



ELECTION RESULTS

Mayor: Joe Keegan

Trustees: Jenifer Pratico (elected to 3rd term) and welcome Trustee Lissa D'Aquanni.

Covid-19 pushed village elections to Sept 2020.

Lissa was appointed by the Mayor after elected trustee Bob Schmidt declined the position. Lissa writes grants, teaches at SUNY Albany, and counsels companies on strategic planning. She's a great fit for the board.

Mayor Keegan has lived in the village since 2003. He and his family are restoring an older home on Benedict Street.

The Castletonian

Nov 2020

Meet the DPW Crew



Dan Lebrecht (pictured in middle above) – Dan is the Working Foreman with a water treatment license. He has worked for the Village since 2006.

Jeff Duncan (pictured left) – Jeff has worked for the Village since 2019 and also just completed his water system operator training.

Eric Barber (far right) – Eric has worked for the Village since 2019 and also serves as a volunteer firefighter for the Castleton Fire Department. Eric just completed his water system operator training.

Water and Wastewater

Ken Meyer – Ken is the Working Supervisor of the Wastewater Department. Ken has been a village employee since 1999.

Joe Garavelli (pictured right) – Joe is the Working Supervisor of the Water Department. Joe has been a village employee since 2016.



Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

The Wastewater treatment plan (also called the Sewage treatment plant) which was built in 1985 is getting a much needed upgrade. We'll be getting: new mechanicals, 2 new buildings, new grit removal, a new clarifier, new generator and lots more. Once the project is complete there will be savings in electric due to the new, more efficient equipment and we'll be eliminating our sludge hauling costs. The plant will be getting high speed internet (right now there is only dial-up) to monitor our entire water and wastewater system for alarms from our various buildings around the Village and Town. Our plant services the entire village plus the high school and properties up Maple Hill Road. Funding for the project came from a variety of sources. Former Senator Kathy Marchione secured a \$1.35 million grant to the project. The remainder we borrowed at less than 1% interest (that is not a typo). The project will take almost a year from start to finish.



In the meantime..... One of the most difficult parts of the project is to keep everything working while the project is in progress. We've got that covered but you can help by not flushing wipes, diapers, rags or anything other than toilet paper down the toilet. Even flushable wipes are not flushable and they clog up the works. Thanks for your help with this !!

Meet the Team, con't

Other village employees include:

Padraic Ellis – Padraic is the Clerk/Treasurer. He has worked for the Village since 2018.

Janice Better – Jan is the Deputy Clerk. She has worked for the Village since 2015.

Gary Zeigler – Gary is the Building Inspector. He has worked for the Village since 2012.

Jim Lance – Jim is Code Enforcement Officer. He has worked for the Village since 2015.

For updates on happenings around the village and to access the monthly calendars, please bookmark our website and visit frequently:

CASTLETON-ON-HUDSON.ORG

BLDG PERMITS

A reminder that building permits are required for most home alterations including (but not limited to): new roof shingles, new windows, adding a room of any kind, adding a garage or shed, adding solar panels, cutting trees (if your property is in the critical overlay), adding a fence or deck, demolishing a structure (garage, shed, or house). Not Sure? Give the Bldg. Inspector a call. 518.605.2184

Snow Emergency Plan

If it snows and you're not able to park in your own driveway, here is where you can park: For North Main Street: Park on the west side of the street (river side). For South Main Street: While it is snowing, park on the east side of the street (The Store side); once the snow stops, move to the west side. For everyone else in the Village, we use the odd/even system so that the plows don't have to zig-zag in and out of parked cars on both sides of the street. On odd days we ask that you NOT park on the odd side of the street. On even days we ask that you NOT park on the even side of the street. If you live at a dead end, please do not use that space for parking so the plows can push the snow to the end of the street. During a snow emergency there is NO parking on any of the hills in the village. This includes Stimpson Avenue, Green Avenue, Scott Avenue and Seaman Avenue. If you do not have a driveway, you can temporarily park at one of the following locations: Sacred Heart Church on Stimpson Avenue; Trinity Lutheran Church on Green Avenue; Behind the fire house; the two village-owned parking lots are on South Main Street. One is across from the post office next to Grant's Auto and the other is next to the Cherrybrook diner across from The Store.

We're part of Tree City USA

The Village of Castleton is officially part of the Tree City USA program which is part of the National Arbor Day Foundation. While there are plenty of trees in Castleton, program members get assistance with types of trees to plant, discounts on trees, technical assistance with existing trees and lots more. The Village is the only community in Rensselaer County to be part of the program. Special thanks to Mike Martin, Director of Parks and Recreation for the Town of East Greenbush for getting the program up and running.

