



FARMINGDALE VILLAGE REPORT

GEORGE J. GRAF, Mayor

December, 2007

A Message From Village Mayor GEORGE J. GRAF



A few weeks ago the wonderful tradition of lighting the Tricentennial Tree in the Village Green, once again took place. This event is sponsored each year by the Village of Farmingdale and the Farmingdale Bethpage Historical Society (FBHS) in cooperation with the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis Club of Farmingdale. While the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce's holiday parade kicked off the holiday season a week earlier, the tree lighting signifies the start of the holiday season in Farmingdale. And what a great start we gave it. I want 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. Each year a different choral group from the Farmingdale School District entertains. The Junior Chorus of Woodward Parkway School did the honors this year also continuing the tradition of beautiful performances. I have to thank the Choir Director Debra Lutz and the Farmingdale School District for the tremendous job they do with our children. You really appreciate it when you hear and see the performances of our school children. As has been part of our

tradition, the South Shore Brass Ensemble provided the holiday music. They even had a guest drummer jam with them at the end (NYS Assemblyman Joe Saladino performed admirably!) The tree was lighted and refreshments were provided after the event by the Kiwanis Club. A perfect ending to the short but truly entertaining ceremony. This event is truly a neighborhood affair that epitomizes the warmth of our community. It's especially rewarding for me to see the Village Gazebo and Green area looking the way I envisioned it a few years back. When I took office the Gazebo was just an unfinished shell. To see the beautifully decorated Gazebo host the large amount of people assembled was very gratifying. I



look forward to many more events like this in the future. I would also like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Beautification Committee for all their hard work that they put into decorating our Village. With the holiday season now "officially" open I want to remind and urge not only our village residents but our entire Farmingdale community to shop in our village. Our downtown area has everything for your holiday gift giving needs, your dinners and parties and we feature some of the finest values for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Our local merchants are dedicated to providing the best service and products to you. The blend of old and new vendors truly provide one of the most unique downtown shopping areas on Long Island. I recently attended the ribbon cutting for the newest business in our village, Bergen Tile. Their new store located at the old Lee Dodge Building on Conklin has a wide variety of tile, carpet and floor coverings. I also the annual Holiday open house at Dinda Florist, owners Lisa and Laura have once again decorated their store with a wonderful selection of holiday gifts and decorations. When you shop at Dinda Florist, Bergen Tile, The Four Star variety, like most of our businesses in the village, you are dealing directly with the owners, owners who have a vested stake in making sure you receive premium service and quality products. I look forward to seeing you "in town" and enjoying with you, the unique Farmingdale Village "holiday" shopping experience.



Romanelli Added to Village Hall Wall of Officials



Pasquale Romanelli was honored for his 27 years of service to the Village at a recent Trustee Meeting. His photo was added to the Wall of Officials at Village Hall. Mr. Romanelli served from 1972 to 1995 as a Zoning Board member (5 years), as a Village Trustee (12 years) and as Deputy Mayor (10 years).

Priestly Chiropractic Welcomes New Doctor



Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf attended the welcoming ceremony for Saji Francis, MD that was recently held at Priestly Chiropractic. He will be maintaining office hours at their building at 81 Conklin Street. Dr. Francis is a family practitioner specializing in internal medicine with a holistic approach. Dr Priestly stated, "some patients come to our office for conditions that may also benefit from medical care. Having a doctor that understands the benefit of chiropractic care and has the training and resources of a medical professional is an asset and a convenience to our patients". Pictured l-r: Dr. Chris Wider, Dr. Walter Priestly, Karen Ciorciari, Dr. Saji Francis, Mayor Graf and Alexandra Laudisio .

Bergen Tile & Carpet Center Opens on Conklin



Pictured: l-r Village of Farmingdale Trustee George Starkie, Bergen Tile President Hal Fuchs, Jane Fuchs, Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf and Village Trustee Patricia A. Christiansen are shown at the recent ribbon cutting for the new Bergen Tile & Carpet Center located at 330 Conklin Street (the former Lee Dodge building). Bergen Tile has been operating their three other stores since 1959. They have a full line of tile and carpet

Ron Craig Speaks at Smart Growth Summit



Village Building Department Superintendent Ron Craig was a guest speaker at 6th Annual Smart Growth Summit presented by Vision Long Island. The comprehensive land use conference brought Long Island's leaders and experts together to address issues of smart growth and Livability. Ron presented a segment on Codes & Regulating Plans: From Vision to Implementation.

