



GRACE AVENUE PARKING LOT (LOT#2) RENOVATION PROJECT
ALMOST COMPLETE



The Village of Great Neck Plaza is pleased to announce that we are nearing completion of reconstruction of the Grace Avenue and Bond Street municipal parking lot (Lot #2). The goals of the project are to improve vehicle and pedestrian safety, and to rehabilitate a significant shopper and visitor parking lot in Great Neck Plaza.

Prior to reconstruction, which started in the late summer, the project area had inadequate-sized parking stalls, deteriorated pavement and unsightly timber curb and concrete sidewalk steps approaching the lot from the western end closest to Bond Street and Grace Avenue. There were old wooden benches for seating and a less than desirable site circulation arrangement to direct pedestrians and vehicles accessing the lot, which during the winter months, snow piles would often create impassable travel lanes. Additionally, the Village has underground utilities and protected installed irrigation systems throughout.

The improvements have been accomplished through a 20-year bond for approximately \$475,000, which included the consultant engineering design and construction inspection services by H2M, and bid contract construction services by Reet Construction. We were able to go to the bond market at an opportune time and received a low interest rate of 2.6%.

This reconstruction project has replaced curbing, added solar-powered muni-meter pay

stations, improved the pedestrian access way to the lot off of Bond Street by removing the steps and installing new brick pavers and providing new benches to assist in improved pedestrian safety and access. The design of the lot has incorporated ADA compliant spaces, removed precast concrete curbing associated with individual meter heads which were removed, excepting for the existing handicapped parking spaces to remain as individual meters. There are now more visible pavement crossings and directional arrows to provide for improved pedestrian and vehicle access throughout.

Mayor Jean Celender regarding this renovation project stated, "We are pleased that we have upgraded this important surface parking lot and met our goal of providing safety improvements to calm traffic and enhance pedestrian activities in this busy shopping and dining area of our village." The lot is enhanced it with new and more aesthetic walkways, resurfaced asphalt pavement throughout, and increased directional signage and ramps. We also provided more visible crossings, added solar-powered muni-meter stations for ease of paying for parking and reliability, as well as installed additional site amenities, such as benches, trees, plantings and site lighting and a beautiful overhead pergola for increased comfort and shade in the seating area during the warmer months.

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Message from the Mayor

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, myself and all the staff, we offer our warm greetings and best wishes for the holidays and year ahead. These past difficult and trying weeks in dealing with the aftermath and recovery efforts of Sandy, I am reminded that there is much to be thankful for, including our dedicated village staff and the fine people who make Great Neck Plaza a great place to live, work and shop.

Our Dept. of Public Works crew went from the exhausting work of the storm efforts to switching gears and getting equipped and ready for the holiday season placing out hanging swag lights, LED rope lighting, snowflakes, wreaths, toy soldiers, nutcrackers, and all of the holiday decorations to bring out the lights, color and festive spirit! They also have equipped our trucks to meet Mother Nature’s winter storms, which we hope will not be frequent this year, and hopefully, another uneventful season. Should information or assistance be needed, feel free to call us at 482-4500, or visit our web site at www.greatneckplaza.net for the latest information on Village events and how to contact various Departments, and other special district services.

I encourage everyone to join me in shopping locally this season and to frequent our many fine retail stores, restaurants and service establishments. Our retailers offer us diverse products and services; everything from clothing and sporting goods to paint your own ceramics and pet pampering gifts. Our merchants are conveniently located within walking distance of most of our apartment buildings and single-family homes.

This holiday shopping season was started strong after Thanksgiving with Black Friday and Shop Local Saturday, which the Village provided “Free Parking” in our 4-hr. surface lots for these days to support our local merchants and

shoppers. In association with the Business Improvement District, we are continuing this Holiday Free Parking Program for 4 Saturdays in December starting Dec. 1 through Dec. 22. Of course, remember that on Sundays, all meters are “Free.”

Additionally, there is ample, “Free” parking in our Plaza Centre and Maple Dr. municipal parking garages after 3 p.m. weekdays and on Saturdays and Sundays. We even offer meters on the rooftop of the Plaza Centre Garage for seasonal workers that want a daily rate. In this special section, you can purchase up to 10 hours with quarters at the same hourly parking rate as 2-hr. or 4-hr meters, which is 25 cents per hour. You only need to complete an application and obtain a permit sticker from the Village to park there. In effect, it is pay-as-you-go parking to help our merchants with part-time and seasonal workers who may find it a hardship to purchase a quarterly permit and having to pay in advance at the beginning of the quarter for these months, or for those who are only here in a crunch period of weeks, such as the holiday season.

