



## VILLAGE OF DELANSON

### WINTER 2021 NEWSLETTER

### *Letter from the Mayor...*

Well, 2020 is in the rear view, and another election year is upon us. It has been a pleasure and an honor to be your Mayor for the last eight years. In the Fall of 1995, Mayor Carl Otto came to my home to ask if I would be interested in the position of Deputy Village Clerk. I was a stay-at-home mom at the time, working off and on for the school district as a sub. We discussed the duties of the position and I felt this was a great opportunity to stay current with my business skills while raising my family. And a little extra money is always welcome. So, I reluctantly informed him that I was pregnant, thinking this news may prompt him to renege his offer. "So," he said, "does this mean you do not want the position and congratulations!" I accepted his appointment and now, after 26 combined years of service in various capacities in my Village government, I find myself at a crossroads.

As a resident of the Village of Delanson we hold the key to the future of our community. We have the unique opportunity to run for a local government office on our own terms. Only Village residents may vote. Sadly, I believe life has become so busy that folks just don't stop to think about how we got here. More importantly, who got us here.

Our small independent government has been maintained for nearly 100 years by our neighbors and families, past and present. Folks who cared enough to provide service to our community while creating a sustainable way of life within our boundaries. They worked full-time jobs, had careers, raised families, and provided what time they could in support of the Village.

All of us — whether we are elected officials, civic leaders, professional planners, activists and practitioners, or simply good neighbors — *all* of us can do better at acknowledging the ripple effect our decisions (large or small) have on our family, friends, and community, both now and into the future. The decisions we make should both reflect and reinforce the love we have for our community.

I do not know if I will be your Mayor for another 4-year term. Perhaps now is the time to consider fresh ideas and new perspectives as they are essential components of a progressive local government. Although 2020 changed my life in unimaginable ways, there is no place I'd rather live than right here in the Village of Delanson. I hope I am not the

only one who feels that way. So, just in case you wonder what it's all about, I have provided answers to some questions I've been asked over the years.

#### **Q: How do you become Mayor or Trustee?**

**A:** You simply ask a few neighbors to sign your Independent Nominating Petition, hand it in and you are on the ballot! **This petition is time sensitive** and must either be mailed in or dropped off to the Village Clerk or the Schenectady County Board of Elections. The cut-off date for filing the petition is 5:00 PM February 9, 2021.

#### **Q: What are the qualifications?**

**A:** A candidate must be at least 18 years old, a Village resident and a registered voter. It helps if you love your community and wish to become a positive part of what makes it great! A good candidate is interested in the future, responsible growth of our community.

#### **Q: What type of experience do I need?**

**A:** Past officials have been lawyers, engineers, master plumbers, surveyors, business owners, tax and finance, housewives, bartenders...etc. If you have a particular skill set,



the desire to learn and the ability to communicate and troubleshoot situations with integrity and respect, then you'll do great! We work together as a team. We don't always get it right, but we always give situations our good faith effort and decide based on what is best for the residents.

**Q: What are the hours?**

**A:** Other than monthly board meetings, there are no structured hours. You work on your schedule, from your home or the office, whichever is more convenient for you. Sometimes you will work 5 hours a week, sometimes you may work more, sometimes less. You decide! Well, sometimes the state, county and life decide for you, but mostly you make the service to your community conform to your schedule and what you can contribute.

**Q: It works, so why fix it?**

**A:** Because for generations residents have benefitted from the knowledge and expertise of past members and hopefully, we can continue that path. It is an ever-changing world out there. As board members, we have the power to make the world within our boundaries better and we have the obligation to future generations to make sure we are good stewards of our community.

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."* I did not write that, Margaret did, but I believe it.

**Q: What if there are no candidates?**

**A:** The effectiveness of our government is directly related to the interest, participation and commitment of our Village residents. When no one has interest in holding office, it begs the question, why have a local government if no one wants to participate? We risk losing our independence, and so much more.

**Q: What happens to the Village if no one participates?**

**A:** The Village Government would be dissolved. The Village of Delanson would cease to exist...history! The Town of Duaneburg will absorb and control all Village property including the water distribution system and the fire department. The cost of trash collection would be the property owner's responsibility. A water and fire district would be created, and a separate tax for each would be assessed on residents. The process of dissolution could take years, will be very costly and we lose the ability to decide what is good for our community and our family's future.

As we move into 2021, I encourage the Village Board to seek guidance on the process of dissolution of the Village of Delanson. I hope the outcome of these discussions will be to remain the proud independent community we have always been, but with a more enlightened focus on our future.

Honorably yours,  
*Mayor Gayle Gifford*

**Independent Nominating petitions** are available now and are time sensitive. Please contact the Village Clerk to obtain one or contact the Schenectady County Board of Elections.

