

VILLAGE OF ORCHARD PARK

2008 NEWSLETTER



A word from the mayor...

The 2007-'08 year was a year of change for our Village... Did you notice?

On December 28, 2007 our Village Clerk Treasurer, Carol Stressinger retired after 33 years of service. Paul Barker, DPW Director with 37 years of service retired on the same day. Seventy years of knowledge and experience were no longer available.

Mary Beth Jensen was appointed Clerk Treasurer. Under Carol's watchful eye for five years, Mary Beth learned what it takes to be a first rate Clerk Treasurer and she has the Village Clerk's office running smoothly. The transition from old to new was seamless.

Kelly Stressinger was appointed as Deputy Clerk Treasurer and Andrew Slotman was appointed DPW Director. Both are young and energetic, well qualified and have been doing a fine job.

It was the first full year with Erie County Sewer District 3 operating our sanitary sewer system. There has been no reason to find fault with the level of service we receive. It does mean more work as I have been reappointed to the Sewer District 3 board of managers.

The Highland-Woodview flood study was completed and presented to the public. It has generated a great deal of interest and opportunity for the Village and Town to work jointly with State and Federal agencies and the private sector on an accelerated schedule to improve conditions for the flooded area.

We will see the reconstruction of the Freeman Road Bridge and Freeman Pond spillway this summer with the road closing the day after school closes. Next year the Forest Avenue Bridge will be rebuilt under a Town contract.

And of course there was the Town Supervisor's Task Force for streamlining local government, a duplication of former Governor Spitzer's Commission on Local Government. In talking with oh so many of you, I have found that there is little desire on the part of Village residents to dissolve the Village and merge with the Town. This however may be an ongoing issue as large inefficient government looks to get larger by eliminating smaller efficient governments and effectively place representation in the hands of fewer people.

The Governor's commission recently made its findings public and it is reported to recommend that the State legislature limit or eliminate "Home Rule" and could go as far as eliminating Village Government entirely.

Changes coming under the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation Storm Water Management laws will affect every homeowner from the way we discharge storm water to the streams, to the way we rake our leaves in the fall. Storm Water Management, an unfunded mandate, will continue to increase in cost annually as the State imposes more regulation as they enforce the Federal Clean Water Act.

This is a small snapshot of where we have been and what is ahead for our Village. I look forward to the challenges and continuing to work for you.

I wish you well.

**4295 South Buffalo Street
662-9327 ~ 662-0891 (Fax)
Office Hours: 9 am-5 pm
Monday-Friday**

Board of Trustees

**John B Wilson
Mayor**

Trustee Stephen N Bray
Deputy Mayor
Finance and Budget
Public Works / Water
Village Code Review
Planning Board Liaison

Trustee Francis T. Hogenkamp
Street Lights, Sidewalks, &
Signals
Senior Projects
Town Board Liaison
Business Community Liaison
Beautification

Trustee Linda A Koller
Revenues from outside Vlg
Events & Celebrations
State & County Liaison
Zoning Board Liaison
Master Plan Update

Trustee David A. Rood
Youth Coordinator
Solid Waste & Recycling
Insurance
Building Dept Liaison
Franchises

www.orchardparkvillage.org

POLICE—FIRE—EMERGENCY 911

NON EMERGENCY 662-6444

The police station is located in the back of the Municipal Center. Police Chief Andrew Benz and his very competent detectives and police officers are always available to serve and protect us. The police department uses an enhanced 911 emergency calling system that helps locate the origin of any call received. The appropriate police, fire, or medical emergency personnel are then sent in response. Fingerprinting, by appointment, is available for pistol permits, adoptions, naturalization, securities licenses, liquor licenses

Department of Public Works 662-3866

The crew at the Department of Public Works are your most visible Village employees. Andrew Slotman is the newly appointed Director and is eager to work with the experienced crew to serve the citizens of Orchard Park. The department responsible for the many services that the Village provides: water delivery, street repairs, storm water pollution prevention, brush and leaf collection, and beautification of the Village. They are available 24 hours a day to respond to a water break, snowstorm, or emergency situation.

During the winter, the Village DPW uses a bombardier sidewalk plow to clear the sidewalks. This is a courtesy to the residents. The Code stipulates it is the resident's responsibility to clear their sidewalk; therefore, touch ups may be needed. The Municipal Code mandates that no person shall (or cause to) throw, put, push, or place snow or ice into any public highway, street, public place or thoroughfare in the Village. This activity produces a safety hazard to the public and creates an unnecessary responsibility for the Village. Please advise your snowplow contractor of this Code.

