

Village of New Hyde Park

Official Report - Winter 2009



VILLAGE HALL: 354-0022

WWW.VNHP.ORG

DPW: 354-0064

Mayor's Letter to the Residents



The former Mayor of New York City, Ed Koch was remembered for his habit of asking any city resident that he met, "How am I doing?" You could see that as a sign of insecurity or more positively it was his way of determining if what he was doing on behalf of the residents was what they really wanted and needed.

As we approach the Village elections on March 18th, there is an opportunity to tell us "how we are doing". If the appearance of the Village has changed for the better in the last eight years, if the road work projects and park improvements and Operation Downtown are positive improvements, then let us know.

After eight years of serving the residents of New Hyde Park, I can say that I still love my job. I enjoy working with my fellow board members and the Village employees and members of the various boards and committees. I am proud of New Hyde Park. I am proud to say that I am the Mayor of this wonderful Village. I want to say thank you for this opportunity to have served you over the last eight years. To any resident that I have disappointed or been short tempered with, I would like to say I am sorry and I hope to do a better job in the next four years if I am fortunate enough to be re-elected.

Mayor Dan Petruccio

Veteran's Day Ceremony

It was a picture perfect day as the American Legion and VFW Posts in New Hyde Park held its annual Veteran's Day Ceremony. Village Board members, local elected officials, family members, and residents gathered on the front lawn to pay tribute to and honor the brave men and women who serve our country to protect our freedoms. Veteran's Day may officially occur one day a year; however, we should keep our brave soldiers and their families in our thoughts and prayers each and every day.



Gathered together at the beginning of the ceremony are: Resident Angela Powers, Village Justice Christopher Devane, Mayor Dan Petruccio, N/C Legislator Rich Nicoletto, Deputy Mayor Bob Lofaro, Tr. Larry Montreuil, Tr. Don Barbieri and a Gold Star Family Member.



Proud veterans from our community.

NY Route 25 Western Nassau County Project

The New York State Dept. of Transportation (NYSDOT) held a public hearing on September 23, 2008 to receive input and comments to their proposed \$16.5 million project they say would improve safety and mobility. Members of the Village Board, local civic groups, business owners, and residents took this opportunity to publicly respond to and address the NYSDOT regarding their proposal.

Mayor Petruccio, Deputy Mayor Lofaro, and Tr. Barbieri entered verbal testimony to the record that they are vehemently opposed to NYSDOT taking residential property on New Hyde Park Road and they see no merit to the State's proposal to widen New Hyde Park Road. The Board does support some aspects of the Project such as the elimination of some left hand turns and improved traffic signals.

However, the current economic problems facing the State has resulted in the NYSDOT delaying this Project. The Board is waiting for more detailed information from the NYSDOT regarding the start date of this Project. In light of these new developments, the Board is currently deciding whether to move forward on aspects of the Operation Main Street Project which can be executed independent from the Route 25 Project. In addition, we are going to rely on federal monies much of which has already been appropriated. However, we are awaiting passage of federal appropriation bills containing the final year's funding.

Bottom line, the Board believes it is best that we wait until we know exactly how much funding is available to the Village before moving forward on the Operation Main Street Project. Final plans are currently being completed and the Board hopes to announce shortly a more definitive date for the completion of the Operation Main Street Project.

Village Election Wednesday, March 18

Please be aware that the Village Election will be held on Wednesday, March 18 in Marcus Christ Hall. Polling will take place from 12:00 Noon to 9:00 PM.

Building Department Records Conversion and Retention Project

In the Fall Newsletter, we informed residents of a \$45,000 grant that Patrick Farrell, Village Clerk/Treasurer was able to obtain from the New York State Archives Association. This money will help fund the Building Department's efforts to convert a number of their paper files onto a digital format with a separate copy onto microfilm. Having the building files available in a digital format will provide for quick, easy file retrieval from the building department computers. Copying these files onto microfilm will ensure compliance with New York State guidelines and provide an easy and inexpensive way to safeguard thousands of files off-site.

