

# Village Connection

Village of Central Square October- December 2015

Mayor Kenneth Sherman Trustee Kim Perry

Deputy Mayor Heather Stevens Trustee Jim Turo

Trustee Randy House

Compiled By Heather Stevens

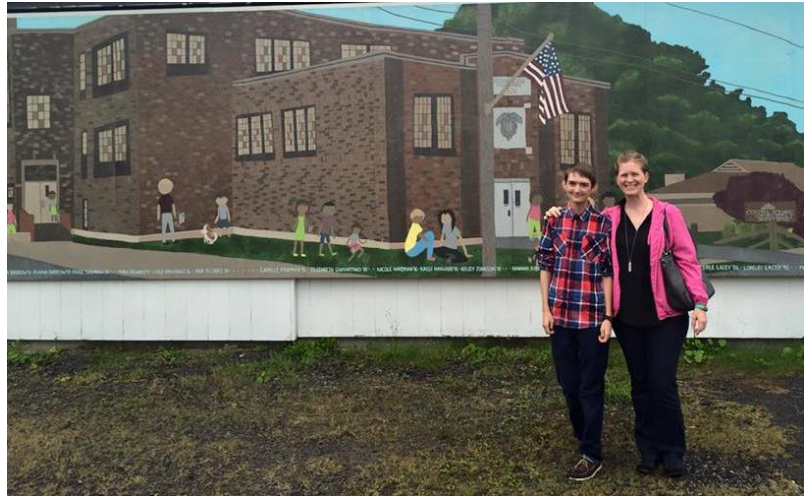
## Mayor's Message

Dear Neighbors,

As summer comes to an end, school is back in session; the trees begin to change color and so begin our annual ritual of preparing for autumn.

Once again, our concert in the park series and recreation programs were a success. Project Bloom enhanced our streets and parks with all their hard work maintaining flowers near our benches and signs. Our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary has been a memorable year with our time capsule recently placed into the sign column on Pleasant Ave and Route 11.

In addition, our newest landmark to the village is our mural that was completed along Railroad Street. Thank you to Mrs. Lacey and her 30+ students who dedicated their summer to such a great project. Many hours were spent creating the perspective of along Main Street. Also, visit one of our two museums in the village. Near the Railroad Museum, notice the new sign at State Route 11 and visit the History Museum at the village office.



On a more serious note, the individual who vandalized the church, local businesses and cemetery has been arrested. I would like to thank the residents for their diligence and the Village Police and Oswego County Sheriff Department for their outstanding investigation.

Leaf and brush pick up will begin in Mid-October. Please be mindful not to place leaves in the roadways.

Enjoy the many wonderful activities of our area throughout the fall season. Attend a sporting event or band performance at the school, shop locally as we approach the holiday season and join us for the holiday tree lighting at Goettel Park.

Sincerely yours, Mayor Ken Sherman

**Stay Up to Date!** Be sure to stay current and find answers to many questions on our website at <http://www.villageofcentralsquare-ny.us/index.php> or facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MyHometownVOCS>

## **Leaf and Brush Pick up**

The Village of Central Square will pick up leaves and brush from about Mid Oct.-first snow accumulation. In order to utilize the DPW services most effectively and affordably we cannot extend leaf pick up beyond these dates. LOGS, STUMPS, LARGE AMOUNTS OF STICKS AND LEAVES FROM CLEARING, GRASS CLIPPINGS, FLOWERS, WEEDS, PLANTS and LUMBER **WILL NOT BE PICKED UP.**

Leaves should be raked and placed as close to the edge of the street as possible. Do not bag leaves. Do not place leaves on sidewalks or in ditches. No other materials should be placed in the leaf pile including grass, branches, landscape waste etc. Small amounts of sticks that have fallen from trees should be placed in a separate pile and not bound. Do not obstruct drainage.



