



The West Sparta Newsletter

News and Information for the Residents of West Sparta

Front Page News

THE FIRST ANNUAL WEST SPARTA FAMILY PICNIC will be held on **Saturday September 8 at 2 PM** at the home of Charlie and Kim Swink at 4802 Stoner Hill Road. This picnic is a get together for all current and former West Sparta residents. This will be a family style picnic. Each family (whether a family of one, two, four or more) should bring a dish to pass, their own table service, and drinks (NO alcohol please). Meat and rolls will be provided. Extra picnic tables would be appreciated; drop them off after labor day (or call if you need help). If you have any old photos of West Sparta, or any memories you'd like to share, please bring them along. There will be special recognitions, lots of talk and laughter and fun, a chance to visit with old friends and meet new neighbors. So mark your calendar and spread the word. We'd like to have a large turnout for our first picnic. Questions? Call Shirley Palmer at 335-6305, or Kim or Charlie Swink at 335-6153.

A program on the HISTORY OF STONYBROOK PARK will be held on Tuesday August 21 at 7 PM at the West Sparta Methodist Church at 7 PM. The program is sponsored by the West Sparta Historical Society and is open to anyone with an interest in local history. The program is free although any donations will be cheerfully accepted.

The West Sparta Historical Society has been busy this summer. The group has interviewed many of our older residents to learn about what life was like on earlier times. The group is also photographing the older homes and barns of West Sparta to create a 'historic inventory' of the Town. New members are always welcome - contact Sarah Booher at 335-5094 for information.

West Sparta Historical Society Membership levels:

Individual	\$10
Family	\$15
Business	\$20
Supporter	\$25

News from the TOWN BOARD. At the August 9 Town Board the Livingston County Grant writer Stu Brown discussed a proposal for installing **public water** in the hamlet of Woodville. A survey of the residents of Woodville will be done as the first step in obtaining a grant to fund this work. More information on this project can be obtained from any Town Board member. The Town Board is currently looking for two residents of the Town to serve on the **Livingston County Traffic Safety Board**. Ask for details at the Town Hall. Gerad Levey reports that the Fire Department has for members recently certified in EVAC. They responded to one structure fire (in Kysorville) in July, and performed two controlled burns in August. **Please remember** to contact the Fire department if you have an abandoned building on your property that needs to be burned, or if you are burning off a field or ditchline. They can assist you with a controlled burn.

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Summer 2007

- ◆ August 21 - 'History Of Stony Brook Park' presented by the West Sparta Historical Society 7PM at the West Sparta Methodist Church
- ◆ August 22 - 'West Sparta's Natural Resources' 7PM West Sparta Town Hall
- ◆ September 13 Town Board meeting - **PUBLIC HEARING** for the Comprehensive Plan 7PM at the Town Hall
- ◆ September 16 **OLD HOME DAYS** - West Sparta Methodist Church

Your Town officials and how to contact them (more next issue)

Supervisor - Marge Cansdale - 335-2334
Council members
Rick Pfaff - 335-3368
Marvin Yamonaco - 335-3473
Bob Schramm - 468-5862
Kim Swink - 335-6153

Town Board meetings are the second Thursday of the month at 7 PM at the Town Hall. Town Residents are encouraged to attend.

West Sparta Methodist Church Old Home Days

.On Sunday September 16 the West Sparta Methodist Church will hold their annual 'Old Home Days', an afternoon of food, music, and fellowship at the 'Little White Church on the Hill'. Dinner will be served at noon (there is a charge for the meal but its worth it), followed by services at 2 PM. Old Home Days was started in the 1930s as a way to encourage members of the church who had moved away, and Pastors who had retired, to return for

a visit. Over the years the program has been opened to all residents of West Sparta, their friends and families, as well as our 'neighbors' from the surrounding towns. Please join us for a good meal and a chance to visit with members of our church family. Take time to admire the church building, originally constructed in the 1840's, and walk through our historic 'Oak Lawn' cemetery. Questions? Call 335-8030.

Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan

.On Thursday, September 13, at 7PM at the Town Hall, the Town Board will meet for their regular monthly meeting and include a Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan as part of that meeting. The Comprehensive Plan (also called a Master Plan) is a document that provides a guide for the Town officials. Our Comprehensive Plan is based on the survey that was passed out to the residents of the town in November of 2004. This survey was collected and analyzed to de-

termine what the residents of the town feel is important. These results are the basis of the Comprehensive Plan. The first Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan was held for residents of West Sparta in August of 2005. The Comprehensive Plan was reviewed and approved with comments by the County Planning Board in May of 2006. An informational session for the public was held on June 21 2006. The Town Board met with the Planning Board at their next meeting on June

ELECTIONS seem a long way away but remember , the people who run the town make decisions that affect your life and your property (including your taxes). You have the right, and the responsibility, to get involved in your town government. You can run for office, or support a friend or family member who wants to run. You can volunteer for a committee, or attend meetings. The Planning Board and the Zoning Board need members. You can help out as much or as little as you want. If you don't want to be 'political' you can join the Historical Society, or the Fire Department. Check the Town Hall bulletin board for opportunities.

THE WEST SPARTA NEWSLETTER is an independent paper organized by a group of town residents and edited by Sue Erdle. Comments, questions and articles may be left in the Planning Board mailbox at the Town Hall.

28. At this time the Town Board requested some changes and revisions. The town residents comments, the County's comments, and the Town Boards changes were incorporated into a draft which was presented to the public in April 2007. County grant writer Stu Brown, in a Memo to Supervisor Cansdale, stated ' It is one of the best examples of a community based Comprehensive Plan that I have ever seen.'. Please attend the Town meting on September 13 to support this important document and help the Town of West Sparta become the town that 'we the people' want it to be.

Local Businesses

.Farm Market Time Now is the time to enjoy fresh fruits and vegetables from our local growers. McNairs Nursery has their stand out on the Dansville-Mt Morris Road (near the intersection of Stoner Hill Road) with peppers, tomatoes, and much more.

'Raging Winds' farm has a stand on Kysorville-Byersville Road near the intersection of Rock Spring Road. They have a variety of vegetables as well as sweet corn. Joe and June Swyers also sell good sweet corn from their farm on Kenney Road.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world."
Margaret Mead