

# THE SLOAN CONNECTION

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE RESIDENTS INFORMED AND CONNECTED

SUMMER 2016

## FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR NIWINSKI

Since the nationwide mortgage crisis in 2008, the Village of Sloan, similar to every municipality in Erie County, has been dealing with “zombie” properties- vacant homes that are tied up in lengthy bank foreclosures. Working closely with the Buffalo and Erie Land Bank (BENLIC), we have completely refurbished a home on Atlantic Avenue and it has been sold to a new family. BENLIC is currently working on another abandoned home on Wagner, which should be ready for sale this summer. Both of these properties were vacant in excess of four years. BENLIC has also assisted the Village financially in demolishing two other buildings, on William and Reiman Streets. On July 12<sup>th</sup>, the Board will be holding a public hearing on the demolition of 83 Roland Street. After the property is razed and BENLIC has completed a judicial foreclosure, the lot will be sold to a neighbor. Although we must follow our procedure outlined in Vil-

lage Code for condemned properties, BENLIC will reimburse us for all affiliated costs. This summer, the Board will be reviewing our vacant homes and making recommendations to BENLIC for future rehabilitation and/or demolitions.

As reported in the Spring issue of the Connection, we are progressing on our Order on Consent mandates from the Department of Environmental Conservation. The Order mandates necessary repairs to our sewer system to prevent Inflow and Infiltration (I&I). The Village has submitted a revised Corrective Action Plan (CAP) as required and are pending final approval by the DEC. Over this summer and fall, our engineers will be completing smoke and dye testing throughout the Village to determine areas in need of repairs, and illegal sewer connections. Illegal hookups are determined to be any sanitary being disposed of into the storm system, or storm connected to the sanitary system. On page two of the Connection, we have developed

a Q&A for residents to better understand the Order and what we can all do to reduce I&I.

As summer approaches, I hope to see all of you at one of our upcoming concerts in Griffith Park or the family picnic on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

### INSURANCE DISCOUNTS

Since we share the same zip code number with the City of Buffalo, it is very important that you check your automobile and homeowners insurance policies to make sure it shows Sloan, NY, NOT Buffalo, NY. Your annual premium is less if you are located in the Village of Sloan. If any resident needs a letter addressed to their insurance company validating that you are a resident in the Village, please contact us at 897-1560 or come in Mon-Fri during business hours.

## SLOAN ACTIVE HOSE CO NO 1—INSPECTION 2016



On Sunday, June 12th, the Sloan Active Hose Co. No.1 held its' annual mass at St. Andrew's R.C. Church followed by an inspection of the fire station, members, and equipment by the Village of Sloan Board. Thank you to all of our firefighters for your time, dedication and voluntary service to our Village and its' residents.

### ORDER ON CONSENT Q&A.....

#### **Q: What is a sanitary sewer?**

**A.** A sanitary sewer transports wastewater from your home/business to a wastewater treatment plant. Each property is connected by a lateral pipe into the main sanitary system. Owners are responsible for their own laterals. The Village is responsible for all main sanitary pipes.

#### **Q: What is a storm sewer?**

**A.** A storm sewer transports water that is generated from rain, ground water or snow melt and flows, via a system of pipes and culverts, directly into streams/rivers that carry it untreated into Lake Erie.

#### **Q: What is Inflow & Infiltration (I&I)?**

**A.** **INFLOW** occurs when rainwater is misdirected into the sanitary instead of storm system. The remedy for **INFLOW** is to remove improper connections to the sanitary system.

**INFILTRATION** occurs when groundwater seeps into the sanitary system through cracks or leaks in underground pipes. Cracks or leaks are caused by age-related deterioration. Most sewer infrastructure in our community is in excess of seventy years old.

#### **Q: What problem do I&I cause?**

**A.** I&I are a cause of sanitary sewer overflows and backups that may release raw sewage into your home and pollute Lake Erie. Overflow occurrences put public health at risk and violates state and federal environmental laws. There exists the additional costs to taxpayers of when clear storm water enters the sanitary system and is unnecessarily treated at a wastewater treatment plant.

#### **Q: What can our community do to reduce I&I?**

**A.** Residents can check their own homes or businesses for improper connections and make any necessary repairs. Both your sump pump and downspouts must be draining onto your own lawn area, and not connected to the sanitary system. Upon sale of a property, the Village now requires a storm drainage inspection be completed by the Code Enforcement Officer for improper connections.

## 14TH ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, and a few friends - buy a few refreshments at the concession stand under the park shelter - get a few split club tickets and enjoy the “Sounds of Summer 2016”!

