
Re: Ulysses Updates for 2/14/25

From Lissa Farrell [REDACTED]
Date Sat 2/22/2025 8:20 PM
To ulysses.clerk@gmail.com <ulysses.clerk@gmail.com>

Very exciting about the Pritts property, awesome work on the Town's part on the presentation of it all and I look forward to finding ways to support the project. Sorry to miss the meeting on the 11th, hope it went well!

Thanks to you all,
Lissa Farrell

On Fri, Feb 14, 2025 at 3:26 PM Carissa Parlato, Town Clerk <ulysses.clerk@gmail.com> wrote:

Happy Valentine's Day, Ulysses!

Please note that offices are closed on Monday, Feb. 17 for Presidents' Day, and we're due for [another storm tomorrow](#).

IN THIS WEEK'S ULYSSES NEWSLETTER:

- Update from Supervisor
- Upcoming meetings
- Product Recalls & Warnings
- Property Tax Exemptions Due 3/1
- Stage Combat Workshop
- Community Clothing Swap
- TC Critical Incident Stress Mgmt Team
- Comprehensive Plan Update
- Bird Flu Update
- Well & Septic Workshop-You in?
- Tree Planting Tracker

UPDATE FROM TOWN SUPERVISOR OLSON

Greetings, Ulyssians!

Earlier this week, I [presented](#) to the public a very generous and exciting [donation offer by Marvin and Allison Pritts](#) for 15.234 acres of land on Cold Springs Road. The purpose of this donation would be to give Ulysses the opportunity to be able to work with the community to develop the Town's first publicly owned recreation park in our over 230-year history.

The Town Board is in the very early stages of considering this offer. On [Tuesday](#), the Board passed a resolution expressing interest in further exploring the potential of the donation, and the next step will be the preparation of an initial environmental review form. There will be many opportunities for members of the community to get engaged in the process. All of our Town Board meetings have public comment periods at the beginning and the end of the meetings, and you can also send public comments to clerk@townofulyssesny.gov. The next Town Board meeting is on Tuesday, February 25 at 7pm.

Personally, I am overwhelmed by the generosity of the Pritts family for considering such a sizable donation to the Town. The Town is not in the position to be able to purchase land for park purposes, even though several property owners reached out in 2024 with offers to negotiate land purchases. If the Town Board accepts the donation, I think it would allow our community to plan together to create a park that provides accessible public space to our



Outlook

Fw: Ulysses Updates for 2/14/25

From Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>

Date Tue 2/18/2025 10:25 AM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>; Michael Boggs <boggs@townofulyssesny.gov>; Elizabeth Weatherby <weatherby@townofulyssesny.gov>; Mary Bouchard <bouchard@townofulyssesny.gov>; Rich Goldman <goldman@townofulyssesny.gov>

See below

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Jana Hexter <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 4:02:49 PM

To: Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>

Subject: FW: Ulysses Updates for 2/14/25

Thank you very much for your perseverance, patience, and leadership on the proposed new town park.

Jana

From: town-of-ulysses@googlegroups.com <town-of-ulysses@googlegroups.com> on behalf of Carissa Parlato, Town Clerk <ulysses.clerk@gmail.com>

Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 at 3:26 PM

To: Google Groups <town-of-ulysses@googlegroups.com>

Subject: Ulysses Updates for 2/14/25

Happy Valentine's Day, Ulysses! ❤️

Please note that offices are closed on Monday, Feb. 17 for Presidents' Day, and we're due for [another storm tomorrow](#).

IN THIS WEEK'S ULYSSES NEWSLETTER:

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Stage Combat Workshop

Community Clothing Swap

TC Critical Incident Stress Mgmt Team

the gift of Pritts' land

From Mary Jamison <[REDACTED]>
Date Fri 2/14/2025 6:18 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

I've known Allison and Marvin for many years and they are one of the kindest, most thoughtful, and caring souls - for our community, family and the earth. I think their offer will never be "topped", and appreciate and applaud them mightily for their generosity. Thanks for sharing that news with all. I'm hoping a lot of good will come of it. I'm 90, and don't expect to ever be able to participate, but can envision families and groups happily gathering on that property over the years, and that gives me great pleasure to think about their selflessness, especially in view of what's going on in our country. I know careful thoughts and planning will go into its development. God bless the Pritts. 😊

Mary Jamison

Fw: Call Spring Rd., Park

From Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>

Date Tue 2/18/2025 10:26 AM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>; Rich Goldman <goldman@townofulyssesny.gov>; Michael Boggs <boggs@townofulyssesny.gov>; Elizabeth Weatherby <weatherby@townofulyssesny.gov>; Mary Bouchard <bouchard@townofulyssesny.gov>

see below

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From: tburg22@gmail.com <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, February 17, 2025 7:26:19 AM

To: Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>; Marvin P. Pritts <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Call Spring Rd., Park

Thank you for your and the town efforts to help develop a wonderful community asset on Cold Spring Road. I wanted to offer to volunteer to help develop the property. With the community and the Ulysses DPW I think we can very effectively create a wonderful community asset without great expense. Marvin and family have great expertise working with the land and are an incredible asset.

Thanks again

Alan Vogel

Support for the Proposed Park and Additional Sports Fields

From Casey Keller <[REDACTED]>
Date Wed 2/26/2025 2:45 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>
Cc Keith Hannon <[REDACTED]>

Town Board, Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed park and the addition of new sports fields in our community. As a family with active school-age children, we frequently experience the shortage of outdoor space for youth sports, particularly for baseball and soccer.

Currently, finding adequate field time for baseball practices and games is a challenge, and adding a dedicated field to the new park would greatly benefit young athletes and their teams. Additionally, our area could strongly benefit from another soccer field, as the modified team currently plays on a shared space behind the middle school, which overlaps with existing baseball fields. Expanding our access to green space would not only improve youth sports programs but also promote a healthier, more active community for all residents.

A well-designed park with sports fields would enhance opportunities for recreational and organized play, encourage outdoor activity for families, and contribute to the overall well-being of our community. Investing in these spaces is an investment in the health and growth of our children and neighbors.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the Pritts family for their generous donation. Their support is making it possible to create a space that will benefit countless families and future generations, and truly appreciate their commitment to our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I truly appreciate the effort being made to improve our community, and hope you will prioritize the inclusion of baseball and soccer fields in the final park design.

Sincerely,
Casey Keller
Tburg village resident

In support of a new park for Ulysses Town

From Cynthia Mannino <[REDACTED]>
Date Wed 2/26/2025 8:38 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Hello to the Ulysses Town Council

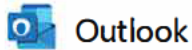
I am writing in support of the land being donated by the Pritts family to be used for a park for all! It may seem as though we have many parks and playgrounds, but when the school is open, those playgrounds are not useable for families of pre school children. Also, the school fields get over used and muddy and then the fields are unusable resulting in practices being cancelled.

I am incredibly thankful to the Pritts family for their generous donation of land and to the Town Council for their follow through.

This park could be a place for baseball and softball diamonds, soccer/multipurpose fields, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, walking path, playground---whatever the community decides it needs!

