



## Plaza Holds Tree Management & Implementation Plan Public Information Workshop



The Village of Great Neck Plaza is pleased to be a recipient of a Round 11 Urban and Community Forestry Grant from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), which was awarded in December 2012. Contracts were developed with the DEC and work has progressed since this past spring, when we retained the services of a professional landscape architecture and planning firm, The RBA Group of Melville and Manhattan, New York. DEC's Urban and Community Forestry Program helps promote clean air, clean water, energy savings, habitat creation, and improved quality of life for current and future generations of New York residents.

Great Neck Plaza, one of a total of 66 recipients from cities, villages, towns and not-for-profit organizations across New York State, was selected to receive a competitively-awarded grant. Great Neck Plaza's grant is for \$10,250, which is 50% of the total project costs to develop a Tree Management and Implementation Plan.

Regarding this grant, Mayor Jean Celender stated, "We are pleased for the DEC's financial assistance to the Village through this competitive cost-share grant of the Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program. We are gaining valuable technical assistance to accomplish a number of important tasks, including using our recent tree inventory to develop a Tree Management and Implementation Plan. In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy and the loss of urban street trees from that hurricane and several other prior storm events, we look to this project to assist us in selecting appropriate species of trees to diversify our stock, and to develop a master plan

for replanting more storm-resilient trees. The DEC grant will help improve the local environment by providing the benefits of a cleaner, healthier community."

A Public Information Workshop was held in Village Hall on October 24 regarding the "How To's" of developing a comprehensive Tree Management and Implementation Plan. The Village is looking to enhance and manage our stock of urban street trees, and we want to thank the DEC as our technical and funding partner, as well as our state representatives, Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel and Senator Jack Martins, for their help in securing this grant and for all the assistance we are provided by New York State.

The main focus of the workshop was to address answers to the important questions such as—"Why a Tree?" and "What are the best methods for proper planting, pruning and maintaining, or replacing, our urban street trees?" Stay tuned as we will bring our residents future updates and additional public education resources on this project.

The Workshop was also videotaped by Public Access Television Corporation (PATV). We are grateful for PATV Executive Director Shirley Bruno, colleague Alan Ginsberg and the whole PATV team for their assistance in producing a television show for future public cable broadcasting. The Village will receive copies of the workshop on DVD so that we will be able to distribute this program to participants and interested parties as a useful reference and training tool.

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# Message from the Mayor

Dear Friends,

As we approach the end of 2013, the celebrations at this time of year with family, friends, business colleagues and community members remind us that there is much to be thankful for. The festive events in the Plaza bring our Village and community together. Be sure to check the 'Dates to Remember' section on page 8 for upcoming events being held in the Plaza this holiday season.

There are weeks of preparations by our Department of Public Works (DPW) to get ready and display the many holiday decorations we put out each year, such as the hanging swag lights, LED rope lighting, snowflakes, wreaths, toy soldiers, nutcrackers, etc. We enjoy bringing out the lights, color and making for a festive holiday spirit. Our DPW also equips our trucks and purchases salt and sand to meet Mother Nature's winter storms. We hope for a mild winter but prepare for the worst conditions. We are keeping our fingers crossed that we'll have, hopefully, another uneventful winter season.



Small Business Saturday, a national campaign founded by American Express in 2010, is a day dedicated to supporting small businesses and Main Streets across the country. This year, Small Business Saturday was on November 30<sup>th</sup>. We support this campaign and urge everyone to "Shop Locally" all the time, not just on

Small Business Saturday. It's important to frequent the Plaza's fine array of retail stores, restaurants, eateries and service establishments because these businesses are here to serve you. By spending locally you help to maintain a vital downtown, which is good for our local businesses and the economy. The money spent here is circulated within the local economy creating jobs and positive economic development and this responding has a beneficial impact to our businesses. Small

businesses represent over 90% of all net new jobs and are the nation's largest employer according to the U.S. Census Bureau. By supporting local businesses on Main Street you are helping to create and retain jobs in our local area. The Village has again this year provided "Free Parking" in our lots and garages, for a maximum of 4-hours, to support our local merchants and shoppers. In association with the Plaza's BID, we are doing this Holiday Free Parking Program for 4 Saturdays starting November 30 (Small Business Saturday) through Dec. 21. Of course, remember that on Sundays, all meters are "Free."

Additionally, there is ample, "Free" parking in our two municipal parking garages (Plaza Centre and Maple Drive) after 3 p.m. weekdays and all day 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 rooftop 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 PT and seasonal workers who 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.



