

PLAZA VOICE

Summer 2006

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Schneiderman

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A Great Neck Love Story — Bee Style...

Imagine for a moment that you are a Queen bee, beloved by thousands of worker bees. Their only reason for living is to do your bidding and love and protect you, their Queen!

Imagine again that another Queen bee and her thousands of equally adoring worker bees decide to invade your domain. As you and your rival Queen bee negotiate the "deal" about who has rights to this domain, the two armies of your devoted slaves do what nature intended them to do — lay down their lives to see that no harm comes to you, the Queen.

Finally, you, the Queen, decide it isn't worth it to do battle with the rival Queen. You vacate the territory and search for another, equally homey domain. You cruise for a while with your army of worker bees surrounding you and you become tired. You decide to "take five" and land on a quiet patch of bricks to rest. Of course your army of thousands of workers swarm around you to protect you, forming a buzzing, fuzzy, scary looking, menacing very large ball of bees.

You don't need to use your imagination any longer; the patch of bricks the Queen

bee decided to rest on was in front of 5 Grace Avenue, in the middle of a bustling, if not an actual, metropolis!

Frantic calls poured in from concerned people. Shopkeepers were afraid to open their stores to their customers, who would have to walk too close to the buzzing menace to enter.



The area was cordoned off and traffic was diverted while the Village Public Services Dept. examined their options. Of course, public safety was the primary issue. That being said, experts from Evin's Pest Control



were notified and, after surveying the area, and considering the options, they began to spray.

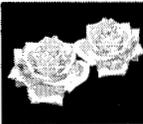
Surrounded by a cordon of her loyal workers, the Queen bee flew off to a nearby tree to take refuge. At this point, Evin's called in their expert bee person, a local beekeeper.

When he arrived, he donned his protective equipment and climbed a ladder to coax the Queen bee onto his arm. She, followed by her buzzing



entourage, happily surrendered to the bee expert and were transferred to a box, out of harms way, and ultimately into their new home on a honey farm.

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Mayor's Letter

Dear Resident,

Once again, we are approaching one of my favorite times of the year, and I hope you too look forward to the summer and the village's Summer Concert Series in the Park. This year we have extended the season by starting one week earlier on June 13th. We just had too many good performers from last year to welcome back, and we also wanted to schedule some new venues. (See concert story on Page 5.) It's a great time to relax, kick off your shoes, dance if the music moves you, and just enjoy an evening of music on Tuesday nights under the stars in Ielpi Firefighter's Memorial Park (Jon's Park) on Grace Avenue. We offer this program through the generosity of many local sponsors and the cooperation of our partners, the Great Neck Park District and the Great Neck Arts Center. Please bring your friends and family and enjoy our program, free to the public.

We are currently in the midst of our annual planting and spring cleaning

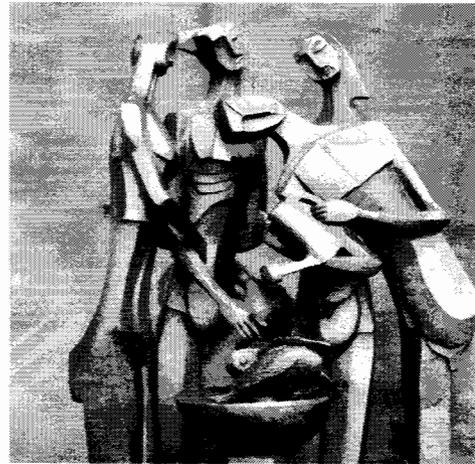
program. We provide colorful street-scape flowers in our terracotta pots and hanging baskets that adorn our downtown streets. While the Village laboriously waters these flowers daily, early in the morning, the summer heat, sun, and often dry conditions, take a beating on these flowers. We ask for the support of our merchants in these beautification efforts and encourage you to "Adopt a Pot or Basket" in front of your store. Please give these plants some tender loving care and water them from time to time during the hot, dry days. Also, if everyone would use the garbage receptacles and not the flower pots or the sidewalk to discard their garbage, the downtown would be cleaner for everyone to enjoy.

