



NEWSLETTER
Fall/Winter 2021-22—Volume 13, Issue 2

Village of Altamont

Board of Trustees

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From the Mayor's Desk

Welcome New Staff Members

I am excited to introduce two new Department Heads to our Altamont community: Police Chief Jason Johnson and Building/Code Inspector Gary Goss. Both were recently appointed to their positions by the Village Board of Trustees. Johnson and Goss have several years of experience in their areas of expertise and are looking forward to working with Village residents.

Chief Jason Johnson was selected by committee and appointed by the Board of Trustees to replace retiring Chief Todd Pucci. Chief Johnson grew up locally in Berne and has worked many years as a part time officer with the Village of Altamont. He understands the importance of community policing, has vast experience as an investigator, and will no doubt be an asset to our Village community. Prior to his appointment in Altamont, Chief Johnson retired from his full time position in the city of Cohoes and currently resides in Rexford with his family.



Building/Code Inspector Gary Goss was selected by committee and appointed by the Board of Trustees in September 2021. Mr. Goss moved here from western NY and became a resident of Altamont in 2018. He currently serves as the Associate Vice President of Facilities Operations, Projects and Services at The College of Saint Rose in Albany. Prior to his Village appointment, Mr. Goss served as a member of the Village of Altamont Zoning Board of Appeals. If you have any questions about your home projects or zoning, call Gary at 518-861-8554 x-17, email villagebuilding@altamontvillage.org, or come to the Village Hall during Building Department hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00-9:00pm.

ACT Hosts Altamont Festival of Lights

Sunday, December 19, 2021 — **SAVE THE DATE!**

This year, Altamont Community Tradition (ACT) will again be hosting a Village-focused FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS. Village residents are invited to decorate their houses with seasonal lights and we will be awarding prizes to three standout homes.

On Sunday, December 19 in Orsini Park, there will be food trucks and various activities hosted by the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Attendees can vote on their favorite decorated tree and hang ornaments on the Community Tree.

The popular silent wreath auction will take place under the Library train station canopy from noon to 3:30 p.m. There will be a Pet Parade at 1:00 p.m., followed by Altamont Reformed Church's Living Nativity at 3:00 p.m. As night falls, Orsini Park and the Gazebo will be illuminated, followed by a lighted car parade featuring Santa on a Village fire truck. Like last year, we will be collecting food for the local food pantries at Village drop-off locations and during the car parade.

For more information, please visit www.altamontcommunitytradition.org or our Facebook page: facebook.com/AltamontCommunityTradition. You will be able to find more specific information regarding the festival activities as the event nears. Altamont businesses that would like to participate in some way are encouraged to email ACT at altamontcommunitytradition@yahoo.com and someone will be in touch to discuss your ideas.

All activities are subject to Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time of the event. Please check the ACT website or Facebook page for up-to-date information.



Altamont Police Department



Chief Jason Johnston and the Altamont Police Department would like to remind residents that parking is prohibited in most of the Village parking areas owned and maintained by the Village and on all highways within the Village between the hours of Midnight and 7 a.m. beginning November 1st through May 1st of each year. Overnight parking is allowed in the municipal parking lot located behind the Enterprise Printing and Photo business on Maple Avenue.

Also, police would like to remind everyone, per New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law section 1151, that pedestrians have the right of way while in any crosswalk in the Village of Altamont. Drivers are required to slow down and stop as necessary when there are pedestrians crossing. There has been a noticeable increase in violations of this law in recent months and the department has also been receiving civilian complaints about the ongoing issue. Some of the more disturbing complaints center around drivers' failures to yield to young children walking to school on school days, in the morning before school and after dismissal.

The safety of the residents and children of the Village is of the utmost importance and if drivers do not comply with the mandate to yield to pedestrians they can expect to be held accountable and be ticketed for their offenses.

Lastly, police will be doing everything they can to prevent drunk and/or drugged driving through increased impairment patrols throughout this 2021-2022 holiday season. Police ask people to make responsible decisions that don't risk lives. We know people like to socialize and celebrate throughout the holidays at the end of the year and that's okay. What we ask is that people plan ahead. If you're drinking, don't drive. That means getting a cab, or designating a sober driver. Thank you and be safe.

