

# THE SLOAN CONNECTION

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE RESIDENTS INFORMED AND CONNECTED

SUMMER 2014

## FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR NIWINSKI

As across all of Western New York, the Village is entering its construction season. If you haven't had the opportunity to drive down Crocker Street, take a ride or a walk and see the improvements going on to the street. In May, we began the project with the removal of four large trees near Gates Street. Over the last two weeks, new curbs have been installed from Gierlach to Gates and next month, we will be replacing five storm drain inlets and

repaving the street. Once all work is complete, our Highway Department will plant grass and a few new trees.

Over on Halstead and Broadway, we installed a "Welcome to the Village of Sloan" sign on the lot where a vacant building was torn down in 2012. Our plans this year also include the demolition of an abandoned property on William Street, sewer work on Jackson Avenue and the installation of new playground equip-

ment in Griffith Street Park.

I encourage all residents to help your community by assisting elderly or disabled neighbors, whether by taking out their trash or giving them a hand with their lawns. By working together and taking pride in our neighborhoods, we can keep Sloan a beautiful place to live.

## FROM GENE BESZCZYNSKI, DPW CHIEF

Our department has had a busy spring; assisting with the Crocker Street construction project, preparing the parks and pool for next week's opening and maintaining grass at all Village buildings, parks, and numerous vacant properties.

We have compiled our list of sidewalk replacements for 2014 and we anticipate that project to

occur in the fall. If your sidewalk is in need of repair, please contact Village Hall to complete an inspection request, and we will make an assessment. If your sidewalk was lifted by a Village owned tree, we will add the repair to an upcoming years' list. If there is no tree in the vicinity, you would be responsible for the replacement/repair.

Lastly, in an effort to keep our storm sewers running optimally, we ask that residents not blow their grass clippings into the street. When it rains, the clippings get washed into the drains and block the flow of water, causing potential flooding in your neighborhood or even sewer backups into your basement.

## Sloan Senior Center

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, 140 Halstead Ave, 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.

You can join and become a member of the Senior Center and participate in all of its' events if you are at least 55 years old. There is a recumbent bike available in the center for members use. We also offer a variety of trips throughout the year for a fee. There are monthly special events and lunches for our members. Call Helen or Ed at 897-1389 for more information.

## FROM TAMMY BAYES, TRUSTEE

On behalf of the Board, I have been attending the Community Crime Prevention meetings conducted by the Cheektowaga Police Department. They are open to all Town and Village residents and I encourage everyone to attend. Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month from 7-8pm at the Alexander Community Center, 275 Alexander Avenue, behind Cheektowaga Town Park.

Our last meeting focused on the rise in vehicle break-ins or “car poppings”. Residents need to be vigilant about keeping their vehicles locked and their windows rolled up. Valuable items, such as GPS, cell phones, money, CDs etc. should be removed or hidden from view. In addition to making your car secure, you can also take steps to make your home safer. Keep bushes and trees trimmed

down, especially around your homes’ windows. Install a motion sensor light, or keep your outdoor lights on overnight. If you will be away for an extended period of time, have a neighbor or family member pick up your mail, and suspend delivery of your newspaper. Use of timers on indoor lights will make it appear that someone is home. Be Smart, Be Safe!

## FROM ALAN WIEBERG, FIRE CHIEF

With the weather finally improving, we have seen an increase in open burning in the Village. Although burning is allowed, residents must follow both DEC Regulations and our own nuisance laws. All fires must be

in a UL approved fire pit and only clean, untreated wood can be burned. A screen must be in use at all times, to reduce the sparks and ash from escaping, the fire should never exceed 3’ in height or be built within 10’ of any struc-

ture. A hose should be available in the event of an emergency and the fire must be supervised until extinguished. Following these simple guidelines will ensure your safety & that the fire does not become a nuisance for your neighbors.

## FROM DOREEN SPENCE, TRUSTEE

People often think that bullying is something that happens to children. Unfortunately, this isn’t always true. A bully can be a stranger or someone you know; neighbors, co-workers, volunteers, even family members. There are adults who also employ bullying tactics by being manipulative and intimidating. If you suspect someone is being bullied, here are some suggestions how to respond. Remember that the intimidation treatment is NOT your fault! Don’t blame yourself. If the bully has aroused strong feelings of anger, don’t let them see your reaction, they

feed off that. The only way they feel good is to make others feel bad because they are cowardly.

