



Town of Sweden Snapshots

Volume 15, Issue 2

Summer 2017

A message from the supervisor's office

It's a busy summer in the Town of Sweden with our Town infrastructure projects that you can read about in this newsletter. It's also a busy time for builders and developers, residential and commercial.

If you've driven down Owens Road, you can tell that Frances Apartments is nearing completion. Buildings One and Two have their certificates of occupancy, the rest will likely soon follow.

Alleghany Square is a new multi-phase proposed townhome and apartment complex near Senior's Choice on Isla Way. That project is under planning board review.

The Town Board is holding a second public hearing on the proposed Stonebriar town home project on Fourth Section Road (east of the Methodist Church). The project would need a rezoning from the

Town Board before it could move to the Planning Board. We decided to hold a second public hearing because the entrance to the project was changed from the eastern most edge of the property to directly across from Hartshorn Drive.

Commercial activity includes the new store Runnings seeking permission to create a greenhouse and outdoor display area; and Walmart looking for approval for a grocery drive-up service. Perhaps you've heard that nationally Walmart is offering customers the opportunity to shop on-line and then pick up the groceries. Our location is one of

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Local law updates, adopted and in process

The Town Board has recently adopted changes to the Sweden Town Code or is in the process of adopting changes. Each change to the Town Code requires a public hearing and review by various boards/agencies. The Board has also enacted Local Laws which require public hearing and review.

On January 24, the Board amended Chapter 170 Vehicles and Traffic, basically updating the code for changes that have occurred over the past few years.

On February 21, the Board added a new article to Chapter 164 Taxation which opted the Town out of exemptions for Solar, Wind Energy and Farm Waste Energy Systems.

On May 9, an extension of the

moratorium on Solar Power Farms/ Commercial Solar Power Projects was enacted. A six-month moratorium had originally been placed in 2016 but the committee charged with developing the new legislation felt it needed more time to complete its task.

On June 13, the Town Board held a public hearing regarding the proposed Solar Power Farms/Commercial Solar Power Projects legislation. After taking comments into consideration, the committee chaired by Councilperson Robert Muesebeck, is busy making some changes. Another public hearing will be held late summer or early fall regarding the revised proposed law.

On June 13, the Board also held a public hearing and then adopted a

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McGrath Awards announced

The Margaret A. McGrath Charitable Foundation has awarded 17 scholarships totaling \$55,000 to local students for the 2017-2018 academic school year. The Foundation offers two types of scholarships to residents of the Towns of Sweden and Hamlin. The Philip and Margaret Dollard Business Scholarship is awarded to those majoring in business and the Marie Dollard McGrath Elementary Education Scholarship is awarded to those majoring in elementary education.

This year's recipients of the Philip and Margaret Dollard Business Scholarship are:

- Isabella Ekeze (Sweden) SUNY Fashion Institute
- Jacob Lewis (Sweden) University of Buffalo
- Zachary Sodoma (Sweden) SUNY Brockport
- Christopher Sodoma (Sweden) St. John Fisher
- Jacob Vinch (Hamlin) St. John Fisher
- Sarah Heyden (Hamlin) SUNY Brockport
- Joseph McNulty (Hamlin) Roberts Wesleyan
- Brett Mickey (Sweden) Niagara University
- Cody Travis (Hamlin) St. Bonaventure
- Anthony Polizzi (Hamlin) Case Western Reserve

The recipients of the Marie Dollard McGrath Elementary Education Scholarship are:

- Lindsay Grugnale (Hamlin) Keuka College
- Julianne McElhenny (Sweden) MCC
- Juliana Schwab (Hamlin) SUNY Brockport
- Alexandra Bradshaw (Hamlin) Niagara University
- Brooke Hare (Hamlin) SUNY Brockport
- Taylor Kingsbury (Hamlin) St. John Fisher
- Solera Sherry (Hamlin) Buffalo State College