On behalf of myself, the Board of Trustees and staff, we want to wish you and your family good health and a safe, 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](http://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



## Over 20 Plaza Businesses Nominated as the 'Best' in Bethpage Bank's "Best of Long Island 2014"



The Village is proud to announce that many of the Plaza's excellent restaurants, businesses and individuals have been nominated by Bethpage Bank's "Best of Long Island 2014" program for the outstanding services they provide to their customers and community. Nominated by Long Islanders, the "Best of Long Island 2014" program brings attention to businesses in the community who go above and beyond to give their patrons or clients the best experience possible, and it is no surprise that over 20 businesses and individuals have made the cut once again, many for a number of consecutive years. Without further ado, below is the complete list of Plaza businesses and individuals nominated for their excellence in their respective fields;

- **Alan Mindel/Samar Hospitality** - Best Boss
- **Atria Assisted Senior Living** (96 Cutter Mill Road & 51 Great Neck Road) - Best Assisted Living Facility
- **Aura Salon & Style Lounge** (25 Cutter Mill Road) - Best Nail Salon
- **Bee's Corsetry** (118 Middle Neck Road) - Best Boutique
- **bee-Organic** (4C Bond Street) - Best Health Eatery, Best Health Food
- **Cheeburger Cheeburger** (46 Great Neck Road) - Best Burger
- **Cold Laser Relief** (1 Barstow Road) - Best Alternative Medicine Center, Best Holistic Wellness Center, Best Laser Treatment Center, Best Lasik Surgery Practice
- **David Chauvin** (Zimmerman/Edelson, Inc. - 5 Bond Street) - Best Publicist
- **Donna Jannie** (Zimmerman/Edelson, Inc. - 5 Bond Street) - Best Publicist
- **Fantastic Kids Toys** (50 Middle Neck Road) - Best Toy Store
- **FCE Group** (175 Great Neck Road, Suite 250) - Best Financial Advisors, Best Financial Planners
- **The Giraffe Room at the Inn at Great Neck** (30 Cutter Mill Road) - Best Romantic Dinner Spot
- **Dr. Ian Stein** (170 Great Neck Road) - Best Neurologist
- **Infinity Clothing** (47 Middle Neck Road) - Best Tween Fashion Store
- **The Inn at Great Neck** (30 Cutter Mill Road) - Best Wedding Reception Site, Best Wedding Accommodations, Best Hotel
- **Dr. Itzhak Haimovic** (170 Great Neck Road) - Best Neurologist
- **Jildor Shoes** (42 Middle Neck Road) - Best Shoe Store
- **Laser By Aleya** (9 Bond Street) - Best Laser Treatment Center
- **Laverne of Great Neck** (9 Cutter Mill Road) - Best Fusion Restaurant, Best Restaurant
- **Lonnys Boutique** (57 Middle Neck Road) - Best Women's Fashion Store
- **Robert Zimmerman** - Best Democrat
- **Sir Speedy** (81 Cutter Mill Road) - Best Printing Services
- **Tennis Junction** (43 Middle Neck Road) - Best Tennis Store
- **Zimmerman/Edelson, Inc.** (5 Bond Street) - Best Public Relations Firm

We applaud these businesses and individuals for their efforts to make Great Neck Plaza a place to come for some of the best services. Let's make sure we show these nominees how much we appreciate their services and vote for them in their respective fields. Voting for Bethpage Bank's "Best of Long Island 2014" program is open until Sunday, December 15th. People are allowed one vote per IP address per day for each category. Once voting is concluded and tallied, Bethpage Bank will release the results at the start of the New Year.

To cast your vote for your favorite Plaza business, please visit Bethpage Bank's "Best of Long Island 2014" website at [www.bestof.longislandpress.com](http://www.bestof.longislandpress.com).

## VGNP Now Accepting Submissions for 4th Annual Poetry Contest

The Village of Great Neck Plaza, in conjunction with Long Island Traditions and Poetry Coordinator, Carolyn Raphael, is in the middle of our Annual Poetry Contest. The contest will be judged by Matt Pasca, the 2012 poetry contest winner and honorable mention finalist in 2013. His first poetry collection, *A Thousand Doors* (J.B. Stillwater, 2011) was nominated for a Pushcart Prize in 2012.

Poets 18 years of age or older from Nassau, Suffolk, and Queens Counties are invited to submit up to three original unpublished poems as part of the 4th Annual Poetry Contest. Poetry contestants may submit poems on whatever subject and style desired, as long as each poem does not exceed a 30-line maximum. Poetry entries must be hand-delivered or postmarked no later than Friday, January 31, 2014, to the Village of Great Neck Plaza, 2 Gussack Plaza, P.O. Box 440, Great Neck, NY, 11022, Attn: Poetry Contest. There is also an entry fee of \$15 (non-refundable), payable by check or money order to Long Island Traditions, that must be included with any material submitted. Poems must be single-spaced and typed, with one poem per page. Each poem shall have a title as well. Contestants shall include two copies of each poem, one anonymous and one with the poet's name and address below the poem. A cover sheet

listing the poet's name, address, phone number and email address, and title of each poem, must be included when submitting an entry.



