

Plaza Voice
Village of Great Neck Plaza
September 2011



Mayor Jean A. Celender, Deputy Mayor Ted M. Rosen
 Trustees Ted M. Rosen, Gerry Schneiderman, Pam Marksheid and Marion Green
 Clerk Treasurer - Patricia O'Byrne
 Editor - Michal Pinto

27th Annual Street Fair and AutoFest
Sun. Sept. 18, Noon - 5 p.m.

The Village of Great Neck Plaza and the Business Improvement District's popular annual community event, the 27th Annual Plaza Street Fair and AutoFest, takes on a new goal this year. The AutoFest, taking place Sunday, September 18th from 12 Noon to 5 p.m. (rain date of Sept. 25), has a full day of festivities planned that is dedicated to the ten-year anniversary of the September 11th tragedy.

The fantastic musical entertainment, pedestrian-only street fair, antique cars, petting zoo, outdoor food courts will all continue, and the BID has announced new kid's activities including inflatable bouncers, rock walls, and a judged talent show with cash prizes! The BID has organized for the event to benefit two memorial funds, Tuesday's Children (TuesdaysChildren.org), a nonprofit founded the day after September 11, and the September 11th Families' Association (911families.org), which supports victims of terrorism through communication, representation and peer support.

There will be live bands and other performances on every corner of the village. Streets will be closed to vehicular traffic on Middle Neck Road, from Barstow Road to Cedar Drive, as well as portions of Bond Street, Grace Avenue and North and South Station Plaza in the downtown. This year's annual event continues to celebrate some of the best that Great Neck Plaza has to offer.

You will have a multitude of culinary choices from our many ethnic restaurants ranging from Italian, Asian, Japanese, Chinese, French, Mexican, to "good old American hot dogs," pizza and lots of other treats! Join us as we celebrate life in "small town" America; enjoy spending the afternoon with friends and family in the Plaza's downtown!

According to Jay Corn, Street Fair Committee Chairperson and BID vice president, "This year we will be asking our merchants and making available opportunities for festival attendees to make a donation to these charities. We will also be donating a portion of the proceeds generated from the children's rides and activities we will have at the festival." Mayor Jean Celender adds, "We look forward to this tradition of an annual street fair in the fall. Since its inception, the 'Great Event' as it was first known, has been a wonderful community event that so many people come out to enjoy and support our merchants and downtown."

With top live bands, rides, games, hay rides, and pony rides for the children, Great Neck Arts Center's Clothesline Art Show, there will surely be something for everyone at the 27th Annual Great Neck Plaza Street Fair and AutoFest!

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A highlight of the AutoFest and Street Fair is the Alco-6 Racer, a vintage race car that was featured at the 100th Anniversary of the Indianapolis 500.

Message from the Mayor

Dear Friends,

This summer has been a busy one, both in terms of planned activities and some unplanned events sent our way by Mother Nature in August. On August 23, a little before 2 p.m. on a sunlit day, Great Neck Plaza and the Northeast experienced a 5.8-magnitude earthquake. This was followed several days later, on August 28, by Hurricane Irene that spread a wide path of havoc along the East Coast. By the time it hit our area it was downgraded from a weak Category 1 to a tropical storm, but it was a particularly dangerous storm because of its broad path, affecting twelve states with strong winds and record rainfall amounts, which caused storm surges, flooding and widespread power outages.

We were particular lucky that the storm was less intensive than was predicted. Great Neck Plaza was very fortunate that we had no reported storm related deaths or injuries. We sustained property damage (loss of less than five trees) some areas of power outages, including 20 homes in the Wyngate area that lost power for days, while much of the Village's electricity restored within a day of the storm. Many of our sister villages on the peninsula sustained much more significant tree damage and widespread power outages.

