



Town of Alden

May Newsletter



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From the Desk of the Supervisor...

As The Country Shut Down, Alden Never Slept

As the pandemic hit hard, essentially shutting down the entire country, it became immediately evident that this gave the Town a unique, once in a lifetime opportunity that we could not hesitate to take advantage of. When it was clear that there would be no sporting events being conducted for the 2020 season we immediately took action to tirelessly perform as many overdue maintenance projects and upgrades that time would allow us to do.

With special thanks to Highway Superintendent William Rogers along with the Highway and parks employees, we are proud to be able to say we were able to complete an unprecedented amount of work in both the Alden Town Park as well as the Robert O Smith Memorial Park. Perhaps the most important project completed was the Robert O Smith Park Phase I drainage improvements. These improvements installed vital drainage infrastructure and repairs that will allow a variety of sports teams to be able to utilize the fields in otherwise unsuitable or rainy conditions.

Repairs to (2) baseball fields included 2 fields being re-cut, re-dimensioned and over 100 tons of baseball mix being brought in to repair and re-grade the fields! Also, the dugouts on the main baseball field have been re-ramped with new concrete and benches. To enhance the aesthetics of this park, low lying areas were filled and sidewalks and fencing added. Additionally, much needed parking was created throughout the facility. Plans for 2021 will include Phase 2 of drainage and sidewalks to increase accessibility, improvements to the third baseball/softball field, additional parking, upgrades to the fan benches, and the paving of all remaining areas.

I would like to give a special thanks to the Alden State Bank for largely subsidizing the purchase of a brand new state of the art scoreboard for the main baseball field.

An abundance of improvements have also been made to the Community Center and Alden Town Park. A new roof and ceilings were installed to the Senior Center thru a CDGB grant. Landscaping surrounding the facility has been upgraded and new ceiling fans and a fresh coat of paint added new life to the Community Center. Elsewhere throughout the park renovations to the restrooms included refinishing the floors, installation of new bathroom partitions and updated paint within them. Future plans for the park include upgrades to the Kiwanis Shelter, Shelter #2, the fire pit roof, new electricity ran throughout the park for future community events, the installation of a pickleball court, paving of the basketball court, an upgraded concession stand and parks building, new fencing, additional parking and some much needed paving.

Finally, I am extremely proud to have been able to make these much needed improvements so that the residents of Alden, their friends and families can come enjoy and be proud of the community we live in. I am even more proud to be able to say we have been able to realize these much needed improvements with wise spending, smart cuts and resourcefulness, and have not needed to increase taxes to do so.

Park Shelter Reservations Available

Shelter reservations in Memorial Park are now available by contacting the Town Clerk's Office. Shelter availability can viewed online and reservation applications downloaded from the Town's website at www.alden.erie.gov

Historical Museum Re-opens May 2

The Historical Society has announced the re-opening of the Heritage Center on Sunday, May 2 from 1:00 to 3:00pm. Thereafter, the Center will return to their regular openings on the first and third Sundays through December. Under Covid-19 restrictions tours will be self-guided and tour groups are limited to four people or family of no more than six. Masks and social distancing will be required.

Summer Recreation Programs

Covid restrictions and the inability to utilize school facilities this year has presented a unique challenge to the Summer Rec program. Unfortunately, this leads to limited program offerings. Tentative plans call for outdoor arts & crafts, tennis, outdoor games and opening of the kiddie wading pool and a continuation of the Movie in the Park program. Registration is expected to open mid to late May, residents should consult the Alden Advertiser for updates on the program. All activities will be conducted in compliance with Covid-19 regulations.

Mark your Calendar for July 7th

The first of what is hope for several Summer Concerts will be held on Wednesday July 7th as the Carnival Kids Steel Orchestra (CKSO) makes their debut appearance to the Alden stage. Comprised of Lancaster High School students, the orchestra formerly started in 1976 and has been performing ever since. Their appearances have included gigs at the Buffalo Karibana Festival, M&T Bank Series, Taste of Buffalo, Erie PA Amphitheatre, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. In 2006 performed on the Royal Caribbean cruise ship “*Enchantment of the Seas*”.

Kiddie Wading Pool Opening

The Recreation Department has released a **TENTATIVE** schedule for the wading pool. Weather permitting opening day will be Monday, June 13th. The alternate date is Monday, June 27th.

Daily Schedule:

11:00am – 7:00pm Monday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday

11:30am – 7:00pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

Pre K Level 1 Swim Lessons:

11:00am – 11:30am Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

The pool will be staffed with two certified lifeguards at all times. All Covid-19 guidelines will be followed.

Happy Birthday To Us

It only seems like yesterday, but 2023 marks the 200th birthday of the Town of Alden. Our Town was originally part of Clarence, but in 1822 residents began to say “no more” and we were officially established as the Town of Alden was established on March 27, 1823 as codified in the Laws of the State of New York. Because we are a charitable bunch, even back then, we gave up a southern portion of the Town to Marilla in 1853.

The Town, in collaboration with the Historical Society and the Alden Chamber of Commerce, has begun planning festivities for a celebration of our Bicentennial. Anyone who would like to assist can contact Alden Deputy Supervisor Colleen Rogers at colleen.rogers@erie.gov.

(Editor's Note: I know what I suggest as a Town birthday present...the end of the pandemic and a return to normalcy.)

To All the Moms, Happy Mother's Day May 9th