Once this process is completed, the original building files will be placed in safekeeping and then eventually discarded. We anticipate the project will be completed by the summer and that quick digital access to all building files will be at our fingertips.

Snow Removal Reminder

Now that winter is upon us, pursuant to Village Code, residents and business owners are reminded to clear their sidewalks of snow and ice within 24 hours of the snow fall ending. The DPW snow plows will clean curb to curb, so please do not shovel your driveway apron until the plows have passed.

***New Hyde Park Auxiliary Police
Services Increase Over Ten Percent***

During 2008, the dedicated volunteers of Unit #212 donated over 1,150 hours of service to the Village and other Nassau County communities. Three of our members donated over 200 hours!

In addition to our evening patrols, the Unit has significantly increased their daytime patrols. In the Village, you have also seen them at Village Traffic Court and providing vehicle and crowd control at the Little League and Memorial Day Parades, concerts in Memorial Park, the Village Street Fair, Veteran's Day Ceremony and the New Hyde Park Memorial High School Homecoming Day Parade. The Unit also helped to welcome Santa to the Tree Lighting Ceremony this past December.

As far as county-wide highlights, the Unit has marched in the Mineola St. Patrick's Day Parade (the only time they aren't on traffic duty!) and assisted the NCPD at details such as the Long Island Marathon, the Stewart Manor Street Fair; the Clark Gardens Summer Concerts, the Eco Fair & "Spooky Walks"; two Fire Department Parades; the "Battle of the Bands" at Tully Park, and the Mineola Mustang Run. Unit #212 has also participated in training meetings and two countywide emergency activations.

It is very rewarding to volunteer time to assist your friends and neighbors throughout the year. We welcome and need new members! To obtain further information, please call our office at 522-5385, stop by the Village Office for a brochure, or visit our website: www.nassaucountyauxiliarypolice.org.

Our Headquarters, located in Village Hall, are being moved to the basement level. This will provide us with much needed additional space. We hope you will visit us when our new offices are completed in the spring!

Car Wash Fundraisers

Car wash applications will be accepted at the Village Clerk's Office from March 2 through April 1, 2009. Due to high volume, applicants are limited to one car wash per season. Questions can be referred to the Village Clerk's office.

***North Hempstead Passes Flow
Control Legislation***

Much to the disappointment of the Village Board, the Town of North Hempstead recently passed legislation requiring all municipalities to bring their garbage to a town regional collection point. The Board opposes this measure because it would restrict the Village from considering competitive rates and benefiting from its current favorable rates. The Board estimates that, if required to participate, an additional \$150,000 - \$250,000 would be added to our tipping fees which would amount to approximately a 3 1/2% tax increase, just for sanitation removal.

This new law has an opt-out provision for Villages. However, by agreeing to opt-out, the Village would in effect be recognizing or endorsing this new legislation. The Village Board does not want to give up its present municipal home rule, and the Village Board does not want the Town telling us that we have to opt-out of an agreement that we are not part of currently. The Village Attorney continues to monitor this situation and provides regular updates to the Board. As new information emerges, it will be shared with residents via public Board Meetings, the quarterly Newsletter, and the Village website.

***Mayor Announces Tentative
Budget Work Sessions
2009/2010 Budget***

At the January 20th Board Meeting, Mayor Petruccio announced the following tentative budget work sessions: January 27, February 3, February 10, February 24, and March 3. The following dates are being set aside if needed: March 5, March 10 and March 16. Budget work sessions are open to the public and are held in the Board Room on the first floor of Village Hall.

**The Village of New Hyde Park
Official Report - Winter 2009
1420 Jericho Turnpike
New Hyde Park, NY 11040**

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Village of New Hyde Park
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.VNHP.ORG

Mayor: Daniel Petruccio
Deputy Mayor: Robert Lofaro
Trustees: Richard Coppola
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

Village Tax Assessment

Tax Grievance Day in the Village of New Hyde Park will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2009 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 tax grievance form at Village Hall during regular business hours.

