

MAYOR JEAN A CELENDER
 DEPUTY MAYOR TED ROSEN
 TRUSTEES: JAY FERKIN,
 JOEL LIEBOWITZ AND
 GERRY SCHNEIDERMAN
 CLERK/TREAS. PAT O'BYRNE
 EDITORS: CAROL TEPLIN &
 BEVERLY SAFIAN



PLAZA VOICE

VILLAGE OF GREAT NECK PLAZA—WINTER 2004

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Mayor Celen- 2
 der Speaks at
 NC Planning
 Federation

Star Performer 2
 Award
 Ceremony

Plaza Welcome 2
 Signs
 Refurbished

Community 3
 Cable TV
 Update

Caregivers 3
 Workshops
 Available

Co-Op Condo 3
 Council
 Meeting

Street Parking 3
 Permits
 Renewal
 Reminder

New Stores 4
 Opening in the
 Plaza

Message From the Mayor

The Board of Trustees and I want to wish you warm greetings for a wonderful holiday season. I am sure you have noticed how the village comes alive with the holiday decorations, the festive wooden soldiers and the glowing street light swags. We do our best to help you celebrate and we commend our retailers and businesses who work so hard to make their windows so interesting, inviting and festive for each and every occasion.

I want to update you on the progress of our exciting mural project. We are moving ahead on our first in a series of fine art murals to beautify the downtown and serve as a catalyst for downtown economic development and

to promote tourism. The design for the first mural will be located on the façade of the corner building at Middle Neck Road and Maple Drive, where Daruma Restaurant is located. It is called "The Music Door," and will be a detailed painting on a flat surface but will create an optical illusion and trick the eye into thinking it is a three-dimensional scene, hence the name, "Trompe L'oeil." It will have six children standing next to the building about to enter the door from the sidewalk.

Our artist, William Cochran, a renowned muralist, interviewed and photographed many children from the Great Neck area and selected six who represent the

rich cultural diversity of our community.

We have received corporate and individual donations including several from families who have wanted to join in this community project and sent a check to the village as a sign of their pride in our efforts. We welcome any and all donations, none are too small, to help defray the cost of this unique and special public art project.

We call your attention to the new design of the Plaza Voice. We decided to change the format for the coming New Year! I want to thank our editor, Carol Teplin, for her creativity and constant drive to improve our newsletter.



Have You Met the Village Mascot?

The village received a gift of this handsome twelve foot giraffe from Great Neck chiropractic doctors, Dan Matzner and Brian Stenzler. When they moved their offices from Bond Street to 38 Great Neck Road, they decided the Village Hall would be a good home for their friend.

Their business, which is now a holistic oasis called Dream Well-ness, features nutrition and acu-

puncture as well as chiropractic adjustments. Be sure to visit!

Mayor Jean Celen-der decided to place the statue in our front window, since it is the official symbol of Great Neck. Think of a name for our great-necked friend by 1/31/05 and let us know, Jean, Dan and Brian will select the one they think is best. The winner will receive a wonderful Great Neck Plaza prize!



Mayor Celender Panelist on Site Review Confer- ence for Nassau County's Local Governments

Mayor Celender recently participated in Nassau County Planning Federation's (NCPF) first major meeting on October 13th at de Seversky Conference Center. She was a panelist at the workshop, "The How's & Why's of Site Plan Review." She spoke on the elements of developing an effective Site Plan Ordinance and how she works in her Village with the Board of Trustees to get the details right.

The NCPF is a new organization, the vision of the County Executive, Tom Suozzi, to create a networking organization to share information with Nassau municipalities about planning issues of common concern, as well as offer training for members of planning boards and Board of Zoning Appeals.

May W. Newburger, former Supervisor for the Town of North Hempstead, serves as Director and has

championed its mission to assist local governments in the County. The NCPF is a voluntary membership organization open to elected and appointed officials, attorneys, planning boards, planning commissions, BZA's and staffs with a role or responsibility to deliver planning services.

