



# FARMINGDALE VILLAGE REPORT

GEORGE J. GRAF, Mayor

December, 2006

## A Message From Village Mayor GEORGE J. GRAF

One of the things that make our village so festive each year is the decorations on Main Street and the surrounding roads. A year ago, Deputy Mayor Joe Rachiele brought to the Board's attention the sad condition of our ornamental lights that hung across Main Street. The garland light strings were originally purchased by the Chamber of Commerce in the 1980's and was in need of replacement. The Chamber, over the last two years, has donated over 40 new candy cane lights (over \$16K) to the Village. While these new lights spruced up the surrounding areas, our Main Street definitely needed some help.

After extensive research including a drive down Stewart Avenue in Bethpage (they had just hung their newly purchased lights) a recommendation was made that we buy new lights. The Board, after review and discussion, decided to allocate funds to purchase the new lights. The Board then circulated catalog pages to the attendees at a few trustee meetings to receive input from interested residents. Dept. of Public Works Superintendent Fred Zamparelle reviewed the options and styles and made a recommendation on which type of lights we should buy (keeping in mind installation and removal costs, durability and the unique dimensions that exist on Main Street). Deputy Mayor Rachiele had also found out that the manufacturers of these lights substantially discount their inventory in January (right after the holiday season). A decision was made to wait until the beginning of 2006 to purchase the lights. By doing so the village saved approx-



imately 1/3 off the original cost.

The results of his hard work are now evident on Main Street. The beautiful lights strings of snow flakes, candy canes and poinsettias offer a festive glow to our town. Like everything else these days, the technology and styles have dramatically changed. The new lights are better made and easier to install. They will provide years of enjoyment to our residents and visitors to our town. As you drive through town I hope you will also notice the efforts of our revitalized Beautification Committee. Under the leadership of Trustee Patricia Christiansen, they have decorated the lamp poles, the gazebo, hung hanging baskets, and have

placed 48 trees throughout Main Street.

I would like to thank the following people for helping with the decorations: **The Beautification Committee members and their families, The Farmingdale Fire Department, The Farmingdale High School Honor Society, Women's Club; Junior League and the Confirmation candidates from St. Luke's Church and St. Kilian's Church.**

I also want to thank Deputy Mayor Joe Rachiele and Trustee George "Butch" Starkie for spending countless hours over the holiday season decorating in the Village. Their efforts and the hard work of The Beautification Committee have added to the unique warmth that our town has (especially during the holidays!). Please include the Village in your holiday shopping dining and celebration plans this year. I would like to wish everyone a very happy holiday and a healthy prosperous new year.



# Village Holds Eighteenth Annual Holiday Lighting of the Village's Tricentennial Tree



L-r: Outgoing Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce President Pete Yovine, Kiwanis President Rosemary Trudden, Incoming Chamber President Debbie Podolski, Mayor George Graf, Farmingdale Chamber Exec. VP, Ralph Ekstrand, Village Trustee Tom Langon, Farmingdale - Bethpage Historical Society VP Mildred Johnston and Village Historian and Tree Ceremony Coordinator William Johnston.

The annual event was one again sponsored by the Village, the Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society, the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis Club of Farmingdale. The Village Board would like to thank our Village Historian Bill Johnston who once again coordinated the event. Special thanks also go to Village Pops Director Brad DeMilo for assisting as the events emcee. The music was provided by the South Shore Brass Ensemble and the Howitt Select Choir. Refreshments were provided by the Kiwanis club after the event.



Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf, with the help from our local children, shouts the command to light the Tricentennial Tree.

## **IMPORTANT NUMBERS:**

Village Hall- 516-249-0093

Village Administrator -Village Clerk: Dave Smollett -516-249-0093

Taxes, assessments, licenses, water billing, parking permits, senior citizen taxi coupons, street light outages, public information,

Public Works: Fred Zamparelle, Superintendent: 516-249-0111

Street Maintenance, curbside tree planting

Village Water District: Doanld Ott, Supervisor: 516-249-6770

Garbage Collection: (Town of Oyster Bay): 516-677-5848

Building Department: Ron Craig, Superintendent: 516-249-0093 ext. 220

Permits and certificates of occupancy

Justice Court: Court Clerk: 516-293-2292

Parking and moving violations, code violations

Registrar- Lillian Kowalski: 516-249-1045

Birth and death certificates

Code Enforcement: 516-249-0093 ext. 222

**FIRE DEPARTMENT -EMERGENCY ONLY 516-249-0070**

## **Next Trustee Meeting-January 2 at 7:30 PM**

This meeting will include a public hearing to consider 2 new zoning laws. The zoning laws are the product of the study the Board has undertaken during the zoning moratorium. One proposed law would increase the lot width required for homes in the B District. The other would introduce Office/Residential Use to the B District as a permitted use with a special exception. The public is invited to comment on the proposed laws at the hearing.