Our DPW crew was deployed and out cutting up downed trees and clearing debris to make roadways passable within hours of the eye of the storm passing over the county. Nassau and Suffolk Counties sustained widespread power outages, the most number of LIPA customers affected in the 26 years, and mass transit services were also suspended on LI Bus and the Long Island Rail Road for much of the weekend of the storm. We're thankful for all of the pre-planning activities and coordination that took place with officials from the Great Neck peninsula, Nassau County Exec. Ed Mangano's office, the N.C. Office of Emergency Management, Town of North Hempstead, LIPA and first responders to ensure cooperation and communication with these entities.

Hosted in association with our BID, we had five successful Promenade events; two on Middle Neck Road and three on Bond Street. We also had another fantastic line up of acts on our Summer Concert Series. A "Salute to New Merchants" event was well-attended on a lovely August evening to honor the over 40 new businesses that have opened in 2010 and 2011, bringing vitality, and new, exciting entrepreneurs to our downtown business district. The BID offered a coupon program for a \$15 savings when you spend \$50 or more one-time at any participating new merchant through to Sept. 30, 2011. You can still download the \$15 off coupon on-line at the BID's website at www.shopgreatneck.com or call the BID office at 482-1301 for more information or gift certificates.

The Village is participating with the Great Neck Clergy Association in a community-wide Memorial Service to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the 9-11 terrorist attacks and to honor those who lost their lives. The one-hour event, which is free and open to the public, will take place at the Jonathan L. Ielpi Firefighters' Park (Jon's Park) on Grace Avenue starting at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 11. The Keynote Speaker will be New York State Comptroller, the Honorable Thomas P. DiNapoli.

It wouldn't be summer if we didn't have a construction project or two going on, and this year we completed the renovations at North Station Plaza, Middle Neck Road and the entranceway to the Long Island Rail Road station under the federal Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) grant obtained from the New York State Department of Transportation. This traffic calming and beautification project included creating safer and more direct crosswalks, widening existing sidewalks, installing and organizing bicycle racks and providing a public art mosaic mural. These are just a few of the highlights of the project to improve traffic calming, walkability around the station area, and enhancing this major gateway to the Village.

We want to thank our many sponsors who gave so generously to support the 2011 Summer Concert Series including Allstate Insurance Company Moutrane Agency, Inc., Atria Senior Living, Astoria Federal Savings Bank, Daruma of Tokyo, Douglas Elliman Capital Mortgage, Prudential Douglas Elliman Real Estate, Inn at Great Neck, Richland Management, Sterling National Bank, TD Bank, Grace Plaza Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, and Jildor. Their support helps to defray our program expenses and allows us bring great entertainment to Jon's Park. We are also grateful for the cooperation of the Great Neck Park District, the Great Neck Senior Center and the Great Neck Arts Center for their assistance. We had many lovely summer nights of terrific entertainment. We hope you enjoyed this year's series. Please let us know the concerts you liked that we should welcome back next year. Additionally, we're always looking for some new acts, so if you hear a band as you visit spots on Long Island, let us know, and we'll contact them to see if we can bring them here next summer.

Please join me, fellow Trustees and members of the BID at the 27th Annual Street Fair and AutoFest on September 18th. This is always a fun-filled family day that is anticipated by our residents and visitors, year after year. Come and have a great time in the Plaza's downtown and enjoy a great fall festival!



Jean A. Celender, Mayor



Senior Span Advisory Committee Update



Doreen Small, R.N., MA, Certified Diabetes Expert, spoke at the Great Neck Plaza Village Hall in front of an audience which consisted of VGNP Senior Span members as well as members of the public. "Senior

Span" is a Village of Great Neck Plaza program initiated over two years ago with the assistance of Town Supervisor Jon Kaiman and the staff of the Town of North Hempstead. The program is modeled after North Hempstead's successful "Project Independence Program," a town-wide program geared toward helping seniors to age in place safely and comfortably. The Village of Great Neck Plaza's Senior Span program has formed an advisory board that meets monthly and discusses ways in which we can advocate for seniors in the Plaza.



