

October 2015

## VILLAGE OF DELANSON

Mayor  
Gayle K. Gifford

Board Of Trustees  
Joshua D. O'Connor  
George Grenier

Incorporated February 5, 1921  
Equal Opportunity Employer  
1797 Main Street, PO Box 235  
Delanson, NY 12053  
Phone: (518) 895-2199  
[www.delanson.net](http://www.delanson.net)

Village Clerk  
Isabelle Mormando  
Village Treasurer  
Nicole O'Connor  
Water Commissioner  
Jeffrey Iveson

# Snowmobilers, ATVs and Pedestrians... Stay off Railroad Property!

You cannot operate an ATV on a public highway unless the highway has been designated and posted for ATV use (usually to provide access to off-road trails) There are none in the Village.

NY State Law prohibits individuals on foot from all railroad properties. The penalty for violating this law is a Class B Misdemeanor, punishable by a maximum three months in jail and, or a \$500 fine.

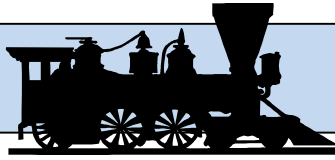
Trespassing on railroad property while riding a motor vehicle, recreational vehicle (snowmobile, ATVs, motorcycles), or horse or any other animal is punishable by a fines up to \$500.

The sale of the D & H RR Line to Norfolk Southern (NS) was finalized on September 18, 2015. This sale means that NS trains have a direct route from Canada to the Port of Albany. It has been rumored that train traffic could increase to 30+ trains per day. Over the last 6 months train traffic has increased dramatically therefore it is more important than ever to educate ourselves about the consequences of trespassing. Our children pass over the train tracks everyday... several times a day!

There will likely be increased incidences of trains blocking our main routes and we must be prepared to either wait it out or take an alternate route. Recently, a pedestrian climbed on a train stopped that was blocking Main St. to get to the post office. Two students walking behind her decided to follow and DCS track runners on the South side attempted to cross over as well. Although the train seems to be inactive it is running and getting ready to continue on its way. As suddenly as it stops it will start again with a jerk that would have sent a person climbing between cars to the ground. Several lives could have changed tragically that day because of the actions of one individual.

If the gates are down... turn around!! **It's Always Train Time in Delanson!** Educate yourselves, educate your children. Encourage train safety within our schools... you could save a life.

The D&H will always live on in **DEL**aware **AND** Hud**SON**!



## Important Village Information ...

### Operation Lifesaver

*About every 3 hours a person or vehicle is hit by a train.*

That is stunning information. With the train tracks in our Village about to get busier, it is of the utmost importance that our children are kept safe. That means that they understand the dangers of the train which means that you, the parent, has to sit down and have a very serious chat with them. This is no laughing matter. The website <http://oli.org/> It has a wealth of knowledge to help speak with your children.

Growing up with a father and uncles who worked with the railroads, they explained the devastation of people playing "chicken" with the train or people walking on or children playing on or near the tracks. It never ends well. They also explained that when you stop at the gates, stay back the height of the train car so that if there is a derailment you have a better chance of surviving and getting out of there.

If you are interested in being on a Village Committee for Railroad Safety, please contact the Village office 895-2199.

### VILLAGE SPEED LIMIT 30 MPH School is open ...



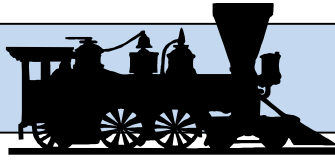
#### **Please slow down and watch for children and walkers.**

A recent radar study conducted by the NYS DOT revealed 59% of traffic on SR 395 within the Village is exceeding the speed limit. NYS Police and Schenectady Sheriff have bolstered their efforts and reports indicate up to 10 tickets per day have been issued. We appreciate your consideration in obeying the Village speed limit.

