



PLAZA VOICE

March 2007

VILLAGE OF GREAT NECK PLAZA

Mayor: Jean A. Celender

Deputy Mayor: Ted Rosen

Trustees: Joel Liebowitz

Gerry Schneiderman and
Shelly Goodman

Clerk/Treasurer: Patricia
O'Byrne

Editors: Carol Teplin and
Beverly Safian

Plaza Installs "Deaf Welcome Desk"

The Deaf Welcome Foundation, a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt public charity, was established in August 2004 to ensure the Deaf have EQUAL ACCESS to professionals, products and services in the communities in which they live, work and do business. The Foundation is hoping to equip eighty (80) key locations in midtown Manhattan and Great Neck Plaza with DEAF WELCOME DESKS® for FREE 24-hour access to certified sign language interpreters via the Internet.

There are an estimated 25 million Deaf in America with some 90,000 Deaf in New York. Many prefer to communicate in American Sign Language (ASL). It's commonly held that ALL Deaf read lips and that ALL Deaf in America read English. In truth, lip reading is an art, complicated by accents and even a gentleman's mustache. Many Deaf are foreign born, while others simply struggle with literacy. DEAF WELCOME DESKS® will allow those who communicate in sign language to express themselves freely to certified translators and be clearly understood.

To further serve the Deaf population, this charity has launched the ultimate community outreach project, a sign language television show called "EQUAL ACCESS," which airs on Cablevision's Public Access TV Channel 20. Thousands of Deaf, from Manhattan and elsewhere on Long Island, will be given the opportunity to join the live studio audience at PATV via the Long Island Rail Road's Great Neck train station. They have the potential to also become customers of the many shops, restaurants, and specialty retail and professional services offered here in Great Neck Plaza that are equipped with 24-hour access to certified sign language interpreters. After all, "equal access is a right, not a privilege," stated Theresa DuBois, Founder and CEO of The Deaf Welcome Foundation. Ms. DuBois further commented that, "We are excited Mayor Celender and the Village of Great Neck Plaza have joined the "Pah Squad" ("Pah" means "finally" or "success at last" in American Sign Language). Mayor Celender enthusiastically embraced the mission of Ms. DuBois' charity and was quick to make her Village Hall the first Great Neck DEAF WELCOME DESK®. "We are hopeful many more businesses and organizations will join us in welcoming the Deaf to the Great Neck community." Contact Ms. DuBois at (516) 652-9173 or pah@deafwelcome.org to install your DEAF WELCOME DESK® and become part of the "Pah! Squad."

The Deaf Welcome Foundation expects many deaf people to take the LIRR to the Village of Great Neck Plaza, come to village hall to make reservations at local hotels, beauty salons or restaurants; to see a doctor or dentist, get a mammogram, X-ray, MRI or simply check in at home. They will know that they are wanted here and can come to expect respect, assistance and support of their main level of communication, sign language, through the Deaf Welcome Desk. "We hope to serve as a model for the rest of the peninsula and country in welcoming the Deaf in our community," said Mayor Jean Celender, as she proudly displayed the simplicity of using the software.



Mayor Jean Celender joins Theresa DuBois, Founder and CEO of The Deaf Welcome Foundation, in installing the first DEAF WELCOME DESK at Village Hall. Ms. DuBois shows her excitement with the "PAH" ASL signing.

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VILLAGE ELECTION NOTICE

Make sure to mark your calendar and come out to vote in the Village Elections on Tuesday, March 20th. Three Trustee positions are up this year, two with a two-year term, and one with a one-year term. The Village Justice position is also for a one-year term. The polling location is at Village Hall, 2 Gussack Plaza. The polls will be open from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. Parking will be available in the surface lot across from Village Hall designated for persons voting.

Message from the Mayor

Dear Friends,

The long cold winter is coming to an end, and hopefully, we will be enjoying soon the signs of spring; warmer weather, blooming trees and longer sun-filled days. During the winter season, one of the most important responsibilities and challenges facing our DPW staff is keeping the Village roadways and sidewalks safe and accessible during and after a winter storm. Our activities are accomplished in two phases. As a first step, we spread salt and sand to minimize icing and to increase traction. Secondly, we plow and continue clearing snow in multiple rounds until the storm is over. We continue to plow and days later we are still "cutting" areas along streets and sidewalks, and in our public parking lots to clear snow close to curbs to make our public facilities as accessible as possible. I want to remind you that certain streets in the Village are under the jurisdiction of Nassau County, and as such, the county is responsible for snow removal. Village plows are not allowed to clear snow on these roadways, which are as follows: Middle Neck Road, Grace Avenue, Cuttermill Road and Great Neck Road. Fortunately, this year we have not had much in the way of snow accumulation.