Tidbits

Social Media – We are working on a new and improved Facebook site and maybe a Twitter account. Stay tuned for more information.

Code Enforcement – A resident recently asked "Can I park on the opposite side of the street facing the wrong way?". The answer is "No." This has never been allowed in the Village. A first infraction will net you a friendly notice of the oversight and the 2nd time will result in a parking ticket. **Code Enforcement Infraction of the Month:** trash spilling out of the can (if the lid



Pictured from Left to Right: Mike Martin, Marianne Carner – Deputy Mayor, Trustee Sharon Martin, Trustee Jen Pratico, Mayor Keegan

isn't fully closed then you have too much in there).

Street Sweeping – we're always amazed at how much dirt and debris is collected after a day of sweeping; Street sweeping is also part of our EPA MS4 stormwater discharge program. MS4 helps riverfront communities keep dirty water and debris from flowing into the Hudson. **Campbell Ave Crossing at Castleton Elementary School** – Just a reminder that NYS law gives pedestrians the right of way in a crosswalk. That means if you see a pedes-

trian walking in the crosswalk you must STOP your car until the pedestrians reach the other side. This means cars coming from either direction.

Four Way Stops – We get lots of calls asking us to remind residents to come to a FULL stop at the four way stops at Green Ave/Morgan Terrace and Seaman Ave/Campbell Ave. School is in session so please come to a FULL stop (not a rolling stop and not a buzz through the stop sign).

Thank You !!

We said goodbye to...

Robert Boyle (79) - Robert passed on August 2, 2020. He served in the Air National Guard and was a member of the Castleton Boat Club, being elected as Commodore in 1996.

James W. Ostrander (84) - Jimmy passed on August 4, 2020. He served in the Army from 1955 to 1957 and retired from the East Greenbush Central School District. **Nicholas Belardo, Sr. (41)** - Nicholas passed on August 8, 2020. He was a graduate of Maple Hill High School and was a Section II Class D wrestler with several championships.

Matthew H. Bleadow (90) - Matthew passed on September 14, 2020 of natural causes. He was a member of the National Guard and was a substitute bus driver for the Schodack School System.

Norman Bullinger, Jr. (64) - Norman passed on September 22, 2020. He was a professional house painter and owner of Hawkeye Painting. **John W. Fratianni** - John passed on September 23, 2020. He served his country on the USS Albany (CG10) from 1977-1981.

Castleton Fire Department

As summer turns to fall and fall to winter we take this time to reflect on 2020. Please know that Castleton Fire has continued to drill each Tuesday night to keep our skills sharp and our equipment ready for any emergency. We are anxious to resume our monthly breakfast; however our primary concern is keeping our community and our members healthy and safe. As soon as possible we will be welcoming you in to enjoy breakfast with your friends and family. We miss you all! We ask you to keep your walkway and steps clear of falling leaves and snow and make sure we see your **house number**...seconds count in an emergency. We are excited to announce that the Castleton Fire Company will be joined by Castleton Volunteer Ambulance for Holiday Caroling on December 6th. Want a visit from the Holiday carolers? Watch our Facebook page for details on how to sign up.

Food Drive – The Castleton Fire Company is planning a food drive on Sunday, December 6 to benefit the Anchor. All you need to do is leave a bag of non-perishable food at the end of your driveway and the firemen will pick it up.

Castleton Ambulance

Be sure to sign up for the Annual **Super Bowl Sub Sale**. We use Bella Napoli rolls, we offer Ham, Turkey, and Italian Mixed. All come with lettuce, tomato, onions and cheese. Dressings are on the side. Call (518) 732-2563 to order. All orders by 1/28/2021. **Looking to be part of the Ambulance crew?** We're always welcoming new members with or without experience. We need drivers, EMT's, Attendants and Associates. Hours are flexible and we'll train you. Call today for an application.

Castleton-Schodack Kiwanis Club

The first "drive-through" chicken BBQ dinner took place in October and it went well. We will be hosting our winter Chicken BBQ fundraiser dinner on Sunday, January 24th from 12-4pm at the Castleton Fire Company - we anticipate at this time that

it will again be drive-through only. All monies raised during the chicken BBQ go directly back into our community. It is strongly recommended that you reserve your dinners in advance.

You can email us at castletonkiwanis@gmail.com or call 518-732-4228 up until January 22nd to pre-order dinners.

