

# THE SLOAN CONNECTION

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE RESIDENTS INFORMED AND CONNECTED

SPRING 2013

## FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR NIWINSKI

Since our fall issue of the Connection, we have seen the arrival of the much anticipated tote program in our Village. Many residents are still adjusting to the every other week recycling. If you have any questions as to when you are scheduled for recycling collection, please review the street list located on page four. Our Highway Department has undertaken the garbage tote exchanges for those residents who feel the 95 gallon tote is too large for their needs. If you want to exercise this option, please contact the Village Hall office staff at 897-1560 for arrangements. If you find that the totes delivered to you are not adequate for your trash/recycling needs, you can purchase additional totes at cost. The goals of this program are many: increased recycling by providing larger bins; less trash disposal into landfills; cost savings by recycling bi-weekly; and controlling the rodent problem.

As reported in earlier issues, we applied for an EPA Brownfield's grant for the 14 acres owned by the Village along Lovejoy Street. The process has progressed to Phase II, where soil samples were collected by an independent agency and we

are awaiting results. Watch for future updates on this project, as we discuss remediation and development of this property to its fullest potential.

In a continued effort undertaken over the last several years, we are making necessary improvements to our Fire Hall on Gates Street. We are currently requesting bids for a new heating and air conditioning system for the building. The existing system is the original, and almost fifty years old. A new system will greatly increase efficiency and reduce utility costs. This project will be partially funded through our Community Development Block Grant Program, using federal HUD monies. There are other grants available through NYSERDA for lighting fixtures and updates that will further reduce our long-term electrical costs. Throughout the next year, we will be doing a complete facilities review, determining where we can reduce costs.

I am pleased to announce that the sanitary sewer projects on Wagner, Atlantic, Village Lane, Halstead, Griffith, Gates, Blick, Roland and Rutland are complete. Utilizing Village funds, EPA and DEC grants, over \$1,000,000 in work was done. I worked closely with Keith Marquis,

Village engineer, over the last three years to develop these projects with the goals of eliminating overflow from storm into the sanitary system, which we have to pay for treatment. It also eliminates sanitary from flowing into our storm system and directly into Lake Erie. Projects included pipe "sliplining", pipe replacement, manhole repairs and drain inlet replacements.

To remain a viable Village, we must continue moving Sloan forward by increasing efficiencies, superior services and supporting programs that enhance the quality of our community. Please consider participating in some of our many activities: Seniors can join the Center on Halstead and participate in the Nutrition Program, exercise, Pokeno, cards and trips; children can visit the supervised Recreation Center daily, our pool and two parks in the summer, Easter, Halloween and Christmas Parties; and let's not forget the Arts Council Summer Concerts; and the Annual Family Picnic. If anyone has suggestions for additional events, I ask them to please share their ideas with me.

In an effort to keep residents informed, Trustee Doreen Spence is starting a

## REMINDERS

The winter parking ban ends April 1, 2013.  
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**ENHANCED STAR or STAR**—If you qualify and have not already applied please do so by March 1st at Cheektowaga Town Hall.  
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**FREE TAX PREP CLINIC** for low income households Monday 2/25, 5-8pm at Village Hall. Call 211 or 1-888-696-9211 for an appointment and for documentation requirements. Sponsored by Leg. Tom Mazur.  
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Don't forget to "Spring Forward" and turn your clocks ahead one (1) hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 9th.

monthly email bulletin. If you want to be included on the email list, please notify her at [doreen.spence@villageofsloan.org](mailto:doreen.spence@villageofsloan.org) of your email address.

I hope to see all of you at the "Soup on Sunday" event on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, sponsored by the Sloan Picnic Committee, and the Youth Recreation Easter Event on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

## VILLAGE ELECTION INFORMATION

On Tuesday, March 19, 2013, the Village of Sloan will be having elections for the Mayors seat and two (2) Trustee seats. All candidates that have submitted valid petitions have been asked to provide brief biographies of their accomplishments and goals for this publication. Mayoral candi-

dates are listed below while the Trustee candidates are listed on the next page. Please mark your calendars to exercise your right to vote on Tuesday, March 19, 2013 at the Sloan Fire Hall, 55 Gates Street between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. You must be registered with the Erie County Board of

Elections in order to vote in this election. If you are not already registered, deadline for registration is March 8, 2013. If you are in need of an absentee ballot, applications are now available.