Doreen Small (center), Mayor Celender and several members of the Senior Span Committee at Village Hall

Doreen Small has over 35 years' experience in working with diabetes management and prevention. She's a past president of the Metropolitan New York Association of Diabetes Educators (MNYADE). Ms. Small has lectured for many years and authored various publications on diabetes. She was awarded "Diabetes Educator of the Year" in 2001 by MNYADE and in 2002 she received the "Woman of Valor Award" by the American Diabetes Association for her efforts on behalf of individuals with

diabetes.

Her presentation covered many of the pressing issues regarding the 28 million of Americans who have been diagnosed with diabetes and about 6 million more persons

who have the disease and are unaware of it. One of the first myths she dispelled was that of age. Many believe that they are "too old" to get diabetes. Ms. Small indicated that age is of no consequence and she's had cases of seniors in their 90s that have gotten diagnosed and as young as under one year old. She explained the differences between Type I and Type II diabetes, and what individuals can do to prevent the onset of Type II diabetes. She also went over new mediations, glucose monitors, types of insulin, and a proper diet and means to control diabetes. She stressed the

importance of diabetics getting regularly monitoring of their blood sugar levels.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed Ms. Small's informative and timely presentation and discussion on diabetes. For more information on Ms. Small's experience and to see if she can help you learn to better control and manage diabetes, call her at (516) 342-9992, or visit her website at www.sugarcontrol.com.

E-Newsletter

Receive News and Information via E-mail—Join The Plaza's Downtown Buzz E-Newsletter!

If you would like to receive news and information from our office pertaining to our Village, including our e-newsletter via e-mail, fill out the form below and return it to us at Village Hall. You can also go on-line to register on the Village's website (Home Page) at www.greatneckplaza.net. Your submitted information will be used solely by the Mayor's office to keep you current on important matters.

NAME: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

PHONE * _____

* Indicates Optional Information

Next Star Performer Awards Sept. 22, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

To nominate someone for the Star Performer Award you select someone who works in a shop or business 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.

Just fill out the Nomination Form and mail it back to us at Village Hall. It's that simple. Call (516) 482-4500 for more information or to nominate a "Star Performer" and join us on for a really "feel good" ceremony at Village Hall. Refreshments will be served.



"STAR PERFORMER" NOMINATION FORM

If you wish to nominate a "Star Performer," please complete this form and mail it to Star Performer, Village of Great Neck Plaza, Village Hall, 2 Gussack Plaza, P.O. Box 440, Great Neck NY 11022. 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:

My name & phone number:

A Fond Farewell to Long-Time Employee, Patrick Shanahan



Patrick Shanahan, a longtime employee of the Department of Public Works retires next month. A native of Great Neck, Pat started at the Plaza's DPW over 30 years ago. His grandfather, John Heaphy, was also a longtime former employee of the DPW. On behalf

of the staff and Village Board, Mayor Jean Celender says, "Pat, one of our most dedicated employees, has always been so kind, helpful and eager to assist our constituents. He exemplifies responsive service in interacting with our residents in the Plaza, and has always been reliable at times when the village needed him most." Pat will be missed greatly and we wish him much happiness and new adventures in his retirement.



Patrick Shanahan, second from left, with fellow colleagues of the Plaza's

Senior Span and Senator Gillibrand Pushing to Prevent Identity Theft

The Village of Great Neck Plaza's Senior Span Advisory Committee is on the pulse of issues facing our senior citizens. Social Security numbers on Medicare cards and communications puts 40 million Americans at risk. After raising the issue of identity theft at a committee meeting, Mayor Jean contacted public officials, including U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand who raised the issue in Washington D.C. in an effort to protect seniors from identity theft. The following is a press release from the Senator's office that was furnished to the Mayor after her call for the federal government's assistance.

Washington D.C. – With 9 million victims of identity theft in the United States each year, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand today pushed legislation to remove social security numbers from Medicare cards and communications. Forty million Americans carry Medicare cards with their Social Security number listed. Identity theft cost the average victim \$631 in 2010—that's on top of civil, tax and employment problems identity theft causes.