The Village is committed to collecting brush and leaves in a timely manner. Tree limbs (4" diameter maximum) and brush that require chipping need to be placed at the curb with the cut end toward the street. During October and November, leaves will be picked up by the vacuum machines. All leaves must be debris free to prevent personal injury or damage to the machine. Christmas trees will be collected from the end of December through January – again, place them at the curb with the cut end out. All decorations, tinsel, wiring, and nails must be removed. Everything that is collected is taken to the Town Compost Site at 6909 Milestrip Road and recycled into mulch or compost. Village residents are welcomed to participate in mulch pickup from the Town. For more information, contact the Town Clerk's office at 662-6410.

The DPW is devoted to providing exceptional service to the citizens of Orchard Park. To accomplish this, we encourage your interaction and communication with us. Please contact us with any concerns at 662-3866.



Building Department 662-9327

To protect all residents and property owners, Building Permits are required to assure compliance with the NYS Fire Prevention and Uniform Building Code and the Village of Orchard Park Municipal Code.

A Building Permit is required:

- For all new construction or additions
- When the cost of a repair to an existing building exceeds \$10,000.00
- When a repair affects the structure of an existing building
- When an electrical circuit is installed or extended
- When remodeling involves the removal or relocation of walls; or affects the structure of a building
- When a solid fuel device, such as a wood burning stove or fireplace is installed or repaired.
- When the use of a building is changed
(ie: a retail store to a doctor's office...)
- When the required fire safety features in an existing building are affected by repairs, remodeling or alterations
- For a shed, fence, pool, sign or new paved surfaces

Jeff Sweet, Village Building Inspector, will answer questions and help with the permit process. He is available Monday-Friday 4-5pm, or after hours by appointment.

Garbage and Recycling 824-3766

Modern Disposal Services, Inc. is contracted to provide garbage and recycling collection for all one, two and three family homes in the Village. Each Tuesday all refuse and recycling must be within three feet of the roadside by 6am. They will collect up to eight cans/bags from each residence. Acceptable waste must be in watertight garbage cans with lifting handles or watertight plastic bags not to exceed 40-gallon capacity. Each can or bag must not exceed 60 lbs. Bulk items will be collected the first Tuesday of every month. A detailed list of guidelines is available in the Village Office. Recycle bins can be purchased in the Town Tax Office for \$7.50.

A low volume discount is available, call the Village Office for more information. For hazardous household waste disposal, call 858-6370.

If the following holiday falls on a Monday or Tuesday, your collection day will be on Wednesday for that week only: New Years Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Christmas Day.

Planning Board

The dedicated volunteers who presently serve on the Planning Board are Chairman Gunner Tronolone, John Spagnoli, Dale Pyne, and Michael Borowiak. Clara Lewis is the secretary. Planning Board meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Municipal Center. The board reviews permit applications in non-residential zones, all referrals from the Zoning Board of Appeals, and any other permits or matters referred by the Building Inspector or the Village Board. All permit applications must be submitted to the Village Office no later than noon on the Wednesday, two weeks prior to the meeting date. The Building Inspector and the Planning Board secretary can be reached at the Village Office and will be happy to assist you through the process.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is also comprised of dedicated volunteers: John Leach, Chairman, Matthew Flaughner, Ted Pieczonka, Nancy Stock and Steve Snyder. Clara Lewis is the secretary. The Village Building Inspector reviews all permit applications to determine if variances to the Village's Municipal Code are needed. If a variance is required, the applicant completes a Zoning Board of Appeals application and a public hearing is scheduled. A public hearing is published in the Orchard Park Bee and notices are sent to all property owners within 200' of the subject property. At the public hearing the ZBA reviews the application and interested parties are given the opportunity to express concerns. The ZBA, which must follow specific criteria for granting any variance, then votes on the requested variance.

Selling or Buying a House in the Village?

You must have a sewer inspection done before a transfer of ownership takes place when selling/buying a house. The cost of the inspection is \$75.00 and it is the current owner's responsibility. The fee gets paid to the "Village of Orchard Park". Once paid, the Village office contacts Erie County Sewer to arrange for inspection. Please call the Village office if you have any questions.

