

VILLAGE OF ALTAMONT

Volume 9, Issue 2

Winter 2017/2018

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Notes from the Mayor's Desk

Dear Families and Friends,

Season's greetings! As we enter into a busy winter season, I want to take a moment to share with you some of the Village accomplishments during the summer and fall seasons. These are just a few of the highlights from a vast amount of work that was completed:

- **New Staff:** We welcomed Taylor DeLong to our Village Garden staff. Taylor has been working hard at our extensive Bozenkill Park garden doing an outstanding job! We thank him for his hard work and dedication.
- **The "Museum in The Streets"© Walking Trail:** Thank you to Marijo Dougherty and Jim Gaughan for leading our volunteer group through a substantive project for our Village. Their efforts, paired with the photography of Ron Ginsburg and the work of our DPW staff, produced a project that celebrates Village history that we can be proud of for many years to come.
- **The Village worked hard with Albany County on the County Shared Services Plan.** All Village staff contributed to putting together information for this initiative. The county vote on the plan took place in September, passed, and was submitted to the State. We look forward to new relationships and shared service opportunities this plan may provide.
- **New Sidewalk:** We were successful working with Senator George Amadore and his staff to secure funding to complete an additional sidewalk for the Village in 2018. This work will begin next spring/summer.
- **Our Second Annual Fall Festival:** Organized and led by Trustee Madeline LaMountain, the Village enjoyed an expanded and well attended festival! Thank you to the many resident and student volunteers that made this day such a success!
- **The Village Board worked with our council and the Town of Knox to lower the assessment on the Village reservoir property on Rt. 156 in Knox.** This lower assessment reduces our Village tax burden and results in significant savings over the next five years.
- **The Village of Altamont will join the Village of Voorheesville and the Town of New Scotland in a joint purchasing program for new LED street lights.** Although in the beginning stages, this initiative will provide improved quality lighting for our Village, reduce our energy consumption, and reduce costs.

Please check the Village website for more information about Village services, upcoming events, meeting minutes, 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!

Regards,

Kerry Dineen
Mayor of Altamont





"Christmas is the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of charity in the heart."
Washington Irving

ACT VICTORIAN HOLIDAYS AND WINTERMARKET

Altamont Community Traditions (ACT) is happy to announce the sixteenth annual Victorian Holidays Celebrations. This festive family tradition attracts visitors from across the Capital Region to our village.

Events kick off on Saturday evening at 7 pm with a wine and cheese party at the Masonic Hall for village residents, compliments of ACT. Guests will be able to vote on

their favorite holiday tree and bid on fabulous decorated wreaths.

Sunday's events run from noon to 5 pm and include the Festival of Trees and Wreath Auction, the Living Nativity, and lots of indoor and outdoor activities throughout the village, including a wine tasting, food, crafts for kids, animals to pet, bonfires, games, a treasure hunt, music and storytelling.

The popular Winter market features artisan crafts, local brews, and festive food in a number of village locations. Many Village businesses will be open regular hours with some hosting special events.

This year's Holiday House Tour will feature lovingly decorated traditional homes within the village. House tours are \$10 with Trolley transportation included. Proceeds from the house tours will support community and historic projects.

At 5 pm, Santa arrives on the train at the Altamont Free Library Train Station with gifts and photo opportunities for children.

For more information, visit www.altamontcommunitytradition.org or the ACT Facebook page at Altamont Community Tradition.



ALTAMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES 125 YEARS

In 1886, the growing community of what is now the Village of Altamont suffered major destruction from a number of fires. The "Great Fire" in April destroyed 7 buildings, most of which were businesses. Two more buildings succumbed to fire in the months following.

As a result of these great losses to the community, a gathering of citizens determined that the area needed to create an adequate water supply system. This ultimately led to the incorporation of the Village in 1890 and the creation of the Altamont Hose Company No. 1 in 1893. By June of that year, 17 hydrants were installed and 25 citizens were appointed firemen began their training, obtained their first hose cart and hose, and adopted by-laws.

