



# THE VILLAGER

The Newsletter of Erie Village

2nd Qtr.

April 2023

## Spring in Erie Village

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### 2023 Election of Directors and Annual Meeting

The 2023 election will begin on Friday, April 28th and run through Friday, May 12th. For those with email addresses on file, you will receive an electronic invite to vote online. Resumes will be included. There are currently four (4) candidates for four (4) Directors.

The annual meeting of the Erie Village Homeowners Association will be held on Tuesday, May 16th 2023 beginning at 7PM, at the Links at Erie Village.

It's not too early to start thinking about running for the Board in 2024. We are always looking for candidates to run. If you feel that you can lend some expertise to our organization, please consider stepping up to run!

### Spring is Here

A definite sign of spring is the return of the migrating geese population. The Goose Management Company has begun their work for the season. They will be looking for nests and also "harassing" the geese through the use of Border Collies, electronically controlled boats and sometimes utilize noise makers. There are no federal or state permits needed to scare, herd, or chase away geese by any means, as long as no birds are physically harmed.

Another sign of spring is our seasonal work crews. Siding activities and other repairs are underway. Painting may possibly begin by the end of April. 2023 is going to be as much of a challenging year as 2022 was.

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#### Erie Village Homeowner's Association

5900 N. Burdick Street  
Suite 110  
East Syracuse, NY 13057  
www.ErieVillageHOA.com  
evhoa@cnyemail.com  
315-656-5148

## Board of Directors 2022-2023

President: Jean DeSantis  
erievillagepres@gmail.com

Vice President: Dick Sparrow  
evhoavp@gmail.com

Secretary: Richard Lelong  
evsecretary5900@gmail.com

Treasurer: Paul Franklin  
evtreasurer110@gmail.com

Sheila Singleton Best

Mike Brick

Debra Roberts

Richard Gay

Jim Kraus

Dan Gover

Dave Tinker

### Important Email Addresses:

Erie Village Accountant  
evbookkeeper5900@gmail.com

Architectural Control  
evarchitecture1@gmail.com

Grounds—Grass and Trees  
evtreesandgrass@gmail.com

Environmental (Geese, etc.)  
evgeese1@gmail.com

### Office Contact Information

Please call **315-656-5148** for residential concerns. Please leave your name, unit and a daytime phone number where you can be reached. You can also reach us at:  
**evhoa@cnyemail.com**

## Monthly Board Meetings

Each month the board of directors meets to discuss issues, concerns and the normal day to day activities of Erie Village.

The meetings are held on the third Monday of the month beginning at 6:00 pm (unless otherwise communicated) at our office in the basement of the medical center 5900 N. Burdick, Suite 110.

**If you have an issue that you would like to discuss with the board, we ask that you submit it in writing ahead of time so that it can be added to the agenda.** Please send to any of the following emails or mail to our office:

Erievillagepres@gmail.com or Evhoavp@gmail.com  
or evsecretary5900@gmail.com



EVHOA

## EVHOA Committee Chairs

Grounds – Grass/Trees/Gardens – Debra Roberts

Chemicals/Pesticides – Dan Gover

Snow Removal – Richard Lelong

Environmental – Dick Gay

Architectural – Dan Gover as Coordinating Administrator

Finance – Jim Kraus

Covenants – Sheila Singleton Best/Richard Lelong

Elections/Nominating/Annual Meeting – Jean DeSantis/Richard Lelong

Rubbish – Paul Franklin

Website – Paul Franklin

Fire Monitoring – Jean DeSantis

Insurance/Risk Management – Dick Sparrow

Town of Manlius – Dick Sparrow

Compliance – Sheila Singleton-Best

If interested in joining any of the above committees, please contact the committee chair(s).

*The Villager* Editor:

Amy Dieffenbacher Veator

amyjanedieff@gmail.com

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## **New Software**

Erie Village has implemented a new software tool to track financial information as well as work requests, maintenance on units and architectural requests. Owners will also eventually have access to the system to view information on their unit. We are in the process of transitioning from older systems and manual processes. Further communication will be forthcoming.

## **Weekly Trash Collection**

We would like to once again remind homeowners to secure your recyclables on trash day. There have been many Wednesdays with high winds and items are blown all over the village. In addition, wheeled carts and recycle bins should not be placed out before 6pm on Tuesday nights. Please do not leave bags at the curb, as small animals and birds break them open and the trash is strewn everywhere.

