

JUNE 2008

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# HILTON VILLAGE NEWS

## HILTON'S ONCE VIBRANT APPLE INDUSTRY DIMINISHES 2 FARMS CONTINUE THE LEGACY



In days gone by, Hilton was known as the "Apple Capital" of Monroe County. Many large fruit farms prospered in the area. Apples were the most abundant of the fruits grown in and around Hilton. Apple orchards that once lined the major streets into the village, have all but disappeared. What has become of the apple industry in Hilton?

When the railroad came to Hilton, the fruit industry grew rapidly, creating new jobs and growth in the area. Apples became big business in Hilton. In 1910 a survey of Parma found 3,726 acres of apple trees, with 99,066 trees in commercial orchards and 22,886 growing elsewhere. By 1931 the average yearly reported revenue in Hilton from the apple industry was \$194,000. In 1934 a record freeze lasting several days, with dipping temperatures of 32 degrees below zero, destroyed many of the apple orchards, causing Hilton to lose its status as "Apple Capital". Despite the big freeze the apple industry managed to hang on and remained a prominent business in Hilton. By 1957 an agricultural census was taken of the commercial fruit farms in Parma. 24 apple orchards, with a minimum of 100 trees in each, were included in the census. There were 48,818 apple trees and 1,320 acres of orchards. In 1958, an organization of area farmers



known as the Hilton Fruit Co-Operative, formerly of Canning Street, processed 350,000 bushels of apples, attesting to the still-active apple industry.

Over the course of time, many factors have caused the apple industry to diminish in Hilton. A significant increase in the day to day costs associated with farming has had a very large impact on the industry. More recently, the rising price of gasoline, as well as higher labor costs, combined with a decline in profits have made it difficult for farmers to make ends meet. As aging farmers have died off, their children have left the family farming business for higher paying, more stable professions. Competition from foreign imports and slacking consumer demand have contributed to the industry's losses. Most farmers have had to subsidize their income with a second source of employment just to get by. Many of the large farms that were struggling in the area have sold off their orchards to the flourishing housing market.

Today, only two major apple farms remain in the Hilton area; **Burch Farms** at 527 North Avenue and **Zarpentine Farms** at 163 Burritt Road. Both farms have a strong history in Hilton, with Zarpentine's going back as far as the 1830's and Burch's going back to the late 1940's.

Burch Farms, owned and operated by brothers, John and Jim Burch, currently have about 130 acres of apple orchards, producing 80 to 100 thousand bushels of apples annually. Apples provide 90% of the farm's yearly income. Zarpentine Farms, owned and operated by Ron and Pat Zarpentine, currently have 40 acres of apple orchards, producing 30 to 32 thousand bushels of apples annually. Apples also provide 90% of their income. Both farms have managed to stay in business largely because of their on-site retail outlets that sell directly to the consumer and cut out the need for a middle man. This direct marketing approach has helped keep profits up and costs down.

To celebrate Hilton's apple history, the Village hosts an annual "Apple Festival", inviting artists, crafters, entertainers and a variety of vendors to present their talents and wares to the community in a weekend filled with fun, entertainment and good food, including a variety of apple delights. This year's Apple Festival will be held on **October 4th and 5th**.

Hilton may not be the "Apple Capital" of Monroe County that it once was, but thanks to the apple industry, Hilton has prospered. To keep the apple industry alive in Hilton, support of the local farms is essential. Let the farmers know how much they are appreciated and how much their apples are wanted in Hilton!

# HILTON VILLAGE AWARDED FEMA FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE GRANT

On September 9, 2004, heavy rains from Hurricane Frances flooded the Hilton Fire Department, causing damages over \$175,000. The Hilton Fire District wrote an application to FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for financial assistance. Initially, the grant was denied due to flood insurance technicalities.

The Fire District proceeded to comply with FEMA flood requirements, and applied for a second time. They were again denied, this time due to



re-zoning technicalities that could only be reconciled by applying for the grant through the Village of Hilton. The Fire District formed a partnership with the Village to apply for the grant with the consent of Mayor Bill Carter. The application process took four long years, but the work paid off when the Village was granted approximately \$750,000 in assistance money.

Of the \$750,000 in grant money, \$550,000 of the money will be allocated to the Fire District in reimbursement for the fair market value of the current fire station and the surrounding black top area. This reimbursement money will be used to purchase equipment and furnishings for the new fire station. The remaining portion of the grant money, which consists of approximately \$200,000, will provide for expenses related to acquisition, demolition and site restoration. Of the \$200,000, approximately \$100,000 may be spent in "in-kind" services, which includes payment to both the

Village and the Town for the use of equipment for the demolition and site restoration work. The Fire District is then left to pay \$100,000 in additional services such as health related surveys, capping utilities, asbestos removal and management of demolition.