I am pleased to announce that we were recently notified that Great Neck Plaza is the recipient of yet two additional transportation grants. We were awarded a fourth New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Grant under their Local Safe Streets and Traffic Calming (LSSTC) Program of \$250,400, bringing our total to over 1 million dollars received to-date in grants in this program since its inception dating back to 2001. This new grant is for complementary traffic calming, roadway channelization and pedestrian safety improvements on Barstow Road at Linden Place and North Station Plaza (near to Colbeh Restaurant and the Andrew Hotel) opposite the completed No. Station Plaza/Barstow Road roundabout. With my professional background as an urban planner, specializing in public administration and transportation planning, throughout my administration I have aggressively sought grants as a means to make needed and important traffic calming and pedestrian safety improvements in order to make our downtown a more walkable, and safer New York State "Qualities Community." Through obtained grants, we are able to accomplish larger-scale projects at a minimal expense to the village. These grants, utilizing federal funds that require as little as a 10% match of village funds, significantly leverage our village tax dollars. It is proper fiscal management and every level of municipal government, from village, town, and county, seeks to obtain these coveted grants in order to make improvements that would otherwise require significant tax increases to implement them. Regarding the time table for this traffic calming grant, we will first need to obtain the contract agreements from NYSDOT, which are in the process of being prepared, and afterwards we will proceed on the preliminary design phase to develop a conceptual design plan, which we will then initiate public outreach to solicit your concerns and input.

The second grant awarded recently to Great Neck Plaza was a Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) grant for \$725,000. I am proud to report that our village, Great Neck Plaza, with approximately 6,500 residents, **was the recipient of the single, largest grant for TEP funding of a municipality in Nassau County.** A total of 97 projects were awarded state-wide, and we were one of only four grants received by municipalities throughout Nassau and Suffolk Counties. TEP is a federal reimbursement program under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) administered by NYSDOT. This enhancement grant project consists of the following elements along Middle Neck Road and the Great Neck LIRR Train Station area: aesthetic walkways on both sides of Middle Neck Road wrapping around the Chamber Kiosk (where the brick sidewalks end) and behind the parking at the train station to provide a more conspicuous and safer crossing walkway for pedestrians. Benches, planters and landscaped areas are also proposed to complement the LIRR station, which has been designated as a local VGNP historic landmark site. The program also calls for additional aesthetic lighting and public art in the form of a Trompe L'oeil mural, as the train station is a highly visible, important focal point and major gateway for visitors arriving by mass transportation. As in the first mural entitled "A Handful of Keys," on Maple Drive, the Great Neck Public Art Advisory group will help shape the mural project and is included as part of the local match on this grant, wherein the public art mural will be constructed, like the first mural, through private and corporate donations and other contributions; not from public tax monies.



Pursuing grants has enabled this village to improve our infrastructure and to make important vehicular, safety and beautification enhancements. We have also performed cooperative studies with our neighboring villages (the Main Street Conference Quality Communities Grant, for example) for the betterment of not only our village, but the entire Great Neck community. Maintaining status quo, or merely making minimal maintenance and repair improvements, is not as viable an approach in my opinion, because in our downtown especially, with the burdens placed on our roadways and streetscapes from serving as the hub of the peninsula, it is akin to moving backwards. It is my strong belief that we must strive to adopt strategies that bring about economic revitalization, encourage sustainable "smart growth" development and to continue implementing improvements to make the Plaza "the best that it can be," for all that live, work and shop here. Our residents deserve the best, and the Board of Trustees and I am committed to working hard on your behalf in these aforementioned areas, and in other ways to make sure we are, and continue to be, successful. Here's to a lovely spring and enjoying some wonderful upcoming events planned in the Plaza.

Mayor Jean

Village Heroes Honored

At the Village of Great Neck Plaza Board Meeting of February 7, 2007, proclamations were given to recognize the heroism of Plaza CEO and Auxiliary Police in handling an incident at the Great Neck train station. Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) of the Village of Great Neck Plaza, Ron Ryan, Auxiliary Police Officer Ron Barnett, and Auxiliary Police Sgt. Arnaldo Mangiarano were commended for their quick action in alerting and aiding the Nassau County Police Department Sixth Precinct officers in making an arrest on December 26, 2006.