## **CNY Stormwater Coalition: Fantastic Fall Foliage**

Autumn in Central New York is a beautiful season! Clear blue skies, crisp temperatures and vibrantly colored trees help ease the transition from the bright warmth of summer to the dark cold of winter. Unfortunately, all that treetop beauty can come back to haunt us throughout the winter and spring if we don't properly address those falling leaves now. When leaves and yard clippings are raked into the street, they can clog storm drains causing localized flooding during heavy rains or snow melt. Leaves and grass clippings that make their way to local streams and rivers release nutrients that contribute to the accelerated growth of algae. This can be harmful to fish and other aquatic wildlife. Although not too many people enjoy autumn weekends raking a yard full of leaves, raking might become a little more bearable if you know that you can use those leaves to improve your lawn and garden while reducing the threat of spring time flooding and nutrient loading to local waterbodies. An easy and beneficial way to deal with leaves is by mulching them back onto your lawn. Simply mow the leaves and leave them on the lawn. The mower will chop the leaves into small pieces that will decompose and provide valuable nutrients to the soil. Add autumn leaves to a compost pile or place them in planting beds or gardens to provide an inexpensive and nutrient rich fertilizer for your garden. Composting is nature's truest form of recycling. Leaves should never be placed in the storm drain, gutter or street.

## **Parking Restriction**

Please take note that during the months of October 1<sup>st</sup> through April 20<sup>th</sup> there is restricted parking on all village streets. Parking is prohibited during the hours of 12:00a.m. (Midnight) until 6:00a.m. Vehicles violating this village law will be subject to parking fines and towing fees.

## **Snow removal**

The Village of Central Square would like to remind everyone that once the snow comes, please help to keep the water hydrants and sidewalks clear near your home. A cleared hydrant can help save precious time in the case of a fire. Also remember when clearing snow from driveways, do not shovel, blow or plow snow into the streets. This can create a hazardous condition for drivers and pedestrians. Thank you for your help.





## **Results from the Village Parks Survey**

By Diane Kuehn, Associate Professor, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

This past spring, the Village of Central Square collaborated with SUNY ESF to complete a survey about how residents use the parks in Central Square. The survey was written and analyzed for free by SUNY ESF staff. Village residents were sent the questionnaire in their quarterly village newsletter. Of the 580 households that received the questionnaire, 47 completed and returned it to the village office. Due to the limited number of responses, these results should be used as an indication of resident views concerning the parks, rather than being completely

representative of the views of all village residents.

Respondents indicated that they had resided in Central Square for an average of 31 years (range: 1 to 78 years of residence). The average age of respondents was 65, and ranged from 27 to 91 years old. The majority of respondents (56%) were female. Twenty-seven percent of the respondents had children who currently attend local schools.

Of the 47 respondents, 89% (42 respondents) indicated that they had visited one or more of the parks in the village at least once in 2014. For these 42 respondents, the park they visited most often in the village was Goettel Park; 84% of the 42 respondents used this park in 2014 primarily for concerts, festivals and events, walking, playground use, and picnicking. Hillside Memorial Cemetery and Park, adjacent to Goettel, received the second highest percentage of visits by respondents (74%); walking and funeral-related activities were the primary activities at this site. The outdoor sports fields and track facilities at PV Moore High School, CSI, and Millard Hawk Primary were next, receiving visits from 28 respondents; watching sports events, walking, and playground use were the most common activities.

The fourth most-visited facility was the Oswego County Recreation Trail, receiving visits from 20 respondents; walking, walking dogs, jogging/running, and snowmobiling were the most common activities on this trail. The parks visited by fewer respondents were Crossroads Park (17 respondents visited in 2014) and Ada Powell Smith Park (12 respondents visited), both of which were used primarily for walking. With regard to history-related attractions in the village, 11 of the respondents indicated that they had visited the Central Square Village Historical Collection (in the Village Office Building) in 2014. Thirteen respondents had visited the Central Square Railroad Station Museum in 2014; 22 had visited this museum at least once in the past five years.

Twenty-two respondents wrote in suggestions for the parks. Comments include: improve and add connections (sidewalks) between the parks; expand the facilities in Goettel Park (add ice skating rink, expand playground, add carry-in/carry-out trash facilities, expand pavilion, obtain new PA system, add volleyball court, add community center); improve park and trail accessibility for older citizens and those with physical disabilities; improve signage for the parks; improve trail surfaces (eliminate muddy conditions); establish a speed limit for off-highway vehicles on the Oswego County Recreation Trail; and reduce the speed for motor vehicles through Goettel Park. Two respondents (who did not visit the parks in 2014) indicated that the parks are a waste of taxpayer money.