At the end of April 2009, the construction of the new fire station on Old Hojack Lane is projected to be finalized. The Fire Department will move out of the current station and in June or July demolition of the old station is scheduled to begin. After the completion of the demolition and

restoration phase the Village will be deemed the property that the fire station occupied, including the current black top area. The rest of the grounds consisting of approximately 20+ acres, including the carnival grassy area and the separately owned Exempt club on the hill, will continue to belong to the Fire Department and Exempt organizations.

With the acceptance of the grant money, FEMA has issued permanent restrictions regarding the property. Due to the fact that it is situated in a floodplain, the black top will have to be removed and only permeable gravel will be allowed on the premises. Future building will be limited to shelter like structures and bathroom type facilities. Any other type of structure will not be allowed.

Many thanks goes to **John Lemcke**, former Fire Chief of the Hilton Fire Department and current Fire Commissioner of the Hilton Fire District. John has generously donated countless hours

## 2008 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR



### *Sharon Prince*

The Village Board has named **Sharon Prince** as **Hilton's Citizen of the Year.**

Sharon has been actively volunteering in Hilton for over 50 years and has greatly enhanced many lives with her gracious service!

Her accomplishments are so numerous they cannot be listed. She is a caring, generous and selfless person who continuously gives of herself to every good cause that comes her way.

From serving in many facets of the Catholic Church, to leadership positions in the community, to volunteering and fundraising for worthy causes, she is genuinely an inspiration to all.

**Congratulations Sharon,** you truly deserve the honor of being recognized as **Citizen of the Year!**

of his personal time, over a four year period, in the writing, application process and securing of the grant for the Village. Many thanks also goes to **Janet Surridge**, Village Clerk-Treasurer, for her assistance in the process. The cooperative efforts and generous assistance of both the **Village and Town boards** and their **Public Works Departments** are appreciated and the organizations are to be commended for their participation in this project. ■



# VILLAGE CLOSES SIDEWALK BETWEEN FRASER DRIVE AND THE HIGH SCHOOL

SIDEWALK WILL RE-OPEN FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS

Recently the sidewalk connecting the Fraser Drive subdivision and the Hilton High School property was closed. People who enjoy walking that route have questioned the reasoning behind the closing and so the Village would like to take this opportunity to explain.

Area residents from the Fraser Drive subdivision have been very upset about the congregation of teenagers, daily, in their respective back and side yards. The crowds have swelled from a dozen daily, to as many as 50+ teens. The teens gather in the area to smoke, just off school property. The teens have been said to be disrespectful, loud and a nuisance to others who want to walk to or from the school on that stretch of sidewalk. The teens have been leaving trash and other undesirable paraphernalia around the fence area and onto surrounding properties, in addition to painting graffiti on fences. Reports of racing cars with loud



music, waiting for students at that location have also been a problem. Residents are fed up.

Originally the Planning Board had the sidewalk put in as a public access to the schools for the convenience of the community. After several initial complaints from residents, the Village moved the walkway from between 22 and 24 Fraser Drive to between 24 and 26 Fraser Drive, in an effort to keep the walkway open and to please the residents. Area residents approached the School Board to see what could be done when the problems continued, and escalated. The School Board referred the residents to the Village for assistance, stating that the issues pertained to the Village because the problems were not on school property and were occurring at various times, including when

school was not in session. The Village approached school security and asked for a representative to be stationed at the walkway to monitor the situation. The school security, while wanting to support the Village, was unable to commit to full time enforcement. The school offered to monitor the area periodically during the day and to have a building security camera turned on to record the troubled area more efficiently. Problems continued. After ongoing dialogue between residents, the school and the Village, there seemed to be no other alternative than to close the walkway during the months that school is in session. Since that decision, things have greatly improved.

The Village plans on re-opening the walkway during the summer months, after school is recessed, and closing it again when school resumes in the fall. Since the closing of the walkway, a few kids have been seen jumping the fences. Please talk to your kids and urge them to use another route to get to and from the school property. The cooperation and understanding of the community is very much appreciated. ■

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection

(Including fluorescent light bulbs)

for all Western Monroe County Towns & Villages

**Saturday, June 21st**

at the Hamlin

Highway Department

Appointments

**MUST** be scheduled

for this collection day

by calling

**392-9464**

## Unwanted Pharmaceuticals Collection

**Saturday, June 7th**

8:00am - 1:00 pm

No appointment necessary

Rochester Water Bureau

10 Felix Street

(corner of Dewey Avenue)

## REMINDER

*Local Law #5  
chapter 13-B, Sec. I  
Parks and Recreation*



Dogs **MUST** be on a leash at all times when in any of the Village parks.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET!!!**

Dogs must also be contained or on a leash whenever they are within Village limits\*



\*except when on owners property or by permission, on the property of another. Leashes are to be no longer than 8 ft.