Often what makes a person a bully is the assumption that their target is a threat to them. By showing that you don’t intend harm towards them and are willing to be friendly, this could encourage positive responses. In some cases, assertive responses to the bully can work. Look them firmly in the eyes while standing straight, use an assertive tone in your voice and choice of words. If all else fails, get help from a trusted friend or family member.

Speaking to your doctor is an option if you feel the situation is impacting your health and well-being.

It’s not always easy to tell the difference between what is bullying and what might just be a bad day. Be charitable but do not tolerate persistent bad moods and bad behavior. Remember that repetitive actions could be a sign that you are being targeted.

Assertive behavior can be very effective if used in the early stages of bullying. However, if the bullying has been going on for a long time, it might be time to contact Social Services or the police.

## 12TH 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 2014"!

**June 26 JC Thompson** - Kick-off the summer in your cowboy boots and hats as we jam in the park with a mix of country and classics! In Addition: The Erie County Fair truck will be here with "I Got It" and giveaways for the 175th Erie County Fair in August!

**July 10 Disco Duck** - Dig out those platform shoes & relive the music and spirit of the Disco Era with these talented musicians! In Addition: Cheektowaga Police will be conducting bicycle registrations.

**July 24 George Black as Johnny Cash** - Honoring the late, great Johnny Cash and his timeless treasures "Ring of Fire", "I Walk the Line" and many more!

**August 7 Stogie Brothers** - Rounding out the summer concert series is our own Sloan boys returning to entertain us with the classic rock we all love!

Concerts are held at Griffith Street Park between 7:00pm and 9:00pm. In the event of rain, concerts will be held inside at the Sloan Fire Hall, except for the August 7th concert.

## SLOAN'S 5TH 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, duck races, a water slide and more to enjoy this year.....Hope to see everyone there!!

**DATE:** Sunday, August 17, 2014

**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 16th - 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! Residents who plan on participating can call Village Hall and provide us with your address. We will compile a list of participants addresses and distribute it at Village Hall the week before the sale, during regular business hours.

# 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:

6/26/14 Pool Opens	7/16/14 Ice Cream Social	8/6/14 Chalk Day
7/2/14 Celebrate the 4th!	7/23/14 Craft Day	8/13/14 Nature Day
7/9/14 Tye Dye Day	7/30/14 Hawaiian Day	8/20/14 Earth Day

All children's' 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 5 - 6:30 PM

All residents are welcome to visit the exhibits by the Cheektowaga Town Police Dept & Squad Team. Refreshments will be served. A flashlight walk will be led by the Sloan Fire Department at dusk.

### NEW HOPE CHURCH, 358 REIMAN ST

#### "Parking Lot Family Drive-In Nights"

June 28 "Fireproof" Rated PG  
July 12 "Courageous" Rated PG-13  
July 26 "Flywheel" Not Rated  
August 9 "Facing the Giants" Rated PG  
August 16 "Unconditional" Rated PG-13  
August 23 "Mercy Rule" Not Rated  
Lot opens at 8:30pm. Snacks & refreshments available for purchase. Movies run "Rain or Shine". All children should be accompanied by an adult. Everyone is welcome to attend!  
Worship Service held every Sunday at 10:45am

Ballroom Dancing comes to Sloan again! Classes will be offered at the Sloan Fire Hall. They will be held on Mondays (start date depending on interest) and will run for 6 week period. The fee will be \$10 each class. If you are interested, please call Village Hall at 897-1560 to leave your name and phone number or to get additional information.

### ST. ANDREW'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### Weekend Extravaganza

July 26 Theme Tray for 2014 Extravaganza  
July 28 11am Polka Mass featuring Special Delivery / Krolick's BBQ Chicken dinner immediately after mass  
September 26 5pm—? Mary Queen of Angels School will host a "Meat Raffle" in Parish Hall.  
October 5 Blessing of the Animals  
October 19 11am Polka Mass featuring Special Delivery / Krolick's BBQ Chicken or Rib Dinner / Red Cross giving flu shots

#### 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 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

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