If you only have one bag and don't want to wheel out the large canister, consider asking a neighbor if you can put your bag in their receptacle. A reminder that yard waste cannot be placed in your trash. You either need to join the Town of Manlius brush district or bring it to the Town Highway Department.

## **Architectural Requests**

This is an important reminder that any work performed on the outside of your unit requires an Architectural Request (ACC) form. That includes the installation of a new air conditioner,

high efficiency furnace (because of the required venting), generators, deck shade structures, landscaping, walkway replacements, gutters and many more. The ACC form is available on our website at [www.erievillagehoa.com](http://www.erievillagehoa.com) under forms. You can also pick one up at our office. When in doubt ask first. Either call our office at 315-656-5148 or email the ACC Committee at [evarchitecture1@gmail.com](mailto:evarchitecture1@gmail.com). It is also extremely important that all ACC forms include an ACCORD 25 form (certificate of insurance) naming Erie Village as additional insured in the bottom left-hand corner.

## **Dryer Vents**

Recent events have prompted us to remind homeowners to clean your dryer vent regularly. Unfortunately, many dryer vents in Erie Village were installed in the attic space. As the vent gets filled with lint and dust it gets plugged up and can cause moisture, which can lead to structural and electrical damage as well as the growth of mold and bacteria. Lint can also build up and cause a fire. If you are unable to check and clean the vent yourself, there are a number of local companies that provide this service. Have someone check your attic space to make sure the vent is intact and not causing any moisture issues.

## **Gutters**

Gutters are the responsibility of the Homeowner. Malfunctioning gutters can result in flooding of your home's basement, accumulation of unwanted mold and mildew, and damage your exterior's boards and siding. Experts recommend cleaning out your gutters at least twice a year, ideally in the spring and again in the fall.

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Keep in mind that if you live in an area that is heavily populated with trees, you may have to increase your annual gutter cleaning schedule to as frequently as twice a week to keep your gutters clear.

Splash guards should be installed at the base of your home's downspouts as well as on the roof itself to ensure that water is effectively drained away from the home and adequately protects your roof from unwanted mold and mildew damage. Again, there are many local companies that provide this service.

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## Fraud and Social Security

More and more, new scams are coming out. Here are some things to look out for:

Scammers pretend to be from a familiar organization or agency, like the Social Security Administration. They may email attachments with official looking logos, signatures, or pictures of employee credentials.

Scammers mention a problem or a prize. They may say your Social Security number was involved in a crime or ask for personal information to process a benefit increase.

Scammers pressure you to act immediately. They may threaten you with arrest or legal action. Scammers tell you to pay using a gift card, prepaid debit card, cryptocurrency, wire or money transfer, or by mailing cash. They may also tell you to transfer your money to a "safe" account.

Ignore scammers and report criminal behavior to the SSA Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

For more information, visit [www.ssa.gov/scam](http://www.ssa.gov/scam).

Scammers are placing ads on social media marketplaces for selling goods and services. Often, these deals require the customer to pay in advance. Once you pay the scammers, you won't be able to get in touch with them again.

They may impersonate a company executive from a bank by hacking their email ID to send you a spoofed email requesting a change in a payment destination.

Scammers may contact you impersonating your bank or credit card company and tell you that they've noticed suspicious activity. They'll ask you to send money to yourself using your mobile banking app to reverse the payment or prevent account depletion. They may pose as a bank representative and ask you to provide your personal information or even transfer money by phone, text, or email. This is a way for them to gain unauthorized access to your account.

Don't click on anything in an unsolicited email or text message asking you to update or verify account information. When in doubt contact your bank or credit card company to double check if there are any issues.

# Erie Village Book Group

The book club welcomes our newest member, Kathy.

The group just finished reading *Lady Clementine* for the March meeting. The book for April is *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge:

Woodrow Wilson Nickel, age 105, feels his life ebbing away. But when he learns giraffes are going extinct, he finds himself recalling the unforgettable experience he cannot take to his grave....It's 1938....The Great Depression lingers. Hitler is threatening Europe, and world-weary Americans long for wonder. They find it in two giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing the Atlantic. What follows is a twelve-day road trip in a custom truck to become Southern California's first giraffes. Behind the wheel is the young Dust Bowl rowdy Woodrow. Inspired by true events, the tale weaves real-life figures with fictional ones, including the world's first female zoo director, a crusty old man with a past, a young female photographer with a secret, and assorted reprobates as spotty as the giraffes.