CEO Ryan, the first to respond on the scene, explained, "I was approached by a man who was leaving the train station. He said that there was a man who seemed drunk, waving a very large knife in a menacing manner. He pointed the man out to me and hurried away. I saw the man wielding, not a large knife, but a machete! I was following the man as he walked across the street towards a restaurant on North Station Plaza. Officer Barnett and Sergeant Mangiarano joined me and Sergeant Mangiarano said he would double back to his car and summon the police. Officer Barnett and I watched as the man entered the restaurant and quietly sat down at a table. By this time, he had put the machete inside his pant leg and only the top eight or ten inches were visible. In a few moments the police arrived and the two Auxiliary police officers and I guided the Nassau County Police officers to the man in question. After a short scuffle, he was arrested and taken off to jail."



Mayor Celender and the Board of Trustees honored the three officers and Maria D'Amelia, Great Neck Central Chief of the Auxiliary, praised their responsive service and thanked them for being valuable assets to the Village and community. The Great Neck Auxiliary Police, made up of private, volunteer citizens, helps to promote public safety through their own personal participation. The Great Neck Auxiliary Police continues to be an invaluable resource to our Police Department and community, performing uniform patrols as an effective crime deterrent. Their patrol presence and keen observation and reporting of incidents requiring police response, as well as interaction with the public, aids in crime reduction and enhances police-community relations.

This incident clearly shows how cooperation between all parties resulted in averting what could have been a potentially dangerous situation. The Board gave them each a Proclamation which read in part:

"You are to be commended for your assistance in aborting a potentially dangerous situation, and for your action that resulted in assisting in the apprehension and arrest of a felon in the Village of Great Neck Plaza, on December 26, 2006. Your skills and quick thinking were instrumental in averting what could have been a tragic incident. The Board of Trustees and I salute you for your actions and honor you on this 7th day of February 2007."

The Great Neck Auxiliary Police is always looking for more volunteers. If you have an interest in serving, please contact Chief Maria D'Amelia at (516) 487-7253.

"Star Performer" Nomination Form

The next scheduled "Star Performer" Ceremony will be on Thursday, April 5th, 2007 at 9:30 A.M. To qualify for this award you need to nominate someone who goes out of their way to make people feel special, and make Great Neck Plaza a better place 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 it's a genuine pleasure to do business in the Plaza. If you wish to nominate a "Star Performer" please fill out the form and we will invite you and your "Star" to attend the next award presentation.

Name of your nominee: _____

Their employer _____

Four words that best describe the nominee: _____

Your name & phone number: _____

Send this form to:

Village of Great Neck Plaza, ATT: Carol Teplin, 2 Gussack Plaza, PO Box 440, Great Neck, NY 11022



Traffic Talk: Where Has Common Courtesy Gone?

Sheldon M. Goodman, Ph.D. (E-mail:smg4safety@aol.com)

Whatever happened to the concept of personal courtesy? It seems like we are in a hurry and the speed and volume of life has been turned up. The frantic pace we live at can cause some people to become insensitive to others, most especially when they may be behind the wheel of their car. How many times have drivers forbidden you to make a lane change when they are fully aware that you are signaling for an entrance? Some of the readers of this column may not agree with these sentiments but I keep wondering where are we going to find demonstrations of etiquette or good manners - they sadly seem to have been lost. We need the kind of civility that requires us to think more about the needs of other drivers and pedestrians than our own desires. What I am asking us to do is to consider, no require, an early and continuous commitment to public involvement, flexibility in exploring new solutions, and an openness to new ideas. Community members play an important role in identifying local problems and solutions that may better meet the needs of all stakeholders. And the stakes are high! The National Highway & Traffic & Safety Association has determined that a shocking 1/3 of crashes and 2/3 of accidents that result in fatalities can be attributed to behaviors associated with aggressive driving.

