



## GREAT NECK PLAZA LAUNCHES OPEN STREETS PROGRAM

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**GREAT NECK PLAZA**  
 DOWNTOWN REBOUND  
 Safe. Smart. Shopping.

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These past few months have been challenging for everyone, and we hope that you are all safe and healthy amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a part of the reopening of Nassau County, the Board of Trustees has approved streamlined measures to create additional outdoor dining to assist our restaurants and food establishments. The Village of Great Neck Plaza has created a no fee temporary outdoor dining permit that is for a period of up to six months.

It's a new program aimed at assisting our restaurants in reopening and utilizing outdoor areas during the warmer months, on municipal streets, sidewalks and other outdoor areas. We have faced difficult times during the last four months and we want these businesses to come back, and come back stronger.

Outdoor dining began on June 10th and entails some restrictions:

- **Face Masks Required:** All restaurant staff must wear face coverings and customers must also wear face coverings when not seated. We want to prevent the spread of COVID-19, so if you plan on going out to eat, bring a mask or face covering with you.
- Practice social distancing, which is a minimum of six feet from others.

- Outdoor tables must be spaced six feet apart and on the sidewalk. No patron of the restaurant utilizing the outside dining area shall be allowed inside the restaurant.
- All tables and chairs in the outside dining area are to be removed each night no later than 11 P.M. and stored inside the restaurant premises until no earlier than 11 A.M. the following day. The precise times being specified by the Building Superintendent.

Under Nassau County's Open Streets Pilot Initiative to help downtown businesses recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, dining on closed roads has been approved by the County for the Village of Great Neck Plaza and its Business Improvement District (BID) every weekend (Saturdays and Sundays) from 5 P.M. to 11 P.M. until restaurants will be able to fully open.

These closures will take place on Bond Street, from North Station Plaza to Grace Avenue and Middle Neck Road depending on the interest of the restaurant owners to participate in the events.

All municipal lots and garages will remain open and are available parking for diners. Grace Avenue, Cutter Mill Road,

**THANK YOU FOR WEARING A MASK**  
 (it's required)

## Message from the Mayor

On June 25, there was a 5-alarm fire at a strip of retail stores on the north side of Cutter Mill Road near the intersection with Middle Neck Road. Thankfully no one was seriously injured, but unfortunately, four businesses were destroyed, as follows:

- Cuttermill Mailroom
- Yana Ballet Dance School
- Laverne Restaurant
- Miu Miu’s Eyelash Extension

These shopkeepers were already in various stages of reopening from the pandemic. So these merchants and their landlord have suffered losses due to COVID-19 and now will have to face even more challenges, rebuilding in the aftermath of the fire. We were informed no one got hurt and we are grateful for that although some firefighters were treated for smoke inhalation. Over time we hope

things will be restored there. We feel for everyone involved and for the Village of Great Neck Plaza’s downtown.

We will do whatever we can to assist in the rebuilding process. We give thanks and praise to the men and women volunteers of the Vigilant Engine & Hook & Ladder Co. for their valiant efforts fighting this horrific blaze for 2 1/2 hours and the other fire departments that came to their aid. Twenty fire departments responded to their mutual aid call from across Nassau County including Great Neck Alerts, Roslyn, Westbury, Glenwood Landing, and more.

Sincerely,  
*J. Celender*  
Jean A. Celender,  
Mayor

## Staying Safe this Hurricane Season

While most of us have been preoccupied with the COVID-19 pandemic, hurricanes are still another type of natural disaster our community may have to contend with this summer. According to the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), this 2020 Atlantic hurricane season is expected to have average to above intensity in the number of storms. Our community is no stranger to damaging weather events, such as 2012's Hurricane Sandy. Below are some helpful tips for staying safe in the event of a Hurricane hitting the New York region.

### Before a Hurricane

- Create a Hurricane plan with your family that details what to do, where to locate each other in case you get separated, and how to communicate if a hurricane strikes.
- Have a First Aid kit ready to use.
- Have a "Go Bag" ready in case you have to leave your home.
- Pack nonperishable food and water in the event you are unable to leave your home for an extended period.
- Look out for Emergency notifications on your cell phone, television, and radio..

- Charge all of your mobile devices before the storm and invest in flashlights in case your power goes out.
- Fill your tub and sinks with water before the storm in case water lines are damaged during the storm.