**DISCLAIMER:** All candidate bios have been copied verbatim as submitted.

## JAMES T. NIWINSKI, MAYOR, PEOPLE'S CHOICE PARTY

My name is James Niwinski and I am seeking re-election for Mayor of Sloan. I am a graduate of Seneca Voca-

tional School and have made our Village my home since 1991. Currently, I serve as a New York State Corrections Officer and have for the past 26 years. I am an active member of the Pulaski Police Association and serve on the board of directors of Western New York Association of Retired Police Officers.

During my tenure as Trustee, I have served as the Youth Recreation Director for the village overseeing the parks, teen

center and holiday events. Utilizing grant monies, we purchased new equipment for the Teen Center, updated the Community Center with energy-efficient windows, replaced fencing and installed a sand volleyball court in Griffith Street Park.

For the past several years, in an effort to keep all residents informed, I established the Sloan Connection which is published seasonally and delivered directly to your door. For the past five years, I was entrusted by former Mayor Leonard Szymanski to serve as Deputy Mayor and assist him with the administration of all aspects of Village government. A few other projects I have been directly involved in are the sanitary sewer repairs completed in October, the demolition of the railroad structure at the foot of Roland and the purchase/

demolition of the vacant building on Broadway at Halstead.

On August 1, 2012, I was appointed as Mayor of Sloan by my fellow Trustees. My first priority was to continue the implementation of the tote program for our Village, which was finalized in December, 2012.

My goals for the next four years are further improvements to our facilities and services. I will also focus on working with my fellow Board members to develop a plan addressing the number of vacant structures in our Village. I pledge to continue leading my team, building good relationships within the departments and providing quality efficient services that our residents deserve.

## NORBERT CZOSEK, MAYOR, ACTION PARTY

Greetings to all the Residents of the Village of Sloan. I have been your Trustee for a number of years already and I feel I can fill

the bill for what you want as Mayor. I've always worked hard and consistently at many civic functions in Sloan, such as Food Drives, Clothing Drives, and Village Summer Events. I've attended the Crime

Resistance Program managed by the Cheektowaga Police for the past ten years. Meetings are every month at the Alexander Street School. In addition the North East South Towns Environmental Program sponsored by Erie County is on my monthly agenda. Our Village Board Meetings are important. We have reports given by the Head of each Department, such as the Senior Citizen Program, the Recreation Dept., the Firemen, the Highway Dept. and the Building Inspector. Every-

thing is very complete. The residents know all that is current. Our schools are in trouble. I thought it would be a good idea to invite one of the School Board Members each month to meet with our Residents and discuss school issues in an "off-The-Cuff" manner. Schools are our most costly segment of the Budget.

Keep in mind the seriousness of your decision and REMEMBER TO VOTE ON MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup> at the Firehall.

## DOREEN SPENCE, TRUSTEE, PEOPLE'S CHOICE PARTY

My name is Doreen Spence and I am running for re-election as Trustee of the Village of

Sloan. As a member of both Villa Maria Alumnae Association and VFW Post 6251 Ladies Auxiliary, I have served as Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Trustee for these organizations. As a graduate of Daemen College, where I received my Bachelors degree in Business Administration, I worked with diverse companies and gained knowledge in management, accounting, purchasing and human relations.

I became interested in Village politics by attending the monthly Board meetings and joining the AVERT team as a volunteer. As Trustee, I worked closely with the Fire Department as LOSAP liaison. In an effort to keep our residents informed, I finalized the placement of the marquee at Wrazen Park where I keep it updated for our Southside neighborhood. As the Village Board appointed internal auditor, I have developed auditing procedures for payroll, retirement, cash receipts and accounts payable.

As Deputy Mayor, on behalf of our Village I attend monthly meetings of the Associa-

tions of Village and Erie County Governments. By working closely with these organizations, I am able to bring new concepts and ideas to Sloan from other villages, towns and cities. If re-elected, I will continue working with Mayor Niwinski on the Brownfields project and the abandoned housing problem we have been experiencing. I want our Village to remain the great community it is, by focusing my energies on projects which our residents feel passionate about. I want to continue to be the people's voice in local government, always working to the best of my ability for YOU!

## BARRY PING, TRUSTEE, PEOPLE'S CHOICE PARTY

My name is Barry Ping and I am seeking re-election for Trustee in Sloan. My family has made our Village their home

since 1989, and I am a graduate of the Cheektowaga-Sloan schools. We have raised our daughter, Candace, who is enrolled in D'Youville College for Pharmacy and our son, Andrew, who works as an Assistant Project Manager. I am employed as a Purchasing/Production Manager for 22 years, which will assist me in making better decisions on controlling village taxes and utilization of manpower

and resources. Throughout my 24 years in our community, I have attended many Board Meetings, which I believe provides me a good understanding of what our residents are expecting from a Trustee.