We always strive to be a pro-active village and an open, accessible government to serve our residents and merchants. We welcome and appreciate the public's interest in what's going on in our Village. We encourage you to attend our Board of Trustees meetings, which are at

8 PM on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. I want to wish you and your family a healthy, relaxing and enjoyable summer.



Jean Celender, Mayor



"Save the date" for the dedication of a bronze statue in memory of Harry Perlman, created by his artist son, Justin Perlman, on Wed., June 28th at 6 PM in Jon's Park.

Traffic Talk: A Drive for Civility by Sheldon M. Goodman, Ph.D.

"Never Doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world ;indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead

*6,000 pedestrians are killed every year; *90.000 pedestrians are injured each year; *a pedestrian or bicyclist is killed every 3 1/2 minute; *Pedestrian injuries and fatalities result in \$20 billion in societal costs.

Now that I have your attention, can I ask you why can't we all share the road? So you speed sometimes and gingerly run an occasional stop sign. Or it's okay to ignore signals because everyone else does. Not such a big deal - or is it? How would you feel if a stop-sign runner speeds through a school zone where your child is waiting for a school bus? Courtesy means

"an act of politeness" or something given for free. Civility, then, is about politeness only as far as it enables conversation and debate about issues which are of concern to us all. It is not about agreement, though I suspect it is usually, about reaching compromise. At its' deepest level, civility is about our duty to practice good citizenship through constructive participation in the political process in the local community. It is the sum of the many sacrifices we are called upon to make for the sake of living together. It's not just about form and formality. It's about quality of life. It requires respect for human life and the ability to perceive human life as valuable. Have we become unwilling to make those sacrifices? I would offer that in a civil society the common good must be placed above one's own self-interest, but the cry for "individual

rights" in our day has superseded civility.

Courtesy is the social lubricant that eases social and commercial interaction. In many instances, laws are necessary because individuals do not routinely use good manners or courtesy before turning, right of way and pulling over to the side when emergency vehicles are using lights and sirens, are three that come readily to mind. Here is how Edmund Burke (1729-1797) describes it, "Manners are of more importance than laws. Manners are what vex or soothe, corrupt or purify, exalt or debase, barbarize or refine us, steady, uniform, insensible operation, like that of the air we breathe in."

PART TWO of this article will appear in the next newsletter. Stay tuned...

Courtroom Gallery Presents Work of Myra Fox

The Village of Great Neck Plaza is proud to announce their newest exhibit of an array of oil paintings by Myra Fox, obtained with the cooperation of the Great Neck Arts Center. The public is invited to an artist's reception at Village Hall in the Courtroom Gallery, co-sponsored by the Great Neck Arts Center, on Wednesday night, June 14th, 2006 from 7 to 8PM. Come and meet the artist, see her work and partake of the refreshments!

The artist uses locales on Long Island as inspiration for her strikingly magnificent landscapes. "I find walking

through parks, gardens and hiking trails with my sketchbook and camera allows the landscape to speak to me. Inevitably, something catches my eye, causes me to take pause and examine, and that's exactly what I do," said Myra.

The artist says that her long-range goal is to discover her own unique vision as an abstract impressionist, while still holding on to the image as a grounding element in her work. She has started to invent her own palette. "Within my landscapes and still lifes I try to create a tension that constantly moves the viewer's

eyes and mind between the work of art itself and the subject I am depicting," explained Ms. Fox.

The Village of Great Neck Plaza would like to extend thanks to the Great Neck Arts Center, especially Regina Gil, Director of the GNAC, for procuring this fine exhibit and Vivi Nassim, Curator for "hanging" the show and providing invaluable help. Visit our Courtroom Gallery, located in the Great Neck Plaza Village Hall, and join us as we hold an artist's reception on Wednesday night, June 14th, at 7 PM.