In 1925, the first motorized fire fighting apparatus, the American La France Brockway was purchased and new electric siren whistles were installed in the Village.

In October of 1945, with Village Board approval, the Altamont Hose Company officially changed its name to Altamont Fire Department. A new department constitution and by-laws were adopted.

Volunteers have been protecting life and property within the village for 125 years.



These include fire emergencies, vehicle extrications, rope rescues, hazardous material responses, pump outs and medical assist calls.

The members visit local preschools and Altamont Elementary and host an open house during fire prevention week to teach safety and prevention.

Each year members also host the following annual community events: Movies in the Park, Halloween Treats Giveaways, the Comedy Night and the Santa Stroll.

Working with other organizations, the members participate in Guilderland's National Night Out, AES PTA Garage Sales, and the Altamont Fair.



Santa and the fireman will be visiting children throughout the village on Sunday, December 17th between 3 pm and 6 pm. If you would like to receive a visit during the annual Santa Stroll, please email the Fire Department directly at altamontfiredept@aol.com. Be sure to leave your name and address.



ways. Trash bins may leak and if placed near or on catch basins this could result in pollutants affecting the water quality in the creeks and streams. Be sure not to place leaf bags, leaf piles, brush or trash cans on or near storm water catch basins. Taking a few minutes to properly place these items on the curb will lead to a better performing storm water system, a safer environment for our wildlife and overall better water quality in

New pet waste stations obtained through a grant have been added to our village parks by the Village Department of Public Works. Bozenkill, Schilling and Orsini parks all now have a pet waste station for residents' convenience. These stations will help eliminate pet waste in our parks and create a healthier, safer and more pleasant environment for all to enjoy.

more stormwater news, information or if you would like to add comments of your own, please Like us on our Facebook page at: Village of Altamont Stormwater Education or visit our page on the Altamont Village website: altamontvillage.org.

Snow banks can create hazards for both children and drivers. Children tend to climb and play near snow banks and may accidentally fall into roadways.

Mr. Moller 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 am beginning November 1st.



behind the Altamont Printing and Photo business on Maple Avenue.

gant Touch. Throughout the evening, there will be numerous silent auction items up for bid. Dinner will be followed by a live auction. The Gala is a major fundraiser for the Altamont Free Library. To purchase tickets, visit the Library or call 518-861-7239.

The Library is still accepting donations for either auction. All donations are tax deductible.



Village of Altamont
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Calendar

DECEMBER

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Library Lights | 12/3 |
| Village Board Meeting | 12/5 |
| ACT Wine and Cheese Reception | 12/9 |
| ACT Victorian Holidays | 12/10 |
| AFD Santa Stroll | 12/17 |
| Village Offices Closed | 12/25 |

2018

JANUARY

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|------------------------|------|
| Village Offices Closed | 1/1 |
| Village Board Meeting | 1/2 |
| Village Offices Closed | 1/15 |

FEBRUARY

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|------------------------|------|
| Village Board Meeting | 2/6 |
| I Love My Library Gala | 2/10 |
| Village Offices Closed | 2/19 |

MARCH

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|--------------------------|------|
| Village Board Meeting | 3/6 |
| Village Budget Workshops | TBD |
| Daylight Savings Time | 3/11 |

APRIL

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| Water and Sewer Bills Mailed | 4/2 |
| Water Main Flushing Begins | 4/2 |
| Village Organizational Meeting & Budget Hearing | 4/3 |
| Village Board Meeting | 4/3 |
| ACT Green and Clean Day | TBD |

MAY

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Village Board Meeting | 5/1 |
| Water Restrictions Begin | 5/1 |
| Winter Parking Regulations End | 5/1 |
| Annual Water Report Released | 5/1 |
| AES PTA Village Wide Garage Sale | 5/5 |
| Village Offices Closed | 5/28 |

JUNE

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|-----------------------------|------|
| Village Board Meeting | 6/5 |
| Bozenkill Park Pool Opens | 6/16 |
| Bozenkill Summer Camp Opens | 6/25 |

WE'RE ON THE WEB
ALTAMONTVILLAGE.ORG