

THE SLOAN CONNECTION

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE RESIDENTS INFORMED AND CONNECTED

WINTER/SPRING 2015

FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR NIWINSKI

This past November, the Village began Phase 1 of a sewer repair project on Jackson Avenue. The project encompassed replacement of approximately 70% of the sanitary laterals and several collapsed mains. Unfortunately, many trees had to be removed for the lateral replacements. This spring, our contractor will return for landscaping repairs to homeowners properties. The cost of Phase I was paid through Community Development funds and our General Budget. Phase II of Jackson Avenue will continue with the replacement of laterals, main and manhole repairs, as funds become available.

In November, the Board referred 3 properties to BENLIC (Buffalo Erie Niagara Land Improvement

Corporation) for acquisition. We have received confirmation that two of these three properties will be pursued at the Erie County REM auction in September by BENLIC. A prior property, 290 Atlantic Avenue, was purchased by BENLIC in 2014, and is in the process of being rehabilitated. Hopefully, it will be completed and sold to a new homeowner by fall of this year.

In other matters, our office has received several calls from residents inquiring as to the status of property tax rebates from the Village. One of the criteria of the NYS rebate program is for the Village to comply with the property tax cap of 2% in 2014 and 2015. Also, this year the Village must develop and implement a Government Efficiency Plan

(GEP). We have opted to join with other municipalities in Erie County as participants in a County-wide GEP.

I urge residents to keep their sidewalks clear of ice and snow for the rest of winter. We have mailed numerous letters to property owners regarding this law, but not everyone has complied. It is a danger to your neighbors, postal workers and students who are forced to walk in the street due to unshoveled sidewalks. If you have an elderly or disabled neighbor, consider giving them a hand with their snow removal. Our neighborhood is only as good as its neighbors!

REMINDERS

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 8. Don't forget to turn your clocks forward one (1) hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.

The winter parking ban continues through April 1, 2015 between the hours of 2am-7am. Violators will be ticketed or towed.

Anyone wishing to apply for summer employment in Youth Recreation must be 16 years or older. Please come to Village Hall during hours of operation to fill out an application.

With the time change, the Sloan Fire Department wishes to remind you to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

FROM THE SLOAN SENIOR CENTER

Did you know that the Sloan Community Center hosts the Erie County Nutrition Lunch Program every day? Meals are served at noon, Monday through Friday and the cost is a \$3.00 suggested donation.

If you are over the age of 60, you are eligible to participate in this worthwhile program. If you are 55 years old, you can become a member of the center and participate in all of the events or trips. You can at-

tend as little as one day a week. Spouses, even if under the required age of 60 can attend too. Call Helen or Ed Derenda at 897-1389 for more information on this or other Senior activities.

VILLAGE ELECTIONS INFORMATION

On Wednesday, March 18, 2015, the Village of Sloan will be having elections for 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. Trustee Tammy Bayes is seeking re-election for her own seat. Running along with Trustee Bayes this year for the second trustee position is Thomas Ferrucci. Please exercise your right to vote on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at the Sloan

Fire Hall between 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. Absentee ballot applications available till March 10, 2015.

TAMMY BAYES, CANDIDATE



For the past four years, I have served as your Trustee in the Village of Sloan. I am requesting your continuing support of this position on Election Day in March.

In 2005, my husband Steven and I purchased our first home on Lackawanna Avenue where we currently reside. After attending Villa Maria Academy

High School, I continued my education, receiving my Bachelors of Science in Commerce with a concentration in Accounting. My overall work experience is in accounting, budgeting, payroll, computers, and human resources.

Being involved within my community is something that I feel is important. My volunteerism began with the Village in 2007 when I became involved with the AVERT emergency team and then in 2009, earning FEMA certification as a member of CERT. It continued during the anti-dissolution movement in 2010, when I lead the Citizen's Study Group and worked diligently throughout the year educating our residents on the pros and cons of dissolution. After running a successful campaign against dissolution, I converted

the Citizen's Study Group into the Sloan Picnic Committee and the idea of an Annual Family Picnic to unify our community was born. During my tenure as a Village Trustee, I have worked with my peers on many projects; garbage/ recycling tote program, \$1.1 million sewer infrastructure repairs and 2 building demolitions. I am a member of the Wellness Committee and represent the Village with the Cheektowaga Police Community Crime Prevention Program.

I feel that my years of experience in many facets of the business world, as well as my ongoing commitment to our community, my ideas and innovative thinking will be a continuing asset to the Village of Sloan.

THOMAS FERRUCCI, CANDIDATE



My name is Thomas Ferrucci and I am running for the position of Trustee in the Village of Sloan. I am a lifelong resident of the Village and a Bishop Turner graduate. Being a local business owner for 35

years, I understand the needs and struggles of administration, field operations, proposals, bids and budgets. I feel that my experiences would be an asset in making good decisions towards the continuation of accomplishing great things for our Village.

For 5 years, I have been a member of the Village of Sloan Zoning Board, of which I have been the Chairman the last 2 years. By reviewing zoning requests, it has provided me with a good understanding of what our Village residents' needs are and has influenced my decision to become more involved within my community as a Trustee. I have witnessed many positive changes in our community while this Board has

been in office. Some of these include the capital sewer improvements, the purchasing of much needed equipment such as the street sweeper and maintenance vehicles, and also the recent involvement with the Erie County Land Bank and rehabilitation of our vacant homes.

My goal is to assist this Board by utilizing my lifelong experiences, adaptability and dedication to continue the move forward as we face numerous challenges ahead and work towards the betterment of our Village. I respectfully ask for your vote on Election Day.

