

# Village of New Hyde Park

## Official Report - Winter 2007



### ***Mayor's Letter to the Residents***

In spite of the 52 degree temperature as I write this letter, it reads Winter on my calendar, so Winter it is. The first of the year is traditionally a time for change and recommitment and this year is no different.

This past week, a dear friend of New Hyde Park made a career change that is exciting for him but a bit melancholy for the rest of us. Senator Michael Balboni has decided to relinquish his Senate seat and accept a position as Deputy Secretary of Public Safety. I am excited for Senator Balboni and I feel with his knowledge of Homeland Security issues he is the perfect person for this job. He has served his constituents with honor, enthusiasm and compassion and he leaves his district with a legacy of public service that is unmatched. He has always preached a gospel of bipartisan effort and his selection by a Democratic governor is a validation of this principle.

The residents of this Village will be hard pressed to find a suitable replacement. In my six years as Mayor, I have relied on Senator Balboni for advice and direction and he has always made time for me. He has enthusiastically supported a number of municipal projects in the Village and his handprints can be found from one end of the Village to the other. Whether it is roadwork initiatives, Operation Downtown improvements or the new LIRR station house, we were always able to count on him. Unlike many public officials, Senator Balboni backed up his words with the state funding necessary to make things happen. He taught me the most valuable lesson of public service: It's about helping people and making a difference. I know I speak on behalf of the rest of the Board when I extend to Mike my heartfelt thanks and I wish him well in his new position in Albany.

*Mayor Daniel Petruccio*

### ***Important meeting regarding the Long Island Railroad's plan to add a third track and eliminate the at-grade crossings in New Hyde Park.***

***Saturday, January 27th 10:00 AM  
Marcus Christ Community Center***

The President of the LIRR, Ray Kenny, and his team came to New Hyde Park to meet with Mayor Dan Petruccio to show him plans for a third track and elimination of the grade crossings in New Hyde Park. What the Mayor didn't expect to see was a design that requires almost 30 homes and businesses to be razed in order to make room for the new roadways and underpasses at Covert Avenue, New Hyde Park Road and South 12th Street. Additionally, all of the roads in the Village's commercial district would become dead ends forcing trucks to use the residential streets to enter and exit that area. The Mayor replied that the plan was unacceptable and instructed the LIRR team to go back to the drawing board and present a different alternative. A couple of weeks later, the team came back and presented some alternatives, but the impact on the Village would still be extensive.

The Village Board has instructed the Village's LIRR Task Force to hold a meeting to provide everybody in attendance with an update of all information the Village has been presented to date. The Task Force hopes to get direction from the attendees on what formal position the Village will take at the upcoming public hearings that will be scheduled by the LIRR in the Fall. Residents, business owners, building owners, and commuters are encouraged to attend this important informational meeting on **Saturday, January 27th at 10:00 AM in the Marcus Christ Community Center.**



## ***Library News The End of an Era***

On Friday, January 26th, the Village Library located in the lower level of Village Hall will be closing.

The Library was granted a provisional charter in 1939 and in 1945, an absolute charter. So, for more than 61 years, the Village Library has been an active and integral part of the community and has served so many residents. We wish to thank all the wonderful people who have used our facilities over the years and the many, many people who have become library friends.

The reason for the closing, as many are aware, is that the Hillside Library has built a new and beautiful "state of the art" library at 155 Lakeville Road, within the boundaries of the Village. The holdings from the Hillside and the New Hyde Park Village Library will be consolidated. In addition to the new Hillside Library, Elmont has also built a new library located on their former site at 700 Hempstead Turnpike. The residents of the Village of New Hyde Park will now have two brand new and modern libraries at their disposal. All residents are encouraged to visit the new libraries and utilize the new and expanded facilities.

The Library Board will host a Closing Ceremony and Reception on Tuesday, January 30th.

## ***Building Department For Sale & For Rent Signs***



The Building Department has noticed that realtors have again been placing their "For Sale" and or "For Rent" signs on Village sidewalks and in front of a resident's home. Once again, we want to make all realtors and residents aware of our ordinances concerning these types of signs.

**Section 156-14.** For Sale and For Rent Signs states "in sum and substance that such signs may only be located and displayed on the property which is actually for sale or lease." For sale signs can be no larger than 2' x 3' (a total of 6 square feet) and must be placed at least 3' back from the sidewalk on the resident's property.

**Section 165-16.A.** "in sum and substance prohibits the placing of **ANY** article upon any street, highway or public place within the Village that might obstruct or impede in any manner free and unhampered passage there over."

Each such sign and its location shall be considered a separate offense and the penalties for violating the above infraction can be applied weekly and cumulatively. Therefore, we ask you to use your discretion in placing your signs in the future.

