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Village of Altamont

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Summer Newsletter

UPDATE ON DEC MANDATE TO UPDATE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has been monitoring the operation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant for many years. In March 2010, DEC placed the Village under an Order on Consent citing violations involving the overflow of untreated sewage during the previous two years. The Order on Consent mandated the Village to submit and implement a plan on the needed upgrades to the Wastewater Plant to correct the problem, with a completion date no later than June 2013. Prior to DEC's actions, the Village Board has been studying and planning the implementation of a major improvement project of the Wastewater Treatment Plant which was integrated into the plan submitted to DEC. The improvement project will increase the processing capacity of the Plant to treat the inflow of sewage, and eliminate the occurrence of untreated sewage being discharged during

weather related, high water events, which is unacceptable to DEC. The decision and reports on the project have been discussed in monthly Board meetings, and reported periodically by the local media during the past few years.

The capital improvement project will include the installation of new equipment to increase the scope of the biological treatment process, and the replacement of aging and inefficient equipment. The estimated cost of the project is \$ 3,510,000. The Village has secured low interest financing for the project under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

At its May 2012 meeting, the Village Board awarded contracts to three contractors to perform the project work.

It is expected that the work will begin this June and should be on

schedule for completion in June 2013.

Completion of this capital project will replace the aged Wastewater Treatment Plant with one that has new and modern equipment capable of meeting DEC effluent discharge standards under its imposed mandate, and one that will meet the needs of the Village for many years. The users of the sewage system will be paying for the cost of the project spread over 20 years. Beginning in 2013, there will be a capital charge on each household's sewer bill to begin paying for the project. The capital charge is estimated to be \$ 95.00 annually which would mean \$ 47.50 a current billing period. No one welcomes an increase in user fees, but it is necessary because the Village is under a legal mandate from the Department of Environment Conservation to remedy treatment deficiencies. And it is important to keep in mind that efficient, dependable, and well-run water and sewage treatment facilities are critical to a community and its residents' quality of life.

Bozenkill Park Summer Programs

The Bozenkill Park Summer Camp will begin on July 2 and continue through August 10 for children between the ages of 6 and 14. Children will be participating in this year's camp version of "Fear Factor". There is a fee of \$ 40.00 per child per week.

Two scholarships will be offered each week to children in need who would not be able to attend Summer

Camp otherwise. Scholarships are made possible through a grant from Albany County Department for Children, Youth and Families.

Water Aerobics with Vicky Bastian will be offered on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6 pm from July 3 through August 2. There is a fee of \$ 40.00.

Registration forms for all programs may be obtained online or at Village Hall.



News from the Archives and Museum

The exhibition, *Knowersville and the Civil War*, is held in conjunction with a series of events being held throughout the region in remembrance of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War. Displayed will be researched text panels, civil war era letters from the collections of Archives and Museum, along with loans from private collections of photographs; Civil War metals, G.A.R. Members ribbons and other ephemera. Also included will be soldier's letters from the battlefield, on loan from the Guilderland Historical Society and the Knox Historical Society. The G.A.R. Member ribbons and metals of Peter Ogsbury, grandfather of Everett Rau, will also displayed.

Featured in the exhibition is the story of the 134th Regiment which camped overnight in Altamont

when the village was known as Knowersville. Some 1200 men, accompanied by their families spent the night of September 25th, 1862 and were fed and cared for by the early settlers living here. Another feature is the story of Catherine S. Lawrence (1820-1904), a nurse from Schoharie who encountered, while serving in a hospital in Baltimore, the seriously wounded Eddie Crouse of Knowersville. His father, Dr. Frederick Crouse, of Gun Club Road was well known to Catherine and she quickly wrote "Dr. Fred", who immediately went to bring his wounded son home. Unfortunately, Eddie did not survive the severe head injury and died of its effects.

Women who are descen-

dants of the honorably discharged Civil War soldiers are eligible to be members of a National Chapter. Chapters are called "Tents," each being named after a nurse who served in the Civil War. Tent # 107 of the Capital District Region is named after Catherine S. Lawrence who served so honorably. Members of Tent # 107 hosted the opening reception for the exhibition in the Village Hall on Sunday, May 20th. The exhibit will be open during regular Village Office business hours Monday-Friday, until August 17th.

Volunteers Needed: Come and bring your skills! We are especially in need of a data entry person. If you like to do research/genealogy we have projects for you! Call Marijo Dougherty 861-8554 x 14.



***Congratulations
to
all
2012
Guilderland
Graduates***

Garden Volunteers Needed

The parks and green spaces in the Village have gradually expanded and that expansion brings opportunities for volunteer assistance.

If there is anyone in and around the Village who would like to offer assistance in maintaining the

gardens, please contact Keith Lee at Altamontgardens@aol.com.

We plan to develop a contact list of volunteers, and as needs develop, an e-mail would be sent to this contact list with details of place, time, and type of assistance needed.

Village Property Taxes

Property Taxes are levied June 1, 2012 and payable without penalty to Catherine Hasbrouck, Village Treasurer, by July 2nd.