Such an approach promotes six key principles. These include: 1) balance safety, mobility, community, and environmental goals in all projects; 2) involve the public and affected agencies early and continuously; 3) utilize an interdisciplinary team to project needs; 4) address all modes of travel; 5) apply flexibility inherent in design standards; 6) incorporate aesthetics as an integral part of good design. Conventional modes of design often reflect the assumption that bigger-and-faster-is-better, resulting in wider roadways and higher design speeds than what may be optimal in our community. The purpose of a project should be clearly defined, and consensus on the scope, hopefully, is forged before proceeding. We must think of our endeavors being in harmony with our community, and that it preserves environmental, scenic, aesthetic, historic, and the natural resource values of the area. Ideally, efforts such as we are considering would involve efficient and effective use of the resources (time, budget, community of all involved parties with minimal disruption to the community.

For this column, let us pick one driving activity that is on many of our minds and closer attention to may hopefully lead to more peaceful streets - that being aggressive driving. Our vehicles provide anonymity and allow the driver to take out their frustrations. What one driver may perceive as an aggressive act, may not offend another. Whatever the provocation, your response should be the same- drive defensively and follow these tips: 1) allow plenty of travel time to your destination; you are more likely to be forgiving of others; 2) make it a point to enjoy your ride; check the news for traffic jams; 3) avoid eye contact with an aggressive driver; 4) remember you cannot control the traffic, only your reaction to it; 5) driving is not a contest and try and stay relaxed and forget about "winning"; and 6) try and put yourself in the position of the other driver and give them the benefit of the doubt when judging their situation.

If you regularly exceed the speed limit, tailgate, are constantly weaving in-and-out of lanes and are given to flashing your lights to get the driver in front of you to move it is time for you to gain some illumination on your driving behaviors. A wide array of psychological and other social-science perspectives may ultimately help illuminate aggressive behaviors on the road and always, **PLEASE**, drive with due respect for the lives and property of others.



Proclamation Given to Kiwanis Key Club of Great Neck North

Mayor Jean Celender paid a visit to Great Neck North High School to present a proclamation to the members of the Kiwanis Key Club. Hal Schaefer, former President and Lt. Governor of the Great Neck Kiwanis Club, joined her as they were warmly greeted by over 135 members of a very active club.

The proclamation read (in part): "You are being honored by the Village of Great Neck Plaza for your involvement in and continuing dedication to the community of Great Neck. We hereby proclaim the week of February 1 to February 8th, "Kiwanis of Great Neck North Key Club Week."

Village of Great Neck Plaza

Village Board of Trustee Meetings

Convenes 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 8 p.m.

March 7 & 21

April 4 & 18

May 3 & 10

June 6 & 13

Village Court Dates

Convenes Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

March 6, 13 & 27

April 5 (Thurs), 10, 24

May 1, 8 & 22

June 5, 12, 26

March 22, Thurs. Trials

April 17th Trials

May 15th Trails

June 19th Trials

Combined Fun Events for the Whole Family on May 20th:

5K Family Fun Walk/ Run, Mayor Gussack Memorial Bicycle Challenge

A great fun-filled day is planned for you and your family, all centered around the Jonathan Ielpi Firefighters Memorial Park (Jon's Park) on Grace Ave. between Park Place and Barstow Road.

Sunday, May 20th at 9AM the Winthrop Hospital Cancer Center for Kids will begin their 6th Annual 5K Family Fun Walk/Run to benefit children suffering from cancer. For more information as to how you can pre-register for the Fun Walk/Run, please call 663-9409 and speak to Maria Kavan. There will be entertainment, refreshments, arts and crafts, prizes and music in the park for the whole family. Pre-registered people will get a t-shirt for the run.

Also on that date, at 11 AM, bicyclists from all over the world will start their 4th Mayor Allan Gussack Memorial Bicycle Challenge! David Emanuel, Chairman of the Bike Race Committee, in conjunction with the United Community Fund, are proud to present World Class Cycling delights in Great Neck. Said David, "At the last Challenge the riders seemed to really enjoy the race and the level of competition was very high. It was truly an international field. This event, we expect to showcase even more athletes from all over the world, right here in Great Neck Plaza."

Don't Forget
to Vote,
March 20th



VGNP RIBBON CUTTING



Dr. Rong Jin celebrates the Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting of her new office located at 21 Barstow Road (on the north-east corner of Grace Avenue and Barstow Road). Pictured with her are Mark Birnbaum, Trustee of Great Neck, John Ryan and Leslie Gross (Present and Former Presidents of the Rotary Club), Dr. Rong Jin, Shamung, Mayor Jean Celender, Carol Teplin and Gerry Schneiderman, VGNP Trustee.