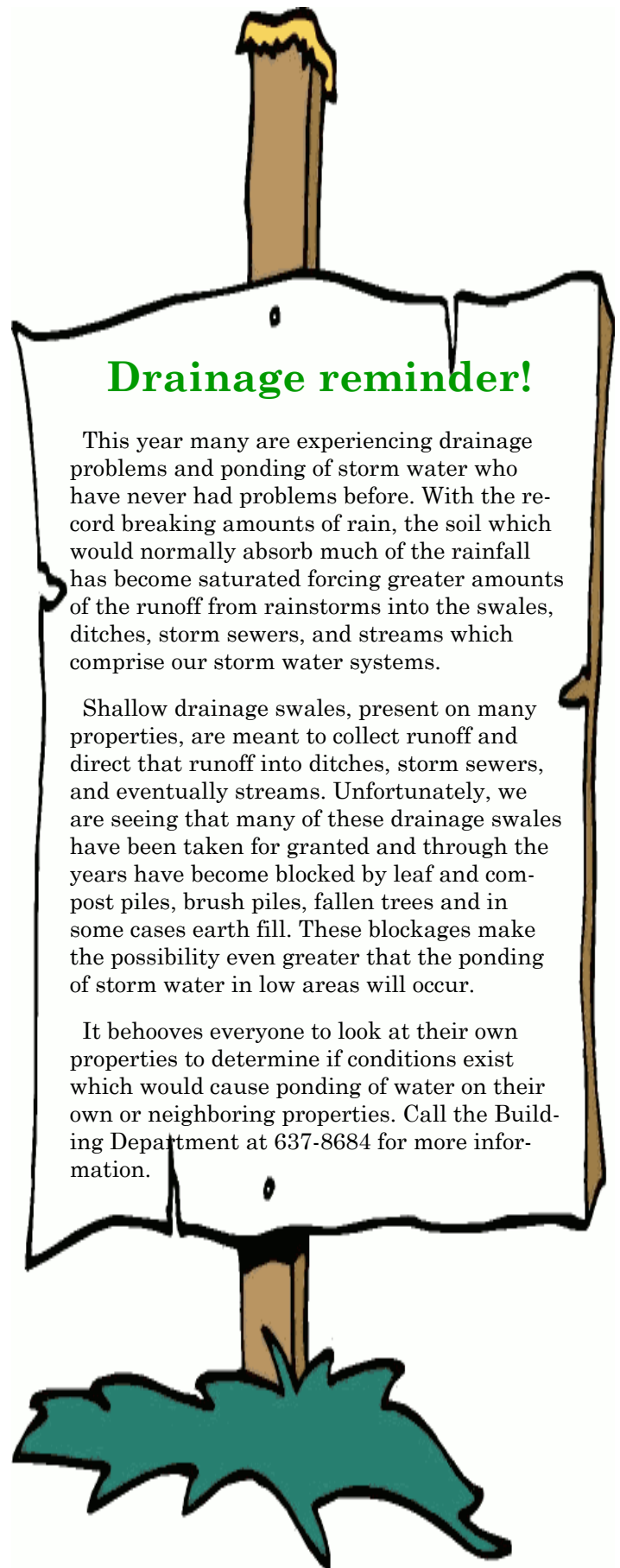
Margaret A. McGrath established the Foundation in 2004 under her will. The Foundation has awarded \$616,000 in scholarships since its formation.

Qualifying 2018 graduating high school seniors and current college students should submit applications for the 2018-2019 academic year by March 1, 2018. For more information, contact Executive Director and Trustee Richard J. Dollard at 637-7170.
www.frontiernet.net/~mcgrathfound

Summer office/highway hours

The Town Hall is on its summer hours schedule of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The offices return to 9 am to 5 pm on the Tuesday after Labor Day. The tax department has very part-time summer hours, call 637-2145 for information.

The highway department works four-day weeks in the summer. Contact 637-3369, Monday through Thursday.



Public water study continues with income survey

Last October, the Town of Sweden sent a water survey to all property owners who do not have public water. The survey gauged the quality and quantity of well water; the desire of property owners to have public water; and income levels.