The Village Office accepts payment Monday through Friday from 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 4 pm.

Village Property Taxes not paid by November 1st of each year are relieved on to the January County Tax bill.

Summer in Altamont

In the summer of 1889 an article appeared in the *Altamont Enterprise* entitled, "They will Feast." In it, an announcement for a clam bake at one of the Village Parks featured, "Fifteen thousand clams, one hundred chickens, bushels of green corn and sweet potatoes, with a sufficient quantity of blue fish to flavor." The article claimed that a "fine musical program was now being prepared in order that the guest may be entertained as well as feasted."

Once again, 123 years later, summer is almost here. The Village of Altamont, and its businesses and not-for-profit, welcome one and all to share another summer of arts, music, food and special events, which are a feast in their own right.

An exhibition, *Knowersville and the Civil War*, at the Village Hall will be open to

visitors all summer is being held in conjunction with a series of events being held throughout the region in remembrance of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War.

On June 2, (rain date, June 3) Desolation Road Studios and owner Jim Miller is sponsoring Arts in the Parks. Orsini and Schilling Parks will be the sites of craftspeople and artists displaying their works for sale and viewing. A sidewalk chalk drawing exhibition will also be featured along Maple Avenue between the two parks. For more information, see www.desolationroadstudios.com.

On June 10, The Home Front Café and the Village of Altamont will present the second in a series of community gatherings. This presentation will focus on residents' memories of World War II in Altamont. The gathering will be held in the Village Community Room. These events allow residents, in an informal, "around the pot belly stove" setting, to relate their memories and comments about the war years in Altamont. Information will be posted on the www.altamontvillage.org website.

Altamont Community Tradition (A.C.T.) will hold its annual Strawberry Social in

Orsini Park on Tuesday, June 26, 6-7:30 pm (rain date, June 27).

The Altamont Free Library is sponsoring a summer concert series, "Remembering Our Past—Marching Toward the Future", in conjunction with the Village and Community Arts grant, starting on July 10 and ending August 7. All concerts are held on Tuesdays at the gazebo in Orsini Park at 7:00 pm. In case of rain, performances will be in the Village Community Room. For more information, please see www.altamontvillage.org and view Community Calendar. It wouldn't be summer without the Altamont Fair, the only tri-county fair in New York State. The fair dates for 2012 are August 14-19. The ever popular Scottish Games will take place on Labor Day weekend, September 1-2. Please visit www.altamontfair.com to see all the other events that are coming up this season.

The Village will once again host a farmers' market, located at the former train station/new home of the Altamont Free Library. The market will be open most week days and on all weekends, starting in July, weather and crops permitting. Please see www.altamontvillage.org



For more information as we get closer to July.

As always, please visit the restaurants in Altamont — The Home Front, Pisanos, Hungerford Market, Subway, Bamboo Garden, and the newest addition, Mio Vino Wine Bar & Bistro. This new addition to the culinary delights of the village offers a tasty dining experience, supported by a full bar. Visit their website www.miovinowinebar.com for more information.

If you are wandering, visit Altamont's Schilling Park on Maple Avenue and meander the new labyrinth that was recently installed in the park. Our parks, businesses, and restaurants welcome you to share the summer of 2012 with its residents!!

Save the Date

Altamont Fire

Department

Brooks BBQ

September 14

IMPORTANT DATES

JUNE

6/2 — Art & Craft Festival
Orsini Park 9 am

6/5 — Village Board Meeting
7 pm

6/9 — Guilderhaven Fundraiser
Book, Bake, BBQ & Plant
Sale Orsini Park 8 am

6/10 “I Remember Altamont”
Community Room Noon

6/15 — Altamont Free Library
Chicken BBQ Orsini Park

6/23— Bozenkill Pool opens

6/26 — ACT Strawberry Social
Orsini Park 6 pm

JULY

7/4 — Independence Day — Office
Closed

7/17 - Village Board Meeting
7 pm

7/10 — Concert in the Park
77th Regimental
Balladeers
Orsini Park 7 pm

7/17 — Concert in the Park
Hilltown Ramblers
Orsini Park 7 pm

7/18— Family Picnic & Game
Night Bozenkill Park
6 pm

7/24 — Concert in the Park
Saint James Gate
Orsini Park 7 pm

7/31— Concert in the Park
All Them Chops
Orsini Park 7 pm

AUGUST

8/7—Village Board Meeting
7 pm (if needed)

8/7 — Concert in the Park
Fairview Avenue Band
Orsini Park 7 pm

8/14 - 19 - Altamont Fair

8/25 — Altamont 5k Run
Bozenkill Park

SEPTEMBER

9/2 - Bozenkill Park pool closes

9/3 - Labor Day — Office Closed

9/4 - Village Board Meeting 7pm

9/7 - AFD Ladies Aux.
Brooks BBQ take out
Community Room 4 — 7 pm

OCTOBER

10/8 — Columbus Day — Office
Closed

10/8 — Bozenkill Park closes

10/26 — Children's Halloween
Program
Community Room 7 pm

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www.altamontvillage.org

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