**For an absentee ballot visit** Delanson.net or call the Village Clerk or Schenectady County Board of Elections.

**Currently voting** will be in person with CDC guidance on physical separation and mask wearing in place. Voting will take place at the Village of Delanson Firehouse from 12pm – 9pm.

**DELANSON  
VILLAGE GENERAL ELECTION  
March 16, 2021**

**ONE MAYOR & ONE TRUSTEE  
EACH FOR A 4 YEAR TERM**



## ***Special Pancake Breakfast ...***

Dear Valued Supporters of the Delanson Fire Department:

We are truly overwhelmed with the support and encouragement we've received about our **Drive Thru Pancake Breakfast** occurring on Sunday, February 7. We've also received many questions about the event. This is our first attempt at having a drive-thru breakfast, so, we are playing everything by ear.



First and foremost, all CDC guidelines on COVID-19 safety will be 100% followed. Staff will be wearing a mask and gloves at all times, hand washing will be frequent, and the kitchen will be sanitized before the event. Safety is always our number one priority.

To address some of the questions we've received:

- Breakfast will be on a donation only basis, as per usual.
- A pre-order form will be released on Sunday, January 31. You can still order when you arrive at the event if you wish to do so. Please check our Facebook page for more information or call the Fire Department office at 518-895-2100.
- The event will be **DRIVE THRU ONLY**. No members of the public will be allowed inside the firehouse.
- Meals can be handed to you or a passenger through a window of the vehicle, or we will absolutely place your meals in the backseat/trunk if you wish to be 100% contactless.
- If you live nearby, you can walk-in, but you need to wear a mask and keep a physical distance of 6 feet.

We thank you for your support as you always show at our usual events. We ask for your patience with us, as this is a learning curve for us. As with COVID-19, this is a dynamic event and subject to changes. It is our hope that we can continue these breakfasts into the spring if we are successful. We will continue to give updates as the event gets closer. Please reach out with any questions you may have.

Thank you and stay safe.

Sincerely,

*The Members of the Delanson Volunteer Fire Company*

## ***Don't forget to vote in the Village election on March 16***

For further voting information, please see page 1 & 2 of this newsletter. To contact the Village office, please call 518-895-2199. If you need an absentee ballot application, please go to our website [www.delanson.net](http://www.delanson.net) or call the office. You can also call the County Board of Education at 518-377-2469 or go to their website [www.schenectadycounty.com/boe](http://www.schenectadycounty.com/boe)





## 2021 Hydrant Flushing Schedule

The following is a schedule of the days the water mains and hydrants will be flushed. Residents will be notified if there is a change in this schedule. All hydrant flushing's will occur on Saturday's between the hours of 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM, weather permitting. Please mark these days on your calendar.

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!**

- February 13, 2021
- May 8, 2021
- August 14, 2021
- November 13, 2021

It is recommended that you have bottled water available for drinking and cooking. We also advise you have several buckets of water available for flushing toilets and washing hands. We don't recommend doing laundry at this time since the water could be brown and stain your laundry.

In addition, during the winter months, residents with hydrants on their property are asked to clear the hydrants of snow, if possible, so the hydrants can be found by the fire department in case of a fire in the area.

We are sorry for any inconvenience it may cause and thank you for your patience.



The Village would like to compile a

## Memory Book

of stories from the villagers of the Village of Delanson for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. If you grew up here, or if you have something to share, we'd love to interview you. Please call the office 518-895-2199 or email [delansonhistorian@gmail.com](mailto:delansonhistorian@gmail.com) and let us know what stories you have.



**Statewide Burning Ban!**  
**No OPEN burning**  
**March 15 – May 14**  
**Burning of leaves and**  
**brush is**  
**PROHIBITED in**  
**NYS at any time.**  
**The Village Law extends**  
**the burn ban to May 31.**

**Welcome** to the new residents of Delanson! Be sure to check in with the Village Clerk to make sure your records are updated and visit the website at [www.delanson.net](http://www.delanson.net) for important information about Village goings-on. You can also sign up for emergency email notifications, like water main breaks, etc.



**Congratulations to the**  
**Village of Delanson**  
**On 100 years of**  
**Incorporation!**  
**February 1921-2021**



**January:**31 – **Water Rents Due****February:**2 – **Groundhog Day**8 – **Village Board Meeting** – 7:00pm via ZOOM9 – **Mayor or Trustee candidate petition** must be filed by 5PM today - see page 214 – **St. Valentine's Day**15-19 – **Winter break - no school**15 – **President's Day**17 – **Ash Wednesday****March:**8 – **Village Board Meeting** – 7:00pm via ZOOM14 – **Daylight Savings Day** – set clocks ahead on 13th16 – **Village Election Day** – see page 1 for info17 – **St. Patrick's Day**27 – **Passover begins**

## ***We Need You!! There is a lot going on in the Village...***

The **Delanson Fire Department**, the **Village Planning Board** and the **Village Zoning Board** and the **Duanesburg Volunteer Ambulance Corp (DVAC)** all need volunteers especially during this pandemic!