Property owners should be aware that if their 2008/2009 taxes have not been paid by March 6, 2009 the Village of New Hyde Park will assume the tax lien.



SANITATION SCHEDULE CHANGE

President's Day

Monday, February 16, 2009

Garbage for North Side

POSTPONED and rescheduled to
Tuesday, February 17th

Tuesday, February 17, 2009

Garbage collected for entire Village
and Newspapers (North Side)

Memorial Day

Monday, May 25, 2009

Garbage for North Side

POSTPONED and rescheduled to
Tuesday, May 26th

Tuesday, May 26, 2009

Garbage collected for entire Village
and Newspapers (North Side)

Reminders

Garbage, newspapers, and recyclables
cannot be put out before 7:00 PM of the
day prior to pick up.

Call DPW at 354-0064 to arrange for a
special pick up of large items such as
furniture, appliances, etc.

These items cannot be collected with
household trash.

Don't forget to recycle !!

**YARD WASTE PICK-UP
RESUMES WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 1, 2009**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wed 2/11 Board of Zoning Appeals

Meeting 7:30 PM

Village Hall

Mon 2/16

President's Day

Village Offices Closed

No Garbage Collection

Tues 2/17

Tax Grievance Day

Village Board Meeting

8:00 PM Village Hall

Fri 2/27

Youth Night 6:00 PM

William Gill Theatre

March

Tues 3/3

Village Board Meeting

8:00 PM Village Hall

Wed 3/11

Board of Zoning

Appeals Meeting

7:30 PM Village Hall

Wed 3/18

Village Election Day

Marcus Christ Hall

12:00 Noon - 9:00 PM

Thur 3/19

Village Board Meeting

8:00 PM Village Hall

Fri 3/27

Youth Night 6:00 PM

William Gill Theatre

April

Mon 4/6

Village Annual Meeting

7:30 PM

Marcus Christ Hall

CALENDAR OF EVENTS, CON'T

Tues 4/7

2009/2010 Budget

Hearing 7:30 PM

Village Hall

Village Board Meeting

8:00 PM Village Hall

Thur 4/16

Board of Zoning

Appeals Meeting

7:30 PM Village Hall

Tues 4/21

Village Board Meeting

8:00 PM Village Hall

Fri 4/24

Youth Night 6:00 PM

William Gill Theatre

May

Tues 5/5

Village Board Meeting

8:00 PM Village Hall

Wed 5/13

Board of Zoning

Appeals Meeting

7:30 PM Village Hall

Tues 5/19

Village Board Meeting

8:00 PM Village Hall

Mon 5/25

Memorial Day

Village Offices Closed

No Garbage Collection

Youth Night 6:00 PM

William Gill Theatre

June

Tues 6/2

Village Board Meeting

8:00 PM Village Hall

Wed 6/10

Board of Zoning

Appeals Meeting

7:30 PM Village Hall

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Storm Water Pollution - What is the Problem?

Anything that gets in the path of a raindrop can become storm water pollution. Another name for storm water pollution is non-point source pollution. Every time it rains, storm water is carried to storm drain systems and/or directly to surface waters and ground waters. That means that storm water pollution can have detrimental effects to creeks, lakes, ponds, rivers and the oceans into which it eventually drains. Storm water can carry sediment, trash, automotive fluids like used oil and antifreeze, grass clippings, leaves, yard waste, excess fertilizers, animal waste, pesticides and anything else that gets in its way. There are several things you can do to prevent storm water pollution:

Household Hazardous Waste

- Never dump anything down a storm drain. Most storm drains flow directly to creeks and lakes.
- Take used oil, paint and other household hazardous waste to recycling centers.
- Check your car for oil or other leaks.

