



# FARMINGDALE VILLAGE REPORT

GEORGE J. GRAF, Mayor

September, 2007

## A Message From Village Mayor GEORGE J. GRAF

### *Village Infrastructure Update*

Much has been written nationally the last few weeks regarding the tragic bridge collapse in Minnesota and locally on the condition of Long Island's bridges and parkland. Infrastructure maintenance goes largely unnoticed by the general public until a disaster or service malfunction occurs. Your Village government faces the same fiscal balancing dilemma as the larger municipal governments of maintaining the infrastructure while respecting taxpayers wishes to keep taxes as low as possible. Neglecting the infrastructure by delaying or ignoring necessary repairs and improvements creates an artificial short-term tax relief that ultimately cost the taxpayer more when the delayed upgrades and improvements are done on an emergency basis. Many of the problems we are currently reading about are a result of decisions to forgo needed upgrades.

Since assuming office in 2004, my administration has made the rehabilitation of our Villages infrastructure a top priority. Many of the administrations successes are visible:

❖ The "**Greening of Farmingdale**" initiatives:

\* **Village Green:**

- Completing the **Village Gazebo** with volunteer assistance and generous donations from the Farmingdale Bethpage Historical Society and area residents.
- Replacing of the water fountain was funded by the Farmingdale women's club and the Village Fire Department.
- New brickwork, estate fencing and landscaping.

\* **Grengas Park at Hudson & Staples streets:**

- New playground equipment and fencing.

\* **Northside Pocket Park:**

- Acquisition of land and the building of a reflective park in the near future.

**Note:** The costs of these projects (unless noted above) were funded by **Nassau County grant money** (special thanks to County Legislator Dave Mejias) and the creation of new parkland acquisition & maintenance fund collected from developers.

❖ **Phase IV of roadway resurfacing project:** Funded primarily by administrative cost reductions and **State grant money** (special thanks to State Senator Kemp Hannon).

❖ **Roadway resurfacing project** underway in the Secatogue area paid for by the new owners.

❖ **Complete renovation of Farmingdale Plaza** at Merritts Road & Fulton Street.

❖ Purchase of a **new Fire Department rescue ambulance.**

❖ Purchase of a **new DPW street sweeper** to replace the current aging/high maintenance vehicle.

Just as many Village Infrastructure Initiatives are not readily visible to the average resident:

❖ **The DPW facility at Ridge Road and the water department facility at Eastern Parkway** has undergone extensive repairs and grounds clean-up.

❖ **Village Hall:** Extensive renovation include upgrade of entire computer network, electrical upgrades, new carpeting, gutter & leader repairs and water damaged walls repaired,

❖ **Computerized remote meter reading** for entire Village Water District.

\* **Project update:** The wireless automation of water meter reading is continuing at a steady pace. This infrastructure project will be a real winner for the taxpaying resident when implementation begins in November 2007. The benefits include quarterly billing, elimination of estimated bills, and reduction in man-hours for individual meter reading.

❖ **Village Water supply wells:** There are three wells that currently provide water to Village residents. Although at this time there is no immediate need to drill a new well, discussions by the Board are focusing on future water usage needs and the need to upgrade the antiquated pumping motors and electrical systems that monitor the pumps.

*You can rest assured that our infrastructure improvements will continue to be a top priority. Another important piece of the Villages future is the on going Visioning process. On October 15 at 7:30 PM at Village Hall. Eric Alexander from Vision Long Island will be with us to update our progress and discuss with the Village Board and the attendees what plans there are for the future. For the latest Vision Long Island Report, please visit [www.farmingdalevillage.com](http://www.farmingdalevillage.com) and click on "visioning recommendations" on the left hand column. I invite you all to attend and see first hand the exciting proposals for the revitalization of our Main Street.*



# Traffic Safety Increased at Howitt

The Farmingdale School District has implemented new traffic safety measures at Howitt designed to create a safer more efficient pickup and drop off route. Farmingdale Village Mayor George Graf, Superintendent of Buildings Ron Craig, Superintendent of Public Works Fred Zamparelle and Code Enforcement Chief Joann Edling attended a series of meetings and offered traffic flow suggestions and assistance. "We have worked very closely with the school board, residents, and the 8th precinct to make these traffic safety improvements," Mayor Graf said. "Ron Craig helped



Safety measures implemented at Howitt included the installation of bollards (yellow posts in the background), fencing to direct children to the crosswalks, a new pick up and drop area and "stop when pedestrians are in crosswalk signs" (supplied by the Village)



Village Code Enforcement Officer Joann Edling, NC Police Officer Paul Lamonaca are shown here at the Howitt Middle School during recent traffic safety enforcement.

work up the final look for channeling the traffic. We are using code enforcement to remind drivers who attempt to double park, to continue on. When you double park you endanger the children that are crossing the busy street." Mayor Graf also arranged with the Nassau County Police Department's 8th Precinct to have a police car at Howitt when children are being dropped off in the morning and picked up in the afternoon. This stepped up enforcement and the newly installed fence has resulted in a much safer environment for the children.

