



FARMINGDALE VILLAGE REPORT

GEORGE J. GRAF, Mayor

February, 2007

A Message From Village Mayor GEORGE J. GRAF

Among the more enjoyable duties I get to perform as Mayor is the ribbon cuttings of new businesses. I always enjoy meeting the owners and employees of the businesses that have chosen to make a living in our fair village. Each grand opening celebration is unique. Some are elaborate and some are just a quick photo and handshake. No matter what the type, the Trustees and I are always excited to attend and welcome them to our Village. Over the past month I have had the pleasure of attending the openings of Starbucks, Wings Over Farmingdale and Fidelity Bankers. When a national chain such as Starbucks chooses our village for one of their stores it is always rewarding, and, as always, we welcome the "Mom & Pop" businesses to our Village which have been a staple for many years. The Village Trustees along with Building Superintendent Ron Craig are working very hard to bring new businesses to our shopping district.

Another event that I recently attended is, without a doubt, very special to me. The Eagle Court of Honor is the ceremony where a Scout gets awarded the highest honor, the Eagle rank. The traditional ceremony includes having all Eagle Scouts recite the Eagle Scout oath. As I stood taking my oath, I could not help but notice that only a few in the room had obtained this high honor. While it was many years ago that I had received it, I still felt the pride. The importance of the ceremony is marked by the list of dignitaries that attend. N.Y.S. Assemblyman Joseph Saladino, Town of



Oyster Bay Supervisor John Venditto, Town Clerk Steve Labriola, Councilman Macagnone, Muscarella, Councilwoman Rose Walker, Representatives from: Senator Hannon, Assemblyman Conte, Congressman King, Nassau County 8th Precinct Commander Cronin as well as Family Court Judge Richard Lawrence all presented proclamations. Their speeches all had a common thread, what a great privilege it is to reward a young man for obtaining this high honor. They all acknowledged his hard work, dedication and devotion to his family, scout troop and community.

This ceremony also had a very special meaning because of its connection to the Village. The honoree, John Ninivaggi, chose the restoration of the North Gazebo (located at the corner of Melville Road and Main Street) as his Eagle Scout Project. The result of the project was a beautifully restored gazebo, replanted gardens, clean walkways and refurbished benches. Our Northern gateway to the Village never looked so good. Attending with me was Department of Public Works Superintendent Fred Zamparelle. Fred worked very closely with John and assisted him in the project. Upon accepting his award, John made a point of thanking Fred for his assistance. I was very proud that Fred and the Village helped John achieve his quest. Over the past three years I have worked diligently with the Trustees to deliver good government to our residents. Good government means more than just being good stewards of the people's money, it means more than just improving the economic climate. It means improving the quality of life of individual residents, especially our youth. The entire Board takes great pleasure in affording the scouts of our community the opportunity to fulfill their dreams of becoming an Eagle Scout. John's efforts in coordinating the repair and cleanup of the area not only helped beautify his community but also gave him valuable leadership skills that will greatly benefit him as an adult. To all the future Eagle Scouts, we are here to help you too. Fred is just a phone call away. The opportunity is also there for the Girls Scouts and any other community groups that want to make a difference in our town. I would like to see these projects become a genuine coming together of the community; scouts, residents and businesses working together to better our Village. I hope that others will follow in John's foot steps and also make a difference. Any business or entrepreneur that would like to participate in these worthwhile projects can contact Village Hall at (516)249-0093.



John Ninivaggi receives his proclamation from Mayor Graf. Looking on are I-r Dept. of Public Works Superintendent Fred Zamparelle and John's parents Phil and Cathy Ninivaggi.

Eagle Scouts Past, Present and Future



Top Photo: Town of Oyster Bay Councilman Tony Macagnone presents John Ninivaggi with a proclamation at his Eagle Scout Award ceremony.

I-r: TOB Councilman Joe Muscarella, Troop 261 Scout Master Ed Schmidt, TOB Councilwoman Rose Walker, TOB Receiver of taxes James Stefanich, John Ninivaggi, Phil and Cathy Ninivaggi, John and Councilman Macagnone, TOB Supervisor John Venditto, TOB Town Clerk Steve Labriola, Nassau County Family Court Judge Richard S. Lawrence and Mayor Graf.

Future Eagle Scout Connor Dowdell is shown here with Mayor Graf. Connor was a guest at a recent trustee meeting. Connor met personally with the Mayor to have his questions about the zoning code book answered.

New Businesses Open on Main Street



Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf (2nd from left) and Deputy Mayor Joe Rachiele (Right) are shown with Fidelity Borrowing Mortgage Bankers Branch Managers Thomas A. DeLello (l) and James D. Morra (2nd from r) at their recently held ribbon cutting. The branch is located at 225 Main Street. They specialize in Mortgages, refinances and home equity loans.



Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf (center) and Village Trustee Patricia A. Christiansen (left) are shown with owners Jason Oliver (2nd from left), Bob and Pam Oliver at the ribbon cutting for the new chicken wing restaurant at 221 Main Street that offers chicken wings in 22 flavors.