Please be safe and enjoy everything this holiday season has to offer. Also help us to remember those less fortunate, and those hard-hit in Hurricane Sandy through food, toy and clothing drives or make a year-end donation to a worthwhile charity or local non-profit community organization. These groups rely on our help and support for their operation and to continue providing great programs and services offered for our residents. Remember them in this season of giving.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff, we wish you and your family good health and a happy New Year.

Jean A. Celender, Mayor

E-Newsletter

Receive News and Information via E-mail
Join Mayor Jean’s 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 web site at www.greatneckplaza.net. Your submitted information will be used solely by the Mayor’s office to keep you current on important matters.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

PHONE * _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

* Indicates Optional Information



In the Wake of Superstorm Sandy, A Community Unites



Many trees throughout the Village fell victim to Sandy's powerful wind gusts; luckily we were spared the loss of lives and massive damage sustained in the harder hit areas in the Tri-state region.

The Village of Great Neck Plaza has a countless amount of people to thank for their above and beyond efforts in assisting the Village to return to a state of normalcy in the wake of Superstorm Sandy. In the midst of one of the worst natural disasters to hit our area in the last century, many people jumped into action to ensure Great Neckers were kept safe from the destruction and havoc caused by Sandy. The following are just a few of the people who deserve thanks for their tireless work before, during and after the unprecedented storm.

To all of the police officers of the 3rd Precinct, Nassau County Police Department, we thank them for providing traffic patrol and barricades in high-traffic intersections, preventing serious traffic accidents from occurring. Additionally, the officers patrolled residential areas affected by the outages in order to ensure homeowners who took shelter with friends and family were protected.

We thank Great Neck Vigilant Engine & Hook & Ladder Company, Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department and all the first responders and emergency response personnel who responded to many calls from Great Neckers, rescuing people from unsafe conditions and relocating those left temporarily homeless by the storm to safer locations.

We are grateful to Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Jon Kaiman and his staff, and Tom McDonough and his staff at the Town of North Hempstead Office of Emergency Management for providing numerous essential services to the Village, speeding up the post-Sandy cleanup process. The Town of North Hempstead was essential in providing portable traffic lights for major traffic intersections in the Plaza and supplying Village Department of Public Works

trucks and essential staff related to storm response with emergency fueling in order to keep our trucks on the streets around the clock.

A huge thanks to businesses in our downtown that provided various services to Great Neckers affected by the storm in the hopes of regaining some sense of normalcy and offer their assistance. Businesses such as New York Sports Club, located at 8 Barstow Road, offered showers in their club to people who lost heat and hot water in their homes. 16 Handles, located at 40 Middle Neck Road, transformed their party room in to a comfort station, providing a place for people to charge cell phones, laptops, tablets and other electrical items for as long as needed. Capelli D'Oro Salon, located at 1 Great Neck Road, offered several beauty services to those affected by the storm free of charge. These Plaza businesses were just a few examples of merchants that opened up their hearts and helped those in need. If you know of any other Village businesses that provided services to those affected by Sandy, please let us know at (516) 482-4500. We are pleased to thank them on behalf of our residents.

Last but not least, we owe an enormous amount thanks to our Village of Great Neck Plaza Department of Public Works. Superintendent Ivor Belgrave, and his hard-working staff, Manny Alvarado, Patrick Carter, Roy Curtis, Chris Hoch, Tom Longworth and Steven Penn. They worked tirelessly day and night, before, during and after the storm, to ensure that Great Neck Plaza roads and sidewalks were safe for people to use. By day 3 of the storm, Village streets were cleared and made passable for LIPA repair crews to reach affected areas.

Additionally, we would like to thank all of our Village staff members, many of whom had lost power for an extended amount of time themselves, who worked diligently, answering questions and relaying important emergency management phone numbers and locations of warming centers and shelters to those affected by the storm; including those with pets and persons with special needs.

Although these are just a few of the people and organizations mentioned, the post Hurricane Sandy clean-up was a collective effort by an innumerable amount of people who showed Great Neckers how brave, skilled and dedicated they are to the community. We couldn't have done it without the kind efforts of all these people who were united by one goal; restoring life as it was prior to Superstorm Sandy as soon as possible. The work is still ongoing and recovery from this storm will take months, if not years. We have many trees to replant and we must work together as a whole to be self-reliant and better prepared in the event of future storm events.

Second Round of Applications for Remaining AHP Units Now Open

We are pleased to announce that we are accepting a second round of applications for the remaining Affordable (Workforce) Housing units located at 255 Great Neck Road. Persons who have not yet submitted an application may do so. For those interested in receiving an application, packets are available at Village Hall, 2 Gussack Plaza, Great Neck, NY, 11021, during our business hours of operation, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., and on our Village website, www.greatneckplaza.net.