Co-Op and Condominium Council News

On Monday, May 8, 2006 the Great Neck Co-op & Condominium Council ("GNCCC") met to hear Desmond Smyth and Tom Barrett of SecureWatch24 to discuss "Building Security Systems and Issues." They discussed the benefits to security cameras including uses, which would not likely come to mind. They advised cameras can be used to monitor the activities of your staff (i.e. - supers, porters, etc.), actions of residents who may be breaching the house rules, as well as to combat the fraudulent "slip and fall" claim.

In addition, Desmond and Tom discussed their unique technology which enables you to monitor the security and management of your Co-op or Condominium from any desktop, at any location, all day, every day. SecureWatch24 discussed their High-end digital color cameras which produce uninterrupted data that can be transmitted directly through your broadband internet service 24 hours a day.

For more information on how SecureWatch24 can help your building, you can contact Des Smyth directly at: SecureWatch24, One Penn Plaza, Suite 4000, New York, NY 10119. Tele. (212) 729-5400.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 17, 2006 at 7:00 PM in Jon's Park (formerly known as Grace Avenue Park). There will be no guest speaker. Instead we will be holding our 5th annual picnic. This will serve as a great opportunity for all of the Co-op and Condominium Board members who attend our meetings to get to know each other better and to mingle with board members from other buildings. Should the weather not cooperate (it rained 2 years ago) the picnic will be held at the Great Neck Plaza Village Hall located at 2 Gussack Plaza (one block west of Middle Neck Road). In such event, there is a municipal parking lot above and in front of Gussack Plaza for those wishing to avoid getting wet by driving to the picnic. Bring your appetite as there will be plenty of food. We look forward to seeing you then.



Photo caption: From left to right; Joan Evans, GNCCC Executive Board; Tom Barrett, SecureWatch24; Marc Schneider, GNCCC Legal Advisor; Stu Hochron, Co-Chair, GNCCC; Fern Rogers, Co-Chair GNCCC; Desmond Smyth, SecureWatch24; Stan Brosterman, GNCCC Executive Board.

For more information, or to join the Co-op and Condominium Council, contact:

Stu Hochron, Co-Chair (516) 466-6443, or e-mail: stu@hochron.net; Fern Rogers, Co-Chair (516) 487-4113; Marc H. Schneider, Esq., Legal Advisor (516) 393-5555, or by e-mail at: marc@mhsplaw.com.

Lonny's Celebrates Thirty-Five Year Anniversary!

Lonny's, the upscale ladies boutique on the corner of Middle Neck Road and Grace Avenue, is celebrating their thirty-fifth anniversary this month. Lonny's re-located to what is known as the "100% corner," which is a marketing term to describe the highest and best real estate for commercial activity, Lonny's has made an industry of consistently presenting the finest quality, upscale fashions in their beautifully decorated shop.

In an interview with one of the owners, Dale Goldstein, who is in partnership with her husband Arnie, as well as Gary and Walter Goldstein, I was told that the original store opened in Oceanside in 1971. Dale recalls the history of the store and remembers, "I dressed girls for their bat mitzvahs and now I'm dressing their daughters! It seems that we grew up with our customers over the years. We dress 13 - 14 year old girls who are so excited to say that they bought some-

thing at Lonny's; we outfit High School and girls coming home on college breaks, but we mainly cater to their mothers!" Lonny's carries sizes 0-12, and they offer handbags and jewelry to complete most ensembles!



When I asked if they can reveal their secret to 35 years of success in retailing, Dale remarked, "I can answer that in two words: Customer Service! My staff and I greet people as they

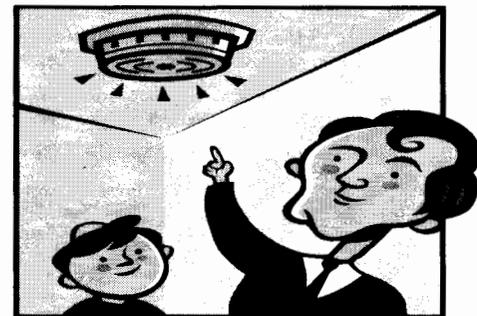
enter the store; we talk to people (and more importantly, we listen to what their needs are). At least 75% of the people that walk into the store are greeted by name! We care about our customers and go out of our way to be sure that they are satisfied with our product."