Dr. Jin is part of a family boasting a long tradition of herbol-ogy and acupuncture going back 14 centuries! She has over thirty years of hands-on practice, and invites you to experience her unique talents in restoring you to perfect health through physical therapy, herbal medication, deep tissue massage and acupuncture (which is covered by most insurance companies). For information and an ap-

Emergency Blood drive

Temple Beth El

Sunday, 3/18/07

Call 487-0900 X 110

To reserve a spot.

FREE SOUP from Poultry Mart

Cable Commission Update

By Trustee Joel Liebowitz

As a Trustee in our Village I also serve on the Great Neck North Shore Cable Commission as a Commissioner and member of the committee currently negotiating a new contract with Verizon and Cablevision. I have often been asked as to when we will have a contract with Verizon; this brief summary will update you and should clear up some of your confusion.

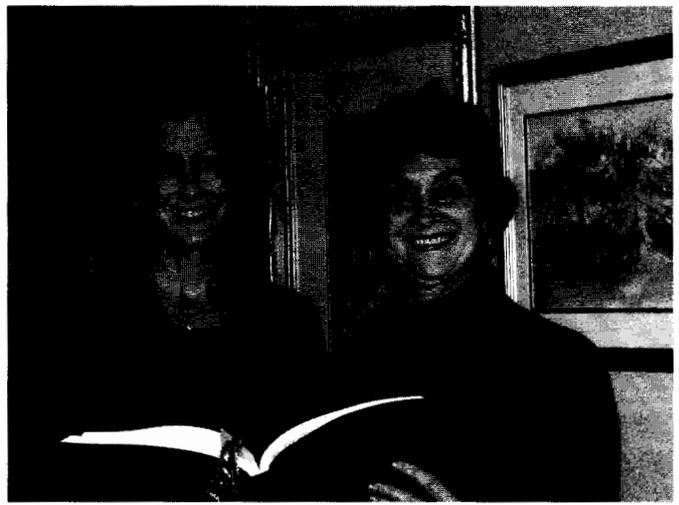
Cable television services may be provided within a village only pursuant to a franchise from the village. Any cable TV service provider may apply for a franchise and all franchises are non-exclusive. However, the franchise must meet the requirement of the village and comply with state and federal law, and the rules of the N.Y. State Public Service Commission. Among those requirements is that there be a "level playing field" between any new provider and any existing provider. This means that the overall requirements of each franchise must be substantially equivalent, but does not mean that they be identical. It is the State Commission's responsibility to ensure that any new franchise meets this requirement.

The franchise agreements currently in effect between the fifteen villages (overseen by the Commission) and Cablevision was last negotiated in 1991. Currently, negotiations are being conducted with Cablevision for renewal of its franchise and with Verizon for a new franchise. A major aspect of the Cablevision agreement is the requirement to provide our community residents with community access channels and services, including a public access facility.

It is our goal that any new franchises not only maintain the status quo, but also enhance the services provided to our communities. Considerable progress has been made with Verizon over the past several months. The Commission's negotiating committee and representatives of Verizon have met on a regular basis, picking up momentum towards an agreement. Members of the Commission were hoping for a positive announcement by the end of 2006. Unfortunately, the last two scheduled meetings were postponed (and as of the writing of this article, not yet rescheduled) by Verizon. Recently, the Commission and our legal counsel, A. Thomas Levin met with the Great Neck and North Shore Village Officials to update them on the current status of the cable negotiations.

As many of you are aware, there have been newspaper reports of franchise agreements signed with Verizon by other municipalities. The Commission's message to our fellow residents is that we are working hard to ensure that our villages enter into a fair franchise agreement with Verizon, on terms as advantageous as possible to the communities to be served, in as rapid a fashion as possible, so that all parties to the agreement may be satisfied for years to come. We believe that is our responsibility to you. We welcome competition in the provision of cable service, for the benefit of the entire community.

We will continue to keep you apprised of progress as it occurs. As ever, if you have specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, Joel Liebowitz, at 482-4500.



Mayor Jean Celender reading poetry with Carolyn Raphael, Program Director, Poetry Sundays.

Poetry Sunday, March 18 at 2 PM

The Great Neck Arts Center inaugurated its new poetry reading series called **Poetry Sundays** in September, 2006. The first reader, Rhina Espaillat, was a huge success, reading in English and Spanish. The second reader Yala Korwin, gave a moving reading of her poems about her Holocaust experience. On December 3rd, we presented the third poet, George Dickerson. An actor as well as a poet, his performance was riveting.