WHAT'S NEW IN GARBAGE AND RECYCLING

In November, the Village extended our contract with Modern Inc. for garbage and recycling pickup. Notable changes include the increase of weekly "bulk items" from one to two that can be disposed of by each house (i.e. mattress, couch, furniture etc.). Also, in response to residents' concerns, Modern will now accept grass clippings and yard waste that are put to the curb in brown, paper lawn/leaf bags. They can still be bagged in plastic bags if they fit inside of your garbage tote. Branches and carpet must be cut in lengths of 4' or less, and tied/taped securely before being placed at curbside. Modern will not pick up any extra plastic trash bags located outside of your tote.

Other than electronics, if you need to dispose of excess trash, bulk items, construction debris or tree stumps, for a small fee they can be taken directly to the transfer station at 793 S. Ogden.

Their hours are Monday through Friday 7:00am to 10:00am and 1:00pm to 3:00pm and Saturdays 7:00am to 10:00am.

Under NYS Regulations, electronic waste (e-waste) must be recycled through an authorized recycling center only. Our highway department will pickup all electronic except for CRT televisions and CRT computer monitors. For proper disposal of those items, please contact the DEC at (518) 402-8678.

Since the tote program was initiated in December, 2012, we have seen a dramatic decrease, but not an elimination, of rodent sightings. It is important to keep your tote lids closed at all times to limit their food supply. Hopefully, the harsh winter we are experiencing will also help to reduce the rodent activity.

If you need additional garbage or recycling totes, they are available for purchase at Village Hall. The cost of a 95gallon garbage tote is \$45.00, and the cost of a 65gallon recycling or garbage tote is \$42.00. The totes originally issued by the Village are assigned by serial number to each property. Please do not interchange with your neighbors totes. Village Hall maintains an accurate list of all serial numbers. To assist in knowing which tote is yours, you can put your address on the outside of each tote, or on the inside of the lid. Please do not put your name on the tote, as they are owned by the Village and assigned to your address only.

If you have any questions, please call Village Hall at 897-1560 during normal business hours.

FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Cheektowaga Office of Economic and Community Development administers Community Development Block Grant funds provided to the Village of Sloan by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The primary goal of the Community Development Program is to develop and maintain viable communities with respect to housing, neighborhoods and economic opportunities. The

flexibility built into the CDBG Program allows communities to achieve program goals while addressing their local needs through a variety of ways.

The Village, through the Town of Cheektowaga, also receives federal funds for housing activities through the HOME Investment Partnership Act grant program. HOME funds must be

used for housing related activities such as housing rehabilitation, new construction and first-time home buyer assistance.

If you would like more information on available programs, please call 897-7200 or stop by the office, located at 275 Alexander Street, Cheektowaga.

FROM ALAN WIEBERG, FIRE CHIEF

Did you know...

* The Sloan Active Hose Company responded to 314 calls in 2014? That is a 20% increase over the prior year. 71% of calls were EMS, 29% were fire related.

* We responded to 73% of all calls in less than 2 minutes.

* Members received 2600 hours of training in 2014.

* Our department has 13 Emergency

Medical Technicians (EMT's), which require 140 hours of training to obtain certification in New York State.

* Visit our Department at www.sloanfd.org

5TH ANNUAL SOUP ON SUNDAY

Everyone's favorite Sloan event is back!! What better way to spend a cold afternoon with friends and neighbors while enjoying a variety of homemade soups and desserts! Funds raised support the 6th Annual Family Picnic at Griffith Park in August 2015! Remember, it's first come, first serve—be there early so you don't miss out on any of your favorites or new additions!

- DATE:** Sunday, March 1, 2015
TIME: 12:30 p.m. - Until all soup is gone
PLACE: Sloan Fire Hall, 55 Gates Street
DONATION: \$6.00 for adults / \$3.00 for ages 6-10 / Kids 5 & under are free

TAKE-OUT CONTAINERS AVAILABLE FOR \$3.00 EACH

Here's how it works: For your donation, you receive a bowl and spoon. You can sample as many of or as much of the soups that will be served. Bread, crackers and coffee will also be included. Canned pop and desserts available for purchase.

New Addition This Year: "Soup On Sunday" Cookbooks will be available for purchase at the event and at Village Hall after March 2

VILLAGE OF SLOAN CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 1— 5th Annual Soup On Sunday at Sloan Fire Hall 12:30 pm—until all soup is gone

March 18 — Village Elections at Sloan Fire Hall 12Noon—9:00pm

April 4— Easter Raffle & Magician at Sloan Fire Hall, 2:00pm, Proof of village residency required

NOTE: Sloan Active Hose Co #1 will be sending out their annual Fund Drive letters to all Village residents this spring. You can mail or drop your donation off in the drop box in front of the fire-hall. Firefighters will also be going door to door.

Board Meetings—March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9 - all meetings begin at 7:00pm

ST.ANDREW'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 15 — Annual Flea Market & Rummage Sale—Full kitchen menu available—9:00am-2:00pm, call rectory for more information

March 18—Lenten Soup Supper 6pm—call rectory at 892-0425 for reservation

March 20—Meat Raffle—call rectory for info

March 29 — Palm Sunday Breakfast with the Easter Bunny 9:00am-1:00pm, Donation: \$8 adults, \$3 5yrs & under.

April 4— Blessing of the Baskets, 12noon & 1:00pm

April 5— Easter Mass, 8am & 11am

June 14—Sloan Active Hose Co. #1 Mass, 8am

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