Household income is an important factor in determining what grants/low interest loans may be available to the Town to extend public water. On May 23, the Town Board hired G & G Municipal Consulting and Grant Writing to conduct a formal income survey which is necessary to apply for state and federal funding. The Town must provide certain information regarding the household characteristics of the population that is intended to benefit from the water improvements.

Over the summer, Sweden property owners (without public water) will receive a confidential survey from G & G Municipal Consulting. Please complete the survey form upon receipt and return it in the stamped envelope provided. G & G Municipal Consulting will compile the results of the survey. **No one from the Town Government will see your confidential survey form. Please be assured that the data collected in this survey will be held in the strictest confidence.**

After the survey is mailed, representatives from G & G Municipal Consulting will be conducting a door to door canvass at non-responsive households.

The Town really needs property owners to participate and provide the information in order to pursue any

grant/loan assistance. Without state/federal funding, the expansion of water lines is nearly impossible.

Thank you in advance for participating. If you have any questions, or need a replacement copy of the survey, please call the Supervisor's office at 637-7588 or G & G Municipal Consulting at 368-8866.

Supervisor's message

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the places Walmart wants to promote this service.

A self-storage unit facility has been approved by the Planning Board on Owens Road. Both Aldis and Taco Bell have submitted plans for additions. Taco Bell also plans a major interior re-model.

You can follow the progress of all these projects by reading the planning board minutes on-line or by checking in with our planning and building department. It's nice to see new development here and existing development upgrading facilities.

We've tried to help the New York State Department of Transportation keep you informed about the Route 531/Route 31 project. We post updates on our town website and of course, the DOT, itself is the best source of information.

Rob Carges, Supervisor

Safety first this summer—think pools and sparkling devices

It's that time of year when we spend as much time outdoors as we can enjoying the weather and summer activities. Two favorite activities are swimming and watching fireworks.

Pool permits are required in the Town of Sweden. There are so many pool safety features and installation parameters that inspections are necessary in order to be sure that users are protected to the fullest extent possible.

The Town of Sweden has many unclosed pool permits from the past few years—residents have not called to have the final inspection done. The Building Department will be sending letters to expired pool permit holders to bring them into compliance with the final inspection.

If you know that you never had the final inspection, give us a call—don't want for the letter, Help us help you keep your family and friends safe. For information about receiving a new pool permit or closing out an old pool permit, call the Building Department at 637-8684.

Fireworks are a great summer activity when performed by professionals. Many people like to purchase set off

their own consumer fireworks.

A recent change in New York State Penal Law allows for the sale and use of a specific category of consumer fireworks known as Sparkling Devices. Sparkling Devices are ground-based or handheld devices that produce a shower of colored sparks and or a colored flame, audible crackling or whistling noise and smoke. The law limits the type, size and construction of Sparkling Devices and requires that these devices must be hand held or mounted on a base or spike and be limited in sizes that range from 1 to 500 grams of pyrotechnic composition. Sale and use of Sparkling Devices is only legal in counties that have enacted a local law.

Monroe County did NOT enact a law for Sparkling Devices therefore these devices are NOT legal in the Town of Sweden. In 2013, there were 8 deaths and 11,400 reported injuries in the United States related to fireworks. Sparklers accounted for 31% of these injuries. Many of these injuries were to people under the age of 18.

Sweden Building Department

Join us for Summer Camp Fun—2017!

Week 1: 6/26-6/30 Rochester Museum & SC (W)...\$135 Program #4053-A

Week 2: 7/5-7/7 Hamlin Beach (Th)...\$75 (3-day week) Program #4053-B

Week 3: 7/10-7/14 Altitude (W)...\$135 Program #4053-C

Week 4: 7/17-7/21 Adventure Landing (W)...\$135 Program #4002-D

Week 5: 7/24-7/28 Seneca Park Zoo (W)...\$125 Program #4053-E

Week 6: 7/31-8/4 Cook out Sweden Park (W)...\$125 Program #4053-F

Week 7: 8/7-8/11 Darien Lake (W)...\$135 Program #4053-G

Week 8: 8/14-8/18 Minnehan's (W)...\$135 Program #4053-H

Week 9: 8/21-8/25 Seabreeze (W)...\$135 Program #4053-I

Camp runs daily Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

Early/Late Care: 7-8:30am and 4:30-6pm

\$7 for either or \$12 for both, \$50 entire week for both

Daily rate for residents: \$25, (\$35 on fieldtrip day)