May's book is *Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper* by Patrick Phaedra:

Sixty-nine-year-old Arthur Pepper lives a simple life. He gets out of bed at precisely 7:30 a.m., just as he did when his wife, Miriam, was alive. He dresses in the same gray

slacks and mustard sweater vest, waters his fern, Frederica, and heads out to his garden.

But on the one-year anniversary of Miriam's death, something changes. Sorting through Miriam's possessions, Arthur finds an exquisite gold charm bracelet he's never seen before. What follows is a surprising and unforgettable odyssey that takes Arthur from London to Paris and as far as India in an epic quest to find out the truth about his wife's secret life before they met—a journey that leads him to find hope and healing in the most unexpected places.

The April meeting will be held via Zoom.

Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month and begin at 7:00 P.M.

Erie Village Book Club was started more than 25 years ago. Books are chosen by the group. No member has to buy the book. Books are made available at the Fayetteville Free Library and held under the account of Erie Village Book Club.

If you would like more information about the book club please contact Lenore J. Ralph at 315-627-0206.

*Good friends, good books and a sleepy conscience: this is the ideal life.*

- Mark Twain



# *In the Village*

## Erie Village Community Garage Sale



Saturday, June 10th  
2023 9AM—4PM

The cost is \$5.00 per participant to cover the cost of signs and advertising. It's easy! Just open your garage door when you want to start and close by 4PM (or earlier).

Please send payment (checks made out to EVHOA) to: EVHOA, 5900 N. Burdick St. Suite 110, E. Syracuse, NY 13057.

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## Erie Village Shred Day



This year's shred event will be held on Saturday, August 5th from 10AM-12PM. We will be using the first circle on Midlake by the mailboxes. Just drive up and drop off your shredding material.

Please ensure to remove all paper clips or larger elephant clips. Also please remove papers from binders.



Join us for lunch on Thursday, April 27th at Noon to have lunch with other residents from Erie Village. Start out the new year by having lunch with others from your neighborhood.

You do not need to be a member to attend. Cost: Members \$5.00 Non-Members \$6.00. RSVP to the Senior Centre at 315-682-7889 by April 26th at 1:00PM.

Meet new friends, and old, from your neighborhood. Stay for BUNKO after lunch if you'd like to join us. No experience necessary and cost is \$3.00.

## Important Phone Numbers

Doyle Security — 863-463-6953

Butler Disposal — 315-342-0832

Spectrum — 315-634-6000

National Grid:

Customer Service — 800-642-4272

Power Outages — 800-867-5222

Gas Leaks — 800-892-2345

Onondaga County Water Authority:

Customer Service — 315-455-7061 x 3335

Emergency — 315-475-7061

Sewer Issues — 315-435-3157 (ask for dispatch)

East Syracuse Post Office — 315-437-2113

Town of Manlius Brush Collection — 315-637-8815

Town of Manlius Police - both emergency and non-emergency calls — Dial 911





# Community Captures



Photo courtesy of Pam Klein



Photo courtesy of Jean DeSantis



Photo courtesy of Diane Haller

## Editor's Note:

Thank you to all who have submitted photos. We're looking for more great photos taken in our village to feature in upcoming newsletters.

We're also looking for more pets to feature in *Our Neighborhood Companions*. Please include your pet's name and, if you'd like, any fun personality quirks you love about them.

Please send photos to Jean at [jdesant9@gmail.com](mailto:jdesant9@gmail.com).





Mist on the Lake - Photo courtesy of Dan Miller



Photo courtesy of Kim Gilberti



## Our Neighborhood Companions

Meet Gracie! She's a four year old rescue from Alabama brought to us through Helping Hounds. She's loving, smart and gentle.