Archives and Museum



Founders Day was a great success and a lot of fun. Thank you to anyone who helped us celebrate the day or took the walking tour. A very special thank you to the Altamont Free Library and all of the amazing volunteers of the Village Archives and Museum for making the event possible.

Auto Racing Exhibit - This past September was the 95th Anniversary of auto racing at the Altamont Fairgrounds. In honor of this occasion, we have a brand new exhibit featuring some of the items from the golden era



of racing on display at the Altamont Free Library. The exhibit will be on display until early December.

Appointments Available - The Archives are currently open by appointment. If you would like to use our collection for research purposes, please contact us through the Village of Altamont website.



Photographs Wanted - The Archives and Museum is always interested in any old photographs of the Village of Altamont, particularly of buildings, businesses, homes or public events. If you have any photographs that you think would be of interest, please let us know.

American Legion Post 977 - The Village Archives and Museum is looking for information about the American Legion Post 977. We are assisting with an upcoming project and are seeking any pictures, documents, news clippings or ephemera about the Altamont American Legion.

Altamont Free Library

Please Note: *Library news is always changing! New programs are being added to our schedule and new services are becoming available all the time. Please check our website or like us in Facebook for the most up-to-date news and information about what the library is up to throughout the winter!*

As we settle into Fall—the best season here in Altamont -- we at Altamont Free Library have much to look forward to.

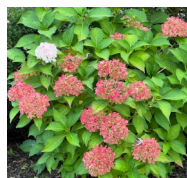
All summer, we held our weekly Tuesday morning Storytimes for children outside in Orsini Park or our back patio, and it was a ton of fun! Now that the weather is getting colder, we're moving Storytimes a few blocks away and indoors! Please join us in the community room at Altamont Reformed Church at 129 Lincoln Ave. in Altamont on Tuesdays at 10:30am for a super fun morning of songs, stories, and activities! We're moving to ARC so that our Storytime families have lots of room to stretch out and distance themselves from one another. Since this is an indoor program, all participants over the age of two must wear masks for the duration of the program. Many thanks to Altamont Reformed Church for hosting us this fall and winter. We hope to see you there!



In the holiday season, we always look forward to one of our most beloved programs: the annual *Library Lights* memorial event featuring the ceremonial lighting of the Orsini Park gazebo! This holiday season, honor the memory of a friend, loved one, or pet with a light on the Altamont Village Gazebo in Orsini Park. The lights cost \$5.00 each and all proceeds benefit the Altamont Free Library. The honorees' names will be read during the annual lighting ceremony on Friday, December 10th at 6pm, and published on the library's website. Forms will be available in the library's entryway and in the *Altamont Enterprise*. Please join us at the gazebo with on Friday, December 10th for what is always a lovely and moving ceremony. (And don't forget about Altamont Community Tradition's Celebration of Lights on Sunday, December 19th!) For more details about these and other programs, please read our weekly column in the *Altamont Enterprise*, like us on Facebook, or check our website at www.AltamontFreeLibrary.org!

In addition to our regular library service, we continue to offer plenty of ways of accessing books, movies and much more from home! Between our Libby and Hoopla apps for ebooks and digital audiobooks, our Kanopy service for streaming movies and TV shows, our digital subscriptions to Ancestry.com and the New York Times, and much else besides, you have everything you need to stay informed and entertained through the cold months ahead. If you'd like help in accessing any of these, please stop in or give us a call at (518) 861-7239. We're happy to help!

Of course, we are still grappling with the ongoing COVID pandemic, so masks are still required for all library patrons over the age of two, regardless of vaccination status. Also because of the ongoing pandemic, unfortunately, we will not be able to hold our annual February gala this year. Despite this, we look forward to 2022, when our beloved Altamont Train Station will turn 125 years old. Throughout the year, we will hold events and programs to celebrate the anniversary and the history of the community that grew up around the station. Keep an eye on our weekly *Enterprise* column, our Facebook page and our website to stay up to date all that we're up to. Or just stop on in! We're always happy to see you.



Altamont Fire Department

Save the Date! Friday, November 5, the AFD will host a Chicken Parmesan Drive-through Dinner at the Altamont Village Firehouse Parking Lot, 115 Main Street, from 4pm-7pm. Pre-order by October 29 to reserve your meals and select a time slot for pick-up by calling Dorothy 518-859-3124. Dinner includes: Chicken Parmesan, Penne Pasta, Salad & Italian Bread. \$12.00 for adults. Kids' meal: Chicken Nuggets and French fries \$6.00.

