

VILLAGE OF PHOENIX

NEWSLETTER

VILLAGE BOARD & ADMINISTRATION

Mayor

Caleb Sweet

Trustees

Brian Borchik

Danny Dunn

Paul Griser

David Pendergast

Village Administrator

Jim Lynch

Village Clerk/Treasurer

Roxanne Demo

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Laura Gonzalez

Village Attorney

Jeffrey Schiano

D.P.W. Crew Leader

John Kerfien

Police Chief

Martin Nerber

Historian

Barbara Dix

Spring 2022



Message From The Mayor

Hello friends and neighbors! So happy to return to our seasonal newsletter.

As you know our village, as well as many families within, have been through many trials and tribulations, with the hurdles of illness and the passing of loved ones, the frustrations of mandates and the tolls of inflation. It has been stressful on all of us, but through it all, we have come together as a village of neighbors and friends, striving to keep our heads up and stay positive as we all look forward to the blossoms of spring.

Over the past few years, we've seen many families leave as well as new ones moving in to take their place. So as the ice melts into daffodils and people emerge from their homes to greet the sun and freshen up their landscapes, take time to say hello and possibly make a few new friends.

With the coming of spring, the kiddies will be out along with motorcycles buzzing the streets, so please keep an eye out and be safe. Along with them, our great DPW team will be doing their best to wipe away the grime of winter while picking up your yard waste, so please be sure to have this waste out to the curb in biodegradable bags for pickup.

I, along with everyone, look forward to a heartfelt and eventful spring and summer. We are doing our best to make our village a great place to live.

Sincerely,

Mayor Caleb Sweet



Police Department News

What an incredible fall/winter season we have had, and a safe one I would like to add. I would like to share with you a few thoughts and some updates since our last newsletter.



We welcomed Sgt. Ferazzoli (Fuzzy) to the staff at Maroun Elementary school as their newest school resource officer. Fuzzy brings over 30 years experience to the district in various facets.

We distributed hams and all the fixins to our senior citizens and to some families in need in the month of December. This was made possible by donations from citizens and Wegmans.

We also hosted one of our most successful and well received Shop with a Hero programs partnering with nearly every police agency in Oswego County, including the Oswego Youth Bureau and the United Way. We were able to help nearly 50 children for the holiday season.

I would like to announce a new program we have launched in an effort to help keep our Village safe and solving crimes more efficiently. We would like to invite our residents to register their in home security camera systems to include ring door bells. This is certainly not any instance of big brother and we are not asking to have access to your links or footage, it is simply a program to let us know where the cameras are to assist us in solving crimes. Technology is our friend and awareness is half the battle. Please send me an email at Phx9150@aol.com if you would like to participate in this program, I would need your address and the location of the camera's with specific points of view they would capture (direction). I would keep an updated list at our station for the officers only, this would not be shared publicly. Mr. Brian Borchik has also offered to install your Ring door bell camera for no charge, email me if this interests you.

We have received COVID-19 tests kits from the Office of the Aging that we will begin distributing to our C.H.O.O.S.E. senior citizens in the near future.

We are also currently accepting new unwrapped toy donations for local children at our police department until April 1st, this is an annual Golisano Children's Hospital Toy drive to benefit those children receiving treatments.

We still have some challenge coins left that are for sale for \$10 each, the proceeds go to our community programs such as CHOOSE, KIND, and Shop with a Hero. They can be purchased at The Medicine Place on Main Street.

Finally, be a good neighbor, foster positive relations with all that enjoy and live within our Village. Look out for our youth and our seniors.

Thank you,

Chief Marty Nerber

Toy Drive

Accepting Donations Through
Friday, April 1st 2022

Please donate new, unwrapped toys for local children during this winter/spring season!

Drop off Locations: Oswego City Police Dept., Phoenix Police Dept. & Oswego City-County Youth Bureau

For more information: 315-349-3451

Village Administrator Update

Welcome back! With some news and updates with your Village Newsletter, I hope all will get some enjoyment out of the articles and information we provide. As we look toward spring, I want to share some of the exciting news happening throughout the Village.