The Great Neck Arts Center is proud to present the fourth in its successful series of poetry readings, "Poetry Sundays." On March 18th, at 2 P.M., poet David Yezzi will read from his work at the Great Neck Plaza Village Hall, 2 Gussack Plaza. David Yezzi was director of the Unterberg Poetry Center at the 92nd Street Y from 2001 to 2005, until he left to become executive editor at *The New Criterion*. His criticism has been published in *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker*, among others; and his poetry has appeared in *The New Republic*, *Paris Review*, *Yale Review*, and *New England Review*. His poetry collection, *The Hidden Model*, was published by Northwestern University Press in 2003. His libretto for a chamber opera by David Conte, *Firebird Motel*, received its premiere in 2003 and will be released on CD this year. Trained as an actor, Mr. Yezzi has taught courses in the oral interpretation of poetry.

Several people have supported this exciting new venture. Regina Gil, Executive Director of the Great Neck Arts Center, included Poetry Sundays among the Center's cultural offerings at the suggestion of Carolyn Raphael, poet and retired English professor, who is the program Director of the series. Deputy Mayor Ted Rosen, is on the Advisory Board of Poetry Sundays and has enjoyed each of the readings.

Poetry Sundays is made possible with public funds from the New York Council on the Arts, a State agency, and Poets & Writers, Inc. through a grant it has received from the New York State Council on the Arts. To reserve your free ticket, call the Arts Center at (516) 829-2570. Join us for an afternoon of fine poetry.

Annual Water Report of the Water Authority for 2006

The Water Authority of Great Neck North (WAGNN) recently published their "Annual Drinking Water Quality Report" for the year ending December 2006. This report is mailed to customers and is designed to inform you about the quality of our water and the services delivered by WAGNN over the past year.

Mayor Celender serves as a Director of the Water Authority Board of Directors. WAGNN Superintendent Bob Graziano is available to address concerns that Great Neck Plaza residents may have regarding the quality of their drinking water. The Authority continues to supply safe, clean, quality drinking water in compliance with all applicable health standards. For a copy of the Annual Water Quality Report, contact WAGNN offices and Supt. Graziano at 487-7973. Further information is also available on-line at the Authority's web site at www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com.



*Help Ensure Our
Quality Drinking
Water — Protect the
Bay and LI Sound*

Residents are advised to help keep our underground water supply clean by following some tips for improving the quality of our stormwater runoff:

- If you have a dog, please use a "pooper-scooper," and properly bag and dispose of animal waste.
- Sweep (don't hose) driveways and other paved surfaces around the home. This can significantly reduce the amount of pollutants present in runoff.
- Maintain vehicles to avoid any leaking fluids such as oil, gasoline, anti-freeze, and other liquid chemicals. These chemicals can pollute stormwater runoff and find their way into surface waters.
- Store pesticides and fertilizers indoors, where they will not come into contact with rain and pollute stormwater.
- Consider "organic" lawn care and use slow-release nitrogen fertilizers.
- If you must use lawn chemicals and fertilizers, use them sparingly. Dispose of unused chemicals and their containers as hazardous waste at a household hazardous waste collection in the town.
- Collect lawn and garden clippings, pruning waste, and tree trimmings for compost in your own yard.
- Do not place yard waste into curbside drains.
- Wash cars and outdoor lawn equipment using non-toxic, biodegradable cleaners.

Plaza Seeks to Add "Green Machine" to its Sweeping Regime

The Village is constantly looking for ways to keep our streets and sidewalks clean and litter-free for our residents, shopkeepers and visitors. Mayor Jean Celender has investigated the purchase of a new compact sweeper that she thinks will be a great complement to the DPW's arsenal of cleaning devices. Recently, Mayor Celender and 1st Vice President of the Chamber, Danny Arbusman, were on hand for a demonstration of the "Green Machine" to the Village DPW staff by the machine's manufacturer, Applied Sweepers. Applied Sweepers has launched a ride-on sweeper that looks to take the marketplace by storm. The Plaza's DPW crew are busy out sweeping and vacuuming the village streets and sidewalks in the downtown every day early in the morning. But it is a constant battle to keep the village litter-free all day long with the number of visitors and pedestrians that frequent our village sidewalks daily. What Mayor Celender and Mr. Arbusman found with this machine astonished them. Both were in awe that such a small device could not only get into the sidewalk cracks and crevices, it easily picks up cans, cigarette butts, leaves, dirt and even glass bottles, which it crushes and mulches to easily-handled, fine rounded pieces. Furthermore, there is no permanent bag that has to be disposed of periodically at the DPW yard dumpster as it fills up, instead it only requires DPW staff to stop, bag the waste and dispose of the picked up garbage in a nearby trash receptacle, thus the machine can stay out longer to sweep and clean.

