

# THE SLOAN CONNECTION

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE RESIDENTS INFORMED AND CONNECTED

FALL/WINTER 2021

## FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR THOMAS FERRUCCI



As summer winds down, the installation of curbing and storm drainage improvements on Grat-tan and Lehigh is wrapping up. After slip-lining is completed, these two streets, along with Michael Avenue, should be milled and paved before winter sets in. We have begun televising areas of the Village that are next on the list for construction and/or slip-lining. It was noted that some sewers have build-up of grease or debris, which results in decreased flow for storm water leaving a neighborhood. Although our DPW does flush the sewers on a rotation basis, our residents can help by preventing "Illicit Discharges". Any discharge that is not composed entirely of storm-water creates pollution in our rivers, Lake Erie, and ultimately into our drinking water. You can protect our water quality by never dumping anything or blowing grass/leaves/debris into the storm drains. A good motto is "Only rain in the storm drain". To report a suspected stormwater violation, contact the DEC at: 1-844-332-3267.

As Western New York has experienced a record-setting rainfall this summer, I have discussed our recent flooding with our Engineer, who has made the following recommendations to all property owners:

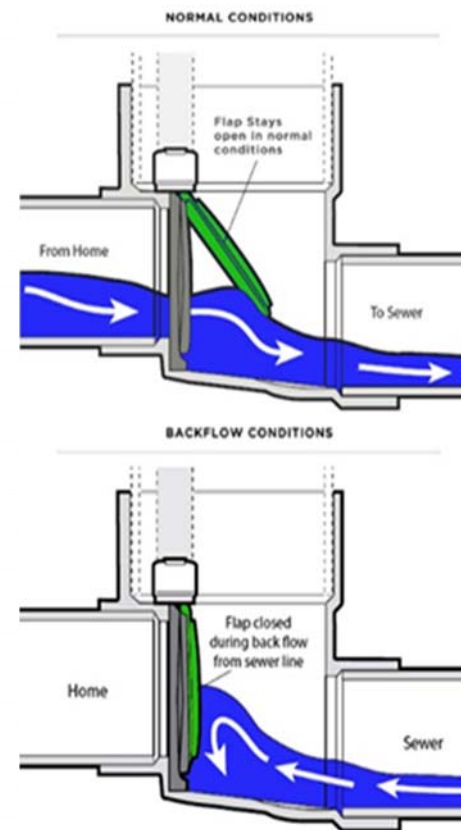
\*Clear gutters of all debris, and downspouts should drain to a grassy area, as driveways and sidewalks can ice in the winter.

\*All Sump pump hose discharge should be a minimum of 10' from your foundation and drain on a grassy area to avoid icing.

\*Clean your sanitary lateral.

\*Install a plug or permanently cap any open basement floor drains.

\*Install a sanitary backwater flow device (picture below) or shut-off valve in your basement.



\*If your yard has standing water, you may need to install exterior drain tile to assist in water flow away from your foundation. Building up the soil around your foundation will also be

beneficial and ground cover will control soil erosion. The Village Engineer will be present at our next Work Session on October 27th at 5:30pm (via Face Book Live) to discuss these recommendations for property owners and progress of the sanitary sewer project.

In August, we finally saw the demolition and removal of the structure at 2331 Broadway at Crocker. I want to thank our residents for their patience in this process, which was prolonged by Court closures due to COVID. I would also like to thank our Code Official, Vince Ferraraccio and Clerk Debra Smith who facilitated the demolition with the foreclosing bank, County Clerk Kearns and the WNY Law Center.

In keeping with the Villages long-term equipment plan, the Board approved the purchase of a new fire truck and two plow trucks at the October 12th meeting, replacing twenty-year-old vehicles. Utilizing some capital equipment reserve monies and fund balance, the payments will have no impact on your tax levy. Long-term financial planning of large purchases works!

I hope to see you at the Halloween Parade on the 30<sup>th</sup>!

*Thomas Ferrucci,*  
*Mayor*

## FROM ERIC CZUBAJ, DEPUTY MAYOR & RECREATION DIRECTOR

Our third summer with the Splash Pad has drawn to a close and has again been enjoyed by so many of our youth- both Sloan families and from the surrounding community. As the Town of Cheektowaga only operated one of its three pools, we experienced a rise in usage by non-residents. Based on this expected increase, the Board made the decision in June to not issue annual passes and limit the number of non-resident day-use passes, which allowed unrestricted access for Sloan

youth while generating revenue for the Village. Our new Recreation Supervisor, Michele, continued the Saturday craft events while the free breakfast/lunch program, provided in conjunction with the Cheektowaga Sloan school district, served over 1500 free meals in July and August to children in our community.

The Sloan Arts Council, after a year hiatus, provided its 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Concert Series in the Park. The summer went out with a flourish

on August 19<sup>th</sup> as we honored our Veterans and celebrated the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Village of Sloan. The event was organized by my fellow Trustee, Paula Bruscani, and resident Greg Szarpa. They led a committee who organized a large group of volunteers and vendors; providing Veterans services, food, music, entertainment and fireworks. Thank you to everyone who made this event such a huge success!