Violators of this ordinance could be fined up to \$100 for each violation.

# EXCEPTIONAL VILLAGE WEBSITE MAINTAINED BY DEBBIE JONES

The Village Administration would like to recognize the exceptional efforts of Debbie Jones, Clerk-Typist for the Village of Hilton. Debbie has been instrumental in updating the Village website and maintaining the current influx of information that is posted weekly on the site. Debbie began as a part time employee with the Village in 2003 and was hired full time in 2006. She has proven herself to be a valuable asset to the Village staff.



The website contains valuable information pertaining to the community, local government, Village services and current news,

including the current publication of this news letter. Information concerning such things as zoning ordinances, building requirements, permit applications, refuse and recycling schedules, community calendar information, village maps and much more is listed on the website. Visit the site at [www.hiltonny.org](http://www.hiltonny.org). For comments or suggestions call Debbie Jones at 392-4144 extension 100. Be sure to thank Debbie for the wonderful job that she is doing when you call!



## VILLAGE *Environmental* ISSUES



Fertilizers, insecticides, herbicides and various other lawn chemicals, applied improperly, can have harmful effects on the environment. Over application of any lawn chemical can cause excessive amounts of runoff into ground waters, streams and creeks making the waters toxic. Since water is a basic necessity to life, insects, animals and humans are undoubtedly affected when careful application is neglected.

The following are some of the health risks that lawn chemicals pose. The majority of wildlife poisonings reported to the Environmental Protection Agency come from the use of lawn chemicals. Lawn chemicals can be absorbed through the skin, swallowed or inhaled. during application, the chemicals can drift and settle on ponds, laundry, toys,

pools and furniture. Several types of cancer, immuno-response deficiencies, neurological diseases and birth defects have been associated with exposure to lawn chemicals. Even pets are at risk. Studies have shown that Lymphoma in pets of pesticide users are significantly higher than in the pets of non-chemical users.

Fortunately, there are some things that can be done to lessen the negative effects of lawn chemicals on water quality.

- ★ Read labels carefully and apply products sparingly and as directed, treating only the affected areas.
- ★ As a chemical alternative, use composting for a natural, slow release fertilizer or use organic lawn chemical alternatives.
- ★ Use grasses, plants and flowers species that are native to the area, reducing or eliminating the need for

chemicals to enhance growth.

- ★ Use caution with application on slopes and lawn edges so runoff can be avoided.
- ★ Allow proper drying time and never use chemicals before a *heavy* rainfall is expected or during windy conditions.
- ★ Test soil for nutrient deficiencies to avoid unnecessary application.
- ★ Contact your county extension service for more information on lawn chemical use. Phone numbers can be found at [www.marc.org/water](http://www.marc.org/water).

**Thank you for helping preserve and protect water quality in Monroe County.**

Information was obtained courtesy of the Storm water Coalition of Monroe County.





# VILLAGE OF HILTON BUILDING DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS

## **PENALTY FEE WILL BE ENFORCED FOR LACK OF BUILDING PERMIT**

Before beginning any type of remodeling, construction, improvement, removal, relocation or demolition work on or within a property, provisions must be made to obtain the proper building permit, where one is required. Installation of sheds, pools, decks, fences, and garages along with additions and the completion of basements and second floors are just some of the alterations that require a building permit. If a building permit is not obtained as required by the Village Zoning Ordinance for any structure,

addition or change of use, prior to the work performed, the Code Enforcement Officer shall **DOUBLE** the permit fee. This fee is applicable to the current owner of the property, regardless if the improvement was undertaken by the previous owner or not. For a complete listing of the improvements or alterations that require a permit, contact the Building Department at 392-4144 ext. 106. To view the Village Building Code Book or to print out a Building Permit Application go to the Village website at [www.hiltonny.org](http://www.hiltonny.org).

## **SOFT SIDED POOLS POSE SAFETY CODE VIOLATIONS**

Any pool that can hold 24 inches of water, including soft sided pools and blow up pools, must conform to current residential codes for pool safety. Such pools are required by New York State to have a permit and an electrical inspection. They are also required to have proper four foot restraining barriers and a pool alarm. The Village



has been concerned with the number of residents who have been installing inflatable pools without the proper safety requirements being met. Serious accidents can be avoided by following these simple procedures.

