

## Castletonian - May 2008

### **REFUSE \* RECYCLING**

Our refuse charges are based upon tonnage, and for two years, the amount of tonnage has been steadily rising, while our recycling has decreased.

We, as a village, need to be more aggressive in our approach to recycling. Each “unit” (home or apartment) is allowed two thirty gallon containers. These two containers must be covered and no extra bags or items can be placed alongside or on top of the containers.

Cans may be placed at the curb 24 hours before collection and must be removed from the curb by 24 hours after collection.

Recycling reduces the amount of waste in landfills and saves us money in the amount of tonnage in our trash containers. The DPW will provide bins for

any residents who do not have them. Please call the garage at 732-2983 if you need one. Our recyclable items can be co-mingled to encourage participation at a higher level. Paper, boxboard (cereal boxes), magazines, etc. are placed in one bin and plastic, tin and glass are placed in another. Corrugated cardboard is bundled separately and placed alongside the bins. These recyclables are collected weekly by the DPW to keep us all in the habit of recycling and to make it easy for us to do so.

For many years, we **paid** to have our recyclables hauled away. Now, we are finally able to earn some money for this, and you can help. It’s quite simple, so let’s do it.

During the month of May, residents will be encouraged to step up their efforts to recycle

and to adhere to the other rules cited above. Orders to remedy will be issued, with no penalties involved if the violation is corrected

**On June 1, the codes enforcement officer will begin to issue tickets to violators.**

### **e-Waste**

ERCSWMA, the authority that handles our recyclables and refuse, has scheduled an electronics pickup for recycling and re-use on our Village Clean-up days, May 17 and September 27. All electronic items will be collected free of charge, except console televisions, which will cost \$15.00 each.

Boxes will be available at the DPW garage on Van Buren Avenue for one week prior to clean up days.

## **HELP WANTED**

Use the boxes for Keyboards, mice, wire, alarm clocks, etc. and place larger items alongside the boxes.

### **Brush and Leaves**

Brush and leaves may be placed at the curb in paper leaf bags during the week of April 21 to 25, for pickup by the DPW. Check the recycling calendar for upcoming Brickyard Saturdays. May 3rd and May 17th are next with June 7th and 21st coming up in June.

### **Dogs**

Castleton has a leash law- and when you are walking your dog, please clean up any waste so that your neighbor doesn't have to.

Carry a plastic bag with you for this purpose. Thank you.

### **Get involved within your community.**

The Zoning Board of Appeals is an advisory board for the hearing of special use and variance petitions within the village. They are currently searching for individuals to volunteer a few hours a year to fill a vacant seat and for a permanent Chairperson. Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month, if there are any matters pending before it. If you are interested in volunteering, or would like to know more about the Board, please contact acting Chairperson, Pamela Gleeson at 732-0402.

### **Neighborhood Watch**

Residents are reminded that we are a neighborhood watch community, committed to being vigilant and aware of what is going on around us.

## **Scott Avenue Overpass**

The New York State Department of Transportation has met with village officials to advise us that they are moving ahead with the access needed to allow us to reach the river side of the railroad tracks at Scott Avenue. This access will consist of two elevators, one on each side of the tracks, thereby allowing handicapped individuals to reach the park with ease. Design teams are asking for suggestions for the park and for guidance in assisting us with the relocation of the pump that currently sits in the small pump house at the foot of Seaman Avenue. This relocation will allow us to draw water from the Hudson River in case of fire, providing an inexhaustible source of water for fire protection.

NYSDOT has provided design pictures for the elevators that may be seen at the Village Hall.

## **Castleton Fire Co.**

The “Firecrackers”, our newest group of volunteers, are young people that are serving the Fire Co. in various ways. They have scheduled car washes for summer, on June 28, July 26, and August 23 at the fire house.

As an ongoing fundraiser, they are collecting deposit bottles to increase their treasury. A receptacle will be provided at the fire house for this purpose and your donations will be most gratefully accepted. If you would like the members to pick up your bottles, please call the firehouse at 732-4342 and just leave a message. Thank you.