## FROM ALAN WIEBERG, FIRE CHIEF

We have some exciting news! At the last Village Board meeting the contract was signed to purchase a new fire engine! The new Engine 2 will replace our 2003 American LaFrance Rescue Pumper. Our members felt the best option functionally and financially is to build a "twin" of our current Engine 1. Having twin engines will dramatically reduce the learning curve for our members as they will drive and operate exactly the same. We are

also looking to modernize our extrication equipment which was a deciding factor to build a twin rather than a more expensive, larger rescue pumper. The current Engine 2 will be 20 years old when its replacement will be delivered as production time is approximately 14 months. We will share any updates on the progress of the new engine on our Facebook page, Sloan Active Hose Company #1.

## TO ALL RESIDENTS:

Please make sure your HOUSE numbers are a minimum of 4" in height and clearly visible from the street. This request is to avoid any delay in response time from a police officer, fire department or any emergency response vehicle.

If you have a fire hydrant near your home, we ask that you keep it clear of ice and snow this winter. This will save us valuable time during an emergency and could make the difference in saving a structure or a life!

## SLOAN SENIOR RECREATION NEWS

The Sloan Seniors are planning a day trip on Monday, October 25th and are inviting anyone who would like to join them! It's autumn in the Southern Tier and they are off to enjoy some gaming & slots, scenery & Spragues Maple Farms! First stop will be the Allegany Casino where you will receive \$25 FREE slot play during your visit, with dinner to follow at Sprague's Maple Farm Restaurant. You can request your

meal choice option when making your reservation. The meal choices are: Roast Turkey Dinner or Sprague's St. Louis style BBQ ribs!

The bus departure will be at 9:30am from the Sloan Senior Center, 140 Halstead Avenue, and will return at 6:30pm. The cost for Village Senior residents is \$35. Cost for Non-Residents is \$70. Anyone interested in attending or

for more information please call Ed or Helen at the Sloan Senior Center on any Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, 9am-1pm at 716-897-1389. The last day to sign up is Wednesday, October 21st. NOTE: Masks covering nose & mouth are required on board the motor coach. The group will follow local, state and federal guidelines for the safety of both employees and guests..

**TRASH, TRASH, AND MORE TRASH....**

The Village of Sloan is entering our third year of a five-year contract with Waste Management (WM) for the pickup and disposal of both trash and recycling. The most questions we receive concern the proper disposal of bulk items. Bulk waste is picked up the 4th full week of each month- this occasionally may be the first Thursday of the following month. Upcoming bulk days are October 28<sup>th</sup>, November 26<sup>th</sup>, and December 30<sup>th</sup>. WM mails a schedule to every address in December or you can check our website for more dates. A “bulk” item is too large to fit inside of your trash tote- furniture, dressers, couch, chairs etc. Mat-

tress, box springs and toilets are acceptable ONLY if wrapped or bagged- this is to protect the workers from contamination. Carpet and padding must be cut to less than 4’, rolled and securely tied/taped. Our contract with WM does not allow for construction material, but small amounts of wood can be cut down to fit INSIDE of your trash tote. Extra bags are not allowed at any time as WM utilizes a hydraulic arm and they are not considered bulk items. Grass clippings and yard debris must be placed inside of the trash tote but leaves can be raked onto the headland for pickup

(see message below). Bulk item collection does not include hazardous waste, tires, tv’s or any material covered by the NYS Equipment Recycling and Reuse Act. Residents can also opt to purchase a “bagster” if they are moving or have excessive trash from a construction project. They can be purchased at many retailers and hold up to 4 tons of debris. Once filled, you contact WM and they will pickup and charge you, based on tonnage. Christmas trees can be put out at curbside weekly as our Highway Department will retrieve them up to January 13<sup>th</sup>. As the Christmas and New Year holidays occur on Saturdays, it will NOT affect our garbage days.



Village Trick-or-Treating will be on Saturday, October 30th this year- celebrated on Beggar’s Night at the request of many parents as it is a non-school night. The festivities will begin at 6:00pm, when the Sloan Fire Department will lead our parade of little ghosts, goblins, witches and princesses from St. Andrews’s Church to Village Hall for Trunk and Treats. Trick-or-Treating will be until 8:00pm that evening. Be safe- have your little ones carry a flashlight or apply some reflective tape to their costume. If you’re out driving- watch for children crossing the streets!

**WINTER PARKING, HOLIDAY SCHEDULES AND MORE...**

**Overnight parking ban goes into effect November 15 until April 1.** There is no parking on any Village street from 2:00am until 7:00am to allow for plowing and salting. Overnight parking is available in municipal owned lots: Griffith Park near the tennis courts, Village Hall and the Fire Hall. Stop by Village Hall to obtain your free parking pass and bring your license plate number.

