

# THE SLOAN CONNECTION

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE RESIDENTS INFORMED AND CONNECTED

SUMMER 2013

## FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR NIWINSKI

We would like to take this opportunity to commend all residents who exercised their right to vote on March 19<sup>th</sup> for the Village General election. Trustee Spence, Trustee Ping and I would also like to extend a personal thank you to all the voters who elected us to serve you for the next four years. We will continue our goals of providing you with superior services in the most cost-effective and efficient manner possible.

As discussed in the last Connection issue, we have completed the upgrades to the heating and air conditioning system at the fire hall. The new street sweeper has been ordered and we anticipate its arrival by August. This new apparatus will replace several pieces of equipment; the 27 year-old sweeper, sewer vacuator truck and leaf vacuum.

At the end of June, the

Department of Public Works will be bidding farewell to Dave Jablonski, who is retiring after exactly forty years of working for Sloan. Dave began his career with the Village on June 28, 1973 as a seasonal employee, which then led to a full-time Laborer position. Within a few years, and through his outstanding work ethic, he was promoted to a Motor Equipment Operator. All of his fellow employees and Board want to wish Dave a long and happy retirement. His vast experience will be greatly missed. Happy Fishing, Dave!

I would like to dedicate this issue of the Sloan Connection to former Mayor Leonard Szymanski, who passed away on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Len was dedicated to volunteerism, founding the Cheektowaga Airlines football league, Director of Southside Little League and St. Andrews's Holy Name Society. Len started his in-

volvement with the Village Board in 1997, when he was first elected as Trustee. He supervised the Youth Recreation Department, earning him the nickname of "grandfather" of the Village and oversaw much-needed improvements in Wrazen and Griffith Parks. Recognizing a need for community summer events, he was instrumental in forming the Sloan Arts Council, which will be celebrating its eleventh year of providing concerts for our residents. Continuing his commitment to public service, he won the Mayoral office in 2005. His open-door policy encouraged residents to visit Village Hall to discuss their concerns or to just have a friendly chat. The Village has lost a good man and he will be truly missed.

## REMINDERS

If you are over the age of 60, you are eligible to participate in the Erie County Lunch Program. Meals are served at noon, Monday through Friday at the Piekarski Community Center, with a \$3.00 suggested donation. Come join us for lunch, play some pokeno, bingo, exercise, do a puzzle, play cards, or just enjoy the company of friends and neighbors. Call Helen or Ed at 897-1389 for more information.

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## REFUSE COLLECTION

Refuse and Recycling Collection will be on Friday, July 5 due to the 4th of July holiday.

Also on Friday, September 6th due to the Labor Day holiday.

## FROM GENE BESZCZYNSKI, DPW CHIEF

This past month, Western New York has experienced numerous rainfall events resulting in basement flooding for many of our Village residents. To combat this problem, we recommend homeowners contact their

plumber to have a backflow prevention device installed in their sewer line. This simple device will prevent sanitary backups occurring during heavy rainfalls. You can go to [www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMBznnNV-ss](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMBznnNV-ss) to see how

this equipment operates.

To further assist with flood prevention, we ask that residents do not blow any grass clippings into the street while mowing. This debris washes into the storm drains

and clogs the flow of water leaving the Village. Although it is recommended to mulch your grass, if you choose to bag it, it must be placed inside your garbage tote for collection by Modern Corporation.

## SLOAN ACTIVE HOSE CO NO 1—INSPECTION 2013



On Sunday, June 9, the Sloan Active Hose Co No 1 held its' annual mass at St. Andrew's R.C. Church followed by an inspection of the members, equipment, and fire station done by the Village of Sloan Board. Thank you to all our firefighters for your time and dedication to our village and its' residents.

### FROM DOREEN SPENCE, TRUSTEE

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, I attended a presentation given by the NYS Office of the Attorney General. Its focus was on consumer protection against contractor fraud, identity theft and employee rights.

There are several steps you can take to reduce the possibility of home improvement scams. Check contractors by calling the local Better Business Bureau at 881-5222 or visit their website at [www.upstateny.bbb.org](http://www.upstateny.bbb.org). Shop around and obtain references from friends or family. Interview contractors and get written quotes with detailed information of what is to be completed. Before signing any contracts, call Village Hall to see if a Building Permit is required for the work that is to be done. We will check that your contractor has all required insurance, review your contract and work plan for code requirements, and inspect the work in

progress/completion if necessary. Also, your contract should include a specific time line for work to be completed and remember to never pay full price up front.

Identity theft is the fastest growing financial crime in the nation. Identity theft is when someone uses your personal identification, such as credit card or social security number (SSN), to obtain something of value. How can you protect yourself? Never provide any personal, bank account or credit card info to anyone who solicits you by telephone or door-to-door. Shred all expired ATM and credit cards, old insurance forms, checks and pre-approved credit card applications that we all receive. When creating passwords or PINs, do not use the last four digits of your SSN, birthdate, address, phone number or anything that is easily discovered by thieves. Keep a list of all credit card account numbers and the

appropriate customer service contacts in a safe, secure location should you need them. You can monitor your credit reports for any fraudulent activity by calling 1-877-322-8228 or visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com).