Winners of the 4th Annual Poetry Contest will be announced on the Village's website, [www.greatneckplaza.net](http://www.greatneckplaza.net) on Monday, March 31, 2014. An Awards Day reading will take place on Sunday, April 27, 2014, at 2 p.m., at the Great Neck Plaza court room. The first prize winner will receive \$150 and a 20-minute reading at Awards Day, second prize winner will receive \$75 and a 10-minute reading, and the third place winner will receive \$50 and a 5-minute reading. There will also be two awards for

Honorable Mention; these poets will be invited to read their poems as well. Additionally, each of the three winning poems will be posted for one month on seven secure outdoor village sign posts, on the bulletin board in Village Hall, and in the waiting room of the Great Neck LIRR station. Honorable Mention poems will be posted for two weeks at the aforementioned locations.

For any additional information, feel free to contact Carolyn Raphael, poetry coordinator, [gnpppoetry@yahoo.com](mailto:gnpppoetry@yahoo.com), or Brian Hetey, [mayorsassistant@greatneckplaza.net](mailto:mayorsassistant@greatneckplaza.net).

## Important Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) Information

The Plaza wants to remind residents that the Village has a program in place that helps seniors remain in their apartments through our Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) program. Eligibility is limited to people who are heads of households, 62 years of age or older, whose total yearly income does not exceed \$24,000, and have been a resident of their ETPA (the Emergency Tenants Protection Act of 1974) building for at least two years. Through subsidies provided by the



Village, landlords receive the difference of the rent for those who are eligible under the SCRIE program.

For those people who are already enrolled in the SCRIE program, this serves as a reminder to bring in your end of year statements and lease renewals to continue receiving this abatement. Anyone wishing to learn more about this program, please contact Ana Quinones, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at (516) 482-4500.

## Plaza Holiday Lights on Display

Have you felt the holiday spirit in the Plaza lately? Superintendent of Public Works Ivor Belgrave and his staff recently brought the holiday cheer to the Village with the hanging of our seasonal lights. Those walking or driving through the Village will be greeted with trees adorned with decorative lights, lighted snowflake swags and nutcrackers keeping watch over our festooned triangle at Middle Neck Road and Grace Avenue. We thank Superintendent Belgrave and his staff for all their hard work in making the Plaza look so beautifully festive. We hope you enjoy them too!



## Did You Know...?



**Every weekend in December, 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 the weekend of November 30th and through December 21st, motorists 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 Wednesday, 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.

With conveniently located outdoor lots throughout the Village, be sure to take advantage of the free holiday parking schedule for all your holiday shopping needs!

\*Note: Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, is already a listed free parking day throughout the Village as per the Village Code.

## When to Call an Ambulance

By Great Neck Vigilant Fire Company



Chief Laurence Jacobs of the Great Neck Vigilant Fire Company wants to bring you these important tips on when to call an ambulance and what to do when calling an emergency service. Whether you or someone else is in an emergency situation, these are the five important tips to always consider;

- Is the condition life-threatening?
- Could the condition worsen and become life-threatening on the way to the hospital?
- Could moving the victim cause further injury?
- Does the victim require the skills and equipment of paramedics or EMTs?
- Could distance, traffic or weather conditions cause a delay in getting to the hospital?

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, or you are unsure, the safest bet would be to call an ambulance. Also, when calling for an ambulance, remember to always speak calmly and clearly, and give as much information to the dispatcher as possible; name, address, phone number and location (nearest cross streets or building address if outside) and condition of person in need.

In Great Neck, if you are reporting an emergency north of the LIRR tracks, call (516) 482-5000; this is the emergency number for the Vigilant Fire Company. If you are reporting an emergency south of the LIRR tracks, please call (516) 466-4411; this is the emergency number for Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department. If you are reporting an emergency from a cell phone, it is important to know that the dispatcher does not have detailed information on your location. Always make an attempt to find the nearest intersection to help responders arrive to your location sooner.

## Plaza’s BID 2013 Savings Gift Certificate Program Underway

The Plaza’s Business Improvement District (BID) is happy to announce that their 2013 Holiday Savings Gift Certificate Program is currently underway just in time for all of your holiday shopping. By visiting the BID’s website, [www.shopgreatneck.com](http://www.shopgreatneck.com), shoppers can fill out a form and enter the chance to win one of three gift certificates for participating Great Neck Plaza businesses; \$5 off a one-time purchase of \$25, \$10 off a one-time purchase of \$50 or \$20 off a one-time purchase of \$100. Once signed up on the BID’s website, a randomly picked certificate will be sent to the mailing address you submitted. Please note, only coated-stock, original gift certificates will be accepted by businesses; Xeroxes, copies and facsimiles will not be accepted. For more information regarding this program, please feel free to visit the BID’s website, [www.greatneckplaza.com](http://www.greatneckplaza.com), or give them a call at (516) 829-1301.



## Veterans Day Celebrations, November 11, 2013

### Atria Cutter Mill & Atria Great Neck



Trustee Pamela Marksheid, Deputy Mayor Ted Rosen and Mayor Jean Celender and Trustee Gerry Schneiderman (not pictured) honored veterans from Atria Cutter Mill for their service, "We continue to draw inspiration from the heroism and dedication of those who have served our country, past and present, so that we may have the right to pursue life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

### *The Obligation Owed*

By Maurice Harris

I beg your thanks, for all that you have done -  
For the service that you have rendered and all the freedom  
you have won;  
Your selfless dedication to such lofty ideals,  
Honors all who reap its benefit, as time itself reveals;  
Casual to your sacrifice, nations thrive under  
guard of liberty;  
You are the very proof that super hero really may be;  
You pledge allegiance to the flag, yet it's the Constitution  
you protect and defend -  
Until your very last breath, upon your integrity  
we may depend;  
The only proper recompense we may ever offer  
Is to never take for granted the obligation wed, your proffer;  
You serve, so that others may live under the  
precepts you protect;  
We live each day, empowered by the strength you project;  
'Thank you' seems so insufficient-though,  
it is all I may give  
It is you that would give your life to ensure  
we may freely live!

### *Owed to the Life of the Soldier*

By Curt Vevang

You saved our freedom by going to war.  
I worked and partied and stayed on our shore.  
I have what you've earned, I've hardly a care.  
You fought in the war. Life's not at all fair.

You were killed one day, by a road side bomb.  
I'm here in the states in the peace and calm.  
I have the freedom that you've earned for me.  
Your life has ended. I'm happy and free.  
I have what you've earned, I've hardly a care.  
Your home is a box. Death's not at all fair.

You lie there in pain, confined to your bed,  
Fragments of shrapnel entombed in your head.  
What price did I pay for all that I got?  
A pebble of sand compared to your lot.  
I have what you've earned, I've hardly a care.  
You lie in that bed. Life's not at all fair.

I have my freedom which I didn't earn.  
You paid the price and got nil in return.



Atria Great Neck residents and veterans participate in the Village's Veterans Day 2013 festivities, which included presentation of the colors by Troop 10 Boy Scouts, poetry readings and a proclamation in recognition of those who have served.





## 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](mailto:info@greatneckplaza.net)

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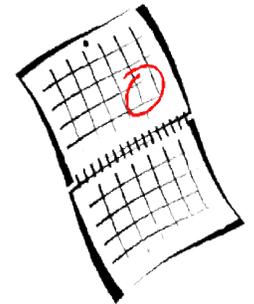
Flushing, NY

PERMIT NO. 1599

We're on the web...  
[www.greatneckplaza.net](http://www.greatneckplaza.net)

### Dates to Remember:

- December 4 - Menorah Lighting at Chamber Kiosk, 5:30 p.m.
- BID Holiday Savings Gift Certificate Program, November 25 to January 31, 2014 - receive your \$5, \$10 and \$20 gift certificates. Go to [shopgreatneck.com](http://shopgreatneck.com) and see page 5 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 1, 2014 - New Years Day, Village Hall will be closed
- January 23, 2014 - VGNP Star Performer Ceremony, Village Courtroom, 9:30 a.m.
- January 31, 2014 - Poetry Submission Deadline for Fourth 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. Some recent additions and new businesses opening soon are the following:

- **Advanced Medical Health Services** - 12 Bond Street, Unit C2
- **Bare Bonez Fitness** - 25 Cutter Mill Road
- **Burger Village** - 66 Middle Neck Road
- **Dream Wellness and Dreamnastics** - 24 Great Neck Road (Expanding)
- **Planet Fitness** - 38 Great Neck Road
- **Serene Nail Salon** - 9 South Middle Neck Road
- **Starbucks** - 8 Great Neck Road (Relocating)



A recent ribbon cutting event welcoming Blow Me Away to Great Neck Plaza. Located at 5 North Station Plaza, Blow Me Away offers clients the ultimate makeover experience for any occasion. Whether you're looking for a make-up or up-do session, or that perfect blow dry look, Blow Me Away has you covered. For more information, visit their website, [www.blowmeawayny.com](http://www.blowmeawayny.com), give them a call, (516) 441-2533, or stop by the store.