Beautification Committee Decorates Village

Despite brisk wind, freezing temperatures and snow flakes, spirits were high as members of the Village Beautification Committee gathered together on several nights, three Saturday mornings and a couple weekday afternoons preparing our Village for the Holiday Season. Beginning with making bows, they hung lit garland at the Gazebo, fresh green roping and bows along the new fence and decorated the



lampposts at Village Green all in time to celebrate the Tri-Centennial Tree lighting. For the next project, members of the Committee, hung roping and bows at the train station and placed fresh greenery at all the signs throughout the Village. Members could be seen standing on ladders placing festive decorations in the baskets located at the street signs on Main Street as well as hanging our new wreaths on the lamp posts. One Saturday morning the Committee was joined by members of the High School National Honor Society as lights were strung on the forty trees that we see along Main Street. The festive decorations at the entrance to the parking lot, the Gazebo/sign located at

the Melville Road triangle and the sign on Merritts Road are in the true holiday spirit welcoming all to Farmingdale Village. At darkness looking at the three trees in the Gazebo with their white lights truly captures the beauty of the season. All of this was made possible through the time and effort of Karen Bensen, Carol & Bruce Budinoff, Joe Carosella, Debbie Catrone, Ted Dorfmeister, Kathy Norjen, Michael O'Brien, Jim & Jean Orobona, Maria Ortolani, Cheryl & Nick Parisi, Ellen Pence, Nancy Peteka, Maria Richer, Loda Romanelli, Joanne Romano, Fran Rotundo, Mary Salzano, Patti Starkie, Val Thieke, Judy Vilas and Trustees Butch Starkie and Pat Christiansen. Thanks also to members of the Village's Department of Public Works who hung the lights on the Bi-Centennial Tree and the tree at the entrance to Parking lot as well as the tree at Merritts Road. The spirit of the season is very evident in the Village of Farmingdale!



NATURAL GAS PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO VILLAGE RESIDENTS

Mayor Graf & the Trustees would like to remind you about an exciting new natural gas supply program that is being offered by the Nassau County Villages Officials Association (NCVOA) and Econergy Energy Company, Inc. Econergy can get you:

- Competitive variable natural gas rates.
- A 1.9 cent/therm Merchant Function Backout Credit.
- A 10% rebate on your highest month's supply bill.
- The same reliable service from KeySpan.

You will receive the application and information in the mail. If you have additional questions about the NCVOA's natural gas program with Econergy, please contact Econergy's knowledgeable customer service staff at 877-893-6374, Monday-Thursday, between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. and on Friday between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. You can also obtain additional information about Econergy and this program at www.econergy.com/NCVOA.



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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

www.farmingdalevillage.com

Northside Park is Born

Due to extraordinary efforts of your elected officials and private industry, Farmingdale's new park is on its way to completion. Grateful for the efforts of Legislator Dave Mejias, Christmas and the holiday spirit came early to Farmingdale.



Nassau County Legislator Dave Mejias arranged for the transfer of title to 1/3 acre of property on the corner of Main Street and Bethpage Road for only \$1,000.00. He then secured a \$40,000 grant to pay for the construction that is transforming the unused parcel of land into a pristine neighborhood park.

Paul Fogelberg, a Professor of Landscape Architecture at SUNY Farmingdale was contacted and asked for assistance. Paul stepped to the plate by contributing his plans designing a wonderful passive-use park that, when completed, will be entered in the New York State Landscape awards program for its category.

Mr. Angelo Fuschetto, the owner of a local award winning landscape design build firm, bid the job at cost to work within the Villages limited budget. Starkie Brothers Garden Center donated all of the trees and shrubs to the park. The perennials were at cost. The Beautification Committee then met to discuss plant and shrub placement as well as the finishing touches that will include spring flowers and perennials to be planted in May.

Upon completion of the park in the spring, there will be 3 pondless waterfalls for visual and sound effect, benches and all new lighting, completing the team effort.



THANK YOU!

The Village Administration would like to thank all our residents who assisted the DPW with the leaf pickup program. Your cooperation made this one of the best years.

Village of Farmingdale
361 Main Street
Farmingdale, NY 11735
516-249-0093

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