### During a Hurricane

- Stay inside and keep away from windows, skylights and glass doors.
- Find a safe area in the home to stay in during the storm such as an interior room, a closet, or a bathroom with no windows that's in the lower level of your home.
- If a home loses power, turn off major appliances such as the air conditioner and water heater to reduce damage.
- Do not go outside as the risk of getting hit by flying debris is too high.
- Do not be fooled by the eye of the storm. When the eye is above you, the wind will significantly calm down and give the impression that the storm is over. However, on the other side of the eye, the wind will pick up strength again and put you at risk of getting injured.

## GREAT NECK PLAZA LAUNCHES OPEN STREETS PROGRAM (CONT'D.)

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and North Station Plaza will remain open for cross street traffic.

Outdoor dining on a closed street is a nice way to dine, relax and enjoy the community. Many residents look forward to al fresco dining close to home. It's also a great way to support our restaurants and local merchants welcoming them back from the last three months when they were basically closed due to the pandemic, except for take-out and deliveries.

While taking advantage of this, please remember to wash your hands with soap and water frequently, practice social distancing and wear a mask or covering. A maximum of six people are permitted at each table, for no more than 90 minutes. Best to call ahead and make a reservation, since seating is limited.

If for any reason a person or person(s) including the elderly, anyone with a wheelchair, walker, stroller, etc. needs assistance in crossing the sidewalk or in between the cones during outdoor dining, the owner of this restaurant or a staff member(s) must assist that person or persons.

For any questions regarding outdoor dining, please contact the Superintendent of the Building Department, Richard Belziti by calling (516) 482-4500 or email [belziti@greatneckplaza.net](mailto:belziti@greatneckplaza.net)

For more information regarding the 2020 Open Streets Pilot Initiative, please contact Village Hall, via telephone, (516) 482-4500, or email [mayorsassistant@greatneckplaza.net](mailto:mayorsassistant@greatneckplaza.net) or contact the Great Neck Plaza Business Improvement District office via telephone, (516) 829-1301.

## GREAT NECK PLAZA INTRODUCES THE ALL-WEEK SIDEWALK SALES INITIATIVE

Just as the Village of Great Neck Plaza and its Business Improvement District have worked to provide our restaurants with outdoor dining to help restart their businesses, the Village has allowed our non-food merchants to use the sidewalk space in front of their stores to offer "sidewalk sales." This would be similar to what we have done when we have sponsored the sidewalk sales in previous years. The difference is this year, merchants will be permitted to have their sidewalk display of merchandise every day of the week through July 31.

In permitting these sidewalk sales displays every day through the entire month of July, we are also instituting some very strict guidelines to ensure the decorum and aesthetic value of what this will look like in our Village. Below are the guidelines merchants must adhere to in order to offer merchandise for sale in displays set up on the sidewalk in front of their store.

Merchants with sidewalk frontage will be permitted to use sidewalk space directly in front of their retail establishment. Those without sidewalk frontage will be assigned space at the discretion of the Great Neck Plaza



BID, based on safety and aesthetics.

Merchants will be allowed one clothing rack and one table set-up in front of their stores. Merchants must provide their own clothing rack and table. Tables must be covered with a tablecloth.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created many challenges for businesses across the country, including those in the Village of Great Neck Plaza. Small businesses provide the uniqueness that make our community different from other cities. Moreover, small and medium-sized businesses are the lifeblood of the American economy — they provide two-thirds of net new jobs and employ 47% of Americans, so if you have the financial means to shop, be sure to shop locally and support your community!

If you are a merchant or shopper and have any questions about sidewalk sales, feel free to call the Village of Great Neck Plaza at (516) 482-4500 or BID at 516-205-1951 or 646-831-0701.

## SWAP TO LIGHT-EMITTING DIODE (LED) FIXTURES COMPLETED IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

In our continuing efforts to improve the Village’s infrastructure, and to implement projects with the assistance of grants, we are pleased to report that we have changed two types of street lighting fixtures and bulbs to LEDs. A total of 73 new Post-Top GE Evolve lighting fixtures with LED bulbs have replaced the outdated high pressure sodium fixtures in our residential areas. These areas include all of Wyngate, Schenck Avenue, Welwyn Road, Hillpark Avenue, Overlook Avenue, Clent Road, Ipswich Avenue, Shoreward Drive and Gilcrest Road. Not only will this initiative save the Village money on its street lighting repairs, since these bulbs last so much longer and are warranted for 10 years, it will make these streets and sidewalks feel safer with the enhanced lighting to LED bulbs. The LEDs are also cheaper to operate, so electricity costs will be less.

Expected to be completed in the next month, the Village is nearing completion on the swap out of old bulbs and fixtures on both sides of Great Neck Road and the north side of North Station Plaza, from Middle Neck Road to the roundabout. Approximately 40 new Bishop Crook fixtures with LED bulbs are being replaced. The new lighting will improve the lighting quality, reduce

maintenance costs and minimize light pollution as these have been designed to illuminate more of the sidewalk and road than the prior fixtures.



