

# THE SLOAN CONNECTION

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE RESIDENTS INFORMED AND CONNECTED WINTER/SPRING 2020

## FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR FERRUCCI

2020 is shaping up to be very busy in our Village. After several years of engineering studies and developing correction action plans, we are moving into our Sewer Repair Phase 1. Phase 1 will include slip lining of 27,355 linear feet of sewer sanitary pipe throughout the Village. Slip lining is a process by which the contractor places an interior sleeve in the pipe, from manhole to manhole, and follows through with hot water. The water expands and hardens the sleeve, creating a solid liner in the pipe. Then, each homeowner's lateral that connects to the main is drilled out. Prior to work beginning on your street, you will be notified with information on what to expect that day. Phase 2 and 3, scheduled for 2021 and 2022, will encompass reconstruction of sanitary pipes that are too damaged or misaligned for slip lining and manhole reconstruction.

As reported in previous issues of the Connection, we have received grants in excess of \$4.5 million dollars towards this three-year project. For the Village's matching portion of the grant, we have been approved for a 0%, long-term loan from NYS.

We have been coordinating a project with Erie County Water Authority over the past year. In the

upcoming months, they will be replacing water supply lines on Gierlach, Franklin, Michael, Gates (east of Crocker) and Crocker (Gierlach to Gates). After this work is done, we will be milling and paving Michael St. and possibly more depending on the sewer repairs.

As every resident is aware, the Village has installed new energy-saving LED streetlights. I want to thank Deputy Mayor Eric Czubaj for taking over this project last year; visiting other municipalities that participated in the LED Program, reviewing quotes from several contractors and making the final recommendation to the Board. We have received generally positive feedback from residents but are addressing a few issues of defective fixtures or bulbs after install. If you have a light out near you, it can be reported directly to NYSEG at [www.nyseg.com](http://www.nyseg.com) or call Village Hall at 897-1560. You must know either the pole number or the address where the pole is located.

Years of indoor storage of rock salt has been damaging to the rear structure of our Community Center on Halstead Avenue. The corrosive salt has caused

the metal supports to rust inside the last garage bay and above the overhead door. In November, we ordered a new hybrid building to be installed at the foot of Roland Street for the purpose of salt storage. Within the next few weeks, ground will be broken as the foundation is prepped. By April, the new structure will be up and ready for use. Repairs will be made to the Community Center to continue its use as equipment storage for our Public Works Department. I would like to welcome David Stewart to our DPW as our new Laborer. Dave is a graduate of John F. Kennedy High School and began working for us at the end of January.

On the more entertaining side of things, we have the Soup-on-Sunday on March 1st, Annual Easter Event on April 11th, and the Sloan Arts Council has finalized their Concert Series for this summer. Additional information on these events can be located on the last page of this publication.

See you around the Village!

*Thomas Ferrucci*  
Mayor

## TRUSTEE ERIC CZUBAJ, RECREATION DIRECTOR

The Youth Recreation Center has an anticipated closing date of Friday, April 10th. Until then, we are open Tuesday through Friday, 3:30 until 7:30pm and Saturdays 12:00 to 6:00pm. It is a fun and safe place for your children to attend, as it is always staffed by our Attendants. On April 11th at 12:00pm, the Village will be

holding its Annual Easter Event. It is open to all residents under the age of 14 and Village I.D. will be required. The event kicks off with a show by Ted the Magician, followed by pictures with the Easter Bunny and a raffle of chocolate, baskets and even a huge stuffed bunny will be given away.

In May, we will be interviewing for seasonal employment at the Griffith Street Splash Park. Applications can be obtained from the Village website or at Village Hall and should be submitted by April 30th. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age and a Sloan resident.

## VINCENT FERRARACCIO, CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER



After many years of Housing Court with the owner, we have finally seen the demolition of 11 Halstead Avenue. At Mayor Ferrucci's direction, I took all legal steps necessary to condemn and raze the structure after the owner failed to follow through on a Court Ordered Demolition. The vacant lot will be pursued by the Buffalo, Erie & Niagara Land Bank for pur-

chase at the County auction in September and then will be sold for development. Property development in our Village expands the tax base and benefits all residents. The large lot on Harlem Road at William Street should also see some improvements this year. American Tire (WECO Tire) has submitted preliminary plans to construct a repair shop and conduct auto sales at that location. They are currently awaiting finalization of an EPA Brownfield Project for the site prior to building. Lastly, a new duplex is currently under construction on Halstead Avenue, where a home burned last year.

The Village is now participating in the "Zombie Task Force" instituted by Erie

County Clerk Kearns. The new "Zombie" Laws in NYS, places the responsibility of property maintenance on the foreclosing bank. Working with the Western NY Law Center, I have referred 3 properties in the Village to be registered with the Task Force and the Department of Financial Services, who is charged with enforcing the Zombie Laws. This is just another tool we have available to fight vacant and foreclosed homes.

If you are in jeopardy of bank foreclosure, do not leave your property until you speak with the WNY Law Center at 855-0203. They will fight on your behalf with your bank to keep you in your home. And, the service they is FREE.

The Erie County Health Department offers FREE services to our residents, including rodent baiting and home radon testing, through the "Healthy Neighborhood" Program. If you are interested in either of these services or to find out more, call 961-6800.