Thank you
Cynthia Mannino
124 Tamarack Lane, Trumansburg

Sent from my iPhone



Town Park

From Alison Cacciotti <[REDACTED]>

Date Thu 2/27/2025 2:11 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Town Park project. As a parent of two children actively involved in Trumansburg's school and youth sports programs, I've witnessed firsthand the challenges our young athletes face due to limited practice space. Frequently, our children's teams are displaced from gymnasiums and fields to accommodate older teams' schedules. Despite the tireless efforts of our dedicated coaches, finding adequate practice space remains a constant struggle.

The proposed Town Park offers a compelling solution to this issue. Dedicated facilities, such as batting cages and specialized training areas, would provide much-needed space for year-round skill development, regardless of weather conditions. This is particularly crucial during the winter months when indoor facilities are already overcrowded and outdoor practice is impossible due to snow and ice. Moreover, an indoor facility would benefit children who don't participate in winter sports but wish to maintain their fitness and skills from summer activities.

Furthermore, with Trumansburg's population growing due to new affordable housing, the demand for recreational facilities will only increase. A Town Park isn't just a welcome addition; it's a necessary investment in our community's future, ensuring that our children have access to the physical activity and healthy lifestyle opportunities they deserve. The park represents a significant opportunity to enhance the well-being of our youth and strengthen our community's overall vibrancy. I believe this project is of paramount importance to the continued growth and success of Trumansburg.

Please share this letter with **Town Board, Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals.**

Sincerely,
Alison and Paul Carpenter

Sent from my iPhone



Outlook

Recreational Space in Town

From Kate Canino Kyle Welch <[REDACTED]>
Date Thu 2/27/2025 8:01 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

To Whom it May Concern,

I support moving forward with building recreational space in the town. We have two young children that would greatly benefit from this as well as the rest of the kids and teenagers in this community. This would be something the community could enjoy now and for years to come.

Best regards,
Kate Canino

Town of Ulysses
10 Elm Street
Trumansburg, NY 14886

2.27.25

To the Town Board;

As a past President of the Taughannock Soccer Club, and serving on the board of Trumansburg Community Recreation group for seven years, I was all too aware of the need for more spaces for our kids to play in our community. The spaces already in use at the School, Fairgrounds, and assorted other smaller green spaces are maxed out. Our kids do NEED more space. Finding a large, permanent new space was the primary reason I devoted so many years to these fine organizations.

With this incredible new opportunity from the Pritts family at our doorstep, we can FINALLY make this dream a reality.

This potential new park could be a place for baseball and softball diamonds, soccer/ multipurpose fields, football fields, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, a walking path, basketball courts, or a playground—whatever the community decides it needs.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to make progress— The need exists, and I know that once the property is secured, the Trumansburg community can rally to raise the funds to build a park that suits our town's needs. Several other communities around us have already done it, now it's time for the Town of Ulysses to step up.

There will always be a few voices of dissenters who don't want it in their backyard, but the majority of your constituents are demanding it, and now we have the chance to actually get it done.

I urge you to please support this important and exciting opportunity to get the Town of Ulysses on the road to creating long-overdue facilities for the families in our community!

Sincerely,

Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Edmonds". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "T" and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Todd Edmonds
3113 VanDorn Corners Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850

In support of the recreation land donation

From Sarah Kennedy <[REDACTED]>

Date Thu 2/27/2025 8:39 PM

To clerk@ulysses.ny.us <clerk@ulysses.ny.us>

To members of the Ulysses Town Board:

I was thrilled to learn about the Pritts family's generous offer to donate 15 acres of land to the town for use as a recreation park. The need for this kind of space has been well-established - and this opportunity should be embraced.

And to those who worry that it's "only families with kids" who will benefit ... The adult rec leagues also suffer from the current lack of recreation space, so I am confident that residents of all ages will benefit. And, the future of this community depends on it being a place where kids can thrive ... so even if it **were** only a place used by young people, having such a space will benefit us all.

I hope the Town will accept this incredible offer so we can move forward with creating Ulysses' first publicly owned park!

Sincerely,
Sarah Kennedy
31 Hector St
Trumansburg, NY 14886



Outlook

Park on Cold Springs Road

From Alexis Schaefer <[REDACTED]>
Date Thu 2/27/2025 1:41 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

I am certainly in favor of creating a park on the donated land on Cold Springs Road, which is only 2+ miles from my house.

After reviewing the presentation on Land Donation for Park/Recreation, the authors have addressed every concern that a citizen could have. Such careful planning is much appreciated and I am very excited about the possibilities that the park could provide. It is important for us to be good stewards of our land and our neighbors needs.

This park is much needed and would present positive land use for our community.

Thank you so much to all involved.

Alexis Schaefer

Recreation space

From Gregg Weatherby <[REDACTED]>
Date Thu 2/27/2025 10:10 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Good morning,

My name is Gregg Weatherby, my family has been in Trumansburg for many generations now. I grew up here and experienced all of the recreational opportunities our community has offered, both sport and non-sport related. Since I was a kid, lack of open space has always been an issue as all of our recreational activities rely on space at the school. After graduating from Trumansburg, I went to SUNY Cortland and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Recreation & Leisure Studies, and one the very first things we learned was that "recreation and leisure" is any activity you enjoy doing, it is NOT just sports. This is SUNY Cortland's vision "**We envision a world where all individuals have access to recreation, leisure, play and parks, which improve lives, society, and the environment**". Our community is in need for recreational space to meet everyone's needs, whether it be walking, throwing a frisbee, a ball, having a picnic, a family gathering or whatever your leisure desires are. I could go on and on how much we need this space, not just for youth, but for all ages and abilities. The school grounds are closed during the school day to the public, and many months of the year there is no space after school hours for people to gather with space and enjoy recreation however they choose. Our programs in our community are growing, more and more people are finding the need to get outside and be active. I am heavily involved in our youth softball and baseball program ages 8-18, my wife and I run our youth football program from kindergarten through sixth grade, I am also the President of the Trumansburg Golf Course, I see every day the need for recreation, and people are getting more involved in youth activities and at the golf course, we has set records for the last 5 years with numbers and people are getting out trying a new activities. People want to be outside and do what they enjoy. Having more opportunities for our community is not a bad thing. We want healthy, happy people and getting people involved in programs can only build a better place to live. Because I'm involved in many programs, I'm always looking and following other recreation departments in our area. There is a big demand even here locally for programs such as adult flag football, specifically for women, yoga, hiking, bird watching, running clubs, you name it, people are interested. I think there is a miss perception in our community that this space is just for sports. The space can be used for anything that any one wants it to be for them to meet their needs. I know for a fact that space at the school is limited, I have an account with the school and finding space and working with the athletic director is constant and often any program not affiliated with the school gets bumped or denied because there is no space, indoors and out. People that are against this property just don't realize and understand the importance and more so the lack of space that's available. I am at the school almost daily year around and space is limited. During certain activities, many of the spaces at the school are actually not safe because multiple programs are too close to each other trying to utilize every inch they have. Again, I can go on and on about the need for this space and I hope people understand that "recreation & leisure" is good for everyone, good for mental and physical health and programs bring our people and community together.