FROM THE CHIEF'S OFFICE

By Chief John Salerno, Farmingdale Fire Department

Farmingdale Fire Department Dispatchers-The Villages UN-sung Heroes

As the Chief of the Farmingdale Fire Department, I would like to introduce to you the voices behind the Emergency scene. The Farmingdale Fire Department has 3 Full time Dispatchers that man the Fire Department 24 hours a day and are ready to serve the community with out hesitation or delay. They are: Ryan Tortoso (8 AM to 4 PM shift), James McGuire (4 PM to 12 PM) and Keith Ryan Sr. (12pm to 8 AM).

Whenever an Emergency arises, everyone hears and sees the fire engines and rescue vehicles. You get to meet the firefighters and rescue personal face to face. The people you don't get to meet are the ones you have your first interaction with-our dispatchers. They man the firehouse 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year for the purpose of protecting and serving the Village. For those of you who do not know what a dispatcher does, let me quickly explain. As a Village resident you have the choice in an emergency of either calling 911 which is FIRECOM (an emergency dispatch run my Nassau County) or you can call the Fire Department direct at (516) 249-0070. When you dial 911, your first contact is with a Police dispatcher who will ask you what your emergency is, depending on the emergency she will then transfer you to the proper agency, and once you get connected you will state your emergency again. Now if it's a Fire emergency, FIRECOM will then contact the Fire Department. If it's a medical Emergency they will dispatch a Police Ambulance (which could be out of the area) and will then notify the Fire Departments for an ambulance. It's very time consuming and in an emergency, response time is very important. When you call the Fire Department direct, it cuts out the middleman and can save those very important minutes, sometimes life saving minutes. Now I am not saying that a Fire Com Dispatcher is any better or worse then a Fire Department dispatcher, but at times the County can become overwhelmed with emergency calls. Fire Com

Dispatchers take care of multiple Fire Departments, sometimes at the same time, which can increase response times. Having a Dispatcher in the Village Fire Department whose sole purpose is to provide a service only to the Village has huge advantages. This is what makes the Village of Farmingdale a great place to live. People move into a Village so they can get that kind of personal service, and knowing there is a 24-hour a day number you can call, makes most people sleep a little easier. The Farmingdale Fire Department Dispatchers not only handle emergencies. They also field calls for the Village Hall, (when they are closed). Answer questions regarding upcoming events such as parades and fairs, give residence advice on fire safety and local fire codes and sometimes give a listening ear to an elderly resident who just needs to talk and be reassured when they are alone. They are the true heartbeat of the Village. The Fire Department Dispatchers use a system called Red Alert, which provides life saving information to the responding Fire Department Chiefs and its members. Red Alert is a pre plan / command center system that lets the rescuer know certain hazards within a building so proper precautions can be taken, such as evacuation of nearby residence if necessary. They are trained to talk you through an emergency while medical personal are on their way, which once again in an emergency every second counts. So what do these Dispatchers do when not providing this life saving measures? Well they maintain the Fire Department and its equipment, fix minor problems with-in the building, give tours to school groups and make sure that when an a emergency does arise the residence of Farmingdale are protected to the fullest. On behalf of the Farmingdale Fire Department I would like to thank these individuals for the service they provide. The Village of Farmingdale is lucky to have such dedicated employees.



Mayor Graf attends Farmingdale Chambers Business Card Swap

Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf attended the Business Card Swap hosted by the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce. The event held on February 13th at the Nutty Irishman offered current and prospective chamber members an opportunity to meet each other and "Swap Cards". Pictured (l-r) Town of Oyster Bay Councilman Tony Macagnone, Chamber Board Member Pat Stickle (New Island Hospital), Farmingdale State College President W. Hubert Keen, PhD, Farmingdale Chamber President Debbie Podolski (Farmingdale Library) , Mayor George Graf, Chamber Vice President Ruth Tarlow (The Epstein Company).



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Village Attorney Walsh Announces Amendments to Zoning Code

The Village Board of Trustees recently passed two local laws amending the zoning code. The laws were enacted after public hearings and in furtherance of the Board of Trustees efforts to provide for the thoughtful development of residential and commercial areas of the Village.

Section 105-58 of the zoning code has been amended to include as a permitted use in the B District, Office/Residential use in addition to the existing residential permitted uses. The change only relates to properties located on Conklin, Fulton and West Street. The Trustees believe that the change will permit owners of properties on



these streets to develop their properties in a way where they can maintain and restore older houses which are important to the Village in an economically viable way.

Section 105-63 of the zoning code has recently been amended to increase the required lot size for houses in the B District. The required lot size had been 5,000 square feet with a minimum 50 foot lot width. The new law requires lots to be at least 6,000 square feet with a lot width of 60 feet. The Trustees believe the new law will reduce the number of lot splits with new homes and is consistent with the Trustees efforts to preserve open space and the residential character of the community.

Visit the Village Web Site @ www.farmingdalevillage.com to view the Village of Farmingdale zoning map.

Stop When Pedestrians Are Within Crosswalk



The village has put into use the new fluorescent crosswalk signs on Main Street. Please remember that NY State law requires you stop when people are in the crosswalk.

NEXT TRUSTEE MEETING:
Monday, March 5, 2007 7:30 PM

Village of Farmingdale
361 Main Street
Farmingdale, NY 11735

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