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TOWN BOARD

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Deputy Supervisor

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Board Member

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Board Member

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Board Member

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Board Member

JENNIFER WHALEN
Board Member

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR MAHAN



Dear Fellow Colonie Residents,

Summer is going fast, but we have so much positive activity to report!

It was great to hear that 95 percent of respondents in a recent Siena Research Institute survey rated Colonie as a good or excellent place to live. The survey was conducted as part of our ongoing 2005 Comprehensive Plan Review process.

Respondents also showed very strong support for the Town's fire, emergency, and police services. I am so grateful to our outstanding police, EMS, and 12 volunteer

fire departments for their service in helping residents feel safe in our community.

Speaking of our EMS and police departments, I'm very proud to note the Colonie Police Department staffing is now at 113 – that's the highest level ever. In addition, Colonie's EMS recently received a 2017 Mission Lifeline Gold Plus Award from the American Heart Association.

This year we were able to install new filtration systems for the Town pools, the latest in a series of major improvements at the Town Park. Next, we are planning for a beautiful new splash pad there. We are also planning a new effort to improve the Town's 12 pocket parks, which taken together total almost 60 acres of conveniently located open space throughout Colonie. And major infrastructure initiatives for our roads, water and sewer systems will continue for the foreseeable future.

Finally, we appreciate the feedback from residents as part of our 2005 Comprehensive Plan review process. This review will provide us with an opportunity to identify parts of the 2005 plan that need to be modified. Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Sincerely,

Paula A. Mahan

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Colonie Town Supervisor

UPCOMING EVENTS

Farmers Market at the Crossings

Saturdays through September 30
9am – 1pm
The Crossings

13th Annual Seven-Club Senior Picnic

Wednesday, August 9
10am – 4pm
Albany Polish American Citizens Club
A fun-filled day of food, games, Bingo.
For info, call Senior Resources at 459-5051

Old Fashioned Sunday

(Free)
September 10
Noon – 4pm
The Pruyn House
Family Fun for All Ages
For info call The Pruyn House, 783-1435

Harvest Fest

(Free)
September 17
Noon – 4pm – The Crossings
Family fun for all ages
For info, call the Youth Bureau, 456-2136

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Day

Saturday, September 24
4pm – 7pm
Colonie Town Landfill
By appointment only: call 800-494-2273
no sooner than 30 days prior to event.

Senior Housing Fair

(Free)
Friday, September 29
1pm – 4pm
The Crossings

Halloween at The Crossings

(Free)
October 21
11am – Noon
The Crossings
Music, spooky stories, refreshments.
For info call the Youth Bureau, 456-2136

Curbside Yard Waste Collection

(Free)
Weekly collection on regularly scheduled days runs through November 3. Note: After November 3, weather permitting, curbside collection will continue through December 8, but not on regularly scheduled days. Call 783-LEAF with questions.

The Colonie Chronicle

Paula A. Mahan, Town Supervisor
Sara Wiest, Editor

The Colonie Chronicle is published periodically by the Town of Colonie to provide residents with information on Town happenings and services. For more information, call 518-783-2728 or e-mail the editor at: wiests@colonie.org



Adding Strength to Strength: Three new officers were sworn in at the Town Board meeting on June 22. That brings the Colonie Police Department's staffing level to 113 officers, the highest level ever. Pictured, from left, first row, are Police Chief Jonathan Teale, Supervisor Paula Mahan, and new officers Zachary J. McMahon, Conor G. Anson, and Evan T. Alaxanian. In the second row, from left, are Town Board members Paul Rosano, David Green, David Rowley, Jennifer Whalen, and Christopher Carey.

NEW SIENA SURVEY SHOWS RESIDENTS LOVE COLONIE

In a recent survey, 95 percent of Town respondents rated Colonie as a good or excellent place to live. The survey was conducted by Siena Research Institute in connection with the Town's review of its 2005 Comprehensive Plan.

Residents also showed strong support for Town services, with 94 percent satisfied with fire and emergency services and 92 percent with police services. Eighty-six percent said property taxes were "about right" relative to services.

"I am thrilled to know that residents view life in Colonie in overwhelmingly positive terms. We've worked very hard to preserve Colonie's great quality of life, and the survey not only helps us see where we are succeeding, but where we should focus in the future."

Traffic congestion and development emerged as two areas of concern, although residents are about evenly split as to whether the Town is growing too fast. Forty-nine percent of respondents indicated they believe the growth rate is acceptable, while 48 percent feel it's too fast.

"As we update the 2005 Comprehensive Plan, two areas that we will be looking at are PDDs and density to determine what adjustments need to be made," said the Supervisor. "Unfortunately,

there is no simple answer for traffic congestion. If 787, I-90, or the Northway is backed up, traffic is going to spill over onto our roads," she said.

Based on NYS traffic counts, at least 140,000 vehicles a day pass through Colonie just from the Northway. "We will continue to work cooperatively with both the State and Albany County to find ways to improve traffic flow," Supervisor Mahan said.

Regarding possible new initiatives, 85 percent said they would support new sidewalks along main roads, 81 percent favored the re-design of roads to calm traffic, and 80 percent favored investing in parks.

When asked which programs they would be willing to support financially, 55 percent of respondents would support conservation of open or environmentally sensitive land; 51 percent, construction of sidewalks on main roads, and 39 percent, conservation of farmland.

Thirty-three percent of respondents said they would be willing to pay \$50 to \$100 more a year for such amenities; 32 percent said they would pay more than \$0 but less than \$50.

Out of a total sample of 2,000 Colonie registered voters, 607 completed the survey.