Hope we can make this happen as a community and stop fighting over a piece of property that will only help and bring enjoyment to people of all ages.

Thanks,

Gregg

Ulysses Town Park

From Jane George <[REDACTED]>
Date Fri 2/28/2025 2:34 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Good afternoon,

I am writing to voice my support for the creation of a town park and recreation space on the land donated by the Pritts family. As a resident of Trumansburg, an educator in the district, and a parent of a child in this community, I know what value this would bring to the lives of our youth and residents.

This community is already so special, so inclusive and such a lovely place to live, work and raise a family. Imagine what this could bring to our community. I can envision the joy that will live on those grounds when everyone in this community has a space to come together. It is the one aspect of community that we are missing.

Please consider approving this plan.

Most sincerely,
Jane George

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Rec Field

From Jamie Wolff [REDACTED]
Date Fri 2/28/2025 10:35 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Dear Ulysses Board,

I'm writing to support moving forward with building recreational space in the town. This space could greatly benefit our community, and accepting the donation is the first step in moving this pivotal project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

With gratitude,
Jamie Wolff & Dennis VanBruinisse

--

JAMIE E. WOLFF

Writer, Editor, Content Strategist
[REDACTED]

We can't all strike very big blows, and even the little ones count for something. ~ Arthur Conan Doyle

It seems so natural to think that all the action is forward. Actually, backward is just as forward if you can appreciate the circle instead of the direction. ~ Anne Lamott

New Town park letter of support

From Lanny Joyce <[REDACTED]>
Date Sat 3/1/2025 2:54 PM
To Carissa Parlato <ulysses.clerk@gmail.com>

Dear Town of Ulysses boards and staff,

Phyllis and I live on Krums Corners Road with our family. We have been and are very much in support of creating a Town Park with recreational space for all. The proposed gift from the Pritts family is a great idea and location (and an incredibly generous gift). Please approve this property gift and proceed with transforming it into a Town Park connected (walking and biking) to the Black Diamond Trail and the School District property.

If you need ideas or any other formal support, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for all your work in support of our community.

Best,
Lanny and Phyllis

W.S. (Lanny) Joyce, PE CEM
3405 Krums Corners rd
Ithaca, NY



Town Park

From Benjamin Darfler [REDACTED]
Date Sun 3/2/2025 10:37 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

To the Town Board, Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals,

I was delighted to hear about the extremely generous offer from the Pritts family to donate 15 acres of land to the Town for parks and recreational use.

I participated in the Town's last comprehensive plan process and recall well attended meetings, at least one filling most of the elementary school auditorium, to solicit feedback and input from the community. That process produced a plan clearly stating the need and desire for additional parks and recreation land in the Town:

OBJECTIVE #4.1 Maintain and expand park and recreation facilities for the continued use and enjoyment of residents and visitors of the Town of Ulysses.

The community made its voice heard through the Town's planning process, and residents rightfully assume their elected and appointed officials will diligently work to realize those plans.

The neighbors surrounding the property are understandably concerned, and these concerns must be considered through the planning process. Thankfully, the Town's elected and appointed officials are kind, caring, and respectful and the community can depend on your diligent efforts to do just that. However, the concerns of a few residents cannot deny the stated needs and desires of the collective Town. There is a path forward that provides parks and recreation facilities while considering the concerns of the adjacent neighbors. That starts with necessary approvals to accept this generous donation.

Thank you in advance for all the work each of your boards will put into this process,

Ben Darfler
32 Whig Street

Support for Rec Land Acceptance

From Cait Darfler <[REDACTED]>
Date Sun 3/2/2025 11:02 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Dear Town Board Members,

As a Town resident, I support accepting the generous donation of land for recreation space.

This gift to our Town is bringing me hope in 2025.
Please move forward with the planning process.

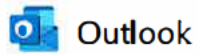
~Cait Darfler

Support for the Ulysses Rec Fields

From Michael Darfler [REDACTED]
Date Sun 3/2/2025 11:03 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

I'm writing in support of the acceptance of the donation of 15 acres of land in the town of Ulysses to the town of Ulysses for the purpose of creating a recreation space for the community. I believe that this will be a great benefit for our community, especially for the Youth who are in need of and have been asking for a space for recreation and community for many years.

Thank you
Michael



donated land for recreational use

From nick and gayle [REDACTED]

Date Mon 3/3/2025 1:37 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

To the town and planning board: We strongly favor accepting to offer of land for recreational use. Please support it. Nick and Gayle Garin, 112 Pennsylvania Ave., Trumansburg

Dear Ulysses Town Board, Planning Board and Zoning Appeals:

I am writing in support of the land donated by the Pritts family to be developed for sports fields.

There are simply not enough fields, facilities, and areas for sports and exercise available in Ulysses. I found this out firsthand when working out to train for the Army Combat Fitness Test. Next one must consider the weather issues for established school teams. This can be in the Fall when wet weather prevents a field from being used so it will be in a certain mandatory condition for the interschool competitions, to trying to have teams ready for spring season and again the field use is restricted at that time. Therefore, established teams may require additional fields for practice. Finally, during these times and other times, school club teams do not have any access to fields or facilities, such as when a rugby club tried to start many years ago. Having more fields and facilities will address this serious deficit in Ulysses.

Arguments against more fields are based on the emotion of fear and factual inaccuracies. Too much noise, too much traffic, too much CHANGE. There were similar arguments against the Village Grove/Crescent Way development and none of the fears of neighborhood disruption, traffic, noise, change, and crime came true.

The whole point of having the Town do the development is to insure it will be done fairly and address concerns that MIGHT occur when the fields are used, and I fully trust the Board to do so in an exemplary fashion.

Sincerely,
Joseph A. Mannino
124 Tamarack Lane
Trumansburg, NY

letter to town boards

From Paul Pennock <[REDACTED]>
Date Sun 3/2/2025 1:37 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Hello Carissa, please forward this message to the Town Board, Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals.

To the Ulysses Town Board, Planning Board and BZA:

I have been made aware of the generous gift proposed by the Pritts family to the Town of Ulysses for land to be used as a town park. In my work for the last 25 years on the Trumansburg - Ulysses Youth Commission and on the Trumansburg Community Recreation (TCR) board, as well as being a father of two active, engaged children in the Trumansburg School District, I have found a constant in every community needs survey we've performed as well as in the various and numerous conversations with community members throughout these many years; and that is the need for MORE space for recreation and public use here in the greater Trumansburg / Ulysses area.

The incredible opportunity of this unprecedented donation is one that we can and must see realized. In my time serving this community we've mostly been met with frustration and disappointment in our efforts to secure more space for public use in the name of healthy child development. This is our chance! I urge you to accept this donation with your mind open to the endless possibilities available to us. Our kids deserve this, our community desires this, and your respective boards have a chance to leave a lasting legacy on this community. Please say yes to the Pritts.