## **STORAGE OF RV'S AND VEHICLES RESTRICTED**

Motor Vehicles, trailers, campers, boats and other recreational vehicles are prohibited from being stored on a lot, outside of an existing building, except to the rear of the principal dwelling and within the side and rear setbacks applicable to the lot.



# SANITARY SEWER BILLING CHANGE

As of June 1, 2008, sanitary sewer charges will be billed annually, instead of quarterly, and will be collected on your property tax bill instead of on your water bill. The Village Board recently passed a law allowing this change. The change will help to consolidate billing and save money.

Sanitary sewer charges will increase for residential properties from \$54.00 per year to \$58.00 per year. Commercial and multi-residential properties, for which sewer fees are based on water consumption, will increase from \$11.00 per 15,000 gallons to \$12.00 per 15,000 gallons. This bill will represent your 2008-09 charges. The bill will be due and payable on or before July 1, 2008.

The largest impact the billing change will have on taxpayers is that the whole bill will be paid up front instead of four smaller payments, spread throughout the year. Commercial businesses will notice the impact more readily because they will have to come up with a larger sum of money up-front. Charges will still be calculated based on the amount of water used, however, the calculations for commercial businesses will be based on the 12 months prior to the billing period (April 1, 2007 - March 31, 2008).

For taxpayers that sell their property, the sewer charges paid on your tax bill should be prorated by your attorney as part of your closing statement.

All Village taxpayers were mailed a notification of this change in April with their water bill. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Village office staff by calling 392-4144.

# BUSINESS NEWS

## A Warm WELCOME to the New Businesses in Hilton



### NEW HAPPY DAYS RESTAURANT

The Village would like to welcome Happy Days, located at 22 Main Street. Happy Days is a 50's style restaurant complete with all the memorabilia of that era. The restaurant offers a variety of foods such as sandwiches, subs, soups, salads, wings, burgers, various dinners and more.

They also have an ice cream shop. Food is available for eat in or take out service. No reservations required.



### NEW HILTON CANDY AND MORE STORE

The Village would like to welcome the Hilton Candy and More store, located at 20 East Avenue. The store offers a variety of delightful candies, chocolates and specialty confections to satisfy the sweet tooth in everyone! Gift boxes, baskets and packs also available. Call 366-4408 for more information.



### NEW VIA DANCE

The Village would like to welcome Via Dance, located at 59 Henry Street. The dance studio offers classes for all ages and abilities in a wide variety of styles.

Classes such as creative movement for children, pre-ballet and ballet, tap, jazz, modern and hip hop are offered, along with adult fitness, kick boxing, Pilates and more. Via Dance is located on the second floor in room 6B. The studio offers a family discount. Call 392-9229 for more information.

### NEW STREET, MARPLE LANE

A new street will be added off Archer Drive, called Marple Lane, in honor of Homer Marple, former owner of Marple Furniture and the Antique Co-Op, previously of Hilton. The street will be located in the new town house development called Creek Crossing, adjacent to the townhouses at Park Place in Hilton.

## WHAT'S NEW IN HILTON

### HILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT BREAKS GROUND AT NEW FIRE STATION SITE

Village, Town and State officials, along with representatives from Bergman Associates and LeChase Construction joined the members of the Hilton Fire Department in a ground breaking ceremony, on April 19, 2008, for the new fire station that will be located on Old Hojack Lane.





## CLASSIC CAR CRUISE NIGHTS NOW TWO NIGHTS A WEEK

For anyone who enjoys classic cars, music and socializing, Hilton is the place to be this Summer. From May through September, the ever popular cruise nights will continue again this year.



and open to the public. Musical entertainment is provided by a DJ on both evenings. Thursday nights, Happy Days will provide car hop food service. People will be able to order food, rain

In addition to the **Saturday** cruise nights that run **from 6 till 9 pm**, sponsored by the Village of Hilton, a new night will be added. Sean Kent-Killeen, Owner of Happy Days Restaurant on Main

Street in Hilton, will host a second evening of fun and cars on **Thursdays from 5 till 9 pm**. Both nights will be held in the RTS parking lot located off Railroad Avenue just North of Hovey Square. The weekly events are free

or shine, and have it brought to them. Contests such as hoola hooping and other 50's related fun will also be offered. Come down and check it out, it's guaranteed to be a great time.

## STREET LIGHTING PROJECT COMPLETE

The final stages in the Street Lighting purchase project, begun last fall, have come to a close. The excavation and installation of new wiring has been completed, finalizing the project.

