

THE SLOAN CONNECTION

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE RESIDENTS INFORMED AND CONNECTED

SPRING 2023

FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR THOMAS FERRUCCI

On February 17th, Village Hall staff and I attended the Annual State of The Town address hosted by the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce. Supervisor Benczkowski focused on the progress the Town has made in commercial development, services provided and the amazing heroics of our First Responders during the December blizzard. Attracting new business to a community results in benefits beyond expanding our property tax base. It creates local jobs and generates revenue. For our Village, we have been working towards a revitalization of our "Broadway Business Corridor" which stretches from Harlem to the Buffalo City line. In the past three years, two vacant houses were demolished to accommodate the expansion of the Sunoco Gas Corner Market. The same owners have purchased the vacant property at 2307 Broadway and plan a retail space development. This month, we welcome Sweet Temptations Bakery and Coffee Shop at 2095 Broadway, and recently received notice that a Village resident will be purchasing 2055 for a new restaurant. Lastly, a complete rehabilitation and new office space is underway at the prior T&D Ceramics. Revitalization of existing or under-used properties removes neighborhood blight,

creates jobs and helps our community prosper.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to commend our Sloan Fire and Highway Departments for their outstanding response during the December blizzard. Every employee and volunteer worked together, responding to stranded motorists, search and rescues, snow removal and so much more, all under extremely dangerous weather conditions. Hats off to each and every one of you who gave up Christmas with your families to keep our Village safe!

After sixteen months, our brand-new truck was delivered to the Sloan Fire Department! The Rosenbauer Engine is a twin to the 2018 E-1, and has been placed into service. Our 2004 American LaFrance engine was purchased by a Fire Department in Maine, where it will serve the Town of Prospect.

Due to manufacturer delays and supply issues, we are still waiting for our two new plow trucks to arrive, hopefully by late fall of 2023 and before winter arrives.

This past January, our Attorney James Vallone passed away unexpectedly. Jim's extensive municipal experience for both the Villages of Sloan and Depew, as well as his Judgeship in the Town of Cheektowaga will be greatly missed.

I would like to extend a welcome to our newest highway employee, Matthew Hinckley. He and his wife, Rachael, own a home in the Village where they are raising three daughters. Welcome to the team Matt!

We hope to see you all at the 13th Annual Soup-on-Sunday being held on March 5th!

Thomas Ferrucci, Mayor



On Tuesday, March 21, 2023, the Village of Sloan will be having elections for two Trustee seats. Candidates that have submitted valid petitions have been asked to provide brief biographies of their accomplishments and goals for this publication. Please exercise your right to vote on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 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 to vote. Absentee ballot applications are available at Village Hall until March 14th.

CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES FOR VILLAGE ELECTIONS—TWO TRUSTEE POSITIONS

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Hello Sloan residents. This is Trustee Linda Ostempowski. I am running for re-election this year in March. For those that do not know me, my husband Peter and I are not only lifelong residents of Sloan, but his family was one of the original families here. His Uncle even being one of the first Mayors in the Village. We both attended J.F.K. high settling in Sloan and raising our two children. Peter worked for Yellow Freight until he retired, and now keeps the grounds of St. Andrew sparkling. I was a food broker for Smith hams of Erie, PA until I retired, and now since becoming Trustee have been involved in various projects for the Village. Along with Deputy Mayor Czubaj we have been working on the betterment of Wrazen Park for our residents across the bridge. I have had the privilege of spearheading two Village plant sales. The proceeds from the first sale were able to get us a "Tree for the Village" and our second sale proceeds bought us pickle ball equipment for the up and coming new park facilities. Last year and this I am spearheading, along with help from the Arts Council Memories in Stone an ongoing project for a memorial walkway of engraved purchased stone memorializing loved ones, events etc.

I have also had the honor of representing Sloan at various functions for the Veterans, Police and Fire department. So as you can see, my roots and my love for Sloan run deep. Sloan has my heart. Thank you, residents. Hopefully see you for a snack at the shelter at our great concerts in the park.