We are also very grateful to County Executive Lauren Curran and Legislator Ellen Birnbaum of the County of Nassau for their assistance in obtaining two grants for us to do these two projects, Community Development Block Grant monies of \$80,000 for the residential Post-Tops and Community Reinvestment Program (CRP) funds of \$34,500 for the Bishop Crooks.

There is no local village match required for either of these two grants. The fixtures, which are brand new, are aesthetically pleasing, environmentally-sound and longer lasting. They have warranties of 10 years for replacement bulbs.

Stated Mayor Celender, “The Village is looking to continue on this program of converting old lighting fixtures to LEDs, and the Village still has a few areas that need to be done. We are extremely pleased we were able to use grant monies for this program. We hope we can continue on this path for doing additional swap outs. Thanks again to CE Curran and Legislator Birnbaum for their efforts in assisting us. We are extremely grateful for their assistance and these grant monies being awarded to our Village.”

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## NEW Small Business Loan Program - NY Forward: “Boost Nassau”

NY Forward “Boost Nassau” loan fund is a new business recovery loan program aimed at supporting Nassau County’s small businesses, Minority/Women-owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) and nonprofits struggling during the COVID-19 outbreak. Note, the loan program is available to businesses impacted by COVID-19 that haven’t accessed federally-backed programs like PPP. The new “Boost Nassau” program ensures that \$10 million will be available for businesses located in Nassau County from the NY Forward Loan Fund.

In addition to loans, businesses can also apply for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for their business. On May, 27, 2020 Nassau County Executive Laura Curran announced a partnership between the County’s Office of



Community Development and Local Economic Assistance Corporation to supply small businesses with personal protective equipment kits for employees and customers as businesses ramp up efforts to reopen during the coronavirus pandemic. There are currently 5,000 kits available and will be fulfilled on a first-come, first-served basis. The kits will include: A contactless infrared digital thermometer, five face shields 400 three-ply masks; 100 pairs of powder-free, vinyl gloves; two gallons of hand sanitizer with a spray pump; and a canister of 1,800 sanitizing wipes.

Further details for these programs, eligibility and how to apply is available on [www.boostnassau.net](http://www.boostnassau.net), just fill out the two forms on the website to get started!

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## How to File a Claim for Unemployment Insurance Benefits

Unfortunately, many people in our community have found themselves to be suddenly out of work because of business closures due to Coronavirus. It is important for anyone who is out of work to know that they may be eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits. Information about filing for such benefits is available on the New York State Department of Labor website at [https://labor.ny.gov/ui/how\\_to\\_file\\_claim.shtm](https://labor.ny.gov/ui/how_to_file_claim.shtm) and a summary from that website is set forth below.

### Important Information for Unemployment Insurance Claimants:

The federal government enacted the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, which includes extended unemployment benefits. New York has not qualified for these extended benefits at this time, but we will continue to monitor the situation and leverage all federal resources to help New Yorkers survive the economic hardships associated with the novel coronavirus. If New York State DOES qualify for the extended benefits, New Yorkers do NOT need to do anything new. We will post additional information here as it becomes available. Please do NOT call the unemployment hotline with questions about extended benefits -- this helps keep the phone lines available for your fellow New Yorkers who need to file new claims. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

NYS is waiving the 7-Day waiting period for Unemployment Insurance benefits for people who are out of work due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) closures or quarantines.

If you are filing a new unemployment insurance claim, the day you should file is based on the first letter of your last name. If your last name starts with A - F, file your claim on Monday. For last names starting with G - N, file your claim on Tuesday. For last names starting with O - Z, file your claim on Wednesday. If you missed your filing day, file your claim on Thursday, Friday or Saturday. Filing later in the week will not delay your payments or affect the date of your claim, since all claims are effective on the Monday of the week in which they are filed.

### Telephone filing hours as follows:

Monday through Thursday, 8 am to 7:30 pm.

Friday, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Saturday, 7:30 am to 8:00 pm

### When to File

Promptly file your claim, in the first week that you lose your job. You must serve an unpaid "waiting period,"



equal to one full week of unemployment benefits, before you receive payments. A delay in filing may cost you benefits. You can estimate your weekly benefit amount by using the benefit rate calculator on our website. Please note that the tool gives an estimate only. It does not guarantee that you will be eligible for benefits or a specific amount of benefits. You must file an Unemployment Insurance claim to find out if you are eligible and learn your actual benefit amount.