Dale and her partners also believe in the power of advertising. They send postcards to their mailing list each season, informing them of upcoming sales and they utilize coupons in the Clipper magazine and other print media. Mayor Jean Celender presented a Proclamation, which said in part: "you are being honored on the occasion of Lonny's Thirty Fifth Anniversary. You have been a dear friend of the village, a wonderful merchant in the Plaza. You are a valuable asset to the Village of Great Neck Plaza and the community. We honor you today on your anniversary and wish you many more happy, healthy and prosperous years in business!"

Helpful Hints From Our Volunteer Fire Departments

The Village of Great Neck Plaza is serviced by two volunteer fire departments; Vigilant Engine & Hook & Ladder Company on the north side of the LIRR tracks and Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department on the south side. Both departments ask for your help and cooperation by doing the following:

- Have a neighbor or family member available with a key within 5 minutes of your home so that the fire department can gain access in the event of an alarm activation of your home.
- Have a family evacuation plan and designate an outside meeting place in the event of a fire.
- Have the numerical address of your home legible from the street. This saves precious time in responding to an event.
- Have the Fire or Medical Emergency call numbers posted handy in your home in case of an emergency, such as by the telephone or on the refrigerator.
- Have smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors in your home where needed.



- Change the batteries once a year (daylight savings time) to ensure these detectors are in proper working order.



ENJOY DELIGHTFUL ENTERTAINMENT UNDER THE STARS, IN JON'S
 PARK ON GRACE AVENUE, TUESDAY EVENINGS AT 8 PM;
 THURSDAY IS OUR RAINDATE.

BRING A CHAIR AND ENJOY THE COOL BREEZE!



2006 Concert in the Park Series

DATE/RAINDATE

June 13/15
 June 20/22
 June 27/29
 July 3/6 Note: Monday
 July 11/13
 July 18/20
 July 25/27
 Aug 1/3
 Aug 8/10
 Aug 15/17
 Aug 22/24
 Aug 29/31
 Sept 5/7

PERFORMANCE

"Something Special" Big Band Sound - Phil Costa
 "Caribbean Music" with Denzil Botus
 "Jazz Klezmer" Eastern European Music
 Children's Orchestra Society, Light Classical Music
 Persian, Gypsy & Russian Music with violinist Albert Mulad
 Folk Music with Rebecca Hall
 "The Mambo King," Orlando Marin
 "Hot and Cole" Production by Plaza Theatrical
 Music of the 60's-80's with "Time Was"
 Brian and Mina Woodward with Ed Kalendar: "A Night of Opera"
 The Sounds of ABBA with "Moonstruck"
 Contemporary Music with "Sound on Sound"
 "Juke Box Saturday Night" with Special Guest: Frankie Falco

Presented by The Village of Great Neck Plaza

Honorable Jean A. Celender, Mayor
 Regina Gil, Commissioner of Cultural Affairs
 Carol Teplin, Program Coordinator
 Tony Ventiera, Sound Engineer

IN COOPERATION WITH:

The Great Neck Park District
 The Great Neck Arts Center

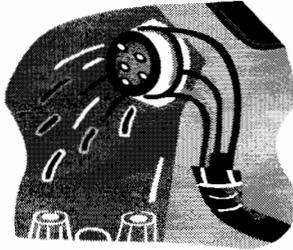
PLEASE PATRONIZE THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY SPONSORS:

Astoria Federal Savings, Atria Great Neck, Community National Bank, Great Neck Plaza Taxi, Richland Management, United Capital. We invite you to join our growing list of Concert sponsors; call 482-4500 and ask for Carol Teplin.