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My name is Michele Kramarsyck and I am a lifelong Village of Sloan resident. Growing up on Blick Street, I attended St. Andrew school, then graduated from John F. Kennedy in 2000. Attending Villa Maria College, my main focus of study was business and graphic design. While maintaining a high GPA, I was a member of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society while involved in many other activities. After graduation, I worked as a store manager for a national retailer, increasing my knowledge of payroll, budgeting, and office management. Residing in our Village with my husband of seventeen years and our four, beautiful children, I am an active volunteer with St. Andrew Church and the Cheektowaga-Sloan School District. Serving on the Village Zoning Board of Appeals since 2019 has provided me with a better understanding and appreciation of our residents' needs. Over the last two years, I have held the position of Sloan Recreation Supervisor, overseeing the post-pandemic reopening of the youth center, managing our social media platform and employee scheduling. I successfully initiated a summer reading program to keep our children school-ready, as well as continued engagement on a daily basis to encourage healthy outlets. In 2022, I worked closely with Deputy-Mayor Eric Czubaj throughout the rehabilitation of the Griffith Park Sports Courts. I have many ideas to help facilitate activities, events and updates to our parks, community center, Youth and Senior Departments; strengthening our community for the future. As Trustee, I will be an asset to the Board with my fresh outlook and innovative thinking. My goal is to implement improvements for our Village, leading to the betterment of our community and residents as a whole.

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After growing up in our Village and graduating from JFK in 1984, I enlisted in the United States military. I served 25 years in the US Army National Guard and Marine Corps, completing a thirteen-month tour of combat duty in Iraq in 2004/2005. Throughout my military career, I earned numerous Awards and Commendations for outstanding conduct and service during our Global War on Terror. After retiring with honors as a Staff Sergeant, my daughter, Brittany, and I returned to live in Sloan.

In 2010 and 2011, I held the position of Youth Recreation Supervisor in our Village. After Brittany graduated from my alma mater, we made the difficult decision to relocate to Florida for employment opportunities. I began my second career as Parking Department Supervisor for the City of Madeira Beach. This broadened my knowledge of budgeting, supply management and personnel; providing opportunity to work with their Public Works, Recreation, Code Enforcement and the Fire Departments. After experiencing Hurricane Ian and Nicole in 2022, my daughter and I chose to return home to the Village we love. Currently, I am employed as a Business Administrator for a local firm and have rejoined as a member of the Frank L. Gierlach American Legion Post 1320.

Through my Military career and work experience, I have developed strong leadership abilities and as your new Trustee, know I can be an asset to our community. My goal is to work closely with Mayor Ferrucci and my fellow Board members, assisting them with both ongoing projects and bringing new ideas to the table.

I have proudly served our country, and now, want to serve the residents of the great Village of Sloan.

FROM ERIC CZUBAJ, DEPUTY MAYOR & RECREATION DIRECTOR

This past November, we officially reopened our Winter Youth Recreation program at its new location, in the downstairs of the Community Center on Halstead Avenue. The move plan was developed and overseen by Michele Kramarsyck, our Youth Recreation Supervisor. Our Highway Department was instrumental in painting, running electrical for the exercise equipment, moving furniture, foosball, air hockey tables and more. The program operates every Friday from 6:00 to 9:00pm and Saturdays, 12:00 to 6:00pm. The Griffith Park Sports Courts are near completion

with only pavement lining remaining. Late autumn, our contractor installed sidewalks along Griffith Street and inside the park connecting the two shelters. Through the generous grant money provided by Assemblywoman Monica Wallace, we are expecting delivery of eight new picnic tables, two of which are ADA compliant. Park Shelter B has deteriorated supports and will be rehabilitated when the weather cooperates. With the increased use of the park and splashpad, the rental of our shelters generates additional income for our Village

while providing our families an accessible facility for use. Every year, the Village receives Community Development Block Grant funding through HUD. These funds are limited to certain projects and LMI areas (Low-Mod Income). For our 2023 and upcoming 2024 funds, we will be investing in new Wrazen Park recreation equipment, replacing a 25+ year old playset. Our Easter Event will be on April 8th, 12:00pm at the Fire Hall...Chocolate raffle, refreshments and pictures with the Easter Bunny! Village resident ID will be required at door.