Economic Development: Filling vacant spaces with new and exciting businesses has been a challenge and a long standing goal of the Village administration. Our intent is to increase your experience while living or visiting here as well as updating the function and appearance of our downtown district, parks, recreational areas and riverfront amenities to meet our current needs, and improve the Village's tax base. We are excited about a couple of new development projects, the most visible you have all noticed is the addition of the new White Pines Commons plaza and community building on the corner of Davis Street and Volney Street. The space currently serves as the new home for Phoenix Martial Arts and Rising Nutrition along with additional available rental space and a 2,500 square foot community event space available for rent along with a 1,200 square foot outdoor patio. The other exciting news is that the new Oswego County Federal Credit Union will break ground on their new unique Phoenix office which will also be located at 101 Volney Street. This new building will blend nicely with the surrounding areas and will include additional new sidewalks for our students, visitors and residents to enjoy and remain safe while walking our Village. Our New York Main Street Grant has been underway with participation from some of our downtown buildings but the biggest transformation that you will soon notice is the renovation of the buildings on Bridge Street. We all know this building location as the "Cam's Pizzeria" building. This set of buildings will undergo all new storefront glass entrances, a new paint scheme and a new roof. Additional new businesses to visit are the Tumbleweed Brew Saloon Coffee Shop, Thrive Café, Bridge Street Bargains, Top Knotch Dog Grooming and a new tenant soon at 79 State Street. The "Larkin's" building has been sold and will also participate in the grant program with hopes of a new eatery to be open soon.

As the Village continues to plan for the future through the Comprehensive Plan process which will help to guide future growth and development. The Lock Street Pond renovation which is nearing completion was a collaborative effort of our Village DPW team and a DASNY grant from Senator Patti Ritchie's office. The Canalside Courts on State Street was made possible with a grant from The Shineman Foundation in Oswego and we hope with this addition along with the new adaptive kayak ramp and equipment rental program, the ever popular Bridge House Brats program and a few additions we

have in mind, we can continue growing the community youth and safety programs along our riverfront downtown district. The Village, The Town of Schroepel, The Oswego County Industrial Development Agency and Oswego County have teamed up to form a working partnership and have submitted applications and continue exploring additional funding opportunities for the upgrades and expansions to the Village Waste Water Treatment Facility to meet and expand our treatment obligations and plan for expansion in the Village as well as the Town. Many of our Village residents have taken advantage of our Village sidewalk program and you most likely noticed the addition of many new sidewalks this past fall as we continue to improve our sidewalks and safe routes to schools and travel throughout our village. As you should know, sidewalk repairs and maintenance are the responsibility of the property owner and our sidewalk program can be a big assistance to you if you explore the program. Details and applications can be found on our village website. The Village is also investing funds to repair our roads and streets, along with our annual use of CHIPS money, we plan to conduct an extensive street and infrastructure inventory which will be used to develop a a long-term replacement and maintenance program.

COVID-19: Over the past two years I have seen our residents come together to support one another during the pandemic. While recent surges in cases in our County have come and gone, I am confident that we will continue to stay strong and come out of this pandemic stronger together. Please remember that we are a community of neighbors and I ask you to be respectful of our local businesses as they continue to navigate through the changes that they are forced with as they observe county health mitigations.

2022 Budget: The Village's budget continues to support services that help maintain Phoenix as a safe, quiet place to live. The 2022 budget is just over \$2 million, which supports public safety, public works, water and sewer operations, roads, streets and parks, snow removal and all of the Village staff who provide a high level of service to our community. We continue to invest in our critical infrastructure projects and are constantly striving to improve safety and service levels.

As you receive this newsletter, I will be just celebrating my eighth year as your Village Administrator. Thank you for your trust in me over the years, I appreciate my staff, the board of Trustees and all of you that help make our community a great place to work and live. Please feel free to reach out to me, the Village Board, Mayor or Village Staff to share your thoughts and ideas.