The Village of Hilton would like to publically thank the contractors from **Power and Construction Group, Inc.** for a job well done! The group finished the job ahead of schedule and under budget, while working through the icy cold, winter months. **John Cleveland, Vice**

**President** and linemen **Gene Rosenzweig** and **Luke Brown** did an outstanding job. The excavation work they performed left little impact on residential landscaping.

The savings to taxpayers from the project are beginning to be realized in this year's budget. The cost of street lighting has dropped from \$100,000 last year to \$41,000 this year. The Village no longer pays rent for the utility poles, they now only pay for power supply costs.

## *Congratulations!*

Village administration would like to congratulate

**Jim Gates & Walt Horylev**

on their re-elections to the Village Board for 4 years

**Patricia Holenbeck**

on her 5 year re-appointment to the Village Zoning Board

**Robert Hunte**

on his 5 year re-appointment to the Village Planning Board.

## June through October 2008 Refuse & Recycling Holiday Schedule

### HOLIDAY

**Independence Day**

**Floating Holiday**

**Labor Day**

**Columbus Day**

### ALL DEPARTMENTS CLOSED

**Friday, July 4th**

**Monday, July 7th, DPW closed only!**

**Monday, September 1st**

**Monday, October 13th**

### SERVICES RESUME

**Refuse not affected**

**Tuesday, July 8th**

**Tuesday, September 2**

**Tuesday, October 14th**



**Note:** If your normal pick-up date falls on the day departments are closed, your new pick-up date will be on the day that services resume. All other days remain unaffected and on normal schedule.

# YARD WASTE COLLECTION DAYS

## Last Friday in June & Sept.

Visit [www.hiltonny.org/html/refuse-laws](http://www.hiltonny.org/html/refuse-laws) for regulations

## SCAVENGING PROHIBITED

VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED

In response to complaints of residential garbage cans and recycling bins being scavenged in the Village, and in the interest of protecting personal security, we would like to make it known that such practices are **illegal** and **prohibited** in the Village of Hilton.

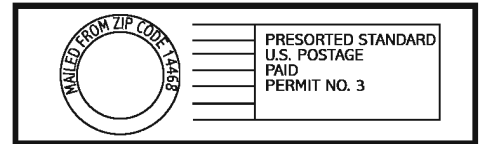
**Section 16A-14 under the Refuse Charge Law, in the Hilton Code book states that:**

**No person shall interfere with or remove or scavenge for material in any container which has been placed at the curb, or in a dumpster, or in any bulk refuse which has been placed at the curb by the owner or occupant for collection by the Department of Public works.**

In consideration of this law, violators should be turned in to the local sheriff's department. ■



VILLAGE OF HILTON  
59 HENRY STREET  
HILTON, NY 14468



Hilton Postal Customer  
Hilton NY 14468

## VILLAGE OF HILTON 2008-09 BUDGET, GOOD NEWS FOR TAXPAYERS!

The Village of Hilton is pleased to announce that there will be **NO TAX INCREASE** for the 2008-09 fiscal year. The tax rate will remain the same again this year, at \$2.48 per \$1,000, with a total budget of \$5,150,000.

The Village administration has been working very hard to keep costs down, while keeping services up. This has been very difficult with the rising costs of fuel, which factors into many projects and services. A major way the Village has helped to offset costs, is due to a \$5,000 decrease in spending for the coming year. Several large capital projects in the Village have recently been completed. Sidewalks, blacktop and gutters in the Canning Street project are finished, along with the Street

lighting purchase project and the new parking lot, off of East Avenue. Less spending means more money. Additional Revenue generated from 2 new businesses leasing space in the Community Center has also helped the Village.

One project the Village hopes to embark on in the future is the re-lining of some of the older sewer mains, from the 1950's, on some of the major streets in the Village, such as Main Street, East and South Avenues. This will be a costly project, so the administration is planning ahead and saving money.

This year's budget includes the purchase of a flatbed, 1-ton pick up truck and a 3/4-ton pick up truck for the DPW, at a total cost of \$61,000. It also includes

\$120,000 for a multi-purpose, trackless sidewalk plow that doubles as a mower and tractor with wing blade. Along with its grass cutting abilities, this plow will help the Village to keep up with snow demand and will act as a back-up plow, when the other plow needs repairs. The budget also includes \$25,000 to maintain and improve sidewalks that are in need of repair.

There has been a \$2/ton increase in landfill fees. Check the Village website for any new fees or call the Village office at 392-4144.

Village employees have been working very hard to use your money wisely, serve you better, and save you money! ■