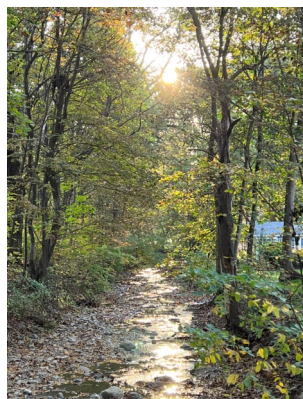
The AFD will again be hosting Santa on their Fire Truck in the ACT Festival of Lights lighted car parade! Join us for the fun on Sunday, December 19!

The AFD requests residents near fire hydrants assist in clearing snow away from fire hydrants after major snowstorms. Please report missing hydrant markers to the Village.



Building, Public Works and Stormwater Departments

The **Building Department** would like to remind residents and business owners that many common home projects require a building permit. This includes the installation of new windows, exterior doors, additions of any type, garages, sheds, sidewalks, footers, foundations, woodstoves, gas-fired fireplaces and supplemental heating. Any type of fuel-fired generators are not allowed in garages or on porches. Before beginning any project, please check with our new Building and Code Inspector Gary Goss by email: villagebuilding@altamontvillage.org or by calling 518-861-



8554 x17. Gary's hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 7-9pm. Please note that per Village Zoning Law, trailers and RVs with current license plates may be stored in the rear yard of your property. Automotive vehicles or trailers of any kind or type without current license plates shall not be parked or stored on any property other than in completely enclosed buildings. No trailers of any kind may be parked within the front or side yards at any time.

As we approach the winter months, the **Department of Public Works** would like to remind residents that although they work diligently to clear sidewalks of snow, it is still the responsibility of homeowners to keep sidewalks free of snow and ice under NYS and Village law.

DPW asks that residents also keep sidewalks clear of debris such as newspapers, trash containers and other foreign objects that can be hazardous to both equipment and workers.

The **Stormwater Department** would like to remind Village residents that our community catch basins are a big part of keeping our stormwater system clean and efficient. Keeping the catch basins free of leaves and debris will ensure that our stormwater system is working properly, helping to reduce flooding of our streets and yards, and keeping our streams and creeks free of pollutants. Please keep all bags, garbage cans, brush and leaf piles away from catch basins.

The department would also like to thank all the residents that are utilizing our pet stations in our parks, and encourage pet owners to use them year round. The utilization of these stations has helped reduce the amount of waste in our parks and helped in keeping these parks a safe and clean place for our community to enjoy.

Calendar

NOVEMBER 2021

Water Rent Bills Due	11/1
Election Day	11/2
Village Board Meeting	11/3
AFD Chicken Parm Dinner	11/5
Daylight Savings Time Ends	11/7
Village Offices Closed:	
Veterans Day	11/11
Thanksgiving	11/25 & 11/26
Sewer Rent Bills Due	11/30

DECEMBER 2021

Village Board Meeting	12/7
ACT Victorian Holiday	12/19
Santa on AFD Fire Truck	12/19
Village Offices Closed:	
Christmas Eve	12/24
New Year's Eve	12/31

JANUARY 2022

Village Board Meeting	1/4
Village Offices Closed:	
Martin Luther King Day	1/17

FEBRUARY 2022

Village Board Meeting	2/1
Village Offices Closed:	
President's Day	2/21
Budget Workshop	2/23

MARCH 2022

Village Board Meeting	3/1
Village Budget Workshop	3/9
Daylight Saving Time Begins	3/13
Budget Workshop (if needed)	3/16

APRIL 2022

Water & Sewer Bills Mailed	4/1
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Water Main Flushing Begins 4/1

Village Organizational Mtg,
Budget Hearing & Board Mtg 4/5
Village Offices Closed:
at noon Good Friday 4/15

MAY 2022

Water Restrictions Begin 5/1
Annual Water Report Released 5/1
Winter Parking Regulations End 5/1
AES PTA Village Wide
Garage Sale TBD
Village Board Meeting 5/3
Village Memorial Day Parade 5/22
Village Offices Closed:
Memorial Day 5/30