If you believe you satisfy the eligibility requirements for these units, you will have to submit a written application and corroborating written information, and may also have to attend an in-



The second round of applications for the Affordable (Workforce) Housing rental apartments are currently being accepted by the Village of Great Neck Plaza.

person interview. A non-refundable fee of \$125 will be charged at the time of application to pay for background and credit searches. Applications must be completed and returned to the Village between now and February 28, 2013. Applications will be reviewed at the end of each calendar month starting on November 30, 2012 and all applications received by each such date will be randomly ranked for selection purposes. If you are determined to be

eligible for one of these affordable housing units, you will be offered a lease for one or two years, which you will be required to sign promptly after it is offered. Persons in a household may submit only one application for affordable housing units. Any person who submits multiple applications for an affordable housing unit, and any household in which more than one person submits

an application for an affordable housing unit, shall not be eligible for any such unit, and all such applications shall be rejected.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Brian Hetey, Mayor's Assistant, or Patricia O'Byrne, Village Clerk, by telephone, (516) 482-4500, fax, (516) 482-3503, or email, mayorsassistant@greatneckplaza.net.

VGNP on Display at 11th Annual Smart Growth Summit

Mayor Jean Celender, a presenter at the Vision Long Island's 11th Annual Smart Growth Summit on November 16, spoke on the panel, "Main Street in the Midst of Climate Change." Her presentation included representative examples about Great Neck Plaza that work and are already making her village more resilient against a Sandy Hurricane event, such as the village's program to encourage and mandate the undergrounding of utility wires. She also pointed out what she felt didn't work and why, and how communities should be redesigning and building in the future to achieve more thorough resilience, i.e. adaptation,



(l. to r.): Moderator Alexander D. Latham III of ADL III Architecture, Roy Smithheimer, Executive Director of the Greater Port Washington BID, Plaza Mayor Jean Celender, David Schiff of VHB Engineering, and Stephen DiRaffaele of Nicolock. (Missing: Bruce Migatz, Esq. of Albanese and Albanese)

pro-active tree trimming and planting of more sustainable vegetative species. The topic of this panel also included the panelists' views on those things that municipal officials and city planners

should be doing for Long Island's Main Streets to mitigate climate change.

This popular Summit, falling in the aftermath of Sandy, was refocused on "Rebuilding Long Island: Climate Change, Infrastructure and Our Downtowns." The world has changed and the Summit drew together 1,000 representatives from across Long Island and the region to move forward together. The daylong event finished its keynote luncheon session with a rally cry to work together to get focused on smart infrastructure improvements to help Long Island become less vulnerable to storm events like Sandy.

Important Street Parking Renewal Informations

Resident street parking permits of multiple dwelling apartment buildings will expire at the end of December. To renew your VGNP street parking permit, you must present your driver's license and car registration (this is for verification only, we do not keep copies). **If the license and car registration do not show your current Village address, you will need TWO additional proofs of residency**, i.e. newly signed lease, current utility bill, credit card or bank statement.

Applications for street parking permits may be printed and filled out from the VGNP website, www.greatneckplaza.net, or permit applicants can fill out applications located at the Village Hall front desk. If the car is not registered in your name, you need to fill out an additional form to verify the owner is permitting you to use the car.

The new stickers will be issued Monday, December 31st. Current RED street parking permits will have a grace period until **April 15, 2013**.

The fee for a street parking permit is \$5.00 and can be paid by cash or check, made payable to, "The Village of Great Neck Plaza." Street parking permits are processed Monday through Friday, 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

VGNP Superstorm Sandy Holiday Donation Drive

We at the Village will begin collecting new and unwrapped toys, blankets, winter coats, toiletries, baby items and non-perishable food items for those who suffered devastating losses in the wake of Superstorm Sandy in the Tri-State region. Donation drive participants are also welcome to write and donate holiday cards to those affected by the storm as part of the drive in order to bring some holiday cheer to those whose holidays will be unlike any they've ever experienced before. Donations will be accepted at Village Hall, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., through December 21st. All donations received will be donated to St. Rose Parish Outreach Center in Massapequa Park. We thank Mayor James Altadonna, Jr. for his assistance in setting up this drive. If you have questions regarding the Holiday Donation Drive, feel free to contact Village Hall at (516) 482-4500.



Did You Know...?



From December 1st until December 25th, parkers will be treated to Free parking days in our outdoor municipal lots (4 hour maximum).

...that a new holiday "FREE" parking schedule has been announced for the upcoming holiday season? In anticipation of another busy holiday season in the Plaza, the Village Board of Trustees and the Great Neck Plaza BID recently declared shoppers and residents will be treated to Saturdays of free parking in the Village's three surface municipal parking lots.