A FREE CPR CLASS will be offered by our Sloan Fire Department on Thursday, April 6, 2023. For more information or to register, please call (716)897-1564 or email sloanfd@sloanfd.org.

STOLAT!! Join the Frank L. Gierlach Post Ladies Auxiliary for a Dyngus Day Celebration on Monday, April 10th, 11am to 5pm at the Sloan Fire Hall! Live Polka Music from "PHOCUS" will keep the party festive! Cover Charge is \$10.00! Homemade Polish Food & Cash Bar available!

THANK YOU!! To Mike Serwacki from 2060 Auto Parts Inc and 2150 William Street LLC for your generous donation of \$1000 to our Annual Families in-need Christmas Campaign!! You helped make a difference to fifty families in our Village this past Holiday Season!!

NEW BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE VILLAGE!! Welcome to "Sweet Temptations by Arlene" Bakery and Coffee Shop! Located at 2095 Broadway, hours will be Tuesday through Saturday 9am-6pm! Special order cakes will be available along with a daily variety of cupcakes, muffins, pastries, light breakfast items, assorted coffees and teas! **Support Local Businesses!**

AN AMENDED RECYCLING SCHEDULE FROM WASTE MANAGEMENT IS ENCLOSED WITH THIS PUBLICATION. PLEASE DISREGARD THE EARLIER SCHEDULE MAILED TO EACH PROPERTY THIS PAST DECEMBER AS THERE WAS AN ERROR.

- *Daylight Savings Time begins March 12th – Don't forget to turn your clocks AHEAD one (1) hour!
- *With the time change, Sloan Fire Department would like to remind all residents to change the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors!!
- *Turning 65 years old in 2023? NOW is the time to apply for Enhanced STAR. Deadline is March 1st!
- *The Overnight Winter Parking Ban continues through April 1, 2023 between 2:00 and 7:00am!!

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, PLEASE CONTACT VILLAGE HALL. ALL ARTICLES PRINTED AT THE DISCRETION OF MAYOR FERRUCCI AND ARE SUBJECT TO SPACE. **NOTE:** KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO LIVES OUT OF TOWN WHO WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AN E-COPY OF THE SLOAN CONNECTION? PROVIDE THEIR EMAIL ADDRESSES TO WEBMASTER@VILLAGEOFSLOAN.ORG OR VISIT WWW.VILLAGEOFSLOAN.ORG

13TH ANNUAL SOUP ON SUNDAY

Everyone's favorite Sloan event is back again this year!! Pre-orders and take-out only. The cost will be \$5.00/pint (16oz.). Purchase 4 pints, we will include two desserts FREE! Complete this form and return with payment to Debbie or Karen at Village Hall, 425 Reiman Street. Cash or check accepted! Pre-orders will be received until 4:00 pm Thursday, March 2nd! Pickup will be Sunday, March 5, 2023 from 12:00 to 2:00pm at the Sloan Fire Hall! Please mark the quantity of each soup you would like!

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Wing | <input type="checkbox"/> Stuffed Banana Pepper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Cordon Bleu | <input type="checkbox"/> Corn Chowder with Crab |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reuben Chowder | <input type="checkbox"/> Sausage & Chicken Jambalaya |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Split Pea | <input type="checkbox"/> Bacon Cheeseburger |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golambki | <input type="checkbox"/> Chili (Medium Heat) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loaded Baked Potato | <input type="checkbox"/> Czarnina - Pints Only |

****Desserts can be purchased the day of the event- \$1.00/plate****

TOTAL DUE: \$ _____ (Order # _____)

NAME _____

TELEPHONE # _____

PAID \$ _____ Cash ___ or Check ___ (Make Checks Payable to: Sloan Arts Council)

ORDER CAN BE PICKED UP ON SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023 AT THE SLOAN FIRE HALL, 55 GATES STREET. PLEASE BRING THIS RECEIPT WITH YOU, AS IT HAS YOUR ORDER NUMBER LISTED. THANK YOU!!! (Order # _____)