### Upcoming Events in Delanson

- **October 5** – Village Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
- **October 5** – Planning Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
- **October 12** – Columbus Day
- **October 30** – Water Rents are Due
- **October 31** – Halloween at the Fire House
- **November 2** – Village Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- **November 2** – Planning Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- **November 14** – Hydrant Flushing 7:00am – 4:30

**Please help save the Village** postage costs by signing up to receive this newsletter via email on line at [www.delanson.net](http://www.delanson.net). If you want to view the newsletter on line, please alert the Village so that you can be taken off the email/mail list. Sign up to receive emergency email notifications such as water main breaks, road closings, Holiday Train info, etc.



## VOLUNTEER



### Volunteer Needed!

Our annual Village Wide Garage Sale, held in June, is in need of a coordinator. Interested residents should call Mayor Gifford for details.



### Holiday Train

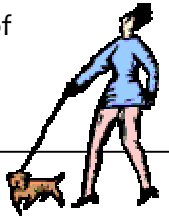
Preparations are being made for the Holiday Train. Details to come.



### Leash Law in Effect

Please call animal control officer Darla Gullotta at 860-3179 if you see a pet running loose, the owner will be grateful you did. Thank you for cleaning up after your pets, your neighbors appreciate your consideration.

All dogs must be licensed through the Town of Duanesburg. Please call Town Clerk, Leah Lennon 895-8920 for details.



**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter water rents  
are due by October 30<sup>th</sup>.**

### 2015-16 Quarterly Hydrant Flushing Schedule

Hydrant flushing will be performed on quarterly second **Saturday's** as follows:

**November 14<sup>th</sup>,**

**and in 2016: February 13<sup>th</sup>, May 14<sup>th</sup>, August 13<sup>th</sup>**

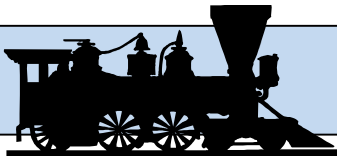
From 7:00am – 4:30, please avoid doing laundry, and expect water discoloration for a period of 24 hours.



### DFC Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> is the first pancake breakfast of the 2015-16 season at the Delanson Firehouse. Every first Sunday of the month the air fills with the smell of freshly made pancakes and sausage. Come on in and enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with neighbors and friends while breakfast is made and served by Delanson's Finest! Remember to look around and enjoy the old photos of the Village of yesteryear. And don't forget to thank them for doing what they do for you! Please bring a non-perishable item for our local food pantry.





## *Delanson Fire Company Winter Safety Guidelines*

### **SMOKE DETECTORS:**

They save lives. Don't have any? Buy some NOW! Change the batteries in existing detectors right now while you are thinking about it.

### **CO DETECTORS:**

A great gift idea. If yours goes off, leave your home immediately and call 911 from your cell phone or from a neighbor's house. The fire department will respond with a CO meter.

### **BURNING WOOD?**

Have your chimney cleaned and inspected. New installations need to be checked by the Building Inspector. Burn only seasoned wood, and watch for creosol build-up.

### **ALTERNATIVE HEATING SOURCE:**

Kerosene heaters, pellet stoves, ceramic heaters, ventless fireplaces can be very dangerous. Some have open flames, and some contribute to poor air quality. Their use must be continuously monitored.

### **POWER OUTAGES:**

Have flashlights and a battery operated radio available. Your firehouse has heat, electricity, water facilities available for your use.



### **CANDLES:**

Did you know that they are one of the leading causes of house fires? If you must use them, please do so with extreme caution.

### **FIRE HYDRANTS:**

Please help us keep them clear when it snows!

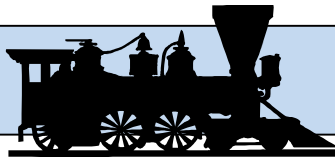
## *Preparing for an Emergency*

The best way to survive an emergency is to plan ahead. Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling a supply kit or "go bag" and developing a family communications plan, are the same for both a natural or man-made emergency. But different actions may be required for different emergencies. For example, a sudden emergency may force you to evacuate your home while an outbreak of pandemic flu could keep you home bound for up to two weeks. The Schenectady County Office of Emergency Management wants to help all residents be prepared for all emergency situations. Information is available in the Village Clerk office and on the website.