Have electronic waste or household hazardous waste to dispose of? Check the County of Erie website for upcoming recycling events! [www.erie.gov/recycling](http://www.erie.gov/recycling)

## ALAN WIEBERG, FIRE CHIEF

Last year, our fire department responded to 387 EMS and fire calls, of which 35% were mutual aid in the Towns of Cheektowaga and West Seneca. This would not be possible without the dedication of our volunteers and their extensive training.

In 2019, we had 2 new members join our department: Jacob Toy and Erik Bartus. Both are amongst our top responders and

currently working on their EMS certification.

Recently, we have submitted a grant application to fund replacement of our portable radios, which are almost 20 years old. With the NYS Recruitment and Retention grant awarded in 2019, we purchased Tourniquet Training Kits for our Stop the Bleed program and an extensive on-

line training system for our members.

Although we have experienced a milder winter this year, I still would like to remind everyone to keep any fire hydrants in your neighborhood clear of ice and snow. The extra few minutes it may take for us to have access to an accessible hydrant could be vital in saving a structure or a life.

## MORE ABOUT TRASH AND RECYCLING...

In the Fall issue of the Sloan Connection, we reviewed our new Solid Waste Code, Chapter 183, and the changes implemented under the new contract with Waste Management (WM). The full Chapter is available through [www.generalcode.com](http://www.generalcode.com) website. The Code regulates tote storage, weight, placement and additional fees. Our new contract with Waste Management

stipulates the following:

1. Bulk items are limited to two (2) per month.
2. Mattresses and box springs must be bagged if there exists any sign of contamination (soiled or infested).
3. Grass clippings and yard debris must be bagged and placed **INSIDE** of trash tote.
4. NO extra bags or loose debris outside of your trash or recycling tote.
5. All totes must be fully closed and placed at curbside with the arrows facing the street and wheels/handle towards your house.
6. Each tote must be within 2' of the street and 2' away from other obstructions.

## SLOAN ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS...



### The 18th Annual Summer Concert Series in Griffith Street Park

June 25th 7:00pm- Crash Cadillac

July 9th 7:00pm- ABC Band

July 23rd 7:00pm- Alibi Pass

August 6th 7:00pm- Route 33

August 20th 6:30pm- Superchargers

Bring your blankets, lawn chairs and a friend or two to enjoy a FREE night of entertainment!

## 10TH ANNUAL SOUP ON SUNDAY EVENT

Everyone's favorite Sloan event is back for its 10th year. For the cost of admission, you can sample as many and as much of homemade soups and chilis that will be served. Includes bread, crackers and coffee. Pop, bottled water and home-made desserts are available for purchase. It's first come, first serve, so be there early and you won't miss out on any of your fast-moving favorites!!

Date: Sunday, March 1, 2020

Time: Doors open at 12:30pm. Will serve until all soup is gone!

Place: Sloan Fire Hall, 55 Gates Street

Cost: \$7.00 for Adults/\$3.00 for children age 6 to 10/Under 5 free

Takeout containers will be available for \$4.00/pint

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The Soup on Sunday began in 2011 by a small group of volunteers to raise funds in support of the Sloan Annual Family Picnic. Over the years, it grew in attendance and popularity to be our most anticipated yearly function. Monies raised the past 2 years were used towards picnic tables and chairs for the new Griffith Park Splash Pad. This event is truly a collaborative team effort. A huge THANK YOU to the DPW who help with table setup/teardown and transporting supplies to the Fire Hall, Mayor Ferrucci for his unending support and the countless other residents who volunteer their time before and throughout this weekend: shopping, prepping, cooking, baking, taste-testing and a truly unbelievable amount of dish-washing.

"The Soup Committee"- Cat Carlson,

Debra Smith and Karen Gold

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**Overnight parking ban** remains in effect until April 1, 2020 from 2:00 to 7:00am.

**Holiday schedule for trash and recycling...** Pickup will be delayed until Friday the week of Memorial Day. A regular Thursday pickup for Independence Day as the fourth falls on a Saturday this year!

**Spring yard cleaning?** Yard waste must be bagged and placed in your trash tote. Branches can be bundled, tied securely and left at curbside on trash day for pickup by our Highway Department.

**2-Item Bulk Pickup** will be on February 27, March 26, April 30, May 29, June 25 and August 27.

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**February 26th** Ash Wednesday service at 8:00am and 7:00pm

**Every Friday during Lent** Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm

**March 14th** Children's First Penance

**April 5th** Breakfast with the Bunny 9:00-1:00pm

**April 6th** Penance Service 7:00pm

**April 9th** Holy Thursday 7:00pm Mass

**April 10th** Good Friday- Stations of the Cross 2:00pm, Communion Service 3:00pm

**April 11th** Blessing of the Baskets at 12:00 and 1:00pm, Vigil Mass 8:00pm and No Bingo

**April 12th** Easter Sunday Mass at 8:00 and 11:00am

**April 13th** Rectory will be closed

**May 3rd** Children's First Communion 11:00am

**June 26, 27 and 28th** Lawn Fete

The Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program provides low-cost, affordable financial assistance to income-eligible homeowners to make needed repairs to their home and bring their property into compliance with applicable codes. Applicants are served in the order in which they apply. However, priority consideration is given to housing problems that pose an immediate, serious threat to the safety of the household. The Program provides 0% or 1.5% loans to homeowners. Please call the Office of Community Development at 897-7200 for income guidelines and more info.

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