

Media Release

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Contact the Board of Elections at 753-4580

Board of Elections To Run Majority of Village Elections For The First Time In 2011

MAYVILLE- Twelve of the fifteen county villages will be holding March village elections, according to Chautauqua County Election Commissioners Norman P. Green and Brian C. Abram. The Village of Fredonia will hold its election on Monday, March 14, and the remaining eleven villages will be voting on Tuesday, March 15.

Recently, the Villages of Falconer, Cherry Creek, Panama, Lakewood, Sherman, Silver Creek and Westfield passed resolutions authorizing the county Board of Elections to conduct their elections for 2011. The change was prompted by a state law requiring the use of optical scan paper ballots for all village elections.

Only the current county Board of Elections' voting poll sites will be used for village elections that the county will now be conducting. Four county villages will see a poll site change for the March elections: Silver Creek, Mt. Carmel Auditorium, 165 Central Avenue; Panama Methodist Church, 22 East Main Street; Sherman, First Baptist Church, 113 Church Street and **Falconer, Town of Ellicott Bldg. 215 S. Work St.**

For villages whose elections are now being conducted by the county, all party caucus documents as well as independent petitions and absentee ballot applications need to be filed in Mayville at the Board of Elections.

Bemus Point, Cassadaga, Forestville and Sinclairville have retained possession of village elections under their respective village clerks and all filings will remain at those **four** villages. The Celoron elections will now be held in November at the General Election due to a March 2010 approval of a proposition moving village elections to November as a village cost saving measure. Brocton and Mayville do not have any expiring offices in 2011. With the exception of the Village of Fredonia, polls will be open from Noon to 9 p.m.

Dates for filing party nominating certificates for all villages except Fredonia are January 20-January 27th. Independent petitions for minor parties can be filed from February 1-8th. The deadline for applying for an absentee ballot by mail is Tuesday, March 8th.

The following village incumbents have expiring terms: Bemus Point Mayor Bryan Dahlberg and Trustees Margaret Richardson and Christine Wight; Cassadaga Village Trustees Rodney Waite and Jeff Frick; Cherry Creek Village Trustees Bruce Hendricks and Betty Milspaw; Falconer, Mayor David Krieg and Trustees Joseph Caruso and Louis Schrader; Forestville Village Trustees Beth Bowker and George Taylor; Lakewood, Mayor Anthony Caprino and Trustees Duane Anderson and Paul Wendel, Jr.; Panama Village Trustee Gregory Ireland; Sherman Village Mayor John Patterson and Trustees William Wiggers and Gary Yonker; Silver Creek, Mayor Kurt Lindstrom and Trustees Amy Romanik and Gregory Cole; Sinclairville Village Mayor Kenneth France and Trustees Patricia France and David Emmott and Westfield Mayor David Carr and Trustees Chris Jaynes and Robert Cochran.

In the Village of Fredonia, polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday, March 14th. Voting for village residents will also be under the direction of the Chautauqua County Board of Elections. Voting will take place at St. Anthony's Parish Center, 66 Cushing Street. Mayor Michael Sullivan and Trustees Joseph Cerrie, Susan Mackay, and Jacqueline Penfold all have expiring four year terms. All Party Caucus information, Independent Petitions, and Absentee Ballot Applications need to be filed at the Board of Elections. Dates for filing party nominating certificates are January 19-26th. Independent Petitions for minor parties may be filed from January 31st- February 7th. The deadline for applying for an absentee ballot application by mail is Monday, March 7th.