### **Create a Kit of Emergency Supplies**

A basic emergency supply kit could include the following recommended items:

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation.
- Food, at least a three day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery powered or hand-crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- manual can opener for food
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger.



## Safer School Bus Stops

The Village will be dressed in some new signage in the near future! NYS & County DOT will be installing school bus advisory signs to alert traffic to school buses stopping throughout the village beginning with E. Shore, Thousand Acre and SR 395.

In addition to signage, the ¼ mile area in front of the high school on 395 will be designated a School Speed Zone. Signs marked with bright SCHOOL indicators and a reduced speed of 20 mph during school hours from 7am-6pm will be installed. These changes should take effect by the end of October.

The Village Board will also propose a local law to designate Alexander Road within the Village limits a school speed zone. The area from School Drive intersection east to the Village line or upper soccer field will have a 20 mph speed limit during school hours. We ask your consideration during the weekend as well while sports are scheduled. Please also be advised Village Local Law prohibits parking on Alexander Rd. at any time.

With the new school year starting, children will be crossing streets, walking and bicycling to get to and from school each day. Drivers need to be extra cautious in school zones as children walking in the sidewalks or streets can often be unpredictable.

## *Winter On-Street Parking Regulations*

Effective November 15<sup>th</sup> through April 15<sup>th</sup>, no on-street parking is allowed anywhere on State Highway 395 within the Village limits, when a three inch snowfall (or greater) has been forecast, and for a 24-hour period after the snow event has ended. The Village has designated News Channel 6 – CBS 6, as the official station for snowfall forecast amounts. Parking is available in the Village Hall parking lot. Enforcement may include ticketing and/or towing at the owners expense. This local law is intended to provide safety to not only pedestrians and vehicular traffic, but to allow adequate access for snowplowing.

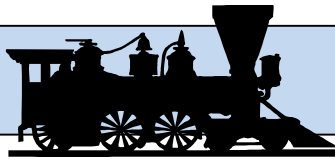
Residents on all Village streets are encouraged to follow the parking regulations, as well. You're cooperation will help ensure the prompt delivery of services, and enable crews to efficiently maintain the roadways.

To report road conditions within the Village, that present an immediate hazard, please contact the Town Highway Department at 895-2772. To register complaints, of a non-emergency nature, please call Mayor Gayle Gifford at 895-2199 or 895-2257.

# Happy Halloween!

Stay safe and don't forget to come to the  
Fire House for a Halloween Party!





## Tips for Motorists:



- Be alert for school zones that have reduced speed limits when children are present.
- Watch for school buses. Red flashing lights and an extended stop arm indicate the school bus is stopping to load or unload children. State law requires you to stop.
- Children are the least predictable pedestrians and the most difficult to see. Take extra care to look out for children not only in school zones, but also in residential areas, bus stops, playgrounds and parks.
- Keep an eye out for children walking in the street, especially where there are no sidewalks.
- When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch for children walking or biking to school.
- When driving in neighborhoods or school zones, watch for young people who may be in a hurry to get to or away from school and may not be thinking about getting there safely.

## Planning Board News

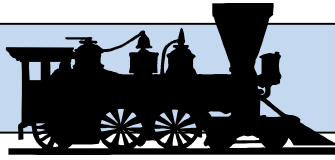
Most of the structures in the Village were built over 100 years ago to house the employees of the railroad. Since that time, zoning laws were implemented to regulate the use, density, physical characteristics and the site development within our boundaries.

Many of our homes/accessory buildings footprints are “non-conforming” and are “grandfathered” in to our zoning law because they were built prior to zoning requirements. As time goes on, there is the likelihood of future applications to repair, dismantle and rebuild these structures because of age and deterioration. Our Planning Board members have recognized deficiencies in our law that make it necessary to review the law in depth in order to put safeguards in place for the general welfare of our community.