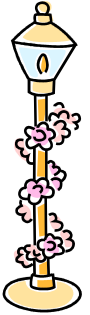
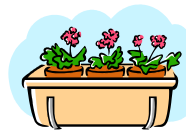
Village Justice Court 662-6415



The Village Court is in session the first Thursday of each month at 3pm in the court room of the Municipal Center. The Village Court is represented by Village Justice Philip M Marshall, Acting Village Justice Deborah Chimes and Prosecutor John C Bailey, who is also the Village Attorney.

Tree Planting and Beautification

Through the enthusiastic efforts of Maureen Davern, Justine LeFauve and many other volunteers, financial contributions, and the commitment of the Village DPW, we enjoy hanging flower baskets and planter boxes. Anyone wishing to make a tax deductible donation to Beautify Orchard Park II (BOP II) may do so through the Village Office. Each year trees are added and dead or diseased street trees throughout the Village are replaced. Your concerns regarding trees can be called in to the Village Office.



Annual Water Quality Report

Enclosed please find a copy of the Annual Water Quality Report, complying with State & Federal regulations. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Additional information is available in the Village Office, or on the internet at www.ecwa.org.

Churches and Organizations

A complete listing of area churches appears in our local phone book "Who's Who in Orchard Park". This book is prepared as a yearly fund-raiser by the local Boy Scout Troops. Copies can be purchased for \$5 in the Village Office or at various local businesses.

A list of community organizations and phone numbers appears on the bulletin board in the main hall of the Municipal Center.

Post Office 662-4110

The Orchard Park Post Office is located on School Street between South Buffalo Street and South Lincoln Avenue.



The hours of operation are:

Monday thru Friday 8:30am —5:00pm

Saturday 8:30am —4:00pm

Library 662-9851 4570 South Buffalo Street

The Orchard Park Library is part of the Erie County Library System. It is located at the corner of Highland Avenue and South Buffalo Street.

RECREATION

Yates Park— Parking stickers are available at the Recreation Building or in the Town Clerk’s Office for Orchard Park residents. For information regarding shelter rentals, call 662-6450.

Chestnut Ridge Park	662-3290
Senior Citizens	
Senior Center	662-6452
OP Senior Citizens	649-5043
Meals on Wheels	852-2626
Senior Citizen Van	895-0400
Senior Nutrition	662-8378
Senior Discount Cards	858-8526
Youth	
Boys & Girls Club	662-1941
Town Recreation	662-6450
YMCA	Eggert Rd. 662-9369
	Southwestern Blvd. 674-9622



ORCHARD PARK CENTRAL SCHOOLS

www.opschools.org

General Information	209-6222
4040 Baker Road	
South Davis Elementary	209-6246
55 South Davis Street	
Eggert Elementary	209-6215
3580 Eggert Road	
Windom Elementary	209-6279
3870 Sheldon Road	
Ellicott Elementary	209-6278
5180 Ellicott Road	
Middle School	209-6220
60 S Lincoln Avenue	
High School	209-6242
4040 Baker Road	
Community Education	209-6295
4040 Baker Road	

AREA EVENTS

Memorial Day Parade: May 26, 9:00am from the Library to Veteran’s Park, where a service is held.



Quaker Arts Pavilion Concert Series: (662-7387)
Concerts June thru August by a variety of musical performers. Programs available



Fourth of July: (662-3366)
8pm parade from Baker Road to the Middle School. Fireworks at dusk.

Caribbean Night: July 24 (6:30-10:30pm)

Summer in the Park:
Ice Cream Social: July 25(7–10 pm)
Car Show & Street Dance: July 26
Car Show begins at 11:30 am
Street Dance from 7:30-11:30 pm



Erie County Fair and Expo: August 6–August 17
(649-3900) www.americas-fair.com

Orchard Park Symphony Orchestra: (662-5701)
September–March at the Orchard Park Middle School



Quaker Arts Festival: (667-2787)
September 20-21 at the Orchard Park Middle School

Veterans’ Day: November 11
Service in Veterans Park at 11:00 am

Holiday in the Park: December 6 at the Depot

WALK THE VILLAGES...the Village of Orchard Park will once again be participating in the “Walk the Villages” program that has been well received by many villages across the state. It is a program to encourage people to exercise while exploring their community as well as neighboring communities. The program runs from June 1 – October 1. Stop into the Village office after June 1st to pick up your “Walk the Villages Kit”. For more information, call the village office at 662-9327 or log onto www.walkthevillages.com

UTILITIES

Water	Village of OP	662-9327
Sewer	Erie County	823-8188
Electric	NYSEG	1-800-572-1111 service 1-800-572-1131 emergency
Gas	National Fuel	686-6123 service 1-800-444-3130 emergency

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