With deep respect and appreciation for the work you all do,
Paul Pennock, Chairperson
Trumansburg - Ulysses Youth Commission

--

Paul Pennock
School Psychologist
Charles O. Dickerson HS
Trumansburg, NY
(607) 387-7551, ext. 3411

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Support for Cold Springs Rd Park

From Andy Schaefer [REDACTED]

Date Mon 3/3/2025 2:02 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Hello!

Please send the below letter in support for the Cold Springs Park Proposal to the Town Board, Planning Board, and Board of Zoning Appeals.

Please let me know if anything else is needed. Thank you!

-Andy

Dear Town Board, Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the recreation fields at Cold Springs Rd., as well as my deep gratitude to the Pitts Family for their generous and unprecedented land donation.

Recreation is the foundation of a healthy, thriving community. It improves both mental and physical well-being for all who participate. For children, in an era dominated by screens and technology, opportunities to engage in outdoor activities with their peers are invaluable. Any initiative that encourages kids to be active and involved in their community is something we should wholeheartedly support.

As an adult, I've personally experienced the profound impact of community recreation. I moved to Trumansburg in 2019, but it wasn't until I joined Ulysses Rec in 2022 that I truly connected with people and built meaningful friendships. I'm incredibly grateful for the role it has played in my life. Those connections led me to volunteer as a coach for my daughters' youth teams, where I've seen firsthand the benefits of youth sports—confidence, discipline, teamwork, and friendship—all while having fun.

One of the biggest challenges for our community's recreation programs is the lack of available space. School teams, adult Ulysses programs, youth leagues, Tompkins County programs, and club teams all compete for the same limited facilities. As a result, practice time is scarce. When our teams face opponents who have access to more frequent practice sessions, our players are at a disadvantage. Imagine the boost in confidence and skill our youth would gain if they had the opportunity to train on equal footing with their competition. The lack of space also adds to frustration with competing teams/groups, creating unneeded friction in the community.

While I find it difficult to understand opposition to expanding recreational opportunities, I do want to address concerns about the cost of maintaining a recreation park. As a business owner, I often think about revenue generation, and I believe the financial sustainability of such a project is achievable. Concessions alone could likely offset maintenance costs, not to mention the revenue from Ulysses recreation programs, which I personally believe can and should be increased. Additionally, I would gladly contribute to support these efforts if given the opportunity.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I love Trumansburg and its people, and recreation has played a significant role in making it feel like home.

Best regards,
Andy Schaefer



Outlook

Proposed Town Park

From Peter Schaefer <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 3/3/2025 2:20 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>
Cc Alexis Schaefer <[REDACTED]> ndy Schaefer <[REDACTED]>

Peter Schaefer
121 Tamarack Lane
Trumansburg, New York 14886
[REDACTED]

March 3, 2025

Town Council,
Planning Board,
Board of Zoning Appeals
Town of Ulysses

Ulysses, NY 14886

Dear Members of the Town Council, Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed acquisition of 15 acres of land for recreational and athletic uses in Ulysses, New York. This initiative represents a significant opportunity for our community, offering numerous benefits that extend well beyond the initial costs of maintenance.

Primarily, this acquisition would provide much-needed recreational spaces that promote health and wellness among our residents. Access to parks and athletic facilities encourages physical activity, which is essential for combating health issues such as obesity and heart disease. Moreover, these spaces offer residents, especially children and teenagers, a safe and structured environment for sports, play, and other outdoor activities.

Furthermore, the development of these 15 acres into recreational areas would foster a stronger sense of community. These spaces can be venues for local events, gatherings, and sports leagues, facilitating social interaction and strengthening community bonds. Families and individuals alike will benefit from the sense of belonging and community pride that such shared spaces help to cultivate.

In addition, the presence of well-maintained recreational facilities can increase the attractiveness of Ulysses as a place to live, potentially boosting local property values and attracting new residents. This could lead to a positive economic impact as more people choose to make Ulysses their home.

While there are costs associated with maintaining these facilities, the long-term benefits to our residents' health, community engagement, and local economy are invaluable. Investing in our community's well-being and future prosperity is a wise and forward-thinking decision.

I urge the town council to consider these significant benefits and proceed with the acquisition and development of the proposed recreational land. Thank you for your attention and commitment to improving our community.

Sincerely,

Peter Schaefer

Proposed Land Donation- Support

From Brian Shapiro <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 3/3/2025 9:10 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Good Morning,

This email is to express our full support for the 15 acres being donated to the Town of Ulysses by Marvin and Allison Pritts. We also support the use of this donation for the recreational purposes outlined in the press release regarding this donation.

If you have any questions or would like any further comment, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,
Brian and Adina Shapiro
355 Pennsylvania Ave
Trumansburg, NY 14886

--

Brian Shapiro

Co-Founder, Day2Day Talent; President, Shapiro Communications, LLC

Instructor/Affiliated Faculty, University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School and Organizational Dynamics Programs

Mailing Address:

Offsite at Fidler Club

2400 Market Street, No. 200

Philadelphia, PA 19103

o (215) 805-1695

c (415) 283-8052

www.shapirocommunications.com

Recreation Fields

From matthew.simone@yahoo.com [REDACTED]
Date Mon 3/3/2025 8:56 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Hello,

I recently heard, with much excitement, that the town had another opportunity to acquire land that could be turned into recreation/green spaces for our community. As a father with young children, I couldn't be more excited to have more spaces to enjoy, as we have had many frustrations engaging with the current limitations for youth sports and recreational activities.

I am deeply disappointed to hear that a vocal minority of citizens, some who do not even live here, are already mounting an effort to shut this down. There have been numerous studies demonstrating the value of these spaces and there has been a lot of work by our leaders to show that there is a deep need for this in our town. Even if you do not have children yourself, creating opportunities for sports, arts and other recreational activities can keep kids engaged in their community and offer alternatives to drugs and crime. I find it remarkable that anyone would have an issue with what one does with their own private land, and even more astounding that they would be against projects that bring so much value to the community.

I am writing today in support of the boards efforts to bring this recreational space to our community and for the enrichment it builds, not only in our youth, but for all members of the town of Ulysses.

Thank you,
Matthew Simone



Outlook

Support for Land Donation for Recreational Use

From Ben Apker <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 3/4/2025 3:28 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Dear Clarissa,

First off, a thank you to you, and the other local government members, for your contributions to our town.

While I am active in certain areas of our community, I have not historically spoken out on issues. However, I wanted to express my family's and my support for the proposed land donation and its intended use for recreational space.

I know you are already well aware of the growing need for additional recreational resources in our community, so I won't elaborate on why this is important to us.

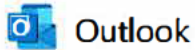
As a homeowner in the Town of Ulysses for nearly 13 years (1230 Hinging Post Road), I fully support this opportunity. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any additional information I can provide.

Thank you again.

Kind regards,
Ben

--

Benjamin Apker
[REDACTED]



Land for Recreation - Cold Spring Rd

From Phil Garin [REDACTED]
Date Tue 3/4/2025 4:38 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Dear Ulysses Town Board(s),

It is fantastic that we are once again taking steps to consider a land for recreation use. Thank you all for your work!