Courtesy of Suzanne Gilmour



Eagle on the Path Courtesy of Dick Sparrow



## *Do you have email?*

*If you have not already provided an email address or your email has changed, please provide updated information to our office.*

*At times we have important messages that need to be communicated and email is the quickest way to get those notifications out. You can contact us by email at [evhoa@cnyemail.com](mailto:evhoa@cnyemail.com).*

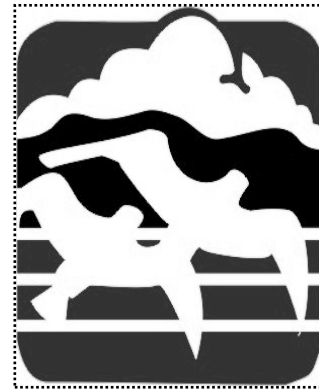
*Please also consider updating your emergency contact information if anything has changed including names of renters, phone numbers and their email address.*

**Make sure you include your name and unit number.**

## *Please check out our website at*

[www.ErieVillageHOA.com](http://www.ErieVillageHOA.com)

*There is a lot of valuable information including the Covenants, By-Laws and our Resident's Guide, which includes our rules and regulations. Forms are also available for direct debit and architectural changes.*



## **Planning on Making Changes in 2023?**

A reminder that any changes to the outside of your unit whether it's gutters, sidewalk, plantings outside the white fenced area or in some cases within the white fence, generators, high efficiency furnaces, gas fire places, changes to your deck, etc., must be approved in advance of work commencing by the Architectural Committee (ACC). **You can obtain a request form by calling the office at 315-656-5148 or by going to our website.**

Please supply as much information as possible such as contractor/installer name, drawings and if need be written consent from surrounding neighbors.

You can email your completed requests to: [evarchitecture1@gmail.com](mailto:evarchitecture1@gmail.com)

**The EVHOA requires that all contractors working in common areas be insured and that a Certificate of Insurance be obtained and submitted prior to work commencing when an ACC form is submitted.**

**On the bottom left corner of the Certificate, Accord 25 Form, there is a block entitled Certificate Holder. In that block it MUST say:**

**Erie Village Homeowners Association  
5900 N. Burdick Street  
East Syracuse NY 13057**

**If that form is not properly completed the request for Architectural Change will be denied and the Form will be returned delaying action to approve the request.**

**It's better to be safe than sorry. We have updated the ACC form and provided examples of items that need approval prior to commencement of work. You may think that a small change doesn't require a form but you should always ask first—again—before any work commences.**



# Safety Skills

## Learn First Aid and CPR

Take a first aid and CPR class. You can get more information about training from your local American Red Cross chapter. Getting certified protects you under Good Samaritan laws if you have to give first aid.

## Learn to Use a Fire Extinguisher

Have at least one up-to-date fire extinguisher and let everyone in your household know where it's kept and how to use it. You should have an ABC type at minimum.

The U.S. Fire Administration says you should only use a fire extinguisher if you've been trained in its proper use and maintenance. Contact your local fire department for information on training in your area.

## Know How to Shut Off Utilities

### Natural Gas

Natural gas leaks and explosions cause a significant number of fires after disasters. It's important that all household members know how to shut off natural gas.

There are different gas shut-off procedures for different gas meter configurations, so it's important to call your gas company. They can help you prepare for gas appliances and gas service to your home in the event of an emergency.

Make sure everyone in your household knows the proper shut-off procedure for your meter. Do not actually turn off the gas when practicing shutting it off.

If you smell gas or hear a blowing or hissing noise, open a window and get everyone out quickly. Turn off the gas using the outside main valve if you can and call the gas company from a neighbor's home.

Caution: If you turn off the gas for any reason, only a qualified professional can turn it back on.



NEVER attempt to turn the gas back on yourself.

### Water

Water quickly becomes a precious resource following many disasters. It is important that everyone in your household learn how to shut off the main water valve to the house.

Find the shut-off valve for the main water line that enters your house and tag it for easy identification. Make sure everyone in your household knows where it is.

Make sure you can shut the valve off completely. Your valve may be rusted open or it may not close all the way. If so, replace it.

Cracked lines may pollute the water supply to your house. It's a good idea to shut off your water until authorities say it's safe to drink.

The effects of gravity may drain the water in your hot water heater and toilet tanks unless you trap it in your house by shutting off the main house valve. (This is not the street valve in the cement box at the curb – the street valve is extremely difficult to turn and requires a special tool.)

### Electricity

Electrical sparks can ignite natural gas if it is leaking. Teach all responsible household members how to shut off the electricity.

Locate your electrical circuit box. For your safety, always shut off all the individual circuits before shutting off the main circuit.

*Courtesy of Ready.gov*

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Richard J. Lelong, GRI  
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315-243-6500  
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