## Farmingdale PAL Flag Football Starts Season



Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor John Venditto and Mayor Graf are shown here with Farmingdale Police Activity League Flag Football players at their 4th annual opening day ceremonies.

## Mayor Graf Speaks at Farmingdale Lunch Rotary



(l-r) Rotary President Robert Diaz, Mayor Graf, Rotary Vice President Prakash Pisipati.

Mayor Graf was the guest speaker at the Farmingdale Lunch Rotary Club recent meeting held at Terry G's on Main Street. The Mayor updated the group about the numerous projects and improvements that have been instituted including: the restoration of Farmingdale Plaza, parkland beautification, 150 Secatogue apartment complex renovation progress, road construction and the visioning process.



## Assemblyman Conte Thanks Blood Donors



New York State Assemblyman James D. Conte watches as Village Administrator Dave Smollett donates blood.

*I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the over 40 people who came to Farmingdale Village Hall last Tuesday to give blood. You have given a little bit of yourself for others and our community. It was great to have the support of all those who chose to participate. I also wish to thank Mayor George Graf, Village Clerk Dave Smollett and the whole Farmingdale Village staff for helping me host this event.*

*The New York Blood Center and Long Island Blood Services have been great partners in this community blood drive and I applaud their efforts as well. Giving blood can help save lives, not only during times of crisis, but all year long. I implore anyone who wishes to donate to call Long Island Blood Services at 1-800-688-0900.*

*James D. Conte  
Member of Assembly, 10th District*

## Fire Department Receives New Ambulance to Protect the Village



The Village Board and the Farmingdale Fire Department are pleased to announce that the recently purchased ambulance equipped with the latest life saving tools is now in service.

## Viva Juan Opens on Main Street

The ribbon cutting ceremony was recently held for the newest Main Street restaurant, Viva Juan. Located at 169 Main Street (just North of the railroad tracks) it offers delicious Mexican cuisine for lunch, dinner and catering.



Pictured l-r: Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf, Christina Perez, Viva Juan owner Ernesto Perez with Ernesto Perez, Jr., Village of Farmingdale Trustee Patricia A. Christiansen, Village of Farmingdale Deputy Mayor Joe Rachiele.



## Sperry Credit Union Provides Free Ice Cream

Farmingdale's newest neighbor, Sperry Credit Union, was on hand at the Village Pops final concert of the season where they provided free ice cream to all the attendees. Sperry merged with the Bi-County Postal Federal credit which was headquartered at 521 Conklin Street in Farmingdale. Sperry is pleased to now offer their services to the Farmingdale community.

Pictured l-r: Village of Farmingdale Deputy Mayor Joe Rachiele, Sperry Business Development Manager Jan DiGeronimo, Sperry Community Relations Rep. Joe Carosella, Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf, Sperry IT specialist Guy Salyer and Sperry Farmingdale Branch manager Jean Viviani.





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Mayor: George J. Graf

Deputy Mayor: Joseph F. Rachiele

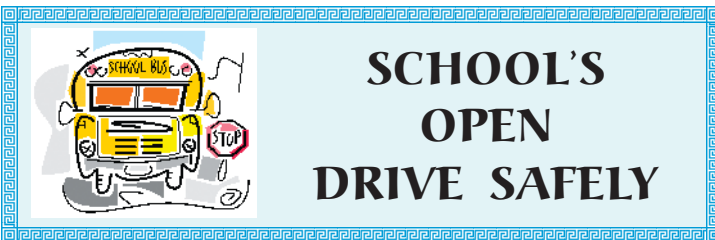
Trustees: Thomas A. Langon, Patricia A. Christiansen, George Starkie

Clerk/Administrator: David Smollett

September, 2007

## VISIONING UPDATE

Please Participate in Farmingdale's Future



You are invited  
to a  
Special Trustee Meeting  
on  
October 15, 2007  
at 7:30 pm  
at Village Hall to hear Eric Alexander from  
Vision Long Island update the Board and  
the attendees of our visioning progress and  
also see some  
exciting proposals that the board is  
reviewing for the revitalization of  
our Main Street.

For the latest Vision Long Island Report,  
please visit [www.farmingdalevillage.com](http://www.farmingdalevillage.com)  
and click on "visioning recommendations"  
on the left hand column.



Village of Farmingdale  
361 Main Street  
Farmingdale, NY 11735

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