**June 30 Disco Duck 7:00 to 9:00pm** Kick off the summer with one of our annual favorite bands as we relive the music and spirit of the Disco Era with these talented entertainers! Don't forget your dancing shoes!

**July 14 The Reminders 7:00 to 9:00pm** Enjoy the sounds of these Buffalo Music Award winners for best acoustic trio as they perform classic Beatles, Eagles, America & more of your favorites!

**July 28 Five Friend Wayne 7:00 to 9:00pm** Classic, southern rock and current pop hits are the specialty of this local band as they perform for us again this year!

**August 11 Crash Cadillac 7:00 to 9:00pm** Rock 'n Roll sounds from the 50's to the 90's will bring back all those memories as we wind down our 14th summer concert series for the year! All concerts are held in Griffith Park behind Sloan Fire Hall.

## SLOAN'S 7TH 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 21, 2016

**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 20th** - 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 at 897-1560 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 which opens on Monday, June 27. Mark your calendars for the following free events:

7/13/16 Hot Air Balloon Day

7/27/16 Under The Sea Day

8/10/16 Tye Dye Day

7/20/16 Pirate Day

8/3/16 Garden Day

8/17/16 Sidewalk Chalk 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 2ND, 6:00 PM

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

### ST. ANDREW'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**July 18-22** 6-8pm Free Vacation Bible School // **July 29, 30 & 31** Weekend Extravaganza — **7/29** Theme Tray Doors open 5pm/Drawing begins 7:15pm/\$5 admission—\$5/sheet Or \$10/3 sheets. **7/30** Bingo at 7:30pm. **7/31** Polka Mass 11am, Spaghetti Dinner at 12noon-presale tickets only // **Aug 15-19** 6-8pm Vacation Bible School // **Aug 20** 4pm Outdoor Summer Mass and Picnic // **Oct 2** 1:00pm Blessing of the Animals // **Oct 9** 11am Polka Mass & Polish Platter Dinner - presale tickets only. VNA Flu Shots available.

### RECYCLING ALL YEAR ROUND - DID YOU KNOW.....

Over 75% of what we throw away could be recycled. Please help protect the environment and learn what items are acceptable or not, together our efforts will make a difference.

**ACCEPTABLE:** Cardboard-can be cut into flat sections and placed next to tote, Paper bags, pizza boxes-wax paper sheet must be removed, junk mail envelopes, flyers, brochures, postcards, paper board not wax coated-cereal, cracker, cookie

boxes, newspapers with no rubber bands, strings, or bags, magazines, catalogs, paper, phone books, empty steel/tin cans, empty clear bottles/jars, empty plastic jugs, bottles, household plastic containers like mayo, salad dressing, margarine tubs, mustard, ketchup, kitchen cookware, metal pots, pans, tins, utensils, large rigid plastic items like: lawn chairs, kitty litter tubs, 5 gallon plastic buckets, children's large plastic toys.

**UNACCEPTABLE:** Styrofoam containers or packaging, wax coated juice/milk containers, household garbage, paint cans, medical waste, batteries, flammable liquids, household cleaners, wood items, concrete, garden hose or rubber items, electrical cords, tires, branches, yard waste, grass clippings, light bulbs, dishes or ceramics, plastic grocery store bags, pool liners, tarps, covers, propane tanks, plate glass, mirrors.

### DOOR - TO - DOOR SOLICITORS

Are you annoyed when door-to-door solicitors come knocking? If the answer is yes, please call Village Hall and request that your address be added to the "No Solicitors" list we maintain. This list is provided to every person who is granted a solicitation

permit from the Village. You have every right to ask a solicitor for proof of a Sloan issued permit. If they are unable to provide one, contact Cheektowaga Police Dept at 686-3501. Do not be pressured into providing copies of your utility bills

to anyone under the pretense that they will be disconnected. Never let a solicitor in your house and if you feel you are being pressured or they will not leave, call 911 immediately. The only exception to the permit requirements is for religious organizations.

THE SLOAN CONNECTION IS PUBLISHED SEASONALLY BY VILLAGE HALL. IF YOU HAVE A STORY, HISTORY, PHOTO OR COMMENT THAT YOU WOULD LIKE CONSIDERED FOR FUTURE PUBLICATIONS, CONTACT VILLAGE HALL. ALL ARTICLES PRINTED AT THE DISCRETION OF JAMES T. NIWINSKI, EDITOR AND ARE SUBJECT TO SPACE. **NOTE:** ANYONE KNOWING SOMEONE WHO LIVES OUT OF TOWN WHO WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AN E-COPY OF THE SLOAN CONNECTION MAY PROVIDE THEIR EMAIL ADDRESSES TO WEBMASTER @VILLAGEOFSLOAN.ORG.