I understand the need for a process to obtain various data and opinions, but I also want to voice my impression that it seems that generations of children are going through their Trumansburg school years as if they live in a community without the resources to provide sufficient athletic fields. We clearly do not lack resources, but when those resources are made available there is always active resistance as if there is not a problem. As a result, these generations keep going through their kid year having multiple athletic/rec events in one tight space and/or squeezing them in to tight schedules that continually pits one event against another.

For what it's worth, the proposed donated land on Cold Spring Road looks great! I love the vision of having the fields at the end of a developed path, especially coming off the back of the school and through the creek/woods area which would be a beautiful segue. I truly hope this works out.

I strongly support further inquiry into this particular space which looks so promising, and I hope it comes to fruition. I also hope that, either way, the evaluation process is done promptly so that we can resolve the shortage of recreational space sooner rather than later, so that more kids may thrive and benefit from it.

Thank you!
-Phil Garin
56 Elm Street, Trumansburg



Outlook

Enthusiastic support for developing the Pitts land donation for community use

From N. Nadich [REDACTED]**Date** Tue 3/4/2025 7:21 PM**To** Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

My husband and I were delighted to learn of this incredible opportunity for Ulysses to have the recreational space it so badly needs, thanks to the generosity of the Pritts family. We are Ulysses residents , live on Krums Corners Rd - and were sorely disappointed that the plan for the land on our street was not realized. Since this new plot doesn't face the same obstacles (location, cost) we hope that it can be put to use for our community and its children - including our own grandchildren.

Thank you for forwarding this message to the appropriate board.

Nahma Nadich



Outlook

Land the Pritts offered to donate

From Bill Overbaugh <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 3/4/2025 3:10 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

I just heard about the Pritts offering to donate land and I wanted to let the toward know I support this idea. I was one opposed to the previous opportunity because I felt it was a poor location. This location, though smaller, is ideal.

Bill Overbaugh
5315 Perry City Rd, Trumansburg, NY 14886

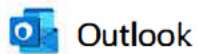


Outlook

Park

From Patricia Splaine-Hillman [REDACTED]**Date** Tue 3/4/2025 4:14 PM**To** Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

To whom it may concern, I'm very much in favor of approval of this gift by the Pritts' for a town park, especially in light of the eventual possibility of a trail connecting to the school property. Thank you,
Patricia Splaine-Hillman



Ulysses park

From Mackenzie Stilwell [REDACTED]
Date Tue 3/4/2025 9:56 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

My name is Mackenzie Marsh and I am in favor of Ulysses park project!

Thank you

Sent from Gmail Mobile



Outlook

Land Donation for Park

From Carol Bobertz [REDACTED]
Date Wed 3/5/2025 6:51 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Good Morning!

I am writing to express my strong support for the development of a park on land donated by the Pritts family. There is an obvious need for additional recreational opportunities in the town. I am very grateful to the Pritts family for their generous offer and to the Town board for pursuing this wonderful opportunity.

Thank you.

Best,
Carol Bobertz



Outlook

Potential town park

From Patrick Feely [REDACTED]
Date Wed 3/5/2025 11:36 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

To the Town Board,

I am writing in support of having a public park on the land offered to the town on Cold Springs Road. When I was a child, my grandfather made a similar donation of farm land outside of his town for public space. There were pavilions for family reunions, soccer fields, hiking trails, a playground and a public pool on this land. Being 4 miles out of town was no deterrent to use. Kids and families learned to swim, played, and enjoyed family time. The park is still enjoyed and beautiful 50 years later. Everyone in the surrounding community benefitted from having that gathering place. They are healthier and happier for it being there! Trumansburg will also benefit from a public park. There is no downside to building community!! I could go on but I am sure that you all know how valuable public park spaces are to a community. Please add our voices to the YES pile for acquiring and developing a public park on this land!

Sincerely,

Patrick, Christine, Megan, Kaitlyn and Madison Feely

4091 South Street Extension
[REDACTED]



Outlook

Land donation yay!

From Aubryn Sidle [REDACTED]**Date** Wed 3/5/2025 9:33 PM**To** Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Hi There, writing to express my absolute support for the proposed park and associated land donation made by the Pritts' to benefit the town of Ulysses and village of Trumansburg. We have three young children, live on Kraft road and this would make a huge difference for our community. We hope the town will move this forward.

Thanks so much,
Aubryn



Outlook

Planning Board Land aquisition

From Dan T [REDACTED]
Date Wed 3/5/2025 11:02 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>
Cc Deanna Trippett <[REDACTED]>

I am writing to show full support for the land acquisition and development of 15 acres for Recreational use on the outskirts of Trumansburg Village.

This is EXACTLY what the village needs! Children and Familys who pay their due to the village and Ulysses town deserve (and yearn for) more resouces outdoors to enjoy our community and its beautiful surroundings. There has been a lack of such resources for quite a while.

As a growing community, the children must be prioritized and the activity of recreation, hiking, walking, biking should be sought for and expanded.

Please do not let this opportunity slip out of our communities hands. Another like it may never come again.

Thank you!

Sincerely The Trippett Family, Daniel, Deanna, Pryn, and Riley



Outlook

Fwd: Recreational Park

From Sharon Westlake [REDACTED]
Date Wed 3/5/2025 1:13 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sharon Westlake** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Wed, Mar 5, 2025 at 1:09 PM
Subject: Recreational Park
To: <clerk@ulyssesny.gov>

Good Afternoon,

I've learned that our community has come into a wonderful opportunity. With the generous donation of land gifted from the Pritts family we could finally have a town park. Yes, it would require both effort and some time to think out and decide how best to create a space that would serve us and enhance our town. I know we have the ability to do so. I'm requesting the board put this process in motion. Start this, to benefit those of all ages that now reside here and for the future generations that will call Trumansburg home.

Respectfully,

Sharon Westlake



Outlook

Support for a town park

From Meredith <[REDACTED]>

Date Thu 3/6/2025 7:15 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Hello:

I saw a notice of a piece of land being donated to the Trumansburg community to serve as a town park.

I think it's a great idea. I'm sure the details of safe passage to and from the location can be figured out.

Thank you

Meredith DeCotiis Szypula

1875 Trumansburg Rd, Trumansburg, NY 14886

[REDACTED]

Pritts donation of property

From Ari Kissiloff <[REDACTED]>

Date Thu 3/6/2025 4:39 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

I am writing to public express thanks for this generous donation, and to encourage the village and the town to move forward on developing this land into a recreational area for Ulysses

Ari Kissiloff
South st



Outlook

Pro town park

From Shannon McNamara [REDACTED]

Date Thu 3/6/2025 7:52 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Hello!

As a resident of Ulysses, I am writing in support of creating a town park.

I recently read about the pending donation of land from the Pritt family. I am writing to support the proposal that it be accepted and turned into a public recreational area.