I have been an active fireman with the Sloan Active Hose for 18 years, where I held numerous positions; EMS Lieutenant, EMS Captain, Fire Lieutenant, Fire Captain, Second Assistant Chief, First Assistant Chief and Chief. After serving as Chief, I was elected Vice President and appointed as a Commissioner by the Village Board. Throughout my tenure, I participated in numerous committees, including the purchase of Engine 2 and our first aid truck. In a cost-saving effort,

we consolidated from 4 trucks to 3, by purchasing a rescue pumper that serves as both a rescue truck and pumper. As Assistant Chief, I worked on obtaining 2 FEMA Grants, totaling \$70,000. These funds were used to upgrade the truck room and purchase mandatory equipment.

Since being appointed as Trustee in October, I am the Board liaison to the Fire Dept and am currently working on a mandated state audit of our retirement program. My goal is to help our Village residents in a different aspect of the community beyond my fire service. I respectfully ask for your vote on Election Day, March 19, 2013.

## JAMES MILLS, TRUSTEE, ACTION PARTY

I am a resident in the Village and have been for 32 years. I currently live on Rutland Ave. with my wife, Gerri.

We will be married 20 years in September. I have 4 grown children, Lisa, Melissa, Christina and Jimmy from a previous

marriage. They all were raised in the village and attended all of the JFK schools. They have blessed us with 5 beautiful grandchildren.

I am a member of St. Andrews Church in Sloan. I retired from the University of Buffalo in September 2010 after 30 years of service. To keep myself busy, I work part time at Bed, Bath + Beyond. I also

have worked the primary and presidential elections as an election inspector the last two years.

I would be honored if you gave me a chance and voted for me as Village Trustee. I love the Village of Sloan and promise to put my best foot forward, work together with others, and help to improve our Village!

# 4TH ANNUAL SOUP ON SUNDAY

It's time again to enjoy your favorite homemade soup or try a few new ones!

The Sloan Picnic Committee hosts this event to raise funds for the 4th Annual Sloan Family Picnic in Griffith Park to be held on Sunday, August 18, 2013.

- DATE:** Sunday, March 3, 2013
- TIME:** 12:30 p.m.—??? Will serve until all soup is gone
- PLACE:** Sloan Fire Hall, 55 Gates Street
- DONATION:** \$5.00 for adults / \$2.00 for ages 6-10 / Kids 5 and under free
- Take-out containers \$3.00 / Canned pop & desserts available for purchase
- Bread, coffee and tea included—Hope to see you there!!!

## VILLAGE OF SLOAN CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**March 3**—Soup On Sunday, 12:30-??? Sloan Fire Hall, 55 Gates Street

**March 19**—Village Elections 12noon– 9pm, Sloan Fire Hall

**March 30**—Annual Easter Egg Hunt, 2-4pm, Sloan Fire Hall - Proof of Village residency required

**April 28** - Sloan Active Hose Co #1 Annual Fund Drive in the Village

**June 9**—Sloan Fire Dept. Mass and Inspection

## LOCAL AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING

On March 9, 2013, local Sloan author Michael F. Rizzo, will host a discussion on the history of organized crime in Buffalo based on his best-selling 2012 book “Gangsters and Organized Crime In Buffalo”. The event will be held at the John A. Piekarski Community Center, 140 Halstead Ave, Sloan, from 12 Noon-2:00PM. Rizzo and a special guest will discuss the Mafia in Buffalo followed by a book signing. Light refreshments will be available. Event is open to the public.

## ST. ANDREW'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**March 17**—Annual Flea Market & Rummage Sale 9am-2pm, food available for purchase, donations to the church for the rummage sale greatly accepted

**March 23 & March 24**—Bake Sale after all masses. Donations of baked goods greatly accepted. Contact the rectory for more information 892-0425

**March 24**—Palm Sunday, Breakfast with the Easter Bunny 9am-1pm, Breakfast Buffet: Donation \$6 and \$3 5-under

**March 30**—Blessing of Baskets Noon & 1pm

**March 31**—Easter Mass 8am & 11am

**June 9**—Sloan F.D. Inspection Mass 8am

## What Recycling Schedule is Your Street?

**“A” Red Week** - Wagner, Atlantic, Lackawanna, Village Lane, Michael, Halstead, Curtiss, Griffith and those portions of Broadway, Reiman, Gates and Lovejoy that are west of Boll Street

**“B” Blue Week** - Boll, Currier, Roland, Crocker, Francis, Jackson, Rutland, Harlem, Gierlach, Franklin, Blick, those portions of Broadway, Reiman, Gates and Lovejoy that are east of Boll, and the Southside of Sloan off of William Street