"Listing Social Security numbers on Medicare cards needlessly leaves millions of New Yorkers susceptible to identity theft," said Senator Gillibrand. "We must protect Medicare beneficiaries by deterring identity theft. Removing Social Security numbers from Medicare cards is a simple step to help keep our seniors personal information secure."

The Social Security Number Protection Act prohibits the display of social security numbers on Medicare cards. The legislation also requires the Department of Health and Human Services to eliminate the unnecessary collection of Social Security numbers and prohibits the listing of Social Security numbers in communications to Medicare beneficiaries.

Thirty-three states already bar health insurers from listing Social Security numbers on identification cards; the federal government should follow suit and protect Medicare recipients' identities. Social Security's inspector general stressed the need to strike the numbers from Medicare cards, saying "We do not believe a federal agency should place more value on convenience than the security of its beneficiaries' personal information." Social Security numbers on Medicare cards can easily be lifted by thieves. The cards list a Medicare identification number which is the cardholder's Social Security number plus one or two digits tacked on the end. We thank Senator Gillibrand for her efforts and hope this legislation will become law.

MEDICARE		HEALTH INSURANCE	
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT			
NAME OF BENEFICIARY	JOHN D. DOE		
MEDICARE CLAIM NUMBER	123-45-6789A	SEX	MALE
IS ENTITLED TO	EFFECTIVE DATE		
HOSPITAL INSURANCE (PART A)	1/1/95		
MEDICAL INSURANCE (PART B)	1/1/95		
SIGN HERE	<i>John D. Doe</i>		

Looking for Artists to Exhibit in 2012

If you are an emerging or established artist, looking for a new venue to showcase your work, free of charge, then you may want to consider exhibiting with the Village of Great Neck Plaza. Our Village Courtroom, in a public governmental building space, is outfitted as a gallery with hanging wires to accommodate a variety of picture sizes. We are currently putting out this call for artists and portfolio submissions for exhibits in 2012.

Nina Stein Wolf, our most recent artist to exhibit, took up art at the Great Neck Adult Education Program. Since then she has been immersed in painting and drawing and has won numerous awards for her work. Nina and her husband Irwin graciously entertained family, friends, and public officials from the Village at her art reception dedicated to her late sister, Juliet Stein.

If you wish to consider exhibiting with us, please contact the Mayor's Assistant at (516) 482-4500, or mayorsassistant@greatneckplaza.net to set up an appointment to view your portfolio and see our exhibit hall. Generally an exhibit is displayed for one month. Works can be for sale; however, artists may not label prices on their pieces but instead offer their artwork for sale in a separate handout listing. We are interested in seeing your work and hope you will consider exhibiting in the Plaza.



Recent exhibit in the Plaza's Courtroom Art Gallery by Nina Stein Wolf (From l. to r. back row): Louise Caruso, Karen Popowsky, Great Neck resident, Shelly Berkely (From l. to r. middle row): Judy Samuels, Trustee Gerry Schneiderman, Nina Stein Wolf, Trustee Marion Green, Ellen Sharlop, Irwin Wolf, Michele Atar, Marvin Berkely, (From l. to r. bottom row): Fran Watins, Susie and Diana Charlop

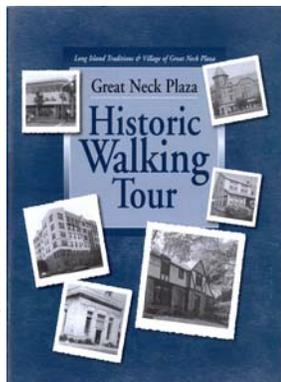
Did You Know?...

VGNP FREE Shopper Bus

The Village of Great Neck Plaza operates a **FREE Shopper Bus Program for shopping at Waldbaum's**. Residents of any age (who have difficulty walking or don't have a car) are picked up in front of their home, taken to Waldbaum's and returned home two hours later every **Monday** and **Wednesday**. Visit our website at greatneckplaza.net and click the "Shopper Bus" icon on the right side of the home page for information about the routes and pick up times. Registration for this program is optional, but it will connect residents with the commuter service directly in the future. Residents who are interested in registering for this program should contact Sheryl De Los Rios at Village Hall at (516) 482-4500.

