

THE SLOAN CONNECTION

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE RESIDENTS INFORMED AND CONNECTED

SPRING 2016

FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR NIWINSKI

Since our last published issue of the Connection in October, the Board has had numerous meetings with the NYS Department of Conservation (DEC) in regards to the Village's Order on Consent. The Order mandates the Village to develop and implement a comprehensive Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) abatement program. The ultimate goal of this abatement program is to eliminate infiltration of storm water into the sanitary system (which is costly to treat) and more importantly, sanitary water into the storm system. Every time the Village must put out the pumps during heavy rain/snow melt on Franklin and Wagner, we are pumping sanitary into the storm system. This raw sewage flows directly into the Buffalo River and Lake Erie.

With the assistance of our new engineering firm, we applied for and received a \$100,000 grant for assessment of our sanitary system. This grant covers items such as smoke testing, water dye testing, flow monitors and affiliated engineering costs. It does not apply to any capital costs of repairs or replacement of manholes, laterals, main sewer lines, etc. Our engineers have also been developing an Engineering Report which summarizes previous Inflow/Infiltration (I/I) investigations and corrective action work in the Village since 2003. The Engineering Report will further help us develop our Sanitary Sewer System Evaluation Survey

(SSES), Corrective Action Plan (CAP) and updated maps, as required by the Order. The SSES is a detailed investigation into the physical condition of the sanitary system to identify sources of I/I. The CAP will describe corrective actions such as sewer/manhole replacement, relining or spot repairs.

The Order further mandates that we conduct public education and outreach to our residents concerning the prohibition on residential downspouts and sump pump connections to the sanitary sewer system. All gutter downspouts should be draining directly onto your own property, and not illegally hooked to the sanitary system. Accordingly, your sump pump must be draining into a "bubbler" overflow storm system or onto your own property. For the past four years upon sale of a Village property, our Code Enforcement Officer has been inspecting storm drainage and sump pumps for compliance to this mandate.

The biggest question we have for the DEC and our local politicians is "How do we pay for all the corrective work that is in our Village's future?" Through meetings with Senator Kennedy and the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC), we have been advised of some Water Control grant money available in the State budget for this year and 2017. However, the grants will only pay for

25% of total project costs with the balance of monies coming from you, the taxpayers. The Order has the potential to be an extremely costly mandate to not only Sloan property owners, but every resident living in a municipality that is under a DEC Order on Consent (Cheektowaga, Buffalo, Depew, Lancaster, etc).

For our next sanitary sewer capital project in late 2016, we will continue the second phase of the Jackson Street repair, which will include the relining and/or replacing of mainline pipes and manholes where needed. The Village will fund this next stage using both budgeted monies and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

We will continue to keep you updated on these Orders and mandates in future issues of the Connection. If you have any questions or concerns, please attend one of our monthly Board meetings, held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm in Village Hall.

FROM GENE BESZCZYNSKI, DPW CHIEF

As a Department of Public Works, our small crew has the responsibilities of not just plowing our streets but also building maintenance, sewers, paving, lawn cutting and more.

Throughout October and November, our crew installed new playground equipment at Griffith Park. We first had to take down the old style swings, which will be moved closer to the basketball courts this spring, to make way for this equipment. The mild winter so far has allowed us to tackle other projects such as updates to the interior entrance of Village Hall. In response to recommendations to prevent Workplace Violence, the Board authorized the customer service counter be moved closer to the foyer, which allowed a wall to be

erected for added security. Numerous other municipalities are undertaking similar measures to protect their workers.

Under a shared services agreement with the Town of Cheektowaga, their Highway Department will be milling Boll Street from Lovejoy to Broadway, preparing it to be paved. We will notify everyone affected a few days before milling, as street parking will be prohibited during construction. Although this is an inconvenience for residents, it is a necessary improvement to the neighborhood.

In response to the DEC Order on Consent, this year our department will be assisting the engineers in evaluating our sewer manhole conditions throughout the Village. We will also begin a

five-year plan of flushing out both storm and sanitary lines to increase flow of water leaving the Village.

As always, we ask residents who have a storm sewer in front of their house, to remove snow to prevent water backup during melts. Our crew takes pride in keeping our streets plowed during winter, so please do not throw any snow into the street. Not only is this illegal, it creates a hazardous situation for drivers. Similarly, when spring arrives, we ask residents to not discharge grass into the streets when cutting their lawns. The cut grass gets picked up by rainwater and flushed into the storm sewers, creating blockage and potential backups into basements.

FROM ALAN WIEBERG, FIRE CHIEF

The Sloan Active Hose Co. No 1 had another busy year in 2015, especially during the day between the hours of 7am and 5pm, when 54% of all calls occurred. This timeframe can be difficult for manpower because most members work full time. We are very fortunate to have many dedicated residents who have recently joined our fire department. With the addi-

tion of these 4 new volunteers this past year, we have a solid crew answering calls during the day. Our current roster is now at 41. This is absolutely fantastic that we continue to grow!