Village Zoning Law has been amended from time to time to accommodate unique construction such as the Duanesburg Area Community Center and townhouses. Our members are in the process of amending the Village Zoning Laws once again to address the replacement of aging structures and new construction to ensure proper controls are met. There will also be a requirement that all new construction be reviewed by the Planning Board prior to issuing a building permit.

During this process and until the revised law can be adopted, we ask that all residents present plans for all construction to the Planning Board prior to requesting a building permit. An application for this purpose is being created and residents may find this application online or by request to any Planning Board member or the Village Clerk when it becomes available.





## DELANSON RECEIVES FEMA GRANT FOR NEW FIRE EQUIPMENT

*Fire Chief Sees Boost in Confidence for Unit's 10 Firefighters*

Thanks to the efforts of **Fire Chief Kevin Morrison**, the Village of Delanson has been awarded a **grant for 10 self-contained breathing apparatuses**, or SCBAs. "This new equipment will take the place of 23-year-old gear whose straps were falling off and that used heavy steel packs that we had to lug around when confronted by a fire," said Fire Chief Kevin Morrison. The company's old equipment was also out of compliance with state safety regulations, he added.

The Delanson Fire Company, with 10 volunteer firefighters, serves a village of roughly 370 residents and responds to some 115 calls per year. "These SCBAs are a huge plus for the village and the department," Chief Morrison said. "Not only are they equipped with distress signals that enable a firefighter to signal for help, but they also allow a comrade to provide oxygen from his or her own cylinder. "On top of it all," he said "we could not have afforded this lifesaving upgrade," which is a big boost in confidence and morale for our volunteers."

The SCBAs were provided by an **Assistance to Firefighters Grant** from the **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**, the agency's grants director for Region II, **Dale McShine**, said in New York City today. **The equipment's cost is \$56,650, with the federal share coming to \$53,953.** "Our AFG program has been aiding firefighters and other first responders since 2001," said Ms. McShine. "It's most gratifying to be able to help like this."

"This grant provides resources to replace outdated equipment critical for the safety of our firefighters," said Delanson **Mayor Gayle Gifford**. "We're a very small community with a very small volunteer fire company. But big or small, all fire companies share the same goal: to protect and serve their communities' citizens." Citing how paramount it is to keep responders protected, Mayor Gifford continued, "Thanks to FEMA's AFG program, Delanson's firefighters will now be properly shielded in their hazardous work. I congratulate Chief Morrison for his determination and hard work. Thank you FEMA for recognizing Delanson as a worthy recipient for this award."

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## VILLAGE OF DELANSON PLANNING BOARD IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE!

**Dan Lindh – Chairperson**

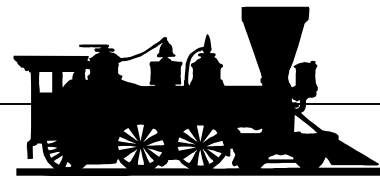
**Members: Mary McLaughlin, Al Zubal, James Donnelly and Jim Hyde**

The Delanson Planning Board is comprised of 5 members, your neighbors. Members volunteer their time in an effort to preserve the historic significance, character and quality of our community. The planning board has the authority to approve subdivision of property and other development approvals within the Village as well as zoning cases. At the end of the year, Mary McLaughlin is resigning.

Eligible members must be a US Citizen, a Village resident and at least 18 years of age. The Planning Board meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00pm at the Delanson Firehouse. Planning Board members are required to obtain a minimum of 4 hours training within a 1 year period.