Simple Ways You Can Help Preserve Our Waters

The following are simple ways you can help to preserve our surface waters and groundwater.

- Cleaning up pet wastes is a relatively simple practice that can make a large difference in water quality. This practice can drastically reduce the amount of bacteria and organic matter in stormwater runoff.



- Utilize a "Pooper Scooper!"
- Sweep (don't hose driveways and other paved surfaces around the home. This can greatly reduce the amount of pollutants present in run-off.

- Maintain vehicles to avoid any leaking fluids such as oil, gasoline, anti-freeze and other liquid chemicals, which pollute storm water runoff and find their way into surface waters.

- Store pesticides and fertilizers indoors, where they will not come into contact with rain and pollute storm water.

- Consider "organic" lawn care and use slow release nitrogen fertilizers.

- If you must use lawn chemicals and fertilizers, use them spar-

ingly. Dispose of unused chemicals and their containers as hazardous waste at a household waste collection site.

- Collect lawn and garden clippings, pruning waste and tree trimmings for compost.
- Do not place yard waste into curbside drains.
- Wash cars and outdoor lawn equipment using non-toxic, biodegradable cleaners.

The next Town of No. Hempstead STOP (Stop Throwing Out Pollutants) is Sat. June 10th at the Solid Waste Mgmt. Bldg., 802 W. Shore Rd., opposite the Harbor Links Golf

Great Neck Plaza Joins With Great Neck Estates and Great Neck in a "Main Street" Conference on June 5th

The three villages of Great Neck Plaza, Great Neck Estates and Great Neck have joined forces to work collaboratively on an action plan for our downtown commercial business districts, our "Main Street," Middle Neck Road, for an approximate 2-mile stretch of this roadway encompassing the heart of our commercial business districts. Across the country, there is a growing trend of people returning to downtown to live, work, shop and enjoy its unique character. We here in Great Neck Plaza pride ourselves on having a successful downtown and

bustling area, yet strive to maintain an old-fashioned "hometown" character with our brick sidewalks, Central-Park lamp fixtures, flowering pots and baskets and the numerous stores, upscale boutiques and restaurants that offer a unique shopping experience in the downtown.

The Main Street Conference is funded through a Qualities Communities Grant through the New York State Department of State, which seeks to provide assistance to local governments to strengthen and rejuvenate their Main Streets and

advance the objectives of Quality Communities. Its facilitator, Dan Burden, is a nationally recognized authority in sustainable design and Main Street projects. This project will conduct a Main Street Conference, or public information meeting, walking audits and workshops to develop a strategic plan addressing critical issues facing the future of our downtown districts. The plan will be developed to incorporate innovative methods to foster sustainable economic development and more pedestrian-friendly environments to help create more walkable communities.

Did You Know...

1. Best Bagels is one of only a handful of bagel producers in the entire nation that hand rolls their bagels.
2. The Tuscan Gardens Apartments on Middle Neck Road was made as a replica of an area in Tuscany, Italy. It was also used as a film location for several movies in the 20's and 30's.
3. The Great Neck Playhouse, on Middle Neck Road opposite the Squire

Theater, was home to live vaudeville and reparatory theater in the 20's and 30's. It was also the top location for Broadway shows to preview. Two plays that had their world premiere in Great Neck were, "The Play's the Thing," and "The Great Gatsby."

4. The Colony Hotel, which was on These facts were taken from "45 Minutes from Broadway," an article served as headquarters for written by Laurie Squire.

visiting thespians. Actors such as Katherine Hepburn, Helen Hayes, Clark Gable, Edward G. Robinson, James Cagney, Bette Davis and Claudette Colbert, just to name a few, appeared here in Great Neck.

Village of Great Neck Plaza

Village Board of Trustee Meetings

Convenes Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

June 7 & 16

July 5 & 19

August 2 & 16

Village Court Dates

Convenes Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

June 6, 13 & 27

June 20th - Trials

July 6 (Thursday), 11 & 25

July 18th - Trials

August 1, 8 & 22

August 15th - Trials

The Village is looking for nurses who will volunteer to administer shots for our immunization program in the winter. If you are able to help us, please call 482-4500 and ask for Carol Teplin.