Thank you,
Shannon McNamara
2105 Agard Rd, Trumansburg, NY 14886

Re: Potential Donation of Land for Recreation

From Cristin Johnson [REDACTED]

Date Sun 3/9/2025 3:44 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

As a neighbor living near the proposed recreation area, I want to express my gratitude and strong support for the generous land donation by Allison and Marvin Pritts. Our community currently has limited access to recreational fields, as all existing ones are on school property with restricted use and limited availability. A designated public space for sports, exercise, and gathering would be a tremendous benefit to our town, providing a much-needed outlet for healthy activities. I understand that change can bring concerns, but many of the fears being raised do not reflect the reality of this proposal. This is not a large-scale development—there will be no large facilities and no significant infrastructure. This is not a high-traffic commercial project but rather a quiet, community-focused recreation area. Cold Springs Road is a rural road with relatively low traffic, and given the small scale of this project, any increase in vehicles will be minimal and unlikely to impact daily life. Preserving this land for public recreation is a far better alternative than allowing it to be developed for housing or other uses that could bring far greater disruption. Accessible recreation areas are essential for a healthy, connected community and benefit people of all ages. This space will be a place where kids and adults alike can stay active—whether through organized programs or just getting outside to move. I feel my family and others will greatly benefit from its use. As a parent of a son who love recreation sports, I urge the town to consider including an outdoor basketball court to provide a much-needed space for our community to play. The school courts are often unavailable due to school activities. A court would be a simple but meaningful addition to this project that could serve people of all ages. It's also important to recognize that some of the strongest opposition is coming from individuals who do not live here full-time, including those who own vacation homes or short-term rentals—an issue that presents its own challenges for our community. While all perspectives should be considered, the voices of year-round residents—who will benefit most from this project—deserve to be prioritized. I strongly encourage the town to move forward with this donation. This is a rare opportunity to preserve open space for public use, and we believe it will have a lasting, positive impact on our community for generations to come.

Please hear my plea, this would be a tremendous asset to our Tburg community!!

Cristin Johnson



Outlook

Full support for Cold Springs Rd. Park

From Jenny Creek Flowers [REDACTED]

Date Sun 3/9/2025 6:11 PM

To clerk@ulysses.ny.us <clerk@ulysses.ny.us>; clerk@townofulysses.gov <clerk@townofulysses.gov>

Hello,

We live on Durling Rd., just a few houses down from the proposed recreation park. I'm writing to express full support for this project. I am impressed by the Pritz family's generous donation and recognize how beneficial this park will be for our community. I have no concerns about how the project would change the road or negatively impact the area; rather, I'm excited about this possibility and hope it comes to fruition.

Thank you,
Brooke Palmer



Outlook

Proposed park on Cold Springs Rd.

From Palmer Woodcraft <[REDACTED]>
Date Sun 3/9/2025 6:26 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Hello,

I'm writing as a local resident and business owner who lives and works on Durling Rd, just a very short distance from the proposed new Ulysses park property. A good portion of our 40 acre property borders Cold Springs Rd and we are truly a stones throw away. I wanted to share that WE ARE IN FULL SUPPORT of this proposal and are incredibly grateful for the generous donation offer from the Pritts family. I feel that this is an ideal property in an ideal location that will serve to add quality of life to our community for generations to come.

Sincerely,
Dan Palmer

March 9, 2025

To Whom it May Concern:

As neighbors living near the proposed recreation area, we want to express our gratitude and strong support for the generous land donation by Allison and Marvin Pritts. Our community currently has limited access to recreational fields, as all existing ones are on school property with restricted use and limited availability. A designated public space for sports, exercise, and gathering would be a tremendous benefit to our town, providing a much-needed outlet for healthy activities.

We understand that change can bring concerns, but many of the fears being raised do not reflect the reality of this proposal. This is not a large-scale development—there will be no large facilities and no significant infrastructure. This is not a high-traffic commercial project but rather a quiet, community-focused recreation area. Cold Springs Road is a rural road with relatively low traffic, and given the small scale of this project, any increase in vehicles will be minimal and unlikely to impact daily life. Preserving this land for public recreation is a far better alternative than allowing it to be developed for housing or other uses that could bring far greater disruption.

Accessible recreation areas are essential for a healthy, connected community and benefit people of all ages. This space will be a place where kids and adults alike can stay active—whether through organized programs or just getting outside to move. We already love walking this property with our dogs and know firsthand how peaceful and special it is. We believe others will appreciate and enjoy it just as much.

As parents of two sons who love basketball, we urge the town to consider including an outdoor basketball court to provide a much-needed space for our community to play. The school courts are often unavailable due to school activities. A court would be a simple but meaningful addition to this project that could serve people of all ages.

It's also important to recognize that some of the strongest opposition is coming from individuals who do not live here full-time, including those who own vacation homes or short-term rentals—an issue that presents its own challenges for our community. While all perspectives should be considered, the voices of year-round residents—who will benefit most from this project—deserve to be prioritized.

We strongly encourage the town to move forward with this donation. This is a rare opportunity to preserve open space for public use, and we believe it will have a lasting, positive impact on our community for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sage and Jerry Peake



Outlook

In support of Park

From Kirsten Richardson [REDACTED]

Date Sun 3/9/2025 9:41 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Good evening,

I'm writing after learning about the incredibly generous donation of land from the Pritts family to the town for the creation of a park.

As a parent to two young children, I could not be more in support of this plan. This is a huge need for our community. The lack of recreational fields outside of the school is a well-known problem, not to mention that parks are just good for everyone in the community.

I do hope the community members on the boards who will be voting on this will be voting on favor of creating a new park and recreational space here in Ulysses.

Thank you,
Kirsten Richardson



Outlook

Support for Land Donation on Cold Springs Rd

From rebecca stevenson <[REDACTED]>

Date Sun 3/9/2025 5:13 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Dear Ulysses Town Board,

I am writing to express strong support for the proposed donation by Marvin and Allison Pritts. Their very generous offer of several acres of land on Cold Springs Rd to the town to be used for recreation is wonderful and I think it would be a shame to let the opportunity pass by. Please accept their generous offer!

Best regards,

Rebecca Stevenson
6180 Iradell Rd
Trumansburg, NY 14886
resident of Town of Ulysses

Proposed Land Donation and Park

From Amy West [REDACTED]

Date Sun 3/9/2025 6:10 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Good Afternoon,

I live at 5076 Cold Springs Road and am writing to voice my complete and enthusiastic support for the proposed land donation and park on our road. I have two daughters- ages 5 and 7- and cherish the idea that they could have a place like this nearby. Both of my girls are involved in soccer and the addition of soccer fields at the park would be a great benefit for the local teams and alleviate pressure on the fields at the school. I think this is an incredible opportunity for the community and a tremendously generous and selfless thing for the Pritts family to offer. I appreciate the Board proceeding with investigating the possibility of making this park a reality.

Thank you,
Amy West

Fw: Pritts's Park Proposal

From Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>

Date Mon 3/10/2025 8:35 AM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

see below

Katelin Olson, Town Supervisor
Town of Ulysses, NY
supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 8, 2025 11:04 AM
To: Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>
Subject: Pritts's Park Proposal

Katelin

Dolores and I know the parcel the Pritts are offering and are enthusiastic about this being explored further.

We understand the maintenance and security costs that come with an undertaking of this type. We would like to see a careful and balanced, open, discussion.

