

# Castletonian - Summer 2008

This has been a busy year for the Board of Trustees, with several important changes soon to occur in the village. Major construction will mean some inconvenience for residents, but will certainly enhance the appearance of the village.

## **SCOTT AVENUE RIVER ACCESS**

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 will try to assist 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.

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

**A public information meeting will be held at the Castleton Fire House on August 20 at 6 p.m. NYS DOT representatives will be present to describe the project and answer questions.**

## **GREEN AVENUE UPDATE**

Behind-the-scenes work is continuing to bring us closer to start of this major project. Water lines, storm drains, sidewalks, retaining wall and paving will begin as soon as easements and a few other necessary legal issues are concluded.

## **SECOND STREET**

Because of the huge cost involved in the reconstruction of Second Street, the village applied for a grant from the NYS Office of Community

Renewal. We have been informed this past week that our application was successful and we have been awarded a grant for the entire cost of the project. DBS Consulting completed the grant application.

## **HELP WANTED**

The Zoning Board of Appeals meets on the third Monday of the month when they have business to conduct and the board needs a secretary to take minutes. If there are no matters that need to be considered, no meeting is held. This position pays a small stipend. Please call the village hall, 732-2211 or the mayor, 732-2474 if you are interested.

Our interim chair of the ZBA, Pam Gleeson, has submitted her resignation to the village board. It is with great regret that we have accepted it and we wish her well as she takes on a significantly increased workload at her firm.

## SWIMMING POOLS

Permits are needed for swimming pools that are over 24" deep. Fences are required around pools that are up to 48" high, per NYS Uniform Building Codes.

The NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code provides that any "residential or commercial swimming pool constructed or substantially modified after the effective date of December 14, 2006, shall be equipped with an "acceptable pool alarm capable of detecting a child entering the water and of giving an audible alarm."

Please direct any questions to the building department at 701-6696

## CHAIRS

The village has a number of chairs suitable for use with a desk or as extra seating that are no longer needed. If you would like to take a look at them, please call Rich Saville at 732-3983. They are free, and they need a good home.

## REFUSE \* RECYCLING

**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.**

These words are a repeat of the first page in the spring newsletter. This issue continues to be one of the problems we CAN do something about in order to contain our costs. The Board of Trustees has worked hard to define our refuse regulations and held a public hearing on August 11, prior to the regular monthly meeting

Household trash is defined as Kitchen and food waste.

Items that may **NOT** be included in your refuse

pickup include ashes, street cleanings, industrial waste, commercial waste and construction and demolition debris. Card-board containers that are contaminated with food such as pizza boxes cannot be recycled and should be included with trash. Please rinse plastic and glass containers before placing them in the recycling.

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

## USED CELL PHONES

Rensselaer County District Attorney's office and the Rensselaer County Sheriff's office are collecting used cell phones for refurbishing and distribution to Senior Citizens to use for emergencies. These phones will also be given to victims of domestic violence for the same purpose. If you have such an item, please drop it off at the Village Hall and we will see that it is passed on to those who need it.

## VOLUNTEERS

A volunteer is needed to type this newsletter – only four times a year. Please call the Village clerk, Donna Mesick, at 732-2211 if you are willing to assist. Students would be great!!

### **EAGLE SCOUT**

Congratulations to Troop 53's newest Eagle Scout, Matthew McKnight, son of Donald and Patricia McKnight. He will be feted at Castleton Island State Park, the scene of his Eagle Scout project – the placing of bluebird houses and instructional material relevant to the bluebirds.

### **CASTLETON FIRE CO.**

The “Firecrackers” are the newly formed young peoples group at the Castleton fire house. They have one more scheduled car wash on August 23.

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.

### **DOGS\*DOGS\*DOGS**

The village has received an increasing number of complaints about dog waste in their yards. Many residents who walk their dogs are not making any effort to clean up after the animals. This is a serious lack of consideration. If you walk your dog, please carry a plastic bag and remove the dog waste from your neighbors yard. It's the right thing to do.

### **SAFETY FIRST**

The Castleton Elementary School project is moving along on schedule and the area between Ransom Avenue and Campbell Ave. is a beehive of activity. Residents are cautioned to be mindful of increased construction vehicles and workers along these streets.

### **UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER**

**September 20 - Fall Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, at the Village of Nassau Municipal Building from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30. An appointment is necessary to bring your materials in. Call 732-2211.**

**September 27 – Fall Cleanup Day at the Brick-yard from 8 a.m. to Noon.**

**October 11 – Electronics Recycling Day at the Brickyard 9 a.m.-Noon. You must register.**

**Also on October 11, the Brickyard open for brush.**

**October 20, Leaf pickup begins.**

**December 7 – Holidays on the Hudson. Tree lighting and Santa visit.**

**December 21 – House decorating contest – 7 p.m.**