Many inquiries to the Attorney General have to do with employee rights in the work place. All employees have the right to safe working conditions that do not put you at risk for illness or injury. To file a complaint, you can call OSHA at 1-800-321-6742 or visit [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov). If you are injured on the job, worker's compensation covers the resulting medical bills and lost wages. For issues with a compensation claim, call 1-877-632-4996.

For more information on these or other topics, the Office of the Attorney General can be reached at 1-800-771-7755 or online at [www.ag.ny.gov](http://www.ag.ny.gov). Their local Buffalo office number is 853-8400.

## 11TH ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Bring your blankets and lawn chairs, buy a few refreshments at the concession stand under the park shelter, and get a few split club tickets as you enjoy the "Sounds of Summer 2013"!

**June 27 Disco Duck** - Kick-off the summer in your platform shoes and dance to Disco!

**July 11 "Elvis"** - Award winning impersonator, Patrick Johnson, pays tribute to the late, great King of Rock-n-Roll by performing classic titles that will have you singing and dancing along!

**July 25 The Good Life** - New to the concert series this year, is this variety band playing Top 40 Pop, Rock, Party Favorites and old standards such as Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett & more!

**August 8 Stogie Brothers** - The Sloan boys are returning to Griffith Park to entertain us with fan-favs of The Beatles, Eagles, The Boss and more!!

Concerts are held at Griffith Street Park between 7:00 to 9:00pm. In the event of rain, concerts will be held inside at the Sloan Fire Hall.

## SLOAN'S 4TH ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC

Come join all your friends and neighbors for another year of great fun, games for all ages, and fantastic food! Hot dogs and pop will be provided. Please bring your favorite family dish to share with everyone as well as your own blankets and lawn chairs! There will be tables, chairs, and tarps set up to protect everyone from the sun or rain!! Bingo, water balloon toss, entertainment, a children's bounce house and more this year.....Hope to see everyone there again this year!!

**DATE:** Sunday, August 18, 2013

**TIME:** 2:00 PM—DUSK

**PLACE:** Griffith Park

**NOTE: THE PICNIC WILL BE HELD ON THE ABOVE DATE RAIN OR SHINE**

## VILLAGE WIDE GARAGE AND YARD SALE

On **Saturday, August 17th** - the Village of Sloan is inviting all residents to participate in a Village Wide Garage and Yard Sale. Clean out your basements, attics, sheds, or garages and make a few dollars in your own yard! Or you can rent an 8' table at the Fire Hall for the day at a cost of \$10, set up at 7am, doors open to public 8am. Reservations for tables are limited and can be made through Village Hall. Residents who plan on participating at their own homes can call Village Hall and provide us with your address. We will compile a list of the garage sales and distribute at the Fire Hall that day to any visitors.

# GRIFFITH PARK SUMMER ACTIVITIES

This summer all children or grandchildren of Village residents ages 5-12 years, are invited to participate in the weekly activities to be held at the Pool Shelter. Mark your calendars for the following events:

6/26/13 Pool Opens	7/24/13 Christmas in July	8/21/13 Earth Day
7/3/13 Celebrate the 4th!	7/31/13 Hawaiian Beach Day	8/28/13 Enjoy the end of
7/10/13 Tye Dye Day	8/7/13 Chalk Day	Summer with a Picnic in
7/17/13 Ice Cream Day	8/14/13 Sports/Game Day	Griffith Park!

All childrens' events will be between the hours of 12 noon—2pm. Each event day listed above will include special treats and crafts in celebration of that day! Just show your Village ID card or proof of residency.

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - GRIFFITH PARK—TUESDAY, AUGUST 6 - 6:30 PM

All residents are welcome to visit the exhibits by the Cheektowaga Town Police Dept & Squad Team. Bike registration also. Refreshments will be served. Entertainment will be Mark Cole as Elvis and the Kickin' Rhythm Cloggers. A flashlight walk will be led by the Sloan Fire Department at dusk.

## COMING SOON

This fall, a new event will be offered at the Sloan Fire Hall—BALLROOM DANCING! Class instruction will include the tango, the rumba, cha-cha, swing, and many others. If you have a partner, great! If not, don't worry, come alone and meet someone new! Our instructor has been teaching dance instruction for years! Classes will be held on Monday's beginning September 9th, between the hours of 6:30—8:30pm and will run for 6 weeks. If you are interested, please call Carol at 824-0504 for more information. You can also call Village Hall at 897-1560 to leave your name and phone number and your call will be returned.

Please remember that if you need an additional trash or recycling tote, they are available for purchase at Village Hall. \$45 for 95 gallon totes, \$42 for 65 gallon totes. Totes can be delivered if you are unable to take them with you.

## ST. ANDREW'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Weekend Extravaganza

**July 27** Theme Tray—Doors open at 5pm  
Drawing begins at 7:15pm—\$3 admission

**July 28** 11am Polka Mass featuring City Side Band / Krolick's BBQ Chicken dinner immediately after mass—pre-sale tickets @ rectory \$9 @ door \$9.50

**August 25** 1 pm Buffalo Bisons Game—  
tickets can be purchased from any Holy Name member or at rectory for \$6 (regular price \$12)

### 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