If it helps, I would remind every one of the quiet success that is Habitat Preserve.

Don Ellis

Message me: [REDACTED]

Visit me: <https://www.donellisartist.com>

Follow me: <https://www.instagram.com/donellisartist>

Beading

The past is a fantasy of beads longing for a string.

The future is a string longing for a bead,
just any bead.

Support for Ulysses Park Donation

From Lora K. Hine [REDACTED]
Date Mon 3/10/2025 7:50 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>
Cc Teri Gruber [REDACTED]

Dear Trumansburg Leadership,

We are writing to express our support for the Ulysses Park land donation by the Pritts family. We urge the Town to accept this generous gift and create a recreational area for the Trumansburg community. This donation will provide residents with access to land that can be developed for various purposes, including organized sports, outdoor recreation, and leisure activities. Trumansburg currently lacks sufficient public park space, and this land will address a significant need that the community has voiced for years.

We live on Rabbit Run Road, directly behind the Trumansburg Central School District property. Our property is adjacent to the land that could connect the proposed park to the school district land. Connecting these two resources would increase access for community members and encourage use of the park. We fully endorse this proposed trail.

Thank you for voting in favor of the Ulysses Park land donation.

Lora and Terri Gruber-Hine

4380 Rabbit Run Run, Trumansburg NY



Outlook

Town Park on Cold Springs Road

From

[REDACTED]

Date Mon 3/10/2025 1:58 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

I am in full support of the town having a park on Cold Springs Road.

Thank you,

Cold Springs Road Resident,

Jeanette Martin

Fw: Rec Space

From Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>
Date Thu 3/13/2025 9:47 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

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From: LAEL Eisman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 9:32:38 PM
To: Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>
Subject: Rec Space

Hello, my name is Lael Eisman, my family and I reside in the village of Trumansburg. I just wanted to voice my support for the expansion of town recreation space on the land's recently donated on Cold Springs Road. My daughter's teams have had to practice late or not at all at the school, and I believe this project would benefit the community at all ages.

Gratefully,
Lael Eisman

Park land acquisition

From Lorren Hammond [REDACTED]

Date Thu 3/13/2025 10:00 AM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

An open letter to the Town of Ulysses Board
10 Elm Street
Trumansburg, NY 14886

Dear Members of the Ulysses Town Board:

I am writing to express my strong support for accepting the generous offer from the Pritts family of 15+ acres of land for a municipal park on Cold Springs Rd. As a resident of the Trumansburg community and school district, I believe this opportunity represents a crucial investment in our collective future that aligns perfectly with our town's comprehensive plan.

****Our Unique Situation****

Ulysses stands out among Central NY townships as one of the few communities without a dedicated municipal park. Our neighboring towns—Ithaca, Lansing, Dryden, Groton, Danby, and others—all maintain municipal parks that serve as community gathering spaces, recreational areas, and natural preserves. While we do have access to state parks in our region, the substantial entrance fees create barriers for many residents, particularly those with lower incomes. Additionally, these state parks do not provide the facilities needed for school athletic programs and adult community sports.

Currently, our school grounds must shoulder the entire burden of our community's recreational needs. This arrangement severely limits our ability to host sporting events, forcing our children to travel long distances for games and practices. A municipal park would alleviate this pressure and provide dedicated space for both organized sports and casual recreation.

****Benefits of Municipal Parks****

Research consistently demonstrates the wide-ranging benefits parks provide to communities:

1. **Physical and Mental Health:** Parks encourage physical activity among all age groups and provide spaces for stress reduction and mental rejuvenation—needs highlighted by the pandemic.
2. **Community Building:** Parks create neutral, welcoming spaces where residents from all backgrounds can gather, strengthening community bonds and fostering civic pride.
3. **Environmental Benefits:** Green spaces improve air quality, support wildlife habitat, provide stormwater management, and offer educational opportunities about local ecosystems.

4. Economic Value: Parks can increase nearby property values, attract visitors to local businesses, and reduce healthcare costs through improved community health.

5. Multigenerational Use: Unlike many public facilities, parks serve residents of all ages—from playgrounds for children to walking paths for seniors.

****Addressing Neighborhood Concerns****

I understand a few Cold Springs Rd neighbors have expressed concerns about a potential park adjacent to their properties. These concerns deserve respectful consideration, and solutions exist:

- Buffer Zones: Strategic landscaping and natural buffers can minimize noise and visual impact on neighboring properties.
- Limited Operating Hours: Establishing clear park hours (e.g., dawn to dusk) can address concerns about nighttime activity.
- Phased Development: The park would necessarily be developed gradually, beginning with minimal infrastructure and natural areas, allowing for community input throughout the process.
- Thoughtful Design: Parks can be designed to direct activity away from residential boundaries while preserving natural features.
- Increased Property Value: Research indicates that well-maintained parks often enhance, rather than detract from, nearby property values AND quality of life.

****Fiscal Responsibility****

The gift of land represents an extraordinary opportunity that aligns with fiscal prudence. Unlike the previously proposed purchase that was voted down, this generous donation eliminates land acquisition costs. Development can proceed incrementally as funding allows, without requiring immediate large expenditures. Other townships have created their parks with grants and fundraisers, not tax increases. It's common! Moreover, the park can be designed to minimize maintenance costs through natural landscaping and community stewardship programs.

****Looking Forward****

Our town's comprehensive plan specifically endorses expanded recreational opportunities. This gift provides a rare chance to fulfill that vision without the financial burden of land purchase. The overwhelming positive public response via letters to the board demonstrates strong community support.

In closing, I urge the board to accept this generous land donation and begin the thoughtful process of creating a municipal park that will benefit generations of Ulysses and TBurg school district residents. This decision represents an investment not just in recreation, but in the health, unity, and vitality of our entire community.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorren Hammond and family

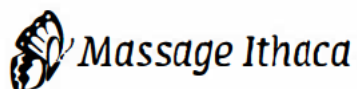
Fw: Park proposal

From Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>
Date Thu 3/13/2025 1:51 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

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From: Jennifer Whitaker [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 1:34:41 PM
To: Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>
Subject: Park proposal

We fully support the proposal for an outdoor park on cold springs rd. Please let us know if there is any way we can support this further. My kids and webwould love a space like this, as we have a very sports minded community and family !
Jennifer Whitaker & David Feavearyear



Jennifer Whitaker, LMT
www.massageithaca.com
607-201-4926

Fw: Support for the Recreation center!!!

From Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>

Date Fri 3/14/2025 7:42 AM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

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From: Courtney Austin [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2025 7:39 AM

To: Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>

Subject: Support for the Recreation center!!!