Non-residents: \$30, (\$40 on fieldtrip day)

CITs (completed 7th grade-starting 9th grade)

Jr. Counselors (completed 9th grade-starting 11th grade)

CITs and Jr. Counselors are required to register and pay the daily or weekly rate as above.

Come and spend your summer with us!



Sweden and Brockport hold joint boards workshop

Members of the Sweden Town Board and the Brockport Village Board met in a joint workshop on Thursday, June 15 at the Sweden Town Hall. The informal discussion centered upon existing shared services and possible future partnerships.

The Governor’s Shared Services Legislation requires municipalities under the umbrella of County Executives to develop new Shared Services Initiatives that result in property tax savings.

Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo held the first of three required Panel meetings on June 21. Sweden and Brockport had previously participated in the 2015 Local Government Tax Freeze Efficiency Plan that highlighted shared services already undertaken. New initiatives are being explored.

Brush disposal option available

The Town of Sweden Highway Department picks up brush twice a year in the Town outside the Village of Brockport. What does a homeowner do with a tree or large quantity of brush outside those times? The highway department will leave a truck in a homeowner’s driveway overnight or over a weekend so that the resident may load the brush for disposal. This service is available only for residential properties and only for brush removal undertaken by the homeowner (if a landscaping company or contractor performs the service, they must also remove the debris). Call 637-3369 to arrange for a highway truck to be dropped off. Truck availability is dependent on the highway department work schedule. The next general brush pick-up will be held in October.

Town of Sweden Phone List

Assessor	637-8684
Building/Planning	637-8683
Cemetery	637-3369
Court	637-1070
Clerk	637-2144
Dog Control	637-4260
Finance/Personnel	637-7588
Highway	637-3369
Recreation	431-0090
Supervisor/Board	637-7588
Tax Receiver	637-2145

Erie Canal 200—Celebrating the Erie Canal Groundbreaking

The Town of Sweden is participating with the Village of Brockport and the Greater Brockport Development Corporation in the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Erie Canal. Events are free and include:

July 2—Farmers Market, Market Street 8 am—1 pm

July 3 7-9 pm activities at the Sweden/Clarkson Community Center, 4927 Lake Road and fireworks at dusk

July 4 10 am—3 pm activities at the Morgan Manning House, 151 Main Street

July 6 7 pm July Dunlap & Jimmy Whitaker Summer Serenades at the Welcome Center, 11 Water Street (Rain Location 133 State Street (Sweden Senior Center/Lodge)

July 7 8 pm Water Music NY with the Albany Symphony at the Welcome Center, 11 Water Street.