### **Department of Public Works Winter Storm Preparedness**



As we go to press, Winter has yet to reveal itself. While we are not looking to “jinx” ourselves, let’s take this opportunity to review winter storm preparedness. Residents should rest easy knowing that the DPW crew is ready to deal with whatever Winter 2007 brings to our Village.

If a storm hits and a problem arises such as broken branches, downed trees or wires, you should contact DPW immediately. Superintendent Jim McCloat and his team will be able to handle your call and dispatch an emergency crew or notify the appropriate authorities to respond. DPW telephone hours are from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday. For **emergencies** that occur at other times, residents should dial 911.

Residents and business owners are reminded to clear their sidewalks of snow and ice within 24 hours of the snow fall ending. DPW plows will clean curb to curb, so please do not shovel your driveway apron until the plows have passed. Additionally, all basketball nets and backboards should be removed from the curb area as not to get entangled with the snow plows. If there is an ice storm, DPW will not throw or push the ice onto sidewalks and driveways nor will they sand the streets when the temperature falls below 17 degrees because the road salt mixed in with sand is generally not effective on the ice at these low temperatures.

Cars must be removed from the streets in order for the plows to do their job effectively. There is no preference in the timing of streets to be paved. They are done in a manner that gives DPW the best operating ability. Garbage and recycling pick-up continue on schedule regardless of snow storms. Finally, please be patient during a snow storm. The elements put strong demands on their equipment, supplies, and most of all, the DPW crews.

### **Veteran’s Affairs Veteran’s Day Ceremony**

A respectful ceremony was held on Saturday morning, November 11th on the front lawn of Village Hall to publicly commemorate the contributions of living Veterans. Village residents and guests joined the Mayor, Board and members of the VFW Post 8031 and the American Legion Post 1089 as well as Scouts and other appreciative supporters to honor all those who have served our country in times of peace as well as in war.



**Village residents join with members of the Veteran’s of Foreign War and The American Legion on the front lawn of Village Hall.**

### **Tax Assessment**

**Tax Grievance Day** in the Village of New Hyde Park will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 from 10:00 AM through Noon and from 2:00 PM through 4:00 PM (no appointment necessary), and from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM (**by appointment only**). The tax grievance form can be filed up to and including Grievance Day. If you feel your Village tax is too high, you may obtain a grievance form at Village Hall during regular business hours.

### ***Cultural Committee***

#### ***Village Tree Lighting Ceremony***

The Tree Lighting Ceremony took place on a mild Saturday afternoon, December 2nd. Prior to the tree lighting, Marcus Christ Hall was filled with children mesmerized by Magician Bob's afternoon show. Prior to the tree lighting ceremony, the Band and Chamber Choir from New Hyde Park Memorial Junior/Senior High School treated everyone to holiday music and songs. What a beautiful ceremony and a festive evening! Once again, this event was made possible through a generous donation by State Bank of Long Island. Special thanks to Lisa Miranda and all the members of the Cultural Committee for putting together such a wonderful and memorable event.



**Children were treated to the mystical entertainment of Magician Bob.**



**The New Hyde Park Memorial Band and Choir helped everyone get into the spirit through a wonderful selection of holiday songs.**

### ***Beautification Committee***



**Members of the Beautification Committee and their team of loyal volunteers met at Village Hall in early November to plant bulbs.**

The Beautification Committee does a wonderful job keeping our Village beautiful either by planting flowers and shrubs or by placing seasonal decorations around the Village. They are always in need of additional volunteers, so please consider lending your time and talents in 2007. Please watch for notices regarding upcoming projects. Beautification project notices will be posted in the Spring Village Newsletter and on the electronic board in front of Village Hall.



Rich Pallisco, Chairman of the Beautification Committee, extends a special thank you to the members of the Beautification Committee and all the volunteers who have pitched in over the past year to help on the numerous Committee projects.

## **The 11th Annual Street Fair - A Huge Success!**

On Saturday, September 30th, Village residents and business owners welcomed over 25,000 visitors to the Village and participated in one of the largest and most successful street fairs in Village history. This year, 243 street vendors lined Jericho Tpke. from New Hyde Park Road to Covert Avenue. Sidewalk spaces were filled with Village merchants, charitable & service organizations, and members of the Chamber of Commerce. It was wonderful to see so many local merchants holding sidewalk sales, give-a-ways and creative sales promotions. Recognizing the enormous effort it takes to coordinate such a large Fair, the Mayor and Board extend their thanks to Pat Farrell & Janet Bevers, Village Clerk's Office, and Jim McCloat and his DPW Crew. Finally, special thanks must be given to Tony Ciuffo and his dedicated team for coordinating the street vendors and children's carnival.



An aerial perspective of Jericho Turnpike demonstrates the magnitude of this year's Street Fair. This picture was taken by a Village employee who was given special permission to accompany a member of the Fire Department in their bucket truck and capture the festivities from high above.