Rent Guidelines Information

The Nassau County Rent Guidelines Board continues to be relentless in their efforts to hike rent increases. The board has only one tenant member but they are going forward with these hearings despite the fact that the board is landlord biased. Landlords are demanding huge rent hikes again this year, claiming that they are "going broke" because of surging fuel prices and real property taxes. As the present composition of the Rent Guidelines Board is pro-landlord, the public must be informed, concerned and pro-active.

The first hearing was on May 10th in Hempstead. The next meeting will be held in the Nassau County Legislative Building at One West Street in Mineola. It will be in the fifth floor meeting room on June 21st for presentations and on June 27th for deliberations.

We urge all tenants to make every effort to be present at these hearings. It is imperative that members of the Rent Guidelines Board hear from the tenants who are on fixed incomes and are fed up with these high rent increases.

Whether you plan to testify or not, please attend and bring a neighbor or friend. Your attendance can make a difference.

Landlords are demanding huge rent hikes again this year, claiming that they are "going broke" because of surging fuel prices and real property taxes.

For information, call Sheryl De Los Rios, Housing Comm. at 482-4500.

Nassau County Offers Free CERT Training Locally

When an emergency or disaster occurs, Nassau County CERT members (Community Emergency Response Team) will be trained to help give critical support to first-line responders and will provide immediate assistance in a coordinated manner. CERT is intended to improve the overall safety of participating communities and is administered under the direction of the Nassau County Office of Emergency Management. CERT training is a

basic training that includes emergency preparedness, first aid, community and family safety, light search and rescue, disaster psychology, terrorism issues and CERT procedures.

Upon completion of CERT training you will receive a certificate and become a CERT member of your community. Please call 573-0636 for more information.

Training will be held at the Lake Success Village Police Department, 15 Vanderbilt Dr, 2nd Floor, Lake Success, NY, on the following dates:

Thursdays, June 8, 15, 21, 29 and July 6, from 6PM to 10 PM. Food and drink will be provided.

Please be aware that you must attend all sessions and a background check will be conducted as well.

**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:

teplinc@greatneckplaza.net

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SAVE THE DATE:

June 13th is our first Concert in Jon's Park at 8 PM! (See Pg. 5 for schedule).

June 14th Artist Reception in Courtroom Gallery at 7PM (See Page 3)

June 28th @ 6 PM - Dedication of a Bronze Sculpture in Memory of Harry Perlman by his son, Justin Perlman, at Jon's Park on Grace Avenue.

Effectiveness Survey on VGNP's Stormwater Mgt. Program

The Village is looking for feedback on our Stormwater Mgt. Program. Over the past several years we have had articles in our newsletter about the program, and how our residents and property owners can help us improve the quality of stormwater runoff and therefore, maintain the quality of our surface water bodies and groundwater. We'd like to hear how you think we are doing on public outreach of this program, and to hear your thoughts regarding its effectiveness, and how to improve communications.

1. Have you seen previous information that the Village has distributed to educate residents on how to reduce pollution to our harbors and bays? (please check one box). YES NO
2. Is this information effective in increasing your awareness of how you can help improve the quality of our waterways? (please check one box that best represents your opinion) YES NO NO OPINION
3. Would you change any of your habits and follow more environmentally-friendly practices as a result of the Village's outreach program on stormwater management? (please check one box) YES NO NO OPINION
4. Do you have any suggestions on how the Village can more effectively inform and encourage residents to protect the environment? YES NO NO OPINION

If yes was checked, we'd appreciate some of your suggestions for the Village to consider. Please indicate below:

Please mail completed survey back to the Village of Great Neck Plaza, ATT: Carol Teplin, PO Box 440, Great Neck, NY 11022 or FAX it to 482-3503. We appreciate your comments and input and thank you for participating.