We currently have 6 members taking the NYS EMT course, which is 140 training hours. EMT is actually more advanced than what our minimum requirement is. Also, 3 other members

are taking their NYS Firefighter I course to fulfill their firefighter training requirement. This course is over 120 hours and has some intense physical demands.

Village residents should be proud to know they have an extremely well trained and equipped fire department protecting them.

FROM DEBRA SMITH, VILLAGE CLERK & TREASURER

In 2012, our office submitted a "pre-application" to the NYS DEC for a 50% reimbursement on the purchase of 1500 recycling totes. It has been 3 ½ long years but we have finally received the approval to move forward with the actual grant

application. Once completed, hopefully we will receive some reimbursement before another 3 ½ years pass.

From Modern Inc., we have received our recycling totals for 2015. Our Village collectively disposed 536,000 pounds of recycling! That's an annual

average of 375 pounds per property. That is amazing!

Detailed recycling schedules are available for downloading on our Village of Sloan website at: www.villageofsloan.org.

TRASH TALK FROM MODERN DISPOSAL SERVICES.....

Did you know?.....

How many trees would be saved by recycling one ton of paper?

Each ton (2000 pounds) of recycled paper can save 17 trees, 380 gallons of oil, three cubic yards of landfill space, 4000 kilowatts of energy, and 7000 gallons of water. This represents a 64% energy savings, a 58% water savings, and 60 pounds less of air pollution.

How much plastic is recycled each year in the US?

In 2009, 2.12 million tons of plastics (of all kinds) were recycled in the United States. However, that was only 7.1% of all plastics generated in 2009. In 2009, the plastic bottle recycling rate reached a record high of 2.5 billion pounds, or 28% of all plastic bottles consumed in the United States.

Electronics Recycling.....

Take your electronics to a recycling collection—DO NOT place in your recycling tote or at curbside.

For a fee of \$25, Best Buy will accept the following: Tube TV's smaller than 32", Flat Panel TV's: LCD, Plasma, LED smaller than 50", Portable TV's

There is a limit of two (2) TV's per household per day.

Tote Placement.....

In order for your carts to be safely picked up during the winter months, they should be placed flat and not on top of a snow bank.

Leave space around your totes and other objects to improve collection efficiency. Place your recycling and

trash totes with the wheels toward your house. Please do not park in front of any totes.

Additional Concerns.....

Any construction debris must be disposed of at a small cost based on tonnage and taken to 793 So. Ogden St.

Any carpets must be cut down to 4' lengths, rolled and bound securely with rope or clear packaging tape.

Each parcel in the Village is allowed to put 2 large bulk items curbside per week. (ex: couch & recliner)

Upon the beginning of your Spring yard clean-up, you may place grass clippings, branches, or any other yard debris in large brown paper bags (available for purchase) outside of your trash totes if they do not fit inside of them.

REMINDERS.....

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 13. Don't forget to turn your clocks forward one (1) hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.

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

The Winter Parking Ban continues through April 1, 2016 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. Anyone aged 16 or 17 years

old, must bring working papers to apply. Please come to Village Hall during hours of operation to fill out an application.

Refuse & Recycling Collection will be on Friday, June 3rd due to the Monday, May 30th, Memorial Day Holiday.

FROM SLOAN SENIORS

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 attend 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.

6TH 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 7th Annual Family Picnic at Griffith Park in August 2016! 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, February 28, 2016
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, bottled water and desserts available for purchase. *"Soup On Sunday" Cookbooks will be available for purchase for \$5.00!*

VILLAGE OF SLOAN CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 28 6th Annual Soup On Sunday at Sloan Fire Hall 12:30 pm—until all soup is gone!

March 26 Easter Raffle & Magician Show at Sloan Fire Hall, 2:00pm, Proof of village residency required

May 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 firehall. Firefighters will also be going door to door for your donation.

June 12 Sloan Active Hose Co #1 Inspection by the Village of Sloan Board Members to be held in front of Sloan Fire Hall immediately following mass at St. Andrews Church

ST. ANDREW'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 4 Meat Raffle 5:30-Call rectory for info

March 9 Lenten Soup Supper 6pm, call the rectory at 892-0425 for reservation

March 13 Annual Flea Market & Rummage Sale, Full kitchen menu available, 9:00am-2:00pm, call the church rectory at 892-0425 for additional information

March 20 Palm Sunday Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, 9:00am-1:00pm, Donation: \$8 adults, \$3 5yrs & under.

March 26 Blessing of Baskets, 12noon & 1pm

March 27 Easter Mass, 8am & 11am

May 1 First Holy Communion 9am

June 12 Sloan Active Hose Co. #1 Mass, 8am