

# FARMINGDALE VILLAGE REPORT

GEORGE J. GRAF, Mayor

May, 2005

## A Message From Village Mayor GEORGE J. GRAF

A few weeks ago I had the pleasure of attending the 6th Grade Spring Concert at Howitt Middle School last week. As I sat with the other proud parents in the auditorium, I found myself smiling from ear to ear. The children that performed were truly amazing. It was hard to believe that the songs that we heard were performed by 12 year olds. It really was something to see and hear. The band, jazz band, orchestra and chorus put on such a wonderful



show. As I watched my daughter performing with the chorus, I could not help but think how difficult a job it must be to get such a large group to perform as one. The emcees spoke of the commitment of the students and parents that enabled them to get to this level, but accolades have to go to the music teachers that were able to bring these students together to perform as one. Their dedication and true love for what they do certainly resonated throughout the performance. You could see how proud they were of their performances.

It is a tribute to our school system and our commitment to provide the children with the best education possible. I'm sure my feelings were replicated throughout our community at any one of our elementary schools and the high school this past week as they had their spring concerts also. It's a shame that only the parents of the performers get to witness these performances. The school children get to see the concerts in school but unfortunately the parents of the children who aren't performing don't get to experience the wonderful feeling of watching these special children sing in harmony and hit the perfect note. All the children should be complimented and the music teachers should be thanked for putting music in the air.

Unfortunately, with our school budget failing a few weeks ago, we now have to once again worry about a contingent budget and cuts that will hurt our children's education. As I talk to Village residents and speak with other elected officials throughout the Island, one topic that is always on everyone's mind is taxes. As a homeowner living here in the Farmingdale School District I am keenly aware of the tax burden that

our citizens face. And yet, as a parent of school age children, and as a future educator (now completing my student teaching) I am also very aware of the vital role that schools, teachers and a quality well-rounded education all have in the lives of our children – the future of our communities and our world.

What disturbs me is how many people complain about taxes and education, yet how few people take the opportunity to be part of the process and to help figure out new solutions to age old problems. I constantly hear people say "They raised taxes" or "They took away a course." We all need to realize that in this great democratic society, we all have the potential and the capability to be the "they" who make the decisions, or who have input into making the decisions. I am not using this article to ask the residents to vote in any one particular way, but I am urging all residents to become involved in the future of our Village, our school district and our community. Please make sure that you make an effort to attend school board meetings and our Village Board Meetings. The positive that can be done by government at every level increases when more citizens participate and allow a generous sharing of ideas and opinions before decisions are made.

### Mayor Attends Farmingdale H.S. Wall of Fame Ceremony

Village Mayor George Graf, center was on hand at the recently held Farmingdale High School Wall of Fame Ceremony. The Wall of Fame honors those graduates who have been successful since leaving FHS. Pictured with Mayor Graf are: L-R: Honoree Anita Marie Santasier, Ph.D. '78), Buddy (Class Krumenacker (Class 0f '65), FHS Assistant Principal and Selection Committee Chairperson Donna Stanza and Mrs. Joseph D, Posillico Jr., who accepted for her late husband (Class of '57).



## **Farmingdale Plaza Begins Renovation**





The Farmingdale Shopping Plaza, located at Merritts Road and Hempstead Turnpike, has begun its 2 million dollar face lift. The shopping center owners have worked with Ron Craig, our Building Department Superintendent, to assure that all codes and regulations are met. In addition to the new façade, the parking lot will be completely redone, adding 37 new parking spaces, improving drainage and the traffic flow pattern. The entrances and exits on both Merritts Road and Hempstead Turnpike will also see changes that will make it easier to get in and out of the center.

The new owners have been working very closely with the Village Board to assure that the new look fits in with the décor of our community. They have agreed to include ornamental lighting that will match the current lighting in the Village. The unsightly cement tower that rises above the existing shopping center will be transformed into a beautiful new clock tower that will match the "turn of the century" style clocks currently in our Village. All retail signage will now be uniform. They have also contracted with local landscaper, John laboni to landscape the area, again to match the look of our Village entrance areas.