### How to File Web Service

It is best to apply for UI online. Sign in with your NY.GOV ID and follow the instructions to file a claim. You may file your claim:

Monday - Thursday from 7:30 am to 7:30 pm (Eastern Time)

Friday from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm

Saturday - all day

Sunday until 7 pm

Phone Service

Call our Telephone Claim Center, toll-free during business hours to file a claim.

1-888-209-8124

8 am to 5 pm, Monday - Friday

**If you file by phone**, we offer translation services. Use your phone keypad to enter the number for the language you choose. A voice recording will offer you these choices:

- English
- Spanish

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## Gold Coast Arts Center Summer Camp Goes Virtual New & Innovative Arts Camp & Classes Online Now

Gold Coast Arts Center, a not-for-profit multi-arts organization dedicated to promoting the arts through education, exhibition, performance, and outreach, invites you to experience the fun & excitement of camp from home!

Gold Coast Arts SummerArts 2020 virtual camp is the perfect way for your children to spend their summer safely at home while having fun creating masterpieces through our exciting live and interactive arts classes, and learning new skills in computer aided design and technology! We are offering the highest quality remote learning experience with our amazing teachers and staff.

Our online camps offer a balanced schedule with structured, weeklong sessions for kids and teens ages 6 – 16. Each camp session will boost personalized learning and bonding with new friends as we are limiting camp to

only 10 students per instructor. Through the power of Zoom we bring you the magic of camp with the hottest offerings such as Cartooning, Drawing & Painting, Theatre, Ceramics, Robotics, and so much more!

Building on the success over the last several months converting our classes using Zoom, we are confident about our innovative online curriculum. This summer, with diverse classes such as Animation Coding, Cultural Art From Around The World, and our brand new Filmmaking and Acting classes, you will learn new skills or improve on the ones you already have, and you will learn them from experts in the field! For one-on-one learning, try our online private lessons with the ultimate scheduling flexibility, and exciting lessons tailored to your child’s personal interest and skill level. To select the option best suited for your child, please visit us at [www.goldcoastarts.org](http://www.goldcoastarts.org) for more information.

“Over the last 25 years, we have built up a reputation as a premier venue for education and entertainment in the arts. I am so proud of our talented faculty and staff because this summer we are living up to our own high standards. I urge parents to feel confident that their children will have a great summer with us online.” Regina Gil, Executive Director of Gold Coast Arts.

### About Gold Coast Arts

Gold Coast Arts Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit multi-arts organization dedicated to promoting the arts through education, exhibition, performance, and outreach. For a quarter-century, it has brought the arts to tens of thousands of people throughout the Long Island region. Among the Center’s offerings are its School for the Arts, which holds year-round classes

in visual and performing arts for students of all ages and abilities; a free public art gallery; a concert and lecture series; film screenings and discussions; the annual Gold Coast International Film Festival; and initiatives that focus on senior citizens and underserved communities. These initiatives include artist residencies, after-school programs, school assemblies, teacher-training workshops, and parent-child workshops. The Gold Coast Arts Center’s programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. The Gold Coast Arts Center is an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts “Partners in Education” program and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. For more information, visit [www.goldcoastarts.org](http://www.goldcoastarts.org) or contact Julie Wostenholme by calling 516-829-2570 or by email at [julie@goldcoastarts.org](mailto:julie@goldcoastarts.org)



## How to File a Claim for Unemployment Insurance Benefits (cont.)

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- Russian
- Cantonese
- Mandarin
- Creole
- Korean
- Polish
- All other languages

### Things you need to file your claim:

Your Social Security number

Your driver license or Motor Vehicle ID card number (if you have either one)

Your complete mailing address and zip code

A phone number where we can reach you from 8 am - 5 pm, Monday -Friday

Your Alien Registration card number (if you are not a U.S. Citizen and have a card)

Names and addresses of all your employers for the last 18 months, including those in other states

Employer Registration number or Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) of your most recent employer (FEIN is on your W-2 forms)

Your copies of forms SF8 and SF50, if you were a federal employee

Your most recent separation form (DD 214), for military service

You can file a claim without all of these documents. However, missing information can delay your first payment.

Have a pen and paper to copy information.

If you choose direct deposit of your weekly benefits, you need a check that has your bank routing and checking account numbers.

Personal Identification Number (PIN)

If you have never filed a claim for benefits in New York State, you must create a PIN. This is a four-digit number that you must keep confidential.