## **Forsythia Season**

The first harbinger of Spring here in Castleton is the beautiful forsythia bushes that bloom along Main Street. Gladys Mutterer, the originator of this idea, encourages everyone to plant one if you can so that our village can become famous for their glorious color in Spring.

## **Memorial Day Parade**

The Memorial Day Parade will take place on May 26 at 10 a.m. with lineup on Boltwood Avenue at 9:30

Parade organizers would like to ask residents along the parade route to display yellow bows to honor our troops serving all over the world and to remember those who have lost their lives in the service of our country.

The Kiwanis will sponsor their annual breakfast from 7 a.m. to 9:30 on parade day at the Castleton Ambulance building.

## **Village Cleanup Days**

The first of two clean up days will be held on May 17, 2008 in the brickyard from 8 a.m. to noon.

This cleanup is scheduled a week after the Village Wide Garage sales so that it will be convenient for us to toss those treasures that did not appeal to anyone at the sales and have now become “trash”. If you have any questions, please call the village hall at 732-2211.

## **Village Wide Garage Sales**

The annual garage sale day has been moved to May 10 to avoid the many conflicts that arose with trying to plan the sales during Sept. A lot of these conflicts were other garage sales that drew many of our potential visitors away. Included with this newsletter is the coupon for inclusion on the map that day. Please remember that the \$4.00 you donate provides services for the kids in our community.

## **Green Avenue**

The village board is currently reviewing the low bid on reconstruction of Green Avenue, including drainage, water lines, retaining wall, sidewalks and paving. While no one can dispute the fact that this street is in serious disrepair, the cost is huge. Because of the magnitude of this job, the board is searching for any grant money that may be available and also find ways to reduce other costs.

## **Castleton Public Library**

The library is proud to announce that it has won first runner up for the Best Small Library in America, 2008, an award sponsored by the Library Journal and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The annual award was created in 2005 to encourage and showcase the exemplary work of libraries serving populations under 25,000 people. Both the winning Library Chelsea District Library in Michigan, and another "special mention" library are far larger in space, staff and budget and do serve 25,000. There are 7,2000 libraries that fit this description in the country, and over 30 were nominated for this prestigious award. Upper Hudson Library System considers it "amazing" that we were chosen first runner up. We have received tremendous reaction from the community; many have pledged their support for upcoming activities.

Castleton Public Library will celebrate its 100th birthday in 2009 in conjunction with the

Henry Hudson's discovery of our area Quadricentennial. We hope the entire village and town will get involved and join in the FUN!!

The first step would be to become a Friend of the Library. A membership application can be had by calling the library at 732-0879. Three events are scheduled in the month of May: a trip to the Culinary Institute May 9, a book and items sale at the Village Wide Garage Sale on May 10, and creating and decorating our float for the Memorial Day Parade which will take place at Peter's Dairy barn on the Saturday before the parade on May 24, at 10 a.m.

We invite all interested parties to call the library at 732-0879, or Carol Dratch Kovler at 732-7875 for more information. Friends of the Library will be providing refreshments for our final National Endowment for the Arts, Big Read program, featuring the Age of Innocence, by Edith Wharton.

The Library will host **A LOOK AT VICTORIAN CASTLETON**, a slide show presentation at the Schodack Town Hall with Chris and Lillian Peter. This event will take place Monday, April 28th at 6:30 p.m. We hope to see many of you there

May is National Scrapbooking Month. Our popular monthly Scrapbooking Club is planning a "Scrapbook Bonanza" for Saturday, May 3rd from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Prizes, a card making class presented by our local creative talent Pam Sherman, are just a few of the highlights of this event!!

Just remember, all these events are free, and the public is invited to attend and borrow from our collection, use our computers and wireless internet. ALL FREE. Visit us at our website, [www.uhls.org/castleton](http://www.uhls.org/castleton).

May events may be seen on our program calendar on the website.