#### Volume 10, Issue 2

# Village Board Receives Grant

#### Winter 2018/Spring 2019



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The Village of Altamont has recently been awarded a grant of \$35,000 from NYSERDA. Receiving this grant was a direct result of Altamont participating in the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) **Clean Energy Communities** Program and demonstrating our commitment to clean energy initiatives. The grant funds will be applied to our LED street lighting project, helping us continue our work with clean energy actions while realizing additional cost savings for our residents.



#### **Board of Trustees**

<u>MAYOR</u> Kerry Dineen

<u>TRUSTEES</u> Nicholas Fahrenkopf Michelle Ganance John Scally Dean Whalen

### Altamont Earns Clean Energy Community Designation

The Village of Altamont has been designated a Clean Energy Community by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), recognizing its leadership in reducing energy use, cutting costs and driving clean energy locally.

Announced by Governor Cuomo in August 2016, the 16 Million Clean Energy Communities initiative supports local government leaders across the state by providing grants to eligible municipalities to implement energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable development projects in their communities. Clean Energy Communities advances the Governor's Reforming the Energy (REV) strategy by demonstrating the importance of communities in helping New York reach its Clean Energy Standard mandate of half of the state's electricity coming from renewable energy resources by 2030.

The Village of Altamont received the designation for completing 4 of 10 high-impact clean energy actions identified by NYSERDA as part of the Clean Energy Communities initiative. In addition, the designation gave the Village of Altamont an opportunity to apply for up to \$ 35, 000 toward additional clean energy projects, with no local cost share.

"The Village Board is excited to join our surrounding communities in this significant designation and will continue to push forward reducing energy consumption and thus costs for our residents." Mayor Dineen

To earn the Clean Energy Community designation, the Village of Altamont completed the following high-impact clean energy actions:

- Streamlined the local approval processes for solar projects though adoption of the New York State Unified Solar Permit.
- Adopted a benchmarking policy to track and report the energy use of the Village's municipal buildings.
- Installed an electric vehicle charging station at 179 Main Street in Altamont.
- Completed energy code enforcement training on best practices in energy code enforcement for the Village.

For more information on Clean Energy Communities, please visit nyserda.gov/cec

### New Village Trustee Michelle Ganance

The Village of Altamont welcomes Michelle Ganance as Trustee. Mrs. Ganance was appointed by the Village Board in September 2018 to fill a vacancy after Trustee Madeline LaMountain submitted her resignation.

Trustee Michelle Ganance holds an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education from Maria College of Albany and a B.S. Degree in Elementary Education from the College of Saint Rose in Albany. She has a background in computer technology and has been an Information Technology Specialist with the Office of Information Technology Services for the last 23 years.

Mrs. Ganance grew up in Guilderland and attended Guilderland High School.

In 2004 she and her husband Vince moved to the Village of Altamont to raise their children in a quaint, quiet community within a wonderful school district. She and her family have lived in Altamont for the last 14 years.

Trustee Ganance was a member of the Village Zoning Board of Appeals and served one year before being appointed to the Village Board. With her two children now attending Guilderland High School, she'd like to be more involved with the Village and the Altamont Community. She currently lives in Altamont with her husband Vince, her children Maggie and Vinny and their dog, Stella.



## Altamont Free Library 12th Annual Gala

On Saturday, February 9th at 6 p.m., Altamont Free Library will hold their 12th Annual *I Love My Library!* dinner and auction in the community room at the Village Hall. The theme of this year's gala will be *Focus on Friends*.

This year, the gala will honor two couples who define the idea of friendship to the library: Ellen and Richard Howie, and Lois and Dr. Ronald Ginsburg. Over the decades, these two couples have volunteered uncountable hours of their time, served on their Board of Trustees, baked, photographed, crafted, organized, strategized, and attended nearly every meeting, potluck, book club, concert, and fundraiser held by the library. They are truly pillars of the library community and everyone who loves Altamont Free Library owes them a debt of gratitude.

Attendees to the *I Love My Library* Gala will enjoy an always phenomenal buffet dinner by Elegant Touch catering, and will get to bid on a variety of unique silent and live auction items. More importantly, keeping with the theme, attendees will be supporting the library while enjoying the company of their friends and neighbors. Tickets will be available early 2019. For more information, please call 518-861-7239 or email Joe Burke directly at director@altamontfreelibrary.org

### **Protecting Our Environment**

Fall and Winter is upon us, the Stormwater Department would like to remind village residents that our community catch basins are a big part in 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.