Historic Walking Tour Book

The Village of Great Neck Plaza, in association with Long Island Traditions recently reprinted the Great Neck Plaza **Historic Walking Tour** guide complete with a fold-out map and tour stop directions. The publication is available for *Free* and can be picked up during regular hours at Village Hall, Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m., located at 2 Gussack Plaza, Great Neck, NY 11021. It is also available for downloading on-line at www.greatneckplaza.net under "Historic Preservation."



Food Drive at the Village of Great Neck Plaza

During the month of August the Village of Great Neck Plaza



joined NYS Senator Jack Martins as a sponsor of Long Island Cares' Food Drive. We collected 75 pounds of food items that were given to over 560 Nassau and Suffolk County not-for-profit organizations who immediately distribute the collected non-perishable food to families. Thanks to everyone who stopped by and donated goods for families in need.

Welcome Packets at Village Hall

Are you a new resident or business in the Village of Great Neck Plaza? If you would like to receive information about sponsored village events, programs, parking regulations, and important addresses and phone numbers, please let us know by giving us a call at (516) 482-4500, or stop by at Village Hall. We'll be happy to provide you with a welcome packet free of charge. We want you to know about all of the programs and services available to you in the Plaza!

Three Cheers! to Merchants 15 + years in the Plaza

Our downtown has numerous merchants with long-time businesses serving the Plaza for fifteen years or more. We're honored to give recognition to these terrific merchants: Adelle Kauff, Alpian Cleaners, Astoria Federal Savings Bank, Best Bagel, Bruce's Bakery, Camp & Campus, Castle Barber, Chase Manhattan Bank, Citibank, Cutter Mill Deli, Daruma of Tokyo, De-Al Salon, Five Continents, Gabby's, Gino's Pizza, Great Neck Wine & Spirits, Hagen Dazs, Hi-Tech Studio, Jeffrey's World of Travel, Jesse Halpern Skate and Tennis Shop, Jewels by Vigg, Jildor, Joseph & Co. Hair Salon, Kensington Deli, Keri Jewelry, Kron Chocolatier, Lazar's Chocolate, Lonny's Wardrobe, Michele Lynn, Moon River Salon, Peter's Barber Shop, Playhouse Jewelers, Postur-Line Shoes, Poultry Mart, Radio Shack, Sir Speedy, Squire Theater, Tennis Junction, Travel Express International, United Floral. Let us know if we missed your business. We apologize if we didn't include your business and we will be glad to note it in a future edition.

Plaza Village Hall Now a Wi-Fi "Hotspot"

If you travel with a laptop, personal digital assistant (PDA) or are looking for a village with public Wi-Fi access, look no further than Great Neck Plaza Village Hall. Our municipality now has free public Wi-Fi for residents and visitors alike while in Village Hall. Thanks to Marc Poteca, owner of Art Framing Home Design at 25 Cutter Mill Road, who made this suggestion to the mayor. Turns out it was very easy and low-cost to implement with our Internet provider and server configuration. So now when in Village Hall for village business, you have great wireless internet access that's also free to the public.



Jeffrey Clark, Government Affairs Director at Cablevision, has advised the village that Cablevision has made many Wi-Fi hotspot locations in the peninsula along major thoroughfares, parks, libraries, the Great Neck train station so that its Optimum customers are also able to keep their wireless devices connected around the clock. Some private businesses in the Plaza's downtown are also Wi-Fi hotspots, including Starbucks on Middle Neck Road, Esparks Café and Chipotle on Great Neck Road. With numerous hotspots already, and more being added with the popularity of being connected all day long to the Internet, be sure to take advantage of free public Wi-Fi whenever and wherever you can. You can surf the Internet, find a great café, coffee shop or restaurant, or find all of the Village's historic

Salute to New Merchants a Great Success in the Plaza!