Lawn Care

- Apply fertilizers and pesticides exactly where you want them. Avoid over spraying them onto sidewalks, driveways or streets.
- Reduce the amount of fertilizers you need to apply by testing the soil in your yard first.

Yard Waste

- Sweep up yard debris instead of washing it away.
- Bundle yard waste at the curb for pickup.

Animal Waste

- Pick up after your pets. Dispose of animal waste properly in a trash receptacle or flush it down the toilet.

Reducing Runoff

- Adjust sprinklers so that you're not watering the street or sidewalk.
- Redirect roof gutters to lawns, natural areas or rain gardens.
- Take your car to a car wash instead of washing it in the driveway.

Planting

- Replant bare areas to avoid soil erosion.
- Keep invasive plants from growing in your yard. Remove them before they have a chance to grow and spread.
- Avoid planting exotic plants. Select only plants that are native to this area.

Volunteer

- Report spills, dumping or suspected water pollution to the Village.
- Clear clogged storm drains. Blocked drains cause drainage problems.
- Participate in community-wide clean up days and other events.
- Alert neighbors to storm water pollution problems.

It is illegal to discharge, cause to be discharged, directly or indirectly, or cause any pollutant to enter into the storm drain system unless permitted by a NYSDEC permit. Storm water is the only discharge permitted in the storm water system with exception of incidental non-storm water flows which do not negatively impact the quality of the receiving stream, including:

1. Water line flushing, except super-chlorinated water line flushing
2. Landscape irrigation
3. Uncontaminated groundwater infiltration
4. Uncontaminated pumped groundwater
5. Discharge from potable water sources
6. Foundation drains
7. Air conditioning condensate
8. Irrigation water
9. Springs
10. Lawn watering
11. De-chlorinated swimming pool discharge
12. Street wash water
13. Flows from emergency fire and rescue operations other than those resulting from negligence on the part of the person who owned or controlled the pollutant.

13th Annual Village Street Fair.....A Huge Success!

Blue Skies and Bright Sunshine A Welcome Addition This Year



The 13th Annual Village Street Fair turned out to be the best one yet (although we say this every year!) Visitors began showing up well before 10:00 AM and by 1:00 PM, Jericho Tpke. was filled with thousands of shoppers and visitors. There were 227 craft and specialty merchants selling fabulous, creative, and tasty items. Lining the sidewalk were our Village merchants, chamber of commerce members, and a number of local charities and service groups. We thank everyone who participated this year with special thanks to the merchants and/or service groups who brought lots of free goodies and samples for our patrons. While it is certainly not required, handing out samples and/or sponsoring raffles helps promote your business and brings the crowd to your table. Bobby Brinks at NHP Checker Cab brought an ice cream truck, sold each item for \$1, and donated all the proceeds (\$243!!) to the Village Youth Group. Yorkshire Foods, distributors of Wise Snack products, sent Peppy the Owl who handed out free bags of snacks; Commerce Bank gave away hundreds of nylon bags; and the STAT MD table was always filled with free safety kits, pens, and notepads. Creative ideas, a very thoughtful way to give back to the community, and an ingenious way to promote your business!



13th Annual Village Street Fair.....A Huge Success!



Special thanks to the Village Street Fair Planning Coordinators, our partners at Craft-A-Fair, and the crew from the Department of Public Works. Their combined efforts are the reason why the Street Fair is such a well-run and well-executed event. The Board thanks the 3rd Precinct, POP Officer Nick Mosesso, the N/C Mounted Police Unit, and the NHP Auxiliary Police for their vigilant coverage throughout the day. Once again this year, there were no reported incidents during the Fair. Considering the thousands of visitors and the surge of pedestrian and vehicular traffic to our streets, this is quite an accomplishment. Finally, special thanks to residents and merchants in this great community. Hosting an event of this magnitude requires everyone's support and cooperation and we appreciate your patience and hospitality to the thousands of visitors who came to the Fair.