At Mayor Celender's and the DPW's requests to add a combined sweeper and vacuum to its fleet, the Plaza is looking to officially add this new sweeper to its fleet of equipment sometime this spring. Extremely quiet and virtually dust-free, the Green Machine is safe, maneuverable and people friendly. Originally a walk-behind machine, newer versions of the sweeper allow the operator to ride, but all versions are compact and quiet enough to operate safely and efficiently in areas of high pedestrian traffic found in our downtown. Over 10,000 Green Machines are in use throughout the world, including the Times-Square BID in Manhattan, whose clean team has been using them since 1996. Stated Mayor Celender, "We are pleased to work with the Chamber and our business community. We want to be able to purchase this new, quiet compact suction sweeper for continued cleaning of our outdoor pedestrian sidewalks and other public spaces."



**VILLAGE OF GREAT NECK
PLAZA**

2 Gussack Plaza (P.O. Box 440)
Great Neck, NY 11022
Phone: (516) 482-4500
FAX: (516) 482-3503

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**visit our website:
www.greatneckplaza.net**

Sunday, March 18th, 2 PM, "Poetry Sunday" at Village Hall and Emergency Blood Drive at Temple Beth El call for information (487-0900 X110)
Tuesday, March 20, 2007 from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M., Village Elections at Great Neck Plaza Village Hall
Sunday, May 6, from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M., "I Don't Have A Garage, Garage Sale." Call to reserve a spot (482-4500)
Sunday, 9 A.M. May 20, 6th Annual Family Fun Walk to Benefit Cancer Center for Kids at Winthrop University Hospital
Sunday, 11 A.M. May 20, Mayor Allan Gussack Memorial Great Neck Bicycle Challenge
Sunday, Sept. 23, Noon to 5 P.M., VGNP Street Fair, Antique Show, AutoFest, & **NEW THIS YEAR**, "Clothesline Art Show"

**EVERY VOTE COUNTS ... PLEASE
DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!**

Are you prepared to cast your ballot on March 20th?
Remember every vote counts!

On **Tuesday, March 20th, 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. at Village Hall, 2 Gussack Plaza**, the following elected offices will be decided in our Village elections:

- Three Trustees (two for two-years, one for one-year term)
- Judge (one-year term)

Residents that will be away, are homebound or ill may request an absentee ballot for the March 20th election, by contacting Patricia O'Byrne, Clerk-Treasurer, at 482-4500.

While it is too late to register for this upcoming election, you can always register now for the November elections. A voter registration form is available on-line at the village's web site. Log on to www.greatneckplaza.org and go to "Application Forms." Copies are also available at Village Hall.

Share Your Good News

Ted Rosen, Deputy Mayor of the Village of Great Neck Plaza, has come up with a great idea! We will be collecting items of good news from our residents to publish in our newsletter "The Plaza Voice," beginning in March. These items can be any milestone that occurred in your family's life such as a birth, a significant anniversary, promotion, a graduation or the receipt of an award or achievement.

These life time milestones will be entered into the record at a Village of Great Neck Plaza Board meeting and a copy of the page will be framed and sent to you as a keepsake. Please send your "Good News" to Deputy Mayor Ted Rosen, Village of Great Neck Plaza, 2 Gussack Plaza, P.O. Box 440, Great Neck NY 11022-0440.

VGNP GARAGE SALE May 6TH

The Village of Great Neck Plaza is unique to Long Island as it has a plethora of apartment buildings that do not have access to space for a garage sale. That's why we created the "I Don't Have A Garage, Garage Sale" several years ago. The date for this event is Sunday, May 6th from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. The village contributes the space, the staff and all the newspaper advertising to attract buyers. The garage sale will be held in the surface parking lot (Lot #1) on Grace Avenue between Bond Street and Park Place (opposite Fredrick's). The cost to register is \$5 for residents and \$20 for non-Plaza residents. Spaces are given by pre-registration only, there is no money accepted on the day of the event. Call Carol Teplin at 482-4500 to reserve a spot.