An open letter to the Town of Ulysses Board 10 Elm Street Trumansburg, NY 14886 Dear Members of the Ulysses Town Board:

I am writing to express my strong support for accepting the generous offer from the Pritts family of 15+ acres of land for a municipal park on Cold Springs Rd. As a resident of the Trumansburg community and school district, I believe this opportunity represents a crucial investment in our collective future that aligns perfectly with our town's comprehensive plan. ****Our Unique Situation**** Ulysses stands out among Central NY townships as one of the few communities without a dedicated municipal park. Our neighboring towns—Ithaca, Lansing, Dryden, Groton, Danby, and others—all maintain municipal parks that serve as community gathering spaces, recreational areas, and natural preserves. While we do have access to state parks in our region, the substantial entrance fees create barriers for many residents, particularly those with lower incomes. Additionally, these state parks do not provide the facilities needed for school athletic programs and adult community sports. Currently, our school grounds must shoulder the entire burden of our community's recreational needs. This arrangement severely limits our ability to host sporting events, forcing our children to travel long distances for games and practices. A municipal park would alleviate this pressure and provide dedicated space for both organized sports and casual recreation. ****Benefits of Municipal Parks**** Research consistently demonstrates the wide-ranging benefits parks provide to communities: 1. Physical and Mental Health: Parks encourage physical activity among all age groups and provide spaces for stress reduction and mental rejuvenation—needs highlighted by the pandemic. 2. Community Building: Parks create neutral, welcoming spaces where residents from all backgrounds can gather, strengthening community bonds and fostering civic pride. 3. Environmental Benefits: Green spaces improve air quality, support wildlife habitat, provide stormwater management, and offer educational opportunities about local ecosystems. 4. Economic Value: Parks can increase nearby property values, attract visitors to local businesses, and reduce healthcare costs through improved community health. 5. Multigenerational Use: Unlike many public facilities, parks serve residents of all ages—from playgrounds for children to walking paths for seniors. ****Addressing Neighborhood Concerns**** I understand a few Cold Springs Rd neighbors have expressed concerns about a potential park adjacent to their properties. These concerns deserve respectful consideration, and solutions exist:

- Buffer Zones: Strategic landscaping and natural buffers can minimize noise and visual impact on neighboring properties. - Limited Operating Hours: Establishing clear park hours (e.g., dawn to dusk) can address concerns about nighttime activity. - Phased Development: The park would necessarily be developed gradually, beginning with minimal infrastructure and natural areas, allowing for community input throughout the process. - Thoughtful Design: Parks can be designed to direct activity away from residential boundaries while preserving natural features. - Increased Property Value: Research indicates that well-maintained parks often enhance, rather than detract from, nearby property values AND quality of life. ****Fiscal Responsibility**** The gift of land represents an extraordinary opportunity that aligns with fiscal prudence. Unlike the previously proposed purchase that was voted down, this generous donation eliminates land acquisition costs. Development can proceed incrementally as funding allows, without requiring immediate large expenditures. Other townships have created their parks with grants and fundraisers, not tax increases. It's common! Moreover, the park can be designed to minimize maintenance costs through natural landscaping and community stewardship programs. ****Looking Forward**** Our town's comprehensive plan specifically endorses expanded recreational opportunities. This gift provides a rare chance to fulfill that vision without the financial burden of land purchase. The overwhelming positive public response via letters to the board demonstrates strong community support. In closing, I urge the board to accept this generous land donation and begin the thoughtful process of creating a municipal park that will benefit generations of Ulysses and TBurg school district residents. This decision represents an investment not just in recreation, but in the health, unity, and vitality of our entire community.

Respectfully,
The Austin Family - Courtney, Kyle, Maya, Nora
Village of TBurg Residents

Property Donation

From Tara Masters [REDACTED]
Date Mon 3/17/2025 6:43 PM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Good afternoon,

I am offering this as a positive note in support of the Town accepting the gift of land from the Pritts with the intention of creating a community recreation space.

Please feel free to share this content with the Town Board, Planning Board and Board of zoning appeals.

Thank you,

Tara Masters

Pritts family donation

From Matt Hobbs [REDACTED]
Date Wed 3/19/2025 9:49 AM
To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Good morning,

I wanted to send an email voicing my support for using the land donated by the Pritts family to create a community park. Adding soccer fields, a basketball court, an area for outdoor ice skating when the winters provide enough cold, and/or a playground would be incredible for the families living in the Town of Ulysses.

We are constantly bombarded by the refrain, "These kids are glued to their phones and tablets! They need to go outside and play!" Providing these spaces, and the subsequent programs that could be run there, would make it easier for these 'inside kids' to get back outside.

I love living here. I love feeling like my family is part of this community. Adding these types of spaces will ensure that we never want to leave and will encourage even more families to want to move here.

Thank you for your time.

All the best,
Matt Hobbs

Re: Reminder- OPEN HOUSE TONIGHT

From [REDACTED]

Date Thu 3/20/2025 9:23 AM

To ulysses.clerk@gmail.com <ulysses.clerk@gmail.com>; Google Groups <town-of-ulysses@googlegroups.com>

Sorry, I can't make it. (I'm very sick.)

But, I'm very interested in what is happening tonight.. and in general.

I support the "Pritts Park" as I like to call it. I live on Cold Springs Road.

Cathy Bair

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)


On Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 10:34 AM, Carissa Parlato, Town Clerk <ulysses.clerk@gmail.com> wrote:

Good morning folks,

This is a reminder that tonight is our Open House to hear your input on the future of the Town.

- Drop in from 4-7pm at the Trumansburg HS Library
- Eat pizza
- Share your thoughts

Susan M. Thomas
16 Washington St.
Trumansburg, NY 14886



March 19, 2025

Dear Supervisor Olson and Member of the Ulysses Town Board,

I write to express my support, and incredible gratitude for the generous gift of park land that is offered to the Town of Ulysses by Marvin and Allison Pritts. As a longtime, year-round resident of the Town, I feel the donation of land benefits the people of our community through enrichment of quality of life and preservation of natural spaces.

Having known the Pritts family for many years, I am well aware of their commitment to the general health and well being of children and families in our community. I've witnessed their tireless work in many areas as volunteers. As they raised their now-grown children here, they regularly welcomed friends and neighbors to be a part of life on their land. As years went by, and our children fledged, Marvin and Allison continued their generosity, welcoming hikers, skiers and neighbors to the property. In some ways, the space has been "public" for a long time. Marvin and Allison are unwavering supporters of natural spaces in this community, having played integral roles in the establishment and maintenance of the Smith Woods trails, the Habitat Trails at Salo Drive, and the Main Street labyrinth. I have no doubt that their land donation will forever honor the natural beauty and biodiversity of the land. They are invested in and truly care about the future of this community.

As an educator and parent, I know the importance of access to safe outdoor spaces for families and children. I am well aware of the limited space we currently have for our citizens, young and old, to participate in outdoor recreation and sports. Currently, our only open use field space is located on the Trumansburg Central School grounds, and is too often unavailable for club teams and the general public to access. The land donation offered will alleviate some of the strain on the school grounds, and in addition, will add safe spaces for all folks to walk, play and enjoy the outdoors.

I feel strongly that the Town would be greatly in error to pass up yet another wonderful opportunity to secure public access outdoor space. Parks, playing fields and outdoor recreation spaces add tremendously to the quality of life and vibrancy of communities. I hope that you will do all in your power to support this donation of land.

With gratitude,
Susan M. Thomas