July 3 Celebration & Fireworks

Music & Activities 7 pm @ Community Center

4927 Lake Road

Fireworks Dusk @ Community Center

Information: 431-0090

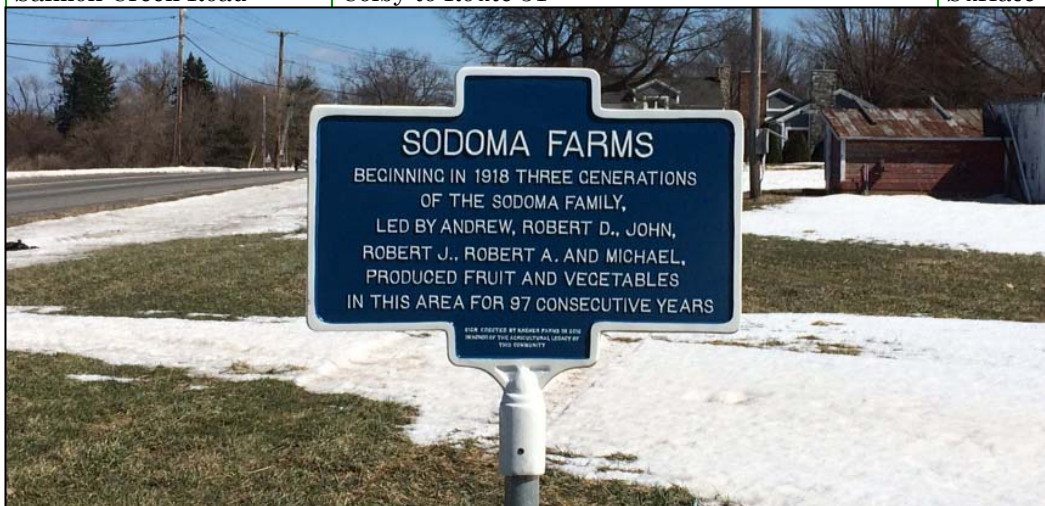
Snapshots: Send ideas, comments and suggestions to Leisa Strabel at the Sweden Town Hall, 18 State Street, Brockport, NY 14420. Phone: 637-7588; Fax: 431-0039; email: leisas@townofsweden.org

Scheduled road work projects for 2017—town and county

The Town has a more than half-million dollar annual budget for road re-construction and repair. This half million dollars is spent on the Town's 57 lane miles of road. The Town also performs work on Monroe County's 61 lane miles of roads through the Town of Sweden as contracted. The following is a list of the 2017 scheduled projects (both Town and County roads). Some of the projects

may have already been completed by the time of this newsletter's publication. The highway department sends notices to property owners when there is going to be major disruptions to traffic/driveway access. If you have questions, please call Superintendent Brian Ingraham at 637-3369 or 637-1090.

Rogers Parkway	Entire length	Mill and pave
Hickory Way	Entire length	Mill and pave
Hollybrook Road	Between Crestview and Gary Drive	Mill and pave
Countryview Terrace	Entire length	Crack fill/chip seal
Harthshorn Place	Entire length	Crack fill/chip seal
Beadle Road	Between Route 19 and Redman Road	Crack fill/chip seal
Owens Road	Entire length	Crack fill/chip seal
Eisenhauer Drive, Redman Road (Capen south), Gallup Road (Rt 31 to Campbell and White Road		Prep work for 2018 maintenance
Golden Hill Lane	Entire length	Crack fill/chip seal
Long Point Lane	Entire length	Crack fill/chip seal
Colby Street	Between Route 19 and Hubble Street	TBD
Root Road	Entire length	Cold in place recycle and chip seal
White Road	Redman Road to West Sweden	1.5 inch paver overly
Salmon Creek Road	Colby to Route 31	Surface treat



The name Sodoma is synonymous with farming in the Town of Sweden. This historic marker was placed at 660 East Avenue over the winter, commemorating nearly 100 years of farming by the Sodoma family. Visitors to the East Avenue strawberry patch will recognize the location. Thank you to Peter Martin for sharing the photo. Best wishes to the Sodoma family!

Clarkson Justice Hammel appointed to Sweden bench

Sweden Justice Kevin G. Johnson resigned his post on April 6, 2017 in order to pursue the Town of Sweden Supervisor's seat in the general election November 7. Election law does not permit a sitting judge to pursue another elected position.

The Sweden judge's seat will be filled by voters in the November 7 election, also. In the meantime, the Sweden Town Board felt that the Sweden Court could not function efficiently with only one judge for eight months. On April 11, the Town Board appointed Clarkson Justice Allyn S. Hammel to fill the vacancy through December 31, 2017 at a salary of \$10,000 for the period.

Judge Hammel is an experienced jurist having held the Clarkson justice position since 2002. As a neighboring Town Justice, he is very familiar with the Sweden Community and has a close working relationship with Swe-

den Justice Robert Connors. In addition, Judge Hammel's Clarkson court clerk Stacy Burke is also a part-time court clerk for the Town of Sweden.