9 Foot Spa, 32 Degree Froyo Lounge, Aesthetic Medical Studio, ADE Hair Salon, Sip City, Anne's Bagel & Deli, Atlantis Holding Group, Aura Salon and Style Lounge, LaVerne of Great Neck, Miraku, bee-Organic, Cartridge World, The Carousel Restaurant, Chipotle, Computer Teach, Designs by Shoula, Efraim's Tailoring Studio & Cleaners, Ella Mia Vintage Clothing and Accessories, Fierce Hair Salon, Gelber & Mundy Jewelry Co., Golden Lady Nail and Spa, Great Neck Diner, Giuseppe's Custom Clothiers, Jean Marie Patisserie and Bistro, Jewelry Paradise, LOL Kids, Maddy B's Children Boutique, Marble Galleria, Metro Florist, Michele Lynn, New York Music and Arts, Quontic Bank, Salina's Abrew Threading, Crave 11025, TD Bank, Village Market, W Jewelers and Fusion Fitness.



Honored on August 23rd were 40+ merchants that joined the Plaza this past year. Jon's Park, located at Grace Avenue and Barstow Road, was packed with a great crowd, merchants, and beautiful weather that added to the excitement and celebration. \$15 Discount Gift Certificates were offered by the BID, which are redeemable at participating new stores on the purchase of \$50 or more. Gift certificates are good through September 30, 2011 and can be requested online by going to www.shopgreatneck.com/coupons.php. The event was followed by the Plaza's weekly Summer Concert, sponsored by the Great Neck Arts Center and performed by the talented jazz artist, Gail Storm, who boogied and put the swingin' in classic jazz standards. Enjoy all that Great Neck Plaza has to offer and get to know your merchants!



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

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We're on the web...

www.greatneckplaza.net

Dates to Remember:

- Sept. 11: 10th Anniversary of 9/11 commemoration event in Jonathan L. Ielpi Firefighters Memorial Park at 2:30 p.m.
- Sept. 15: Bond Street Promenade, 6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. LAST PROMENADE EVENT FOR THE SUMMER !!
- Sept. 18: 27th Annual Plaza Street Fair & AutoFest, 12 Noon to 5 p.m., (Rain Date of Sept. 25)
- Sept. 22: Star Performer Award Ceremony 9:30 a.m. in Village Hall (See page 4 for more details)
- Sept. 23: Artist Eva (Chava) Shalmon Artist Reception from 6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. in the Courtroom Gallery
- Sept. 30: Sweeper naming contest deadline
- Oct. 20: Senior Span Advisory Meeting (See page 3 for more details)
- Oct. 30: Halloween Parade and Festivities, Middle Neck Road, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Plaza Welcomes New Stores

The Village is happy to welcome new businesses and celebrate a milestone event. New stores bring vitality, diversity and new life to our community. If you are new storeowner in town, or an existing business celebrating a milestone anniversary, or recently moved to a new location, the Plaza will provide a FREE Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to celebrate your event. Call Mayor Jean Celender at the Village, (516) 482-4500, to set a date. New stores or re-openings in the Plaza included the following:

- 32 Degree Froyo Lounge, 27B Great Neck Road
- Maddy B's Children Boutique, 37 Middle Neck Road
- Marble Galleria, 61 Middle Neck Road
- Miraku Restaurant, 31 S. Middle Neck Road
- Ephraim Tailoring Studio and Cleaners, 115 Middle Neck Road
- Plaza Café and Yogurt Bar, 14 Great Neck Road
- Anne's Bagels and Deli, 4A Bond Street
- Hi Tech Studios, relocated to 10 Grace Avenue



(From l. to r.): Trustee Pam Marksheid, Mayor Jean Celender, Miraku restaurant manager, Jing Chen, and her parents at the recent ribbon cutting celebration at 31 S. Middle Neck Road

Miraku Restaurant opened with a bang, including a demonstration by Japanese Taiko drummers, delicious sushi and hot appetizers, the cutting of giant-sized blue fin tuna flown in that day from Japan, Sake bombs, and Tatami-seating. We wish Miraku much success and welcome to Great Neck Plaza!