

THE SLOAN CONNECTION

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE RESIDENTS INFORMED AND CONNECTED

SUMMER 2019

FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR FERRUCCI

With every publication of The Sloan Connection, we provide an update on the most pressing matter facing the Village: sanitary sewer infrastructure. The Village is under an Order on Consent from the DEC to reduce Inflow and Infiltration (I&I). Last year, we applied for grant funding to assist in the estimated six million-dollar cost of mandated repairs. We were awarded two grants which will cover approximately 80% of the costs. The remaining funding will be financed through interest-free bonds, resulting in a minimal impact to our taxpayers. As we reduce the infiltration of stormwater into the sanitary system, our annual costs for sewer treatments will diminish. Based on the results of our engineers' house-to-house inspections and smoke testing, many property owners received letters requesting minor repairs to their vent/cleanout caps or downspouts. Several homeowners also received letters advising of their sanitary laterals cracking or collapsing, which allows rainwater to enter and tree roots to infiltrate the system. This fall and moving into 2021, sewer reconstruction, slip lining and manhole rehabilitation will be occurring throughout the Village.

The Village has recently contracted with NYSEG to convert all streetlights from High Intensity Discharge (HID) to LED later this year. These conversions are in line with New York's energy efficiency project "Smart Street Lighting NY", announced by Governor Cuomo last year. The program focuses on converting over 500,000 lights across the state, cutting energy use and saving taxpayer money. Our estimated annual streetlighting bill will decrease approximately 40 to 50%...money that can be used to provide critical municipal services to our residents.

On October 31, 2019, our Refuse & Recycling contract with Modern, Inc. is expiring. We have met with several service suppliers over the last six months to discuss the bid process, increasing costs, the future of the recycling market and more. There is a shift in the worldwide market resulting in low demand for recyclables and a cost for disposal instead of creating a revenue stream. Additionally, the cost for garbage collection and disposal is expected to rise substantially. The Board is reviewing options such as moving to a quarterly pickup of bulk items, extra bag

and bulk tagging systems, user fees for multi-unit apartments etc. In our fall issue of the Sloan Connection, we will outline the new procedures for both garbage and recycling taking effect in November. Although there will be some adjustments for our residents, we are making critical decisions to balance services with their cost to our taxpayers.

We invite everyone to Griffith Park for our Annual Concert Series, which begins on June 27th at 7:00pm. This is a bi-weekly event that continues until August 22nd. While at the park, visit our brand-new splash pad recently installed. We want to thank Assemblywoman Monica Wallace for her substantial grant funding towards this project. The annual Village-wide garage sale will be held on August 24th—please call Village Hall to register your address. On August 29th, we will be hosting a Veterans Event in Griffith Park from 4:30 to 9:00pm. Please review page four for more information. Hope to see you over the summer!

Thomas Ferrucci,
Mayor

FROM ROBERT SMITH, DPW CREW CHIEF

The past six months have been very busy for our Highway Department. Working with our engineering firm, we have completed inspections of every sanitary manhole in the Village to determine their condition and extent of needed repairs. Griffith Park has a brand-new splash pad for our youth, replacing the 55-year-old wading pool. Along with the new equipment, we have replaced the fence and concrete around the pad, outside the shelter and handball court, which doubles as a stage for our Concerts.

Every year, the Village of Sloan is allocated financial assistance through the Consolidated Highway Improvement Program (CHIPs) by New York State. These funds were used last year for Reiman Street reconstruction. This year, Blick Street and Atlantic Avenue, from Lovejoy to Reiman, will be paved. In the next few months, Erie County Water Authority will be replacing supply lines on Michael, Gierlach, Franklin and a portion of Gates Streets. Next year will see the much-needed paving of Gierlach and Michael.

We would also like to remind everyone that while mowing their lawns, to not blow the clippings into the street. During rain, the clippings wash into the storm drain and create blockages and potential backups to your and neighboring homes.

If you need to dispose of any old tires, they can be recycled at Geiter-Done, located at 300 Greene Street in Lovejoy.

SLOAN SENIOR RECREATION

If you are over age 60, you are eligible to participate in the Erie County Lunch Program. Meals are served at noon, Monday through Friday for a \$3.00 suggested donation. We meet at the Piekarski Community Center, 140 Halstead Avenue. If you are at least 55

years old, you can become a member and participate in all events. There are a variety of trips offered throughout the year for a nominal fee. Call Helen or Ed at 897-1389 for more info on daily activities such as Pokeeno, Bingo, exercise and more. Join us and make some friends!

Our Splash Pad Project would not have been possible without the generous support of Assemblywoman Monica Wallace. Working collaboratively with the Town of Cheektowaga Engineer Mark Christal, Town Highway Supervisor Mark Wegner, Supervisor Diane Benczkowski, Office of Community Development and Town Highway Department has made this project a success! A special thank you to our own Village Highway Department for all of their extra work and dedication to our community.

FROM ALAN WIEBERG, SLOAN FIRE CHIEF

On May 6th and June 8th, we held two public CPR classes and 35 people became certified in this life-saving technique. If anyone is interested in obtaining their certification, we will be scheduling an additional class this fall. For information on any upcoming training dates, member profiles and action pictures, please check our Facebook page at Sloan Active Hose Company #1.

