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NEWSLETTER
Fall/Winter 2020-21—Volume 12, Issue 2



Village of Altamont

From the Mayor's Desk



Dear Families and Friends,

I hope all residents are enjoying the beautiful autumn we are having! While we continue to social distance and limit our gatherings and large group activities, I would encourage residents to explore some of our local outdoor resources this fall with your families. The Bozenkill Preserve, Bozenkill Park trails, Thatcher Park, and Thomson's Lake are just a few local spots where families can enjoy nature and get some exercise, all while staying safe!

CENSUS 2020: I would like to give a huge thank you to residents and community leaders who led the charge for Altamont for the 2020 Census. Jim Gaughan and Joe Burke were instrumental as our Census facilitators: working with the Village, getting the word out and communicating to residents the importance of being counted this year. Additionally, I would like to thank Laura Shore and ACT for their continued promotion of the Census and our Village enumerators for their assistance in getting as many residents as possible counted. As a community, our response percentage rate increased since the last count; and I am optimistic about the increase in support the Village should realize.

WELCOME: At the October Village Board meeting the Village Board approved the following new appointments: Mr. Simon Litten to the Planning Board and Mr. Gary Goss to the Zoning Board of Appeals. I am confident that their individual expertise and work experience will be an asset to their respective boards, and we are excited to have them on the team representing residents. Thank you for your public service!

GOING FORWARD: With Covid-19 restrictions still in place, many annual events that take place during the fall and winter may be redesigned or put on pause. Please check the Village website for more information about Village services, upcoming events, meeting minutes, signing up for NIXLE alerts, and other items of interest. On behalf of myself and the Village Board of Trustees, we wish everyone a very joyful and safe Holiday season! Best— Mayor Dineen

ACT Hosts Altamont Festival of Lights



Sunday, December 13, 2020 — **SAVE THE DATE!**

Since Altamont Community Tradition (ACT) began hosting Victorian Holidays 19 years ago, the Village weekend has grown busier and more festive – capped off by Santa's arrival at our beautifully restored Victorian train station. Given the unwelcome arrival of Covid-19 and the need for safe, socially distant activities, this year ACT is replacing Victorian Holidays with a Village-focused FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS on Sunday, December 13.

ACT will be encouraging Village residents to decorate their houses with lights and will be awarding prizes to three standout homes. Residents will be invited to hang ornaments on the Village tree in Orsini Park. 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.



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 altamontcommunitytradition@yahoo.com with 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.

Winter Safety Reminders



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 Altamont Police Department would like to remind residents that parking is prohibited in most 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 municipal parking lots located behind the Enterprise Printing and Photo business on Maple Avenue.

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

The Building Department would like to remind residents and business owners that many common home projects require a building permit. This includes construction of new windows and doors, additions, 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 Building and Code Inspector Lance Moore by calling 518-861-8554 Ext.17 or e-mail: altamontbuilding@nycap.rr.com.



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.

Archives and Museum

Appointments Available

The Archives are currently open by appointment only. If you would like to use our collection for research purposes, please contact us through the Village of Altamont website at www.altamontvillage.org. Appointments are currently one person at a time. Masks are required at all times while in the Village Hall.



Digitization Project

We have been scanning and digitizing precious documents and photographs that are part of the collection of the Village Archives and Museum. We plan to eventually get many of these artifacts online to share with the public.

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.

Altamont Free Library



Welcome back to Altamont Free Library!

Article By Library Director Joe Burke

Ever since the onset of Covid-19, we here at Altamont Free Library have sought new ways to serve the public in a way that balances access to library materials and services with the safety and health of our staff and users.

Since we reopened in June, we've had two ways of using the library. One is to use our own awesome Hoopla and Overdrive/Libby services to download ebooks and digital audiobooks to your smart devices from anywhere. That's a pretty great service. The other way has been our Grab & Go service, where you can order books and movies and more, and then pick them up from the library entryway when they are ready for you. That's pretty great too. Now we've added a third option: You can make an appointment to come in and browse the collection!

It's been really great having folks back in the building after so long. On behalf of the staff, I want to say thank you to everyone who's come in so far to browse for being so patient and careful about following our new rules.

Here's how it works: You can call us at (518) 861-7239 to make an appointment to come in and to browse the library collection. At first, appointments will be scheduled between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Friday; and depending on how things go, we may expand that to the entire day over time. Visits must be scheduled ahead of time by phone; and walk-ins will not be allowed, even if no other appointments are scheduled at the time. Appointments will be limited to 10 minutes per visit, and to one patron or family (5 people maximum) at a time.

Facemasks must be worn covering the mouth and nose throughout your visit, and all patrons must use hand sanitizer upon entering the building. Computers and bathrooms will not be available to patrons, but the photocopier and fax machine will be available. Please be advised that all toys have been temporarily removed from the children's section, in order to keep the library hygienic and safe for all users and staff.



Curbside Grab & Go service will remain our primary mode of lending; and when items are requested, we will continue to prefer that method of delivery. Please do not schedule a visit if you are experiencing any Covid-19 or flu symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, or if you are unable to wear a mask for any reason, we will be happy to arrange for curbside delivery.

If you have any questions or comments about browsing, Grab & Go service, digital borrowing or anything else, you can always give us a call at (518) 861-7239 or you can send me an email at director@altamontfree.org.

We look forward to continuing to serve our community in all of the ways that we safely can. We thank you all for your continued support, patience, and respect for these new rules. On behalf of the staff and Board, we sincerely appreciate it.

Village of Altamont
PO Box 643
Altamont, NY 12009

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Calendar

NOVEMBER

Village Board Meeting 11/04
Village Offices Closed:
Veterans Day 11/11
Village Offices Closed:
Thanksgiving 11/26-
11/27

DECEMBER

Village Board Meeting 12/01
ACT Festival of Lights 12/13
Santa on AFD Fire Truck 12/13
Village Offices Closed:
Closed at noon Christmas Eve 12/24
Closed Christmas Day 12/25
Closed at noon New Year's Eve 12/31

2021

JANUARY

Village Offices Closed:
New Years Day 01/01

Village Board Meeting 01/05
Village Offices Closed:
Martin Luther King Day 01/18

FEBURARY

Village Board Meeting 02/02
Village Offices Closed:
Presidents Day 02/15
Budget Workshop 02/24

MARCH

Village Board Meeting 03/02
Village Budget Workshop 03/10
Daylight Saving Time Begins 03/14
Budget Workshop (if needed) 03/17

APRIL

Water & Sewer Bills Mailed 04/01
Water Main Flushing Begins 04/01

Village Offices Closed:
at noon Good Friday 04/02

Village Organizational Mtg,
Budget Hearing & Board Mtg 04/06

MAY

Water Restrictions Begin 05/01
Annual Water Report
Released 05/01
Winter Parking Regulations
End 05/01

AES PTA Village Wide
Garage Sale TBD

Village Board Meeting 05/04
Village Memorial Day Parade 05/23

Village Offices Closed:
Memorial Day 05/31

JUNE

Village Board Meeting 06/01