Starting December 1st until December 22nd, people will be treated to FREE parking on Saturdays in the outdoor lots located at Bond Street and Grace Avenue (Lot #2), Gussack Plaza (Lot #4) and Maple Avenue (Lot #1) free of charge up to a maximum of 4-hours to enjoy our downtown holiday shopping and dining. In addition to these four Saturdays, the holiday parking schedule includes Monday, December 24 and December 25.* On-street meter regulations will be in effect, and a 4-hour maximum parking will be strictly enforced in the outdoor lots. Residents and shoppers should also be reminded that parking in the Village's two municipal garages is always FREE on weekends, and after 3 P.M. on weekdays.

So when you think of FREE parking for your holiday shopping, think garages and lots for lots of free parking in the Plaza!

*Note: Tuesday, December 25th, is already a listed free parking day throughout the Village as per the Village Code.

Veterans Day Celebrations, November 12, 2012

Atria Cutter Mill & Atria Great Neck



Plaza Officials, Nassau County Legislator Judi Bosworth (2nd from right, top) and Atria Great Neck armed force veterans and home front workers pay tribute to the Atria Great Neck's, "Salute to the Veterans," wall of heroes.

Dreamers

By Siegfried Sassoon

Soldiers are citizens of death's grey land,
Drawing no dividend from time's to-morrows,
In the great hour of destiny they stand,
Each with his feuds, and jealousies, and sorrows.

Soldiers are sworn to action; they must win
Some flaming, fatal climax with their lives.
Soldiers are dreamers; when the guns begin
They think of firelit homes, clean beds and wives.

I see them in foul dug-outs, gnawed by rats,
And in the ruined trenches, lashed with rain,
Dreaming of things they did with balls and bats,
And mocked by hopeless longing to regain
Bank-holidays, and picture shows, and spats,
And going to the office in the train.

Armistice

By Sophie Jewett

The water sings along our keel,
The wind falls to a whispering breath;
I look into your eyes and feel no fear of life
or death;
So near is love, so far away
The losing strife of yesterday.

We watch the swallow skim and dip;
Some magic birds the world be still;
Life stands with finger upon lip;
Love hath his gentle will;
Though hearts have bled, and tears have
burned,
The river floweth unconcerned.

We pray the fickle flag of truce
Still float deceitfully and fair;
Our eyes must love its sweet abuse;
This hour we will not care,
Though just beyond to-morrow's gate,
Arrayed and strong, the battle wait.



Nina Gordon (4th from left), Engage Life Director at Atria Cutter Mill, Boy Scouts Troop 10 Leader, Mark Kuperfberg (2nd from right), Plaza Officials and home front workers from various conflicts join together to honor Veterans for Veterans Day 2012.



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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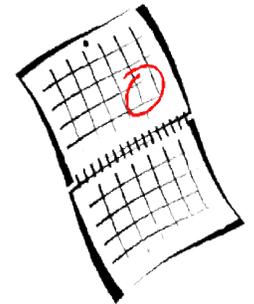
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We're on the web...
www.greatneckplaza.net

Dates to Remember:

- December 6 - Tree Lighting Ceremony at Inn of Great Neck, 30 Cutter Mill Road, 5 p.m.
- December 10 - First Night of Hanukkah; Menorah Lighting at Chamber Kiosk, 6 p.m.
- BID Holiday Sweepstakes, November 11 to December 24 - win a \$500 shopping spree. Go to shopgreatneck.com for more details
- December 25 - Christmas Day, Village Hall will be closed. Note; Village Hall will be open half a day on December 24 (9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)
- January 24, 2013 - VGNP Star Performer Ceremony, Village Courtroom, 9:30 a.m.
- January 31, 2013 - Poetry Submission Deadline for Third Annual Poetry Contest



The Plaza Welcomes New Merchants

The Village is happy to welcome new businesses that have opened in the Plaza. Stop in and greet these merchants and say "hello." They bring vitality, diversity and new life to our community. If you are a new storeowner in town, new management, or are celebrating a milestone anniversary, the Plaza would be happy to provide a free Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to celebrate your event. Just call the Mayor's Office at 482-4500. New businesses opening soon are the following:

- **Pinkberry**, Frozen Yogurt, 69 Middle Neck Road
- **BareBurger**, Organic Burgers, 32 Middle Neck Road
- **Great Neck Discount Convenient Store**, Household/Hardware Items, Beauty Products, Toys and Stationary, 21 South Middle Neck Plaza
- **PinPoint Fitness**, One on One Fitness and Training Studio, 1 Great Neck Road (lower level)



A recent ribbon cutting event welcoming Oil Licious Inc. to Great Neck Plaza. Located at 10 Grace Ave., Oil Licious offers diverse mix of delicious natural olive oils and vinegars, gift baskets and more. Visit their website, Oilicious.com, or give them a call at (516) 439-5550.