025* at 7:00pm. This will be a virtual only meeting through ZOOM.. Details to follow.
- **Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association (SLPWA)**
Emily DeBolt is the associate director for SLPWA. She can be contacted info@senecalake.org for more information. You can also check the SLPWA website www.SenecaLake.org for additional information or to volunteer!
Started monitoring Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) on August 1st by upwards of 100 local volunteers and continued through Columbus Day weekend.
- **Friends of the Keuka Outlet (FOTO)**
FOTO has obtained from Greenidge a "right-of-use" to extend the Keuka Outlet Trail from the Charles Street Bridge to Seneca Lake. FOTO's volunteer maintenance team is working on making a viable pathway, although it will be restricted to a "Nature" trail.
Check the **FOTO** website www.KeukaOutletTrail.org for details of upcoming events in 2026.

From the Desk of the Newsletter Editor (Grant Downs):

This is the last Torrey Town Newsletter that I will produce as I did not seek another term as Torrey Town Councilman. (The Torrey Town Board does intend to continue to produce a newsletter in the future). At this time though let me take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Torrey residents who allowed me to serve on the Town Board. It has been an honor and a privilege for the last eight (8) years to be your councilman.

I'm convinced Yates County is a gem in New York State and the Town of Torrey is the crown jewel of the county with its rich farmland, abundant vineyards, and beautiful Seneca Lake. But most importantly, it is the multitude of good people here in Torrey that make it such a special place.

Many residents have been fortunate to have been born and/or raised here, while others (like myself) have been lucky through whatever circumstances to have landed here. Regardless of how, you collectively make Torrey a wonderful place to live.

I'm personally grateful to all of you for the kindness, generosity, and welcome you've extended to me. So it is with deep appreciation that I'll close with the following-

**Live Well
Laugh Often
Love Much**

Thank you from the bottom of my heart!
Grant Downs