In April, we received notice of a grant award from the NYS Department of Homeland Security for \$11,660. The objective of this grant is for Recruitment and Retention of members. Monies will be used for training opportunities, health and wellness initiatives and community outreach. We want to take this opportunity to welcome new members that have joined this past year: John Levinson, Autumn Weinrich,

Hunter Rose and Erik Bartus.

At our Annual Inspection on June 8th, we honored Dennis Rydzynski for his fifty years of membership in the Sloan Active Hose and Barry Ping for reaching his twenty-five year life membership. Both have served as past chiefs and continue to be involved in many aspects of our department. They are an inspiration and source of knowledge and experience for us all.

FROM ERIC CZUBAJ, YOUTH RECREATION

Summer is finally upon us and the Youth Recreation Department is gearing up for an event-filled few months. New this year is the much-anticipated splash pad at Griffith Park. The tentative date for opening is June 27th, pending the weather and completion of concrete and fencing. A Village I.D. card is needed and can be obtained for free at the shelter. You must have 2 current forms of residency, such as a report card and utility bill. If you are a non-resident, you can obtain a summer-use card for \$20.00. You must provide a small picture to obtain an I.D. card, as we do not have a cam-

era. For more information on day-use, please see a park attendant. Park hours are Monday through Saturday, 11:00am to 8:00pm, and Sundays, 11:00am to 4:00pm.

Returning for a second year is the Summer Lunch Program, which provides free meals to any child under the age of 18, regardless of residency. This successful program is made possible by the efforts of Mary Brucz, School District Food Service Manager and through an initiative by the State Education Department. Meals are available Monday through Friday, from 11:45am through

1:45pm. The program will kick-off on July 8th and continue through August 16th.

Our Youth Rec team has organized "Theme Saturdays" for the summer. These fun craft events will be held from noon to 2:00pm in the shelter, rain or shine.

- July 6th- Independence Day!
- July 13th- Gardening Stones
- July 20th- Birdfeeders
- July 27th- Tie Dye Shirt Day
- August 3rd- Creatures of the Sea
- August 10th- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- August 17th- Creepy Crawly Day
- August 24th- Pirate Party!

SPLASH PAD IN PROGRESS



NOVEMBER, 2018 POOL DEMOLITION
JUNE, 2019 FINAL INSTALLATION



APRIL, 2019 WATER SUPPLY & DRAINS
JUNE, 2019 NEW CONCRETE & FENCE



SLOAN SUMMER EVENTS

The Sloan Arts Council is celebrating our 17th year of Concerts in Griffith Park. All are welcome to join us for a night of live music, refreshments and dancing! Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy an evening out with friends & neighbors.

Concerts are every other Thursday from 7:00 to 9:00pm as follows:

June 27th– Alibi Pass July 11th- Swift Kick
July 25th- Yank the Cover August 8th- Disco Duck
August 22nd- Crash Cadillac

THE VILLAGE-WIDE GARAGE SALE WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 24TH FROM 8:00AM TO 2:00PM. IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN HAVING THEIR ADDRESS ADDED TO THE LIST, PLEASE CONTACT VILLAGE HALL AT 897-1560 TO REGISTER BY AUGUST 21ST.

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL FRIDAY THE WEEKS OF BOTH INDEPENDENCE DAY AND LABOR DAY. PICKUP WILL BE ON FRIDAY, JULY 5TH AND FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2019. GRASS CLIPPINGS MUST BE INSIDE OF GARBAGE TOTE OR IN PAPER LAWN/LEAF BAGS.

Honor Our Veterans

August 29th from 4:30pm to dusk in Griffith Park

New this year to our residents and the surrounding communities, the Village of Sloan and Arts Council is hosting an event recognizing our Veterans and the service they have provided to our country. The Frank L. Gierlach American Legion Post #1320, AMVETS Post #4572 and the Donovan Post #1626 will be holding a membership drive. Information booths by the VA Outreach, Erie County Thank-a-Vet Program, Veteran's One-Stop, Cheektowaga Veterans Committee, Buffalo Honor Flight and the Purple Heart Registry will be available. Live music performances by "Strumming Your Six String Ensemble" and "Super Charger" bands. Refreshments will be available and for the kids: Patriotic Face Painting by Brandi and a Bounce House! Fireworks at dusk, graciously donated by Skylighters of New York.

ST. ANDREW'S SUMMER EVENTS

June 23rd– Strawberry Social in the rectory parking lot, hotdogs also available for purchase. Noon to ?

July 20th– Youth Group Car Wash: Cars \$5.00, Trucks/SUV's \$7.00. Interior Vacuum \$3.00. Hotdog/chips/drink meal- \$3.00. Event held in the rectory parking lot from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

July 29th through 30th– Vacation Bible School 6:00 to 8:00pm.

August 10th– Outside Mass and Family Picnic 4:00pm.

August 14th– Holy Day Vigil 7:00pm.

August 15th– Holy Day Assumption of Mary 9:00am.

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