Mayor Celender was pleased to be accompanied by VGNP community leaders Stu Hochran, Marion Green and Jay Confino. The conference was well attended and was a good start to begin the dialogue of improving the development approval processes and creating a better vision for "smart growth" today and for the next generations.

For more information or to join NCPF, contact May Newburger at 516/571-0399 or e-mail at mnewburger@nassaucountyny.gov.

Star Performer Awards Presented

Here is a list of the "Star Performer" recipients and their nominators:

Stanley Lipton nominated Olivia Ruffin, a thirty year employee of the U.S. Postal Service for being friendly, helpful, discreet and sympathetic.

Lauren Matalon of Nardo Shoes was nominated by Patricia Raffé for being professional, gracious, conscientious and diligent.

Dotty Franco of Chase Manhattan Bank was nominated by Dina

Hernandez for being helpful, friendly, and respectful.

Joseph Diaz of the Building Department in the Village of Great Neck Plaza was nominated by Lenore Feinstein for being friendly, responsive, professional and efficient.

Doreen Hennep and Taraneh Hamidian of Rite Aid Pharmacy were nominated by Gloria Lessler for being very special, sweet, caring and kind people.

To nominate someone for this award select someone who works

in the Plaza who goes out of their way to make you feel special, and who makes Great Neck Plaza a better place for you to work, shop and live.

Potential "Star Performers" greet you with a smile, are eager to help, treat you with dignity, respect and patience so that it's a genuine pleasure to do business in the Plaza. Call 482-4500 for more information or to nominate a Star Performer.

Plaza Welcome Signs Get Fresh Faces

Have you noticed the handsome young man who has been working on our green signs? He has been stripping, treating and re-painting these signs to their original brilliance.

When the Building Department noticed that the Village welcome signs had suffered from the wear and tear of several harsh winters

and were in serious need of repair, calls were made to contact the artist who originally designed and created the signs. After several vain attempts to reach her, they discovered that she had moved out of state.

The search was on to find someone to fit the bill. Residential and commercial artist Erik Fer-

rar of Faux Design Works was hired by the late Harry Perlman to "redeaux" the Plaza welcome signs. Harry knew of Erik's talents and even though Erik had never done this scope of work before, Harry had confidence in his abilities and gave him the opportunity. The results speak for themselves!



Cable TV Information

Community Channels from Cablevision are available free, as a public service to all residents...

Many of our residents are not sure if they are receiving the correct cable service. What the Great Neck/North Shore Cable Commission recommends is that you tune in to the following channels and see if they are available.

If you are not receiving these programs/bulletin board information, please notify the Cable Commission c/o Public Access TV at 629-3710 ex. 12. If you prefer to FAX, the number is 629-3704, e-mail to sbruno@patv.org.

- Channel 18 Bulletin Board Info
- Channel 20 Public Access TV
- Channel 73 Cablevision's Local programming
- Channel 75 Great Neck Public Schools
- Channel 76 Adult Education
- Channel 77 Park District
- Channel 78 Library

Did you know that you can still receive the Community Channels from Cablevision without any installation charge or monthly service fee? Call Cablevision at 364-8400 and ask for Universal

Service for the Great Neck/North Shore system. If the customer representative is not familiar with this service ask for a supervisor. If all else fails, just call PATV at the above phone number and they will help you. This is a valuable community service since the information and programming on Community Access TV is very useful, helpful and informative.

Cablevision announced that there will be a 3.8-4.4% rate increase to be in effect on your January 1, 2005 billing statement.

Caregiver's Workshop Support

The first Monday of each month the Great Neck Senior Center at 80 Grace Avenue will run a workshop for the entire Great Neck Community. Social worker and psychotherapist Annie Karpenstein, C.S.W., will moderate the workshop and facilitate the support group that will meet between the informational sessions. The cost is \$5 per session or \$25 for the rest of the series, which runs from January 3 through June 6. For information call 487-0025. Following are dates:

Jan. 3, Medication Management. Marc Kassman, RPH from Great Neck Chemists.

