September 1, 2010



he Liberty Village Newslette

# Message From The Mayor

As the summer comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all the civic groups, organizations, individuals and Village employees who helped the Village have another successful summer season.

Project: Liberty Pride brought beautiful flowers and plants to our main streets. The hanging baskets, planters and banners - all helped to welcome visitors and residents alike to our Village.

The Community Garden has become a lush, beautiful green spot that greets you as you enter the Village. A small stretch of flowers and plants on South Main Street to be enjoyed by all who walk or drive past.

Liberty's 17th Annual Summer Celebration was held on July 4th and was a huge success. The parade, antique cars, craft and food vendors, and entertainment in the park were well attended and enjoyed by many. Thanks to all whose



planning and participation made the event such a success.

Through out the summer, the Village continued to modernize and update equipment in several departments. As we go into the fall, we plan to continue this effort of revitalizing our departments by replacing old out-dated equipment with new more reliable and efficient models.

This Autumn, several departments are awaiting decisions on Federal, State and local grant applications. We will continue to apply to grant programs to help subsidize our efforts to modernize and grow.

**Richard Winters** 

## Upcoming Fall Events

The Sullivan County Farmer's Market: Will continue every Friday afternoon from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the municipal parking lot on Oberferst Street until October 7th.

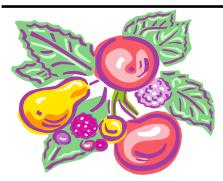
Harvest Festival : Saturday, October 9th from 10:00 a.m. til 4:00 p.m. in the Village of Liberty. Vendor booths will be located in the parking lot behind the stage.

Chili Cook-Off: Saturday, October 9th from 4:00 p.m. til 8:00 p.m. at the Liberty Museum on Main Street.

Columbus Day: The Village

offices will be closed on Monday, October 11th, in observance of Columbus Day.

Halloween Parade: Saturday, October 30th. Parade will be from 12:00 to 1:00 pm. Line up begins at 11:30 am at the parking lot behind Liberty Elks.



#### Special points of interest:

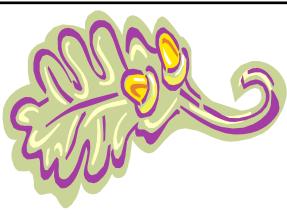
- The Village of Liberty Board of Trustees meets the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.-at the Village Municipal Building
- The Planning Board meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- The Zoning Board meets only as needed
- The Village of Liberty website is at www.villageoflibertyny.org

VILLAGE OF LIBERTY

### Village Water Department Updates

Work was completed this summer on the replacement of the #2 pump at the Elm Street Well. Also replaced were the well circular flow recorder and primary flow element corifice plate. As stated in the last Newsletter, these parts were over fifty years old. Their replacement is another step in bringing Village residents reliable readings and dependable water service.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and our Local Health Department recommends testing drinking water every three years for Lead and Copper. In mid– August the Water Department collected tap water samples .



Daylight savings time ends November 7th

The testing results should be available later in September.

Thanks go out to all Village residents who helped with the water testing by giving samples. Your cooperation was greatly appreciated.

Currently, the Water Department is working with Delaware Engineering to replace the 100 year old 500,000 gallon water reservoir tank, located off of Revonah Hill Road. The tank is connected with one in-Village well and to the Lily Pond water treatment plant and Lily Pond 500,00 gallon storage tank. Constructed in 1914, the 14 foot deep reservoir tank is showing signs of it's age.

We are in the preliminary stages of replacing the original tank with a new 500,000 gallon Natgun Storage tank.

### Other Village Department News.....

#### Justice Court

State funding has allowed the Justice Court to purchase two new computers and a printer.

#### **Building Department**

Activity in the Building Department was in high gear all summer due to a number of issues. The amount of bank foreclosures, absentee landlords and a surge in bedbug infestations has caused an increased burden on the department. (For more information on bedbugs and to report suspected infestations contact the Building Department.)

Appearance tickets are on the rise and repeat offenders are seeing an increase in their fines. Main Street Liberty LLC, a major landlord in the Village, was slapped with a \$20,000.00 last fall for violations, They are back in court this month with over thirty (30) new tickets– that could result in an additional \$28,000.00 in fines.

Three unsafe buildings have been demolished over the summer and two others have cases pending in court.

Work is progressing nicely at the Liberty Mall. Certain structural, mechanical and fire safety features and site work still needs to be certified to before a permanent Certificate of Occupancy can be issued.

Just a reminder to all that permits are required for roof repairs.

The Building Department is pleased to announce that Sullivan Renaissance has awarded them a grant to assist in the purchase of a new computer, printer/ scanner and software. This new equipment will replace the oldest computer in the Village which is more than ten years old.

A second grant application applied for through FEMA's Fire Safety & Prevention Division is still pending.

Sanitation Department

There will be no Fall Clean Up this year.

#### Sewer Department Had A Busy Summer

The Sewer Department has been working very hard to meet all requirements set down by the Department of Environmental Conservation. They have also been cleaning and repairing one of the two oxidation ditches.

Earlier this summer, the Sewer Plant was asked to correct issues regarding the chemical bulk storage tanks. They went to work quickly. The two 4,010 gallon tanks, now have an adequate amount of directional flow and up to date chemical name labeling.

The Sewer Department is working with Delaware Engineering to develop and design a containment system for the unloading of Ferrous Sulfate. The containment system is a necessary safety precaution should a spill occur during transfer.