We said goodbye to... part 2

Sidney Kleinhans Sr. (55) - Sidney passed on October 3rd. He worked for Hamilton Printing and Durham School Services. **Charles Carver, Jr. (93)** - Charles passed on October 4th. Charles was a Korean War Army veteran. **Gaynell Jubrey (85)** - Gaynell passed on October 25th. She retired from the New York State Office of the Aging and frequently attended church suppers. **Edwin L. Ziegler** - Edwin passed on October 26th. He served in the U.S. Army and was a life member of the Castleton Fire Company and a 40 yr Castleton Boat Club member. **Mary A. Dudley (94)** - Mary passed on October 26th. She was an honorary member of the Schodack Landing Fire Company. **George R. Leonard (92)** George passed on October 29th. He was a US Navy veteran, Schodack Highway Superintendent and life member of the Castleton Fire Company. **John Rapp Jr. (28)** - John passed away on November 1st. He attended Hudson Valley Community College, receiving an Associates' Degree in Automotive Technical Services.



COHMSA, supported by village officials, staff and volunteers, helped clean up 225 lbs. of garbage from Riverfront Park, unveiling this hidden treasure and revealing beautiful vistas of the River.

Main Street Association – COHMSA

RIVERKEEPER SWEEP: On October 17, COHMSA, in partnership with Village Trustees, led Riverkeeper's annual Sweep which had been postponed due to COVID-19. With strict COVID safety guidelines and safe track crossing procedures, we cleaned up Riverfront Park. Drive or walk by and check out the beautiful views! Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who came out and helped and to the Castleton Department of Public Works. We represented Rensselaer County as one of more than 65 locations from Brooklyn to Watervliet with more than 900 volunteers. Together we removed 8 tons of trash, 1 ton of recycling, and 98 tires, and planted or maintained 500+ native trees and shrubs.

Anchor Food Pantry

Thrift Stores are still not open to the public but the food pantry is thriving. If you are in need of assistance, please give us a call at (518) 732-4120. We will gladly meet you at the door. Even if you can't get to us, call and we will work something out. No one should go hungry. We are planning our

Thanksgiving basket giveaway on Thursday, November 19 from noon to 5:00 pm. Must be signed up to be eligible. The Annual Christmas Tree Toy Shop is being planned for Tuesday, December 8 at the Castleton Ambulance Garage. It is by appointment only for children under 12. This year we lost

three of our usual sponsors and are asking anyone or any organization to donate new toys, cars, trucks, games, sports equipment, sleds, etc. or cash donations for our use in purchasing items. All these items, when collected, stay in our community. Donations can be mailed to the Anchor, PO Box 92, Castleton NY 12033

MAYOR

JOSEPH KEEGAN

TRUSTEES

MARIANNE CARNER, DEPUTY
MAYOR

SHARON MARTIN

JENIFER PRATICO

LISSA D'AQUANNI

DEPUTY CLERK-JAN BETTER

CLERK TREASURER – PADRAIC ELLIS



CASTLETON ON HUDSON, NEW YORK

We have a notary at village hall.

There is no charge for this service to our residents.

85 South Main Street, Castleton, NY 12033

Phone: (518) 732-2211 Fax: (518) 732-1550

www.castleton-on-hudson.org

Important Dates coming up ...

Our office will be closed on: Thursday and Friday, **November 26th and 27th** for Thanksgiving; Friday, **December 25th** for Christmas; Friday, **January 1st** for New Years; Monday, **January 18th** for Martin Luther King Day; and Monday, **February 15th** for President's Day.

3rd Quarter Water, Sewer and Refuse bills will be mailed on November 30, 2020 and are due by December 31, 2020.

On line credit card payments are now being accepted. Go to castleton-on-hudson.org and click the box with the credit card logos.

Leaf pick-up ends Friday, December 4th

Holiday Trees will be picked up on Monday, January 4th

HALLOWEEN PARADE

Thank you to the Castleton Public Library and the Castleton Fire Department for bringing the Halloween spirit to village residents during these challenging times. We hope that everyone came out in costume and received all the great candy that was distributed.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Swartz's farm for their generous donation of corn stalks and pumpkins to decorate Main Street.

WE'RE HIRING

The village of Castleton-on-Hudson is looking for an Office Assistant to work between 12 and 20 hours per month. Duties including filing, records management, and bill preparation. Drop an email to the clerk if interested: vocltreasurer@nycap.rr.com

The nautical signal flags, which spell "WELCOME HOME," have been taken down for the winter. The American flag will continue to fly and will be replaced as needed.