Please call the Fire Department Chief, Kevin Morrison at 518-657-9273 to discuss becoming a member.

For the Board positions, please call the Village office at 518-895-2199.

Please contact DVAC at 518-895-2200 about volunteering.

***There is great satisfaction in volunteering. Why don't you give it a try?***



**SPRING**  
Is coming!



## ***From the Duanesburg School website ...***

JANUARY 7, 2021

### **Hundreds of toys donated for drive**

The Duanesburg Central School District (DCS) would like to thank its students, staff, families and community members for their support in the annual Toys for Tots drive. Lori Galea, who coordinates the drive at DCS, said 230 toys were donated to the cause. Your support helped spread holiday cheer during a challenging time for many students.

"I am very grateful for the school and community support, especially this year," Galea said.





## ***2021 Holiday Schedule Trash Pick-Up***

Pollard sold their waste disposal service to Advantage. You may have noticed Advantage has been picking up the trash and changing your recycling bins. They have a fleet of new trucks that will necessitate the use of cans that alleviate the need for crews to manually lift customers cans. This method will have a large impact on medical and workers compensation claims for that company. If you have questions or concerns about this change, please contact the Village at 518-895-2199 or call Advantage directly at 518-355-6615. We ask your patience while we work through this transition.

Trash will still be picked up on Wednesday's starting at 7:00AM with the following exceptions.

The weeks of the following holidays, garbage collection will be delayed by one day and picked up on Thursdays instead of Wednesdays.



**Week of Memorial Day, May 25<sup>th</sup> –**  
garbage will be picked up on **Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Week of 4<sup>th</sup> of July –**  
there will be no change on our pick-up day.

**Week of Labor Day, September 6<sup>th</sup> –**  
garbage will be picked up on **Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Week of Thanksgiving Day, November 25<sup>th</sup> –**  
there will be no change on our pick-up day.

**Week of Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup> –**  
there will be no change on our pick-up day.



## Village Officials Phone Numbers & Email Addresses

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

**In order to practice social distancing, until further notice, all Village meetings will be held via ZOOM.**

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>email:</b>
Mayor	<b>Gayle Gifford</b>	518-895-2199 / 518-895-2257	delansonmayor@gmail.com
Trustee/Deputy Mayor	<b>Joshua O'Connor</b>	518-256-6465	joshuadoconnor@outlook.com
Trustee	<b>George "Bucky" Grenier</b>	518-895-2199	delansonvillageclerk@gmail.com
Treasurer/Village Clerk	<b>Nicole O' Connor</b>	518-895-2199	delansonvillageclerk@gmail.com
<b>Other</b>			
Historian	<b>Mary McLaughlin</b>	518-895-2199	delansonhistorian@gmail.com
Web Guy	<b>Bruce A. Barton</b>	518-895-2199	delansonvillage@gmail.com
<b>Planning Board</b>			
Chairman	<b>Daniel Lindh</b>	518-895-2199	delansonvillageclerk@gmail.com
<b>Zoning Board of Appeals</b>			
Chairman	<b>Larry O'Connor</b>	518-495-7504	delansonvillageclerk@gmail.com
<b>Fire Department</b>			
Fire Chief / Treasurer	<b>Kevin Morrison</b>	518-657-9273	delansonvillageclerk@gmail.com
Asst. Chief	<b>Aaron Kellerman</b>		
<b>Water Department</b>			
Water Commissioner	<b>Jeff Iveson</b>	518-895-8926	delansonvillageclerk@gmail.com
Assist. Water Comm.	<b>Steve Micheli</b>	518-895-8859	delansonvillageclerk@gmail.com
<b>Building Permits</b>			
Planning Board	<b>Daniel Lindh, Chair</b>	518-895-9063	delansonvillageclerk@gmail.com
<b>Animal Control</b>			
Dog Control	<b>Darla Gulotta</b>	518-860-3179	
<b>Other</b>			
Delanson Post Office		518-895-8810	
Garbage Pickup	<b>Advantage Disposal</b>	518-355-6615	
Spectrum Cable		866-321-2225	
National Grid		800-642-4272	
Duanesburg Town Clerk	<b>Jennifer Howe</b>	518-895-8920 x 102	jhowe@duanesburg.net
Going to dig in The Village?	Call <b>Digsafely</b> at 811 & Then call <b>The Village</b>	811 518-895-2199	Digsafely@delanson.net

### ***What's Inside? ...***

- Letter from the Mayor
- Village Election is March
- 2021 Calendar
- 2021 Garbage pick-up dates
- 2021 Hydrant flushing dates
- Fire Department Pancake Breakfast
- ***Please slow down!***



Spring is coming!



**Village of Delanson**

PO Box 235

Delanson, NY 12053

[www.delanson.net](http://www.delanson.net)

518-895-2199