This Fall, the Sewer Plant plans to continue to clean and repair the out of service oxidation ditch. New rotor brushes will be put on that oxidation ditch.

If time and weather permits, they would like to paint several outside structures.

### Fall Leaves

Along with the cooler weather, the fall season brings about numerous seasonal chores, least of which is raking leaves.

Leaves, twigs and branches are NOT picked up by the Sanitation Department during normal garbage removal.

Twigs and branches must be disposed of by the property owners.

The Village does collect the leaves. Usually in late October or early November, after most of the leaves have fallen, leaves can be raked to the edge of your street and will be vacuumed up by the Sanitation Department. Do NOT bag the leaves. Leaves are to be left loose in rows or piles.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the DPW at 292-7031



#### Dumpster Maintenance

Maintaining your dumpster is an important step in keeping our community clean and presentable.

Be sure your dumpster has a lid. Lids keep the garbage in and the animals out. There is nothing more frustrating to wake up and find your garbage scattered all over your property by animals.

Rusted dumpsters need to be painted. The preferred colors are brown and pine green. The cooler weather is the perfect opportunity to get outside and spruce up your dumpster. Periodically washing out your dumpster will be greatly appreciated by those who live near or walk by it.

Wheels on dumpsters need to be kept in good working condition so Sanitation workers can easily maneuver them.

### September 15th– Turn on the Heat!

The Village of Liberty Heating Law and the Property Maintenance Code of New York mandate that heat in all occupied buildings be on by September 15th and remain on through May 31st.

Interior temperature levels in one-family, two-family homes, multiple dwellings and businesses be maintained at *no less than 68 degrees*, measured on an interior wall three feet from the floor.

The Village of Liberty Heating Law takes this on step further in requiring the 68 degrees temperature be maintained any time of the year when weather conditions cause abnormally



cold nights out of season.

Anyone experiencing insufficient or no heat conditions should call

Pam Winters, Code Enforcement Officer at

292-2250 extension 17.

### **Recycling Information**

The Village of Liberty operates an awardwinning recycling program that saves tax payers money while it protects the environment.

There are plans in the works to make our recycling program even easier and more cost efficient. Please be on the look out for new and exciting changes in the way the Village of Liberty recycles. *More information coming soon!* 

All households and businesses are required to separate recyclable from their garbage. There are five categories.

- 1. Mixed paper
- 2. Newspapers
- 3. Corrugated cardboard
- 4. Glass containers
- 5. Plastics And Metals

Pamphlets describing what and how to correctly recycle

are available in the Village Municipal Building.

Some of this material is also available in Spanish.



Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 30th from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.



#### VILLAGE OF LIBERTY

Village of Liberty Municipal Building 167 North Main Street Liberty, New York 12754

Building Department/ Code Enforcement Phone: 845 292-2250 X 17 Fax: 845 295-9216 Email: libertyvillagecodeofficer@verizon.net

#### Visit our web site www.villageoflibertyny.org

#### Liberty Pride Big Winner in Renaissance Competition!!

Liberty Pride, Liberty's Category C Competitor in the Sullivan Renaissance 2010 season, won a special award, the "Comeback Community Award." The award recognizes our track record as a community that has come together again and again and shown outstanding achievement in welcoming floral displays, innovative banners, a successful community vegetable garden, extensive partnerships and a multitude of volunteers including youth.

Steering Committee co-chairs Jeremy Gorelick and Dale VanDenberg are encouraged by the recognition from Renaissance and look forward to expanding the scope of the project to encompass even more components next year. The planned expansions include additional hanging baskets and planter boxes, more plantings of perennial gardens around welcome signs and additional landscaping elements throughout the Village and Town of Liberty.

In addition to the \$13500.00 in funding from Sullivan Renaissance, the project also successfully raised over \$6500.00 through pancake breakfasts, benefit concerts, direct solicitations from businesses in the community and in-kind donations from vendors and service providers. A full list of these sponsors can be found on a placard next to LaPolt Park on Main Street

#### Greater Liberty Chamber of Commerce Continues to Grow !!

The Greater Liberty Chamber of Commerce is continuing to attract additional members, boasting over 60% of all eligible businesses in the Town of Liberty (which includes the Village of Liberty, and the four hamlets of Ferndale, Parksville, Swan Lake and White Sulphur Springs). Over the past year, the Chamber has celebrated many milestones, including:

\* A new website (www.libertychamber.org) to highlight member businesses

\* Four quarterly mixers held both in the Village of Liberty and in Town hamlets

\* A hugely successful Fourth of July celebration with a larger parade and more vendors that in recent years

\* Regular attendance at Village and Town Board meetings to advocate on behalf of member business interests

In the upcoming year, the Chamber is planning on continuing with these activities and also: \* An insert in a local paper or newsletter about activities of the Chamber and its member businesses, particularly business anniversaries or grand openings

\* An expanded Harvest Festival, Halloween Festival and Holiday Festival

The annual meeting/mixer is scheduled for the afternoon of Saturday, October 2nd, at the Liberty Museum and is an excellent opportunity for any interested business owners or members of the community to share ideas on how to make the Chamber stronger than ever!

Note: In an effort to make the Chamber more accessible for nonbusiness owners who want to support community-based efforts, the Membership Committee is placing special emphasis on the "Individual Supporter" category, where a person can join for a year at only \$35.00 in total dues. For more information on the Chamber, please e-mail chair@catskills.com or call 292-9797.