**Village Hall and the Department of Public Works will be closed on:**  
 November 25th & 26th for Thanksgiving  
 December 23rd & 24th for Christmas Eve and Day  
 December 30th & 31st for New Years Eve and Day

**The Frank L. Gierlach Post**, located at 50 Gates Street, will be holding a drop off food drive on Thursday, December 16 after 6pm for any needy families in the Village of Sloan. All non-perishable items: canned goods, cereals, boxed goods (rice, instant potatoes, pasta, etc) would be greatly appreciated. If you know of a family in need, please call 716-896-2954 and leave a message.

Please rake all leaves to the headland area, between the street and sidewalk. DPW will be around to pick them up on a rotating street basis- no need to call, we will get them! The DPW takes pride in its snowplowing- do not blow or shovel snow into the street as it creates a safety hazard for drivers. If you hire a snow plow service, they must obtain a permit from Village Hall. This protects you as the property owner from any damage they may cause.

**October is Fire Prevention Month**  
 We want to remind our residents the importance of having working smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, on every level of the home, including the basement. CO detectors are required on every level where there is a fuel burning appliance. Please be sure to take the time to check and replace all batteries in your detectors! **DETECTORS SAVE LIVES !!!**

**Need some adult only time to shop for the Holiday?**  
 On December 11th, we will provide a free child-sitting service at the Sloan Community Center so parents and guardians have an opportunity to help Santa stock their Christmas tree! The service will be FREE to Sloan residents. Interested in participating? Check the website after November 1st for info or email Trustee Kregg at [Jennifer.kregg@villageofsloan.org](mailto:Jennifer.kregg@villageofsloan.org)

## 12TH ANNUAL SOUP ON SUNDAY NEWS

Everyone's favorite event is back again in its "less-than-traditional-format of drive-thru take-out" only! The Soup On Sunday Committee has reserved Sunday, March 6, 2022 as the event date to be held at the Sloan Fire Hall, 55 Gates Street. Due to the rise of COVID cases, the event planners have decided to keep the pre-order format the same as last year also. Desserts will be available for purchase at the time of pick up. Please watch for more information after the first of the year!

## \*\*\*\*\* REMINDER \*\*\*\*\*

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 7th at 2am. Don't forget to turn your clocks BACK one (1) hour before you go to bed at night on Saturday, November 6.

## SLOAN COMFORT CARE HOME

Halloween Trick or Treat! Come one, come all on Saturday, October 23, 4pm-7pm to 17 Gierlach St. for some early Halloween candy treats!

Raffle tickets for sale! \$25 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$100. First prize is \$1750, 2nd prize is \$500 and 3rd prize is \$250. Drawing will be on October 23 at 6pm. If interested, call Charlie at 716-931-5011 to place your order!

## SLOAN LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

The Sloan Little Free Library celebrated its' First Anniversary on September 22, 2021!! It is used by adults and children of all ages! Resident donations of slightly used books and DVD's continue to be dropped off at Village Hall and our Volunteer Librarian, Mary, is continually changing books around, both inside and outside! We encourage residents to borrow, return, donate or keep any material from the library! Keep On Reading Villagers!!!

## ST. ANDREW'S EVENTS CALENDAR

**October 28th** 7:00pm Youth Group Virtual Meat Raffle Live on St. Andrews, Sloan, NY Facebook Page

**November 25th** 9:00am Thanksgiving Day Mass

**December 3rd** Christmas Concert in Church- TBA

**December 12th** 9:00am-1pm Breakfast with Santa  
5:00pm Remembrance Tree Service

**December 13th** 7:00pm Advent Penance

**December 24th** 4:00 and 10:00pm Christmas Eve Masses

**December 25th** 8:00 and 11:00am Christmas Mass

**December 31st** 4:00pm Holy Day Vigil Mass

**January 1st** 9:00am Holy Day Mass

NOTE: For any additional information or updates, please contact St. Andrew's Church at 892-0425.

## 14TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BASKET RAFFLE

Since 2008, the Village office staff has organized this basket raffle to benefit our families in need. Over the years we have helped numerous Village families during the holiday season. Our sources of names have been obtained through word of mouth from neighboring residents who may know of any family or senior member of the community who could use some extra help. We have also worked in conjunction with the Gierlach Post to assure as many families as possible receive assistance. Baskets and gift cards are graciously donated from local businesses, residents, employees, DPW, and Sloan Fire Dept. All monies raised are used to purchase gift certificates from Camillo's and Wal-Mart which are sent to Village families most in need. If you are interested in donating a basket or gift card, or

know of a family in need, please call Karen or Debbie at 716-897-1560. Prices are one sheet of 25 tickets for \$5 or five sheets of tickets for \$20. Ticket sales will be available for purchase on December 1 at Village Hall. Drawing will be on Facebook Live, Monday, December 20, Time TBA on the Village Facebook page. All winners will be contacted after the drawing.

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