# FROM THE CHIEF'S OFFICE

By Chief John Salerno, Farmingdale Fire Department

The Christmas season is upon us. While many of you have already hung your lights, I still want to review some safety tips. Holiday decorating presents a few hazards: climbing ladders, walking on roofs and faulty extension cords. Stringing lights can be a fun time for everyone as long as we can do it safely. Every year slip and fall injuries increase. Some are minor and some major. I know you don't want to spend the holidays in traction. So why does this happen? Mostly because all of us wait till the coldest, snowiest days to hang lights, hey why do these things on a Saturday afternoon? When we can do it at 6:30 at night right after work, when it's nice and dark and we are tired from work and rushing to get it done. We all do it! So don't knock yourself, or feel I am picking on you but that's human nature. So now that we have that out of the way lets see how we can make this year's holiday season safe. First let's get the lights out of the garage, untangle them, check for any frayed areas and plug them in. (The time to

find broken bulbs is before we hang them). Ok, all the lights work, now's the time to call the kids and let them finish the rest, while you relax on the couch with the eggnog and it's a "Wonderful Life". But if your kids are out, and it's all up to you, its time to put the ladder up. This is a 2-person job, one person to climb and one person to foot the ladder so it doesn't slip out, so remember to have your lovely wife wear the proper shoes to climb the ladder, just kidding, either way someone has to hold the ladder. Just remember your wife will be the person calling 911 should a mishap happen so be nice to her and remember she didn't pack the bulbs away last year so its not her fault they look like fat green spaghetti. Lets talk about your shoes (Slippers and flip-flops are not considered the proper Christmas light hanging apparel) so wear something that has a good rubber sole. While up on the ladder remembers the 3-point rule (This is not a Football Spread). The 3-point rule is always maintaining 3 points of contact with the ladder. Which means 2 feet 1 hand, 2 hands 1 foot you get the picture? Make sure you place the ladder in an area where it will not interfere with you stringing the lights. (Bouncing the ladder across the roof is not safe). While climbing the ladder take a look at each rung, looking for cracks or bends, if any of them look unsafe get off the ladder and borrow one from your neighbors. The Top of the ladder should be at least two feet above the roofline. Hanging your foot over the edge looking for that top rung is not safe. As you hang the



**The Farmingdale Fire Department recently held its annual Inspection and Installation Dinner. Mayor Graf joined with Town of Oyster Bay Councilman Anthony D. Macagone and New York State Senator Kemp Hannon to thank and acknowledge their efforts. l-r: Sal Pontillo, 2nd Assistant Chief Keith Ryan, Councilman Anthony Macagnone, Assistant Chief Skip Schumeyer, Senator Kemp Hannon, Mayor George Graf, FFD Board of Commissioners Chairman Tim Dillon.**

lights keep your mind on your surroundings, Electrical wires, tree branches etc. Even though it may look safe, ladders and gutters will not hold a 200-lbs.-man, ok 220 lbs. but I m starting my diet after the holidays. Never the less laying on your back with a leaf filled gutter on your chest will not make for a good Christmas card photo, (Believe me she will have a camera) and you know your wife will be glad to snap the picture and show her friends. So don't hang on the gutters or use them as footrest. While on the roof patients can be your best friend, If the string of lights gets hung up on something, its better to get off the ladder or walk back to where it is caught rather than having a tug of war with an electrical cord. Remember tug of war with your friend's back in the day. When your friend would let the rope go and you would fall on your butt. Well same thing applies here, but remember where you are, the roof! It's a long way down. I think you get the point. Walking on a roof is no easy task, it can become very unstable and you can lose your footing easily. So if you follow these little safety tips, you should be home for Christmas standing in an upright position. There will be no incrimination photos of you on the Internet with the label "My know it all husband"! Well the lights are hung; your wife is happy so come down from the roof and plug them in, sit back and enjoy the rest of your holiday. The Farmingdale Fire Departments Chiefs Office and Members wish the residents of Farmingdale a very safe and happy holiday.



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## 13th Annual Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce Holiday Parade



Mayor Graf joins with the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce Board members at the start of the annual Holiday Parade. Pictured (Back Row L-R) Out Going President Pete Yovine, Board Member Dr Chris Wider, Mayor Graf . Front Row: Andrew Wenzel, VP Ruth Tarlow, Incoming President Debbie Podolski, Board Member Pat Stickle, Brendan Wenzel and Board Member Mark Wenzel.



Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf is shown here with Troop Leader Eileen Shields and the Hot Chocolates from troop 3444.



Santa (aka Dr. Walter Priestly) and some local reindeer)

Village of Farmingdale  
361 Main Street  
Farmingdale, NY 11735

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