Feb. 3, Hospice Care. Theresa Russel, CSW from Hospice Care Network.

Mar. 7, Space Planning for Senior Needs. Jim Long from Elder Suites.

Apr. 4, Depression, Dementia, Cognitive Decline. Psychiatrist speaker to be announced.

May 2 Nutritional Issues of Concern. Nutritionist speaker to be announced.

June 6, Stress Management. Psychologist speaker to be announced.

STREET PARKING PERMITS RENEWAL REMINDER

Street Parking Permits expire at the end of December. To renew your VGNP Street Parking Permit you need to bring your license, car registration and two proofs of residency. The cost is \$5 each, payable in cash, check or money order.

You may obtain the application either at the front desk Mon-Fri from 9 to 4pm, or from our website at www.greatneckplaza.net. For more information please call Sheryl De Los Rios at 482-4500 extension 104.

Co-op and Condo Council Celebrate 3 Years

On Monday Sept 20, 2004 the Great Neck Co-op & Condo Council ("GNCCC") met to hear a trio of Nassau County officials address the membership. It also marked the 3rd anniversary of the organization which met for the very first time in September 2001. Since that time we have seen our membership grow to over 70 buildings with no end in sight.

Nassau County Executive Thomas Suozzi told those assembled about the problems facing Nassau County (high taxes, over-whelming financial problems, no room for growth, etc.) and his efforts and ability to overcome them.

County Comptroller Howard Weitzman informed all of those present about the new Nassau County Prescription Discount Card (saving individuals an average of 20% on Rx) available to all Nassau County residents fee of charge.

Nassau County Chairman of Assessment Harvey Levinson explained how he and the Assessors Office have gone about trying to correct the way Nassau County properties were reassessed 2 years ago and how he is trying to fix this broken system.

All agreed that the GNCCC has done a fantastic job in their continuing effort to educate the County's Co-op & Condo Board Members on how to better run their building. In addition, the GNCCC continues to identify the injustices plaguing Nassau's Co-ops & Condos and leads the fight to have them changed in an effort to provide equality among the classes and for the Co-op and Condo residents.

The cake below, donated by Bruce's Bakery, "sweetened" our 3rd Anniversary!



VILLAGE OF GREAT NECK PLAZA
2 Gussack Plaza (P.O. Box 440)
Great Neck, NY 11022
Phone: 516/482-4500
FAX: 516/482-3503
E-mail: info@greatneckplaza.net

PRSRRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
GREAT NECK, NY
PERMIT NO. 286



Plaza Welcomes New Merchants

The Plaza welcomes the following new merchants to our village. We invite you to drop in and say "hello" to these shopkeepers and peruse their store. If you are new storeowner in town, the Plaza would be happy to provide a free Ribbon Cutting ceremony to celebrate your opening. Call Carol Teplin at the Village and she'll coordinate with you.

- Tasti D'Lite, 87 Middle Neck Road (Soft Serve Ice Cream, See photo of Ribbon Cutting Ceremony below)



- Bank of America, 10 Middle Neck Road
- World Bank, 2 Great Neck Road
- Purple Elephant, 7 No. Station Plaza (Art Gallery and Gifts)

- Grill 25, 25 Middle Neck Road (Formerly Seed Restaurant with the same owner and an exciting new menu)
- Fantastic Kids Toys, 50 Middle Neck Road (children's toys)
- Sugar Free Oasis, 35 Middle Neck Road (See below)



Amid cheers and congratulations, Ron Green, the proprietor of Sugar Free Oasis, cut the ceremonial red ribbon with Mayor Jean Celender of Great Neck Plaza. Members of the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, residents, friends and family were on hand to sample some of the amazing treats that were completely sugar free! Many items in the store are also gluten free, which is a boon to people who may have celiac disease and are severely limited in their food choices. "Healthy, healthy, healthy," shout the packages on the shelves, which also boast, low to no carbs, organic, and fat free items besides the sugar free and gluten free products.