> *"Nature is a miracle we depend on." anonymous*



Corner Schoharie Plank W & Western Ave

Special thanks to Judi Dineen, Noreen Novak and Altamont DPW for helping create this beautiful space for residents and visitors to enjoy.

# Victorian Holidays Celebration and Winter Market

Altamont Community Tradition (A.C.T.) is happy to announce the seventeenth annual Victorian Holidays Celebration on December 8th and 9th. This festive family tradition attracts visitors from across the Capital Region to our village.

Events kick off on Saturday at 7:00 pm with a wine and cheese party at the Masonic Hall for village residents, compliments of A.C.T. Guests will be able to vote on their favorite holiday tree and bid on fabulous decorated wreathes.

Sunday's events run from noon to 5:00 pm and include the Festival of Trees and Wreath Auction, the Living Nativity and lots of indoor and outdoor activities throughout the village, including wine tasting, food, crafts for kids, 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 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 Altamont community and historic projects.

At 5:00 pm Santa arrives on the train at the beautifully restored Victorian train station on Main Street with gifts and photo opportunities for kids. For more information, visit www.altamontcommunitytradition.org or their facebook page: facebook.com/ AltamontCommunityTradition



### LED Streetlights Project

As previously announced, the Village of Altamont will join the Village of Voorheesville, Town of New Scotland and Town of Guilderland in a joint purchasing program for new LED streetlights. This initiative will provide quality lighting for our Village, reduce energy consumption, and reduce costs.

At the September 5th Village Board Meeting, the board authorized the Mayor to sign an agreement with The New York State Power Authority (NYPA) to lead the Village in this initiative. NYPA representative Ms. Jessica Waldorf came and presented to the Village Board and public about the benefits of the new lighting; including the style and technical options available to the Village as well as the overall cost savings with no additional cost to residents. Additionally, Mrs. Waldorf discussed the phases of the project and the role the public will play in helping the Village Board make the final decisions on style and brightness. During the design phase, sample lighting will be installed for residents to examine and then offer input to the Village Board. Notification will be made to residents when this phase begins. The Current goal is to have the lighting installed by the end of 2019. Grant money the Village recently received from NYSERDA will be additional savings applied towards the project.



### 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 the homeowner to keep sidewalks free of snow and ice under NYS and Village law.

DPW requests that residents also keep sidewalks clear of debris such as newspapers, trash containers and other foreign objects that can be hazardous to both the equipment and workmen. The Altamont Fire Department request residents near fire hydrants assist in clearing snow away from hydrants after major snow storms. Please report missing hydrant markers to the village.

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

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 pa beginning November 1st through May 1st of each year. Overnight parking is allowed in municipal parking lots located behind the Altamont Printing and Photo business on Maple Avenue.



Village of Altamont PO Box 643 Altamont, NY 12009 FIRST CLASS U.S. POSTAGE PAID ALTAMONT, NY PERMIT # 1890

# Calendar

#### **DECEMBER**

Library Lights	12/07
ACT Wine & Cheese Reception	12/08
ACT Victorian Holidays	12/09
Village Board Meeting	12/12
AFD Santa Stroll	12/15
Village Offices Closed: Closed at noon Christmas Eve Closed Christmas Day	12/24 12/25
Closed at noon New Year's Eve	12/31

#### 2019

### JANUARY

Village Offices Closed	
New Years Day	01/01
Village Board Meeting	01/02
Village Offices Closed	
Martin Luther King Day	01/21

Village Board Meeting	02/05
I Love My Library Gala	02/09
Village Offices Closed Presidents Day	02/18

### MARCH

Village Board Meeting	03/05
Village Budget Workshop	TBD
Voter Registration Day	03/09
Daylight Saving Time Begins	03/10
Village Election	03/19

#### **APRIL**

Water & Sewer Bills Mailed	04/01
Water Main Flushing Begins	04/01
Village Organizational Meeting	g &
Budget Hearing	04/02

Village Board Meeting	04/02
ACT Green & Clean	TBD
MAY	
Water Restrictions Begin	05/01
Annual Water Report Released	05/01
Winter Parking Regulations End	05/01
AES PTA Village Wide Garage Sale	05/04
Village Board Meeting	05/07
Village Offices Closed Memorial Day	05/27

#### **JUNE**

Village Board Meeting	06/04
<b>Bozenkill Park Pool Opens</b>	06/15