Planning and executing the Village Street Fair takes a great deal of team work and coordination. Our 2007 Street Fair Team....Ron Chisena, Jim McCloat, Janet Bevers, Tony Ciuffo and Mike Ciuffo.



The Park Association of Girl Scouts were in full force selling tasty and fun items at the Fair and encouraging new membership.



Trustees Larry Montreuil, Bob Lofaro, Don Barbieri and Mayor Dan Petruccio share a few minutes together before the official start of the street fair.



Members of the New Hyde Park Fire Department in front of the bucket truck. The Fire Department display and exhibitions on Lakeville Road easily drew the largest crowd of visitors.



Members of the Beautification Committee are busy setting up their table in front of Village Hall.



Members of the Romanettes manning their table.



Tom Rubin surrounded by staff and friends. A large number of regulars and new patrons enjoyed afternoon refreshments and lunch in the outdoor courtyard at Henry's Inn. What a great place to sit back, relax, and enjoy the Fair.



The Village 2006 Street Fair Crew! The DPW and the Village Clerk's Office joined forces and worked a long day to ensure that the Fair ran smoothly.



### ***Operation Main Street***

"New Hyde Park is a prime example of best practices in Downtown Revitalization" stated County Executive Tom Suozzi in a November 12th speech he delivered at the pocket park on South 6th Street.

Community Development Block Grant Funds obtained through the Office of Housing and Intergovernmental Affairs were utilized in the project as well as funds obtained through the County Legislature. Improvements include the installation of design, engineering, brick pavers, decorative lighting, benches, trash cans and plantings of trees, flowers and shrubs along Jericho Tpke. between Ingraham Lane and Hillside Blvd. These improvements, as well as two pocket parks funded from the Town of North Hempstead, completed Phase I of the project. The goals of Operation Main Street are to revitalize our area by re-creating what was a pedestrian friendly, downtown destination spot that offers a full range of neighborhood services. Phase II and III of the project will commence in 2008 and will include construction of residential gateways to distinguish the business and residential zones and the installation of medians down the center of Jericho Turnpike creating a more "pedestrian friendly" downtown environment.



Trustee Richard Coppola; State Assemblyman Tom McKeivitt; Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Jon Kaiman; Trustee Don Barbieri; County Executive Tom Suozzi; County Legislator Rich Nicoletto; and Village Clerk-Treasurer Pat Farrell. Senator Michael Balboni and Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy, unable to attend this presentation, were equally instrumental in this project.

### ***Do You Have a Landscaper?***

Village Residents are reminded that landscapers are required to have an updated and valid permit to operate in the Village. By accepting this permit, the landscaper must take away all grass clippings and yard waste. In the past, there had been incidents of black plastic bags being dropped around the Village by some landscapers. Ultimately, we the taxpayers bear the cost of disposing of this yard waste. If you witness any landscapers leaving bags of grass clippings in the Village, please report the landscaper's name and any additional information to the Village Clerk's Office.

### ***Car Wash Fundraisers***

Organizations interested in hosting a car wash for fundraising purposes can submit applications from March 1 through April 2, 2007. Car washes can be scheduled from May 5th through the end of September. Applicants will be required to list three (3) dates in choice order. All applications will be reviewed by the Board and the final date will be assigned at the discretion of the Village Board. Due to the high volume of applications generally received, an applicant is limited to one (1) car wash per season. Applications can be obtained through the Village Clerk's Office during regular business hours.

### ***2007 Village Parking Permits***

Residents are reminded that Residential Parking Permits "R" are still being sold in the Village Clerk's Office. Residents must present a current driver's license and car registration that reflects their Village address. The fee for the 2007 permit remains unchanged at \$50 for the calendar year.

**The Village of New Hyde Park  
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1420 Jericho Turnpike  
New Hyde Park, NY 11040**

Presort Standard  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
New Hyde Park  
Permit No. 4



Village of New Hyde Park

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**Mayor: Daniel Petruccio**  
**Trustees: Richard Coppola, Robert Lofaro**  
**Donald Barbieri, Lawrence Montreuil**

**Village Clerk's Office: 354-0022**  
**(M-F) 8:45AM-4:15PM**  
**Dept of Public Works: 354-0064**  
**(M-F) 9:00AM-3:00PM**

**Village Court: 354-6330**  
**Building Department: 354-0022**  
**Fire Department & Ambulance: 742-3300**

### **Replacement Recycling Pails**

There is a small supply of new green pails for residential recyclables to replace lost or broken pails. If you need to replace missing, broken or damaged pails, please contact the Department of Public Works.

### **A Tree Grows in New Hyde Park**

Shade trees are a vital part of our suburban landscape. The Village plans to implement an aggressive tree planting program this Spring to replace trees lost over the past few years and to fill open spaces. Residents are welcome to call the Department of Public Works to get on the list for a new tree to be planted in Spring 2007.