A free 90 minute online course is available NYSDOS (click link below-if you are on-line). A short 10 question quiz precedes this course to test your knowledge! [http://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/online/training/planning\\_board\\_overview\\_courseoutline.html](http://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/online/training/planning_board_overview_courseoutline.html)

Interested applicants should contact Mayor Gifford at 895-2199 or 895-2257

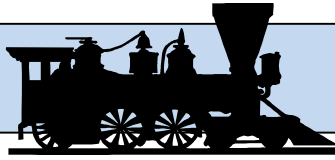


## FEMA Grant *(continued)*

**Tania Hedlund**, FEMA's regional Grants Branch Chief, explained that "the AFG program provides critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards."

In 2013, the AFG provided funding of \$21.9 million to 192 Fire Departments and EMS agencies throughout Region II, which includes New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. For the first time ever, funding was awarded to a State Fire Training Academy in the region: the NYS State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services.

For further information, please contact William H. Douglass at FEMA: 212-680-3665 or 917-561-3223.



# Village Officials & Phone Numbers

VILLAGE BOARD MEETS SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH 7PM - PLEASE JOIN US!

## Government

Mayor	Gayle Gifford	895-2257	<a href="mailto:mayor@delanson.net">mayor@delanson.net</a>
Trustee/ Deputy Mayor	Joshua O'Connor	256-6465	<a href="mailto:joshuadoconnor@delanson.net">joshuadoconnor@delanson.net</a>
Trustee	George "Bucky" Grenier	895-2199	<a href="mailto:info@delanson.net">info@delanson.net</a>
Clerk	Isabelle Mormando	895-6034	<a href="mailto:clerk@delanson.net">clerk@delanson.net</a>

*The Village Clerk is available to accept payments at her home or in the office. Call for a convenient appointment.*

Treasurer	Nicole O' Connor	895-2199	<a href="mailto:treasurer@delanson.net">treasurer@delanson.net</a>
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## Planning Board

Chairman	Dan Lindh	895-9063	<a href="mailto:zoning@delanson.net">zoning@delanson.net</a>
Secretary	Jim Donnelly	895-2199	<a href="mailto:zoning@delanson.net">zoning@delanson.net</a>

## Zoning Board of Appeals

Chairman	Larry O'Connor	495-7504
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## Fire Department

Fire Chief / Treasurer	Kevin Morrison	895-2100	<a href="mailto:firechief@delanson.net">firechief@delanson.net</a>
Assistant Chief	Duane Rapp	895-2100	

## Water Department

Water Commissioner	Jeff Iveson	895-8926	<a href="mailto:water@delanson.net">water@delanson.net</a>
Assist. Water Comm.	Steve Micheli	895-8859	<a href="mailto:water@delanson.net">water@delanson.net</a>

## Building Permits

Building Inspector	Dale Warner	895-2040 x108
	<a href="mailto:buildinginspector@delanson.net">buildinginspector@delanson.net</a>	

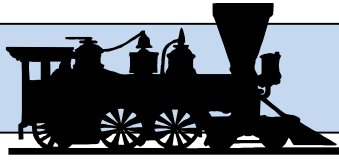
## Animal Control

Animal Control	Darla Gullotta	860-3179	<a href="mailto:animalcontrol@delanson.net">animalcontrol@delanson.net</a>
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## Other

Garbage Pickup	Pollard Disposal	861-6452	
Delanson Post Office		895-8810	
Duanesburg Town Clerk	Leah Lennon	895-8920 ext 100	<a href="mailto:llennon@duanesburg.net">llennon@duanesburg.net</a>
Web Master	Bruce A. Barton		<a href="mailto:webmaster@delanson.net">webmaster@delanson.net</a>
Going to dig in the Village?	Call Dig Safely at	811	<a href="mailto:Digsafely@delanson.net">Digsafely@delanson.net</a>
	then contact the Village	895-2199	
Time Warner Cable		866-321-2225	
National Grid		800-642-4272	





*Planning Board*  
*Operation Lifesaver*  
*Celebrate Duanesburg's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
*Holiday Train*  
*New breathing apparatus for Fire Department*  
*And more...*



Village of Delanson  
PO Box 235  
Delanson, NY 12053  
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518-895-2199