Using this information, the Ecotourism and Nature Tourism class at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry will be creating (free of charge) a recreation plan for the village of Central Square. The plan will include recommendations for improving connections between the parks, expanding park promotions and educational information, and enhancing the natural and historic resources of Central Square. The report will be completed by spring, 2016, and made available for free online through SUNY ESF's website.





## 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Lighting of the Tree

We would like to invite you to this year's tree lighting on Sunday December 6, 2015. It will be held at Goettel Park from 5-6:30pm. Christmas carols will be led by local scout groups. Our special guest, Santa, will be there to hear the wishes of our children. There will also be cocoa, cookies and other activities for the family to enjoy.

## Central Square Community Historical Society & Museum

In 2006 the Central Square history project was begun. In October 2012 the museum space was created in the upstairs of the village offices. In May 2013 the paperwork was begun to obtain the charter for the historical society. On September 17, 2013 NY State approved the provisional charter for the society!

Upcoming discussions are: October 25- Central Square Methodist church/CSCC (Central Square Community Church). November 15- Hillside Cemetery Talk and Tour (meet at Goettel Park food building) and December 13- Museum Holiday Open House. In addition to the topic talks we share new acquisitions, have open discussions and sharing and museum viewing. Everyone is welcome! If you would like to donate item(s) to the collection or arrange a special museum viewing contact Village Historian, Heather Stevens at [dstevens@incpark.com](mailto:dstevens@incpark.com) or 676-2682. The society also has lots of great gift ideas such as publications, postcards, ornaments and other items for sale as well.



**Columbarium:** We are happy to announce the columbarium has been installed and the niches are for sale: Top/Tier 1 & 2 are \$1800 per niche, Tier 3 is \$1500 per niche and the Bottom/Tier 4 is \$1000 per niche. \* Maximum of two sets of remain per niche as space allows. \*No co-mingling of remains is allowed within an urn, and each interment is considered a separate burial. \*No partial niche purchases. \*Niche fees shall be paid in full prior to niche assignment. \*No individual memorialization on Cemetery owned Columbarium

or units. Nothing should be placed on top of unit or affixed anyplace thereon, including niche doors. \*Inscription will consist only of name (first, middle initial and last), date of birth (year only) and date of death (year only) and will be done in a uniform font. \* Containers may be of a rustproof metal alloy (such as brass or bronze), ceramic, or of a non-biodegradable hard plastic. Glass or other easily broken containers are not permitted, nor are containers of metals that will rust. \* If you are a current lot owner and are interested in a niche, you can sell your lot (s) back to village and pay the difference for a niche. Please contact our office for more information. \*\*If interested in purchasing a niche please contact the cemetery commissioner (Bruce) at 668-2558 for more info, pricing, fees (opening, closing, holidays) etc.

**House Numbers** New York State building code requires residents to provide emergency vehicles with house numbers that are at least 4 inches on the front of every residence. Numbers shall contrast their back ground. Again this could save time in case of an emergency.

**Cemetery Committee Opening:** We are looking for 1-2 new members for this committee. Generally we meet one day in January, April and September or as needed from 11-noon during the week. If interested please contact the village office or Mayor.

**Halloween safety:** Please only allow your children to trick or treat at homes with their porch/outside lights on. Trick or Treat with an adult and take a flashlight. Never enter someone's home. Check your children's candy before they eat it, be sure their costume is safe and be careful of candles. Be Safe!!



October is last chance to visit this season! The Central Square Station Museum is operated by the Central New York Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. Located at 132 Railroad Ave., the museum was once jointly operated as a depot for the New York, Ontario & Western and New York Central railroads. There are both indoor and outdoor exhibits. There is no fee but donations are greatly appreciated.