They will be adding an additional 2600 sq. ft. retail area next to the current bagel store. They hope to attract a national retail chain store to "anchor" the center. At the current owner's request, our Village Code Enforcement is now enforcing all parking regulations such as handicap and fire zone enforcement and will continue to do so.

When the dust clears and all is said and done, the shopping center will present a beautiful first impression for visitors entering our Village. This project is a shining example of how we can work with our local businesses and developers to carefully expand and improve our community while keeping with our current aesthetic values.

#### Dorfmeister Sworn In



Village Mayor George Graf officially swears in Trustee Ted Dorfmesiter to his one year term.

## **Village Appointments**

At the April 26th Trustee Meeting the following appointments were made: Joe Rachiele, Deputy Mayor, Gregory W. Carman, Village Attorney, Tom Sabellico, Village Prosecutor, Robert Kirk, Deputy Village Prosecutor, Fred Zamparelle, Superintendent of Public Works, Ron Craig, Superintendent of Building Department, Barbara Canonico, Deputy Records Management Officer, Frank DeStefano, Planning Board Chairperson, Michael Kelly, Board of Commissioners Chairperson, Kenneth Tortoso Sr., board of Fire Commissioner, David Nostrand, Zoning Board of Appeals Member, Kenneth Orobona, Planning Board Member, Lisa Waszkiewicz, Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate Member, Dan Kornfeld, Public Relations Specialist, Albrect, Viggiano, Zureck, Village Auditors.



Appointees Sworn In. L-R: Deputy Mayor Joe Rachiele, Village Attorney Gregory Carman, Board of Fire commissioner Chairperson, Michael Kelly, Building Superintendent Ron Craig, Public Works Superintendent Fred Zamparelle, Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate, Lisa Waszkiewicz, Planning Board Member Kenneth Orobona

## Village Officials Help Celebrate Two Special Birthdays

Deputy Mayor Joe Rachiele and Trustee Tom Langon helped celebrate two very special birthdays this past month at Daleview Nursing Home. They presented proclamations honoring Carmen Romero who celebrated her 105<sup>th</sup> birthday and Elsie Van Cott on her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday.



Back I-r) Deputy Mayor Rachiele, Maryann Mangels, Daleview Administrator, Mary Roeill, Daleview Director of Therapy and Recreation, Trustee Tom Langon, Front: Elsie Van Cott.



Carmen Romero with Deputy Mayor Rachiele, Trustee Langon and Daleview Directors



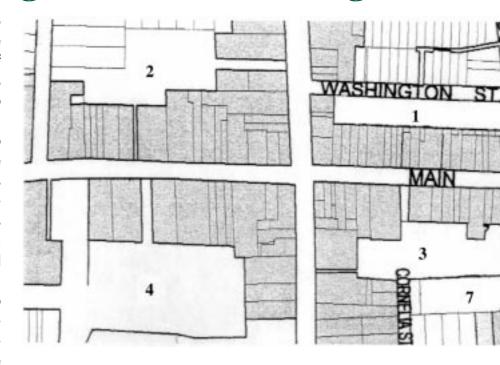
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## Village To Address Parking Concerns

On June 9, 2005 at 7:00PM the Village Board of Trustees invites the community to attend a special meeting to address Village parking needs as they affect municipal parking lots and parking on Main Street and Conklin Street. In response to requests by merchants and residents, the Village



Board has set this meeting to receive input from business owners, residents and the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce to determine if parking times and regulations should be changed.

Present // Village of Farmingdale Parking Allocation

Parking Area	Lot Total	Existing Regulations		
		2/3 Hr	12 Hr	Handi-
Parking Field #1	114	109	0	5
Parking Field #2	139	95	39	5
Parking Field #3	158	118	33	7
Parking Field #4	264	145	112	7
Parking Field #6	23	0	23	0
Parking Field #7	74	0	74	0
Main Street	107	107	0	0
S. Front Street	35	35	0	0
Totals	914	609	281	24

Village of Farmingdale 361 Main Street Farmingdale, NY 11735 PRSRT. STD. U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 167 Farmingdale New York 11735