

# VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION NEWS

"In the whole world, there is only one Essex Junction."

Issue No. 28

January 2007

## MERGER RE-VOTE JANUARY 23, 2007 - ESSEX HIGH SCHOOL

The Essex Selectboard has received a petition to reconsider the merger vote of November 7, 2006. The merger vote passed in the Town by a vote of 4,376 to 4,167. It passed in a separate vote in the Village by a margin of 2,922 to 1,085. The Selectboard has warned the following article:

"ARTICLE 1. Shall the Town of Essex adopt the "Plan of Merger of the Town of Essex, Vermont and the Village of Essex Junction, Vermont" dated September 28, 2006, and the proposed Charter for the merged communities?"

All residents of the Town of Essex, including those who live within the Village of Essex Junction, are eligible to vote if they are a registered voter. Town residents who reside within the Village may vote between 7 AM and 7 PM on January 23, 2007 at Essex High School. You may also vote by absentee ballot through the Essex Town Clerk's Office. You can stop by Town of Essex offices at 81 Main Street (where the Police Station is located) or call the Town Clerk at 879-0413 and request that an absentee ballot be sent to you.

The plan of merger, proposed charter and reference materials are available at the Village offices, the Brownell Library and on the Village web site, [essexjunction.org](http://essexjunction.org).



The Selectboard and Trustees jointly  
send the merger question to vote

### VOTE JANUARY 23!!

## **MERGER**

### **Questions & Answers**

**Q. Will the village vote twice on January 23<sup>rd</sup>?**

*A. No. There will be one town-wide vote, with both village and town residents casting one vote each. Village residents will vote at Essex High School from 7 AM to 7 PM.*

**Q. Will our schools be affected by the merger?**

*A. This vote is to merge the municipal governments only.*

**Q. Does a Village homeowner currently pay higher municipal taxes than a town homeowner?**

*A. A village taxpayer with a home currently assessed at \$134,000 pays \$450 more in municipal taxes than a town taxpayer with a home currently assessed at \$134,000. The Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) is currently at 57% so an assessed value home of \$134,000 would have an estimated market value of about \$235,000.*

**Q. Will the tax rate be the same for everyone after the merger?**

*A. Yes, no matter where you live in our community, you will pay the same municipal tax rate if we merge.*



## **VOLUNTEER CHUCK BARRY**



Every day, millions of Americans volunteer, using their time, talents, and compassion to make a difference in the lives of others. One of our local volunteers is Charles Barry Sr., a member of the Essex Junction Fire Department for over 20 years. His service to the community goes beyond the boundaries of the fire service. Chuck provides traffic assistance to the police department for special events, assists with the annual Block Party, attends the School Safety Meetings and coordinates a number of fire service activities. He works thoroughly and persistently with all resources.

Through his dedication and countless hours of service, vehicle and station maintenance issues are addressed during weekday working hours, when our resources are limited. His commitment to these tasks allows the department volunteers to focus their efforts on fire training. He is a valuable resource to the community and the Essex Junction Fire Department is proud to have such a caring individual.

All of the Village staff is very appreciative of Chuck's extra services and attention to detail. Thank you, Chuck!

### **WINTER PARKING BAN IS IN EFFECT**

In accordance with Section 815 of the Essex Junction Municipal Code, "No person shall park or leave unattended a vehicle of any type on any street, road, or right-of-way in the Village of Essex Junction during the period December 1 through April 1 between the hours of 12 midnight and 7:00 a.m."

### ***WHAT IS STORMWATER RUNOFF AND WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?***

Stormwater runoff occurs when water from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Stormwater can pick up pollutants such as oil and grease, chemicals, nutrients, metals and bacteria and flow into stormwater systems or directly to the lake, streams, rivers or wetlands. Anything that enters the stormwater system is discharged untreated into the waterways we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water. By making little changes to your daily habits, you can help keep pollutants out of our stormwater. Visit [www.Smartwaterways.org](http://www.Smartwaterways.org).

# Important Dates for Village Residents

<u>Jan. 23, 2007</u>	Merger re-vote, 7 AM–7 PM, Essex High School
<u>March 3, 2007</u>	6th Annual Winter Carnival and Arts Festival, Essex Middle School/Foster Park
<u>March 15, 2007</u>	Property taxes due
<u>April 4, 2007</u>	Village Community Supper, 6 PM, Essex High School Cafeteria; Village Annual Meeting, 7 PM, Essex High School Auditorium
<u>April 5, 2007</u>	Village residents vote 7 AM–7 PM, Albert D. Lawton School
<u>May 26, 2007</u>	Memorial Day Parade, 10 AM
<u>May 31, 2007</u>	Water/sewer bills due
<u>July 21, 2007</u>	Block Party and Street Dance, Railroad Avenue, 4–9 PM

**VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION**  
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