### If you need Help filing your claim

- You must be present each time they help you and use your PIN.
- You will be held accountable for the actions of your helper.
- You may be subject to penalties, including forfeiture of benefits, if you are not present when your helper assists you.
- Callers may ask a friend or relative to help with phone claims if they:
  - have problems with hearing or speech, or
  - have difficulty using the phone for any reason.
- Hearing Impaired
- Have your helper call the Telephone Claims Center at 1-888-783-1370.

### TTY/TDD

**Call a relay operator first at 1-800-662-1220, and ask the operator to call the Telephone Claims Center at 1-888-783-1370.**

## Village Board Meetings Now Available On Zoom

In order to be in compliance with the new social distancing measures to combat COVID-19, the Village of Great Neck Plaza has moved its board meetings to the video conferencing app Zoom for the current time in the pandemic. Moving to a virtual format has enabled the village to still conduct important discussions pertaining to our village while keeping safe, providing for public input and remaining transparent.



then entering the Meeting ID and Password listed on our website for each meeting, or by dialing a telephone number that will also be available on the village website. There is also the option of calling in and listening by conference call. The meeting will also be transcribed by a court reporter and will subsequently made available to the public in a written format. As always, the agenda of the meeting will be posted on our website at [www.greatneckplaza.net](http://www.greatneckplaza.net) prior

If you wish to listen in or participate, you can access the meeting on your computer by logging into ZOOM and

to the meeting.



## VILLAGE OF GREAT NECK PLAZA

2 Gussack Plaza, P.O. Box 440

Great Neck, NY 11022-0440

Phone: (516) 482-4500

FAX: (516) 482-3503

E-mail: [info@greatneckplaza.net](mailto:info@greatneckplaza.net)

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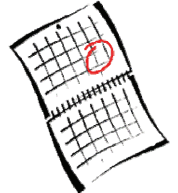
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### ***Dates to Remember:***

- July 1st & 15th, Board of Trustees Meetings, 8 P.M., Visit our website ([click here](#)) for agendas. \*Now Virtual Online Zoom Meetings\* - see website homepage for Meeting ID and Password on Zoom to participate.
- July 3, Independence Day, Village Hall will be closed in observance of the 4th of July Holiday. We will reopen on July 6th.



## VGNP Business News

While the COVID-19 pandemic has put a lot of businesses on hold during lockdown, Nassau County is beginning to reopen and restaurants have been allowed to serve outdoor dining. We encourage our residents to shop locally now more than ever since many of our businesses are hurting and will rely on our support to keep them remain afloat. Below are just some of the many restaurants in the Plaza serving outdoor dining:

- Krung Tep Thai Bistro, **23 So. Middle Neck Rd.** (516) 498-9889
- Mi Casa Es Tu Casa, **20 So. Station Pl.** (516) 708-9816
- Soku Asian Fusion, **36 Middle Neck Rd.** (516) 482-1923
- Best Bagels, **40 Middle Neck Rd.** (516) 829-7237
- Café Kriza, **45 Middle Neck Rd.** (516) 829-1039
- Crawfords Coffee, **2 So. Station Pl.** (516) 472-0762
- Great Neck Diner, **14 Grace Ave.** (516) 466-0678
- La Rotunda, **8 Bond St.** (516) 439-4870
- Yahao Asian, **6 Bond St.** (516) 829-3811
- Noir Bakery, **25 Cutter Mill Rd.** (516) 773-0973
- Burger Village, **66 Middle Neck Rd.** (516) 321-9177
- Grill Time, **90 Middle Neck Rd.** (516) 487-2228 \*Great Neck Estates Business\*
- La Pizzeria, **114 Middle Neck Rd.** (516) 466-5114 \*Great Neck Estates Business\*
- Rothchilds, **76 Middle Neck Rd.** (516) 482-0434 \*Great Neck Estates Business\*



Cuttermill Mailroom, located at 15 Cutter Mill Road, has been one of the Plaza's best resources for shipping, packing, printing, and notary services for the residents and businesses of our Village. They pack and ship [almost] anything to [almost] anywhere in the world, utilizing all major courier companies such as UPS, Fed Ex, USPS, DHL, and many more!

Unfortunately, on June 25th, their location was tragically burnt down in a sudden fire. Despite not being able to use their physical space, they are still conducting drop off and delivery services right outside of their original location. They will be operating from a temporary trailer until they can find a new place. They will soon be conducting printing and copying services again. Cuttermill Mailroom has been a pillar of the community, so please support them in this difficult time. If you need delivery services, consider using Cuttermill Mailroom, give them a call at (516) 829-7447 or email them at [sales@cuttermillmailroom.com](mailto:sales@cuttermillmailroom.com).