"Judge Hammel's knowledge of our community and his working relationship with our court makes this interim appointment very workable for our court and those appearing before it," said Supervisor Rob Carges.



Justice Allyn S. Hammel

Local law updates, adopted and in process

change to Sweden Town Code Chapter 40 Procurement Policy. The change raised the Town's threshold for bidding contract purchases and public works projects to the levels set by New York State. The Town's threshold had been \$10,000 for each type. The new thresholds are \$20,000 for purchase contracts/ \$35,000 public works projects.

The Town Board has scheduled a July 25 Public Hearing on a proposed change to Chapter 175-24 Home Occupations. The proposal would move the application approval process from the Zoning Board of Appeals to the Planning Board.

In addition to these Local Laws and Code Change, the Town Board has recently adopted an amended Employee Handbook including several new policies. The new poli-

In Memoriam: Benjamin Levchuk

Benjamin Levchuk worked for the Town of Sweden for a short time before his tragic death on May 15. He is survived by his parents, Olga Levchuk and Vladimir Levchuk; siblings, Victoria and William; grandparents, Zinaida and Leonid Goroshko; Svetlana and Sergey Levchuk, best friend, Kirby Trask and many loving family members and dear friends.

Arrangements were handled by Vay-Schleich and Meeson Funeral Home. His celebration of life was held at the Calvary Chapel in Spencerport. Interment, Parma Corners Cemetery.

The Town of Sweden expresses its deepest condolences to the Levchuk family and Benjamin's many friends.

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cies include: a Whistleblower Policy, a Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Statement Policy, Social Media Policy, Pregnancy Accommodation and Volunteer Emergency Responder Leave policies.

Assessment office update

The Board of Assessment Review had just a handful of Grievances filed this year. Determinations have been made and will be available on the Final Assessment Roll beginning July 1, 2017.

As a reminder for those who have recently purchased a property that is your primary residence, please go online to register for the STAR exemption at: <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/default.htm>

Tammy J. Baker, Assessor

Potable water available for residents

Potable water is available at no charge to Sweden residents at the Highway Garage, 40 White Road. The spigot is located on the west side of the building and is accessible even after regular business hours. Water is also available at Lakeview Cemetery, 4988 Lake Road, at the barn. Residents who are on well water may make use of this free service for drinking water only. It is not intended to be used to fill swimming pools. Commercial haulers are prohibited. For more information about the service, call the highway garage at 637-3369.

Summer projects galore around the Town!

Sweden/Clarkson Community Center Accessible Parking

The Town of Sweden has received a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to improve accessible parking at the Community Center. The facility had the legally required number of spaces (actually more) but some visitors had complained about the distance and slope to the front of the building from the main parking lot. The new accessible spots along the front will help.

In addition, new spots are being created on the north west side for direct access to the fitness center. Members of the fitness center will be able to “buzz” the front desk for admittance instead of parking out front and walking through the gymnasium.

Improvements are being done by the highway department and buildings and grounds department and should be complete by the end of the summer.



Sweden Town Park Youth Baseball Field 5

Youth Baseball Field 5 has been in use for decades—long before the Town of Sweden owned the Redman Road park. The Town had undertaken a few minor upgrades to the field in the past, but parents had actively lobbied the Town Board for more substantial improvements for the past couple of years. This spring, RM Landscape undertook the rebuild of the field—and although the very rainy season delayed work by a bit—the field renovations are complete. Teams are being kept off the field for a while—to be sure the sod takes hold. But later this summer, it will be back to “let’s play ball!”



Sweden Dog Park Bench Dedication

The Sweden Dog Park has been a tremendous success—with many participants stating that it is the best dog park in the area. John and Irene Brennan enjoy the Sweden Dog Park so much that when their dog Zeke passed away, they wanted to honor him with a bench at the park. Above, Irene poses with Supervisor Rob Carges and the Brennan’s Maverick on the bench in Zeke’s memory. The dog park is a great place for dogs to exercise and socialize, and it’s a great place for their humans to be outdoors and socialize, too!