**Project Bloom:** Project Bloom is a non-profit volunteer group who plants and maintains the planters, monuments and benches around the village. If you can help weed, deadhead or water or remove suckers from trees either as a one time or ongoing effort please contact Diane at [gooma@twcny.rr.com](mailto:gooma@twcny.rr.com)

**Central Square Boy Scout Troop 734-** accepting new members! If you think Boy Scouting may be for your son, come check out Central Square Troop 734. They are looking for new members and meet Monday night's 7-8pm at the Central Square Fire Company (upstairs or CSCC). Boys ages 11-18 (or who have completed the 5th grade and are at least 10 years old) are invited to join. When school started this Fall, what did your children remember as the highlights of their summer? The boys and families of Central Square Boy Scout Troop 734 had a lot to say! This summer the troop sold refreshment at the concerts in the park at Goettel Park, volunteered at the Patriot Run, helped and eagle candidate with his project, earned merit badges, went to Boy Scout Camp (Sabattis in the Adirondacks) for a week and white water rafting! Basically they had a lot of fun. While at camp they swam, hiked, went rowing and kayaking. They participated in geocaching, archery, camp skills, cooking, conservation and lots more. It was a very busy summer. They have lots of things planned for this fall too...including hiking, camping and much more! If you would like to visit or gain more information contact Heather Stevens at [dstevens@incpark.com](mailto:dstevens@incpark.com) or 676-2682. We would love for your son and family to become a part of our troop!



**Memorial Tree and Bench Program:** The Village of Central Square Memorial Program allows residents the chance to commemorate a birth, honor a friend or remember a loved one. The fee for a memorial tree is \$275.00 and \$500.00 for a park bench. The 4x6 dedication plaque is included in the fee. If you have questions about the trees in our parks or would like to know how you can contribute please contact the Village office at 668- 2558.

**Special dates (in addition to those in newsletter):**

- October 2: 5pm Homecoming Parade, 7:15pm Homecoming game, 8:15pm Field band performs half time show
- October 12: Village office closed-Columbus Day
- October 15: Village Planning Board 7-8pm at Village Office
- October 18: Open Drum Circle 3-5pm Universalist Church
- October 24: CSCC Craft Fair 10am-3pm  
Redhawk Regiment Home Show 5:30pm-9pm at PVM Stadium
- October 25: History Talk and Tour 1-3pm at CSCC
- October 26: Village Board meeting 7pm Village Office
- October 27: Free Community Lunch 11:30am-1pm First Baptist Church-open to public
- November 1: Daylight Savings Time Ends
- November 5: PVM Drama Production 4pm
- November 6-7: PVM Drama Production 7pm
- November 9: Village Board Meeting 7pm at Village Office
- November 11: Veterans Day-Village Office Closed  
Veterans Day Ceremony at Legion Park
- November 14: Blood Drive 8am-1pm First Universalist Church
- November 15: History Talk and Tour-Hillside Cemetery stories-meet at Goettel Park
- November 19: Village Planning Board 7-8pm at Village Office
- November 23: Village Board Meeting 7pm at Village Office
- November 24: Free Community Lunch 11:30am-1pm First Baptist Church-open to public
- November 26-27: Village Office Closed
- December 6: Tree Lighting 5pm Goettel Park
- December 13: Museum Holiday Open House 1-3pm at Village Office
- December 14: Village Board Meeting 7pm at Village Office
- December 17: Village Planning Board 7pm at Village Office
- December 24-25: Village Office Closed
- December 29: Free Community Lunch 11:30am-1pm First Baptist Church-open to public
- December 31: Village Office Closed



**Downstairs Scotty & Food Pantry at Divine Mercy:** Scotty is open Tuesday 9am-3 and Friday 9am-1. Pantry is open Tuesday & Friday 9am-3pm and 1st Thursday of the month 5-7pm. Please bring proof of Oswego County residency.

**Universalist Church:** Open Sanctuary Hours Monday evenings from 5-7pm. Open to Community

**Pre-school Story Hour at C. Sq. Library:** Wednesday 10-11am. Please call Library for more info.

**Central Square Railway Museum:** Located at the end of Railroad and open Sundays from May-October noon-5pm. Go inside the cars on display and museum too!