Administrator Jim Lynch

May 28-30	Memorial Weekend Field Days at VFW	July 15	Music in The Park – Rock Shadows Band – 6-8PM	Aug. 13	Family Fun Day – Town of Schroepel Park
May 30	Memorial Day Parade – 12PM	July 18	Music in The Park – Jack & Faye – 6-8PM	Aug. 15	Music in The Park – Rhythm n' Shoes – 5:30-7:30PM
June 24	Food & Music at the Bridge House – Nite Life Band – 6-9PM Annual Fireworks Display at Dark	July 22	Music in The Park – Two Feet Short – 6-8PM	Aug. 19	Music in The Park – Flat Face & The Shempdells – 5:30-7:30PM
June 24	St. Stephens Church – Chicken BBQ & Strawberry Shortcake	July 25	Music in The Park – The Monterays – 6-8PM	Aug. 22	Music in The Park – Terry & Joe Acoustic Show – 5:30-7:30PM
July 1	Music in The park – Mike Farrar and the House Rockers – 6-8PM	July 29	Music in The Park – Bill Ali – 6-8PM	Aug. 26	Music in The Park – Nite Life Band – 5:30-7:30PM
July 8	Annual Kid's Fishing Derby – Lock Island – 9:30-11:30AM	Aug. 1	Music in The Park – The Cobble Rockers – 6-8PM	Aug. 29	Music in The Park – Caleb & Jason Acoustic Duo – 5:30-7:30PM
July 8	Music in The Park – Vote For Pete – 6-8PM	Aug. 5	Music in The Park – Flat Face & The Shempdells – 6-8PM	Sept. 11	Annual Community Vigil in Memory of Those Who Lost Their Lives - 6:30PM Henley park – Please bring a candle with you
July 9	Annual Flip Flops & Firebirds Kick Off to Summer Event – 1PM till Dark	Aug. 6	Village Wide Garage Sale	Oct. 1	Annual Locktoberfest – All Day Event – Music, Food, Vendors and Activities
July 11	Music in The Park – Matt Chase & Thunder Canyon – 6-8PM	Aug. 6	Nashville Comes to Phoenix – Sponsored by The Looking Glass Salon		
		Aug. 8	Music in The Park – The Strangers – 6-8PM		
		Aug. 12	Music in The Park – Ryan Hendry & Keith Renfrew – 6-8PM		

Update from Phoenix Public Library

2021 Highlights

- 2021 Summer Reading Program was very successful!
 - *159 Kids participated reading a total of 1746 Hours
 - *10 Teens participated reading a total of 98 Hours.
 - *99 Adults participated reading or listening to 567 Books/Audiobooks.
 - *18 programs were held with 1299 people in attendance.
- The Library celebrated 100 Years in September 2021. As part of the celebration the library is holding a "100 Books Challenge." Patrons are tracking the number of books they read during the 100th year. If they read 100 Books they will be entered to win a prize in September 2022.
- The library unveiled a brand new logo to celebrate 100 years as a chartered library.
- On November 1, 2021 the library announced that they are Fine Free! Fine free means that the library does not charge late (overdue) fines on materials owned by the Phoenix Public Library.
- In November 2021, 113 MAM Kindergarten Students visited the library for a tour, story and their very own library card!!
- The library distributed 2,297 Grab & Go Craft Kits. The library circulated 13,208 physical items.

Coming Events

- Story Time - Friday at 10:30am
- Weekly Grab & Go Crafts
- Special activities for the week of April 11-15.
- Spring Book Sale (Dates TBD)

Please remember to check the library website at www.phoenixnylibrary.org, Facebook page, or call 315-695-4355 for details.

DPW Update

It's been a long winter and I'm sure everyone is looking forward to some nice weather as spring approaches. The DPW crew worked hard this past winter keeping the streets safe with everything mother nature seemed to throw at us. With that being said, as we start transitioning to nicer weather and all the snow melts away, there will be some plow damage to take care of. The crews will be around cleaning up and landscaping areas needing attention. If by chance we miss something, please feel free to call the clerks office so we can get that taken care of.

Just a few reminders about yard waste. The DPW picks up yard waste in **ONLY** biodegradable bags. Leaves, weeds and grass clippings are collected in these bags. Please don't load with dirt or stones as they cannot be picked up by our guys. Any dirt or stones should be piled on the shoulder of the road to be picked up. All sticks and brush should be neatly stacked with cut ends facing the road. Bagged yard waste is collected multiple times each week and brush is chipped on Fridays, weather permitting.

We look forward to seeing everyone as we get out to work on finishing projects in the Village. The Lock Street Pond is coming along very nicely. We will be installing the fountains and finishing landscaping around pond as well. We also have lots of sidewalk work, road repairs and paving, and water and sewer work that we are planning on working on.

As always if you have any questions or concerns about water, sewer, or road issues please call the clerks office. I hope everyone had a safe winter and has a warmer spring.

John Kerfien, Senior Crew Leader

Village of Phoenix
455 Main Street
Phoenix, New York 13135

Local Postal Customer

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail