



FARMINGDALE VILLAGE REPORT

GEORGE J. GRAF, Mayor

December, 2005

A Message From Village Mayor **GEORGE J. GRAF**

Our monthly Trustee meetings are a great opportunity for all village residents and interested community members to see first hand how village government operates. The meetings also offer attendees an opportunity to address the board. Board meetings allow residents to share their observations, suggestions and thoughts on how we can make our village a better place to live, work and play. Community input plays an important role in local government. I hope all residents will come to our meetings at some point in time. Many times the wrong information is spread through hearsay and innuendo. My administration and I are proud of our open government policy. The system works and will get even better as more people come to the meetings and get involved (as the following true story illustrates).

Village resident, Mrs. K. came to a recent trustee meeting and voiced her concern over the trees being removed at the DPW facility on Ridge Road. Fred Zamparelle our DPW superintendent explained the details of what was happening and why and then invited her to meet with him and the Mayor on another occasion to see first hand what they were doing. She took us up on the offer, meeting with us on a Saturday morning. The tour not only included her area of concern but included a tour of the revamped facility where she saw many examples of how the department is turning around the years of neglect it inherit-



ed. She also received a full explanation and saw first hand why the trees needed to be taken down. The post 9/11 era has initiated Homeland Security requirements that mandate certain public work areas to be visible from a certain distance. This makes it easier for police and law enforcement agencies to monitor the site. The necessary trees have been removed to meet the requirements. As a result of the time Mrs. K spent with Fred, she now has a greater appreciation of the responsibilities undertaken by our Department of Public Works and that the employees take care and pride in the work they do for our residents. Please be assured that we will continue our open government policy and strive to include all that are interested in our decisions.



The DPW Ridge Road facility pictured from Fairview Road.

Chamber Installs 2006 Board



Mayor Graf attended the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce's annual Holiday dinner where he installed the board for 2006. Pictured l-r: Angela Cowan, Treasurer (CPA), Victor Lambert, III (Smith Barney), Mark Wenzel (YES Community Counseling Center), Ruth Tarlow (Island Financial Group), Mayor Graf, Chamber President, Pete Yovine (State Bank), Executive VP, Ralph Ekstrand (Moby Drugs), Secretary Debbie Podolski (Farmingdale Public Library), William Metzendorf (Sir Speedy Printing), Joe Trudden (McCourt & Trudden).

Dinda Florist Holds Open House



Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf (Left) and Village Trustee Ted Dorfmeister (Right) are pictured here with Dinda Florist co-owners, Laura Harris and Lisa Kaiser. The sisters are very proud to continue the 97 year tradition of providing quality floral arrangements and cut flowers to their customers. They have also started a new tradition by adding a unique line of giftware and ornaments. Dinda is located at 316 Main Street in Farmingdale.

Metzendorf honored for Rotarian Service



Bill Metzendorf (left) is shown here receiving a proclamation from the Village of Farmingdale Deputy Mayor and Farmingdale Breakfast Rotary Club President, Joseph Rachiele honoring him for 28 years of service to Rotary. Mr. Metzendorf is past District Governor of Rotary District 7250, past President of "Gift of Life" a program which brings in children from around the world for life saving operations and was also instrumental in establishing the Farmingdale Breakfast Rotary Club. He joined Rotary in 1977, was Club president 1983-1984 and Rotary District Governor of District 7250 for the 2000-2001 Rotary year. He is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow and was Extension Committee Chairman when the Farmingdale Breakfast Club was formed. He made 3 medical missions to Russia with the Gift of Life. He has been a member of the Citizen's Advisory Council for Farmingdale Public Schools, a Director of the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce and a founding member of the "110 Lions Club". He started his printing career in high school and returned to it after joining the Navy in 1951. After 15 years of working for financial printers in the Wall Street area of NYC, he left in 1974 to open a Sir Speedy Printing Franchise, which is now run by his son. He and his wife Ann have been married since 1957. The long time Farmingdale resident is retiring to Florida.

LET IT SNOW



Please remember that Village law requires that residents must remove parked cars from the street for a minimum of 18 hours after a snowfall of two or more inches. Try to arrange with your neighbors to make use of their driveways that are not being utilized.

This will ensure that the DPW staff can quickly clear the roadways and facilitate safe traveling throughout the Village. Violators are subject to a \$100 fine. Residents are also responsible for keeping their driveways and sidewalks that surround their homes snow, ice and debris free. Please clear any fire hydrants by your home and do not blow or shovel snow from driveways or sidewalks into the street. If you have elderly or special needs neighbors, please check on them to see if they need any assistance.



We Get Letters.....

A Note Of Thanks

On Wednesday evening, November 30, the Village conducted the seventeenth annual holiday lighting of the tricentennial tree, a tradition which grew out of the Tricentennial of Settlement observance.

As coordinator of this event, I would like to thank the many individuals and groups, which made this joyous ceremony possible.

- Mayor George Graf for his special role at this happy occasion.
- Deputy Mayor Joe Rachiele for sharing the "emcee" role with me so capably.
- Fred Zamarelle, DPW Superintendent and his crew; their role was critical to the program! The tree and the gazebo are beautifully decorated for the season.
- The Village Hall office staff for their help.
- Dr. Roberta Gerold, Superintendent of the Farmingdale Public Schools, Director of Fine Arts Rita Padden, Edward Kozlowski, Choral Director at Howitt Middle School, the talented youngsters of the sixth grade chorus, Barbara Pandolfo, Director of the library/audio-visual service, and Jeffrey Pritzker, District A-V Technician who set up and manned the excellent public address system, another vital role!
- The Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society for funding the publicity ads and fliers.
- The Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce for presenting the South Shore Brass Ensemble again, a holiday gift to the community for all 17 years of the event. This ensemble always adds a special sparkle.
- The Kiwanis Club of Farmingdale for providing refreshments as they have for so many years in the past. This was a most welcome service!
- And the many local residents who came out for this brief but joyous occasion at the beginning of a special time of year for all. Again, many thanks to all who made it possible. Happy Holidays!

Bill Johnston
Historian, Village of Farmingdale

Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts Attend Recent Trustee Meeting

Members of Cub Scout 57 and Boy Scout Troop 261 attended a recent Village Trustee meeting where they met with the Mayor and the Village Board. The Cub scouts learned about how the village government works and of course, got to bang the gavel. The Boy Scouts stayed for the entire meeting as part of their requirements for earning their Citizenship patch.



Pictured: Mayor Graf addresses Cub Pack 57.



Pictured : Mayor Graf with Boy Scout Troop 261



◀ Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

Village Historian and event coordinator William Johnston, Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce President Pete Yovine (State Bank), Farmingdale Bethpage Historical Society President Larry Jorgensen, Village Trustee Tom Langon, Chamber Executive Vice President Ralph Ekstrand (Moby Drugs), Village Trustee Ted Dorfmeister, Village Mayor George Graf, Village Justice Sal Nicosia, Village Deputy Mayor Joe Rachiele.



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Holiday Parade 2005

The Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce once again held its annual holiday parade, kicking off the holiday season in Farmingdale. The beautiful fall day brought out the largest turnout in the twelve year history of the parade. The Village would like to thank the Chamber of Commerce for organizing and coordinating this wonderful event. Special thanks also go out to Pete Yovine (State Bank), the Chamber President for championing this parade each year. His hard work certainly paid off. To see all the smiling children, hear the Farmingdale High School band playing holiday songs and witness Santa (a.k.a. Dr. Walter Priestley) arriving on the fire truck was a testament to his and the chambers Board of Directors hard work. Please remember to patronize them for your holiday shopping, dining and other business services you might need. The Village would also like to thank the Farmingdale Fire Department, what's a parade without fire trucks! Also thanks go out to the Nassau County Police 8th Precinct for supplying the sector cars for the parade route and the Auxiliary Police for providing the added coverage that enables us to hold these and other parades, without them we could not assure the safety of the marchers.



Mayor Graf and Trustee Dorfmeister are shown here with "Snowman" during the annual Chamber of Commerce Holiday parade.



Mayor Graf and Trustee Dorfmeister kick off the parade with some of the Farmingdale Chamber Board of Directors.

Village of Farmingdale
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