



# FARMINGDALE VILLAGE REPORT

GEORGE J. GRAF, Mayor

June, 2007

## A Message From Village Mayor GEORGE J. GRAF

### *The Greening of our Village*

Summer is an exciting time as families plan vacations; children enjoy a break from school and parent's frantic schedule of balancing school, athletics, music, and the arts events slows. This summer, your Board of Trustees will actually step up the pace of projects currently underway. The redevelopment of 150 Secatogue apartment complex continues on schedule. Phase IV of the roadway repavement is nearing completion on Prospect St., Doud St., Weiden St., Circle Dr., Cobb St., West St., and Laurelton St., and is expanding to Clinton street, Balcom Road, Powell Place and Secatogue Ave north of the railroad tracks. As exciting as these redevelopment and infrastructure improvements are, the improvement to our parklands is without a doubt the most satisfying. Earlier this year, your Board, developed and signed into law the Park Land Fund. This law requires developers to set aside land or pay a fee when those developments create new lots within the Village. This new law will provide for an improvement of quality of life by creating new park lands or funding to improve existing ones. Also, during the past year, your Board of Trustees has been busy planning the largest improvement and upgrade to our park lands in decades. There are currently three projects underway simultaneously. A brief description is provided below. (A special thanks goes out to N.C. Legislator Dave Mejias who secured \$90,000 in grants to help fund these projects)

**Village Green** – Under the direction of Trustee George “Butch” Starkie the Village Green is being completely redesigned to compliment the Gazebo. His expertise and unselfish donation of both time and effort has allowed for the realization of this project. The Green's walkways have been redone with interlocking pavers, 16,000 square feet of new sod has been installed, a new in-ground sprinkler system has been completed, and new lighting is scheduled to be installed shortly. The new sidewalk at the rear of the Green has been installed beginning Phase II of the project which will also include handicapped parking, an upgraded sound system for the Gazebo's summer concerts, as well as the installation of new five foot high estate fencing along Rose Street. The



removal of existing shrubbery by the Village Department of Public Works, along with a new landscape design, has allowed for improved visibility of the Gazebo from Main Street. In addition, a new water fountain purchased with generous donations by the Farmingdale Women's Club and our Village Fire Department is nearing completion.

**New “Northside pocket park”** – Working with Legislator Mejias, the Village has purchased the undeveloped land directly across from the Northside Elementary School. The purchase of this parcel from the County for the mere sum of \$1,000 represents the first addition of park land to the Village in many decades. More importantly

it allows for the preservation of open space and illustrates the Village's commitment to the new Master Plan and Visioning Process. Landscape plans are currently being drawn for this property to provide an enhanced streetscape as well as a pocket park with no play equipment.

**Grengas Park** – After several decades of weathering rain, sleet, snow and the heat of summer, much of the children's play equipment is now worn and outdated. With grant money from the County, most of the equipment will be replaced or updated. Assisting in the restoration project are two Boy Scouts working on individual Eagle Scout projects. The park restoration is expected to be completed by early fall.

Trustee Patricia A. Christiansen and I wish to extend a special invitation to every Farmingdale resident to attend the anniversary festivities planned for Sunday, July 8th at the newly renovated Village Green. The Village is celebrating the 75th anniversary of Village Hall, as well as the 25th anniversary of the Village Pops summer concerts. Please see the article inside this newsletter.



Site of the new Northside Pocket Park.

## Millie Digianni Celebrates 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday



Farmingdale Resident Millie Digianni (c) is shown here accepting a proclamation from Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf recognizing and honoring her on her 100th birthday. Millie's daughter Connie Squitieri shared in the special day that was held at the St. Kilians Senior Club last month.

## Mayor Graf receives "Supporting Education Key" from L.L. Weans"



Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf (center) receives the L.L. Weans Key for supporting education from L.L. Weans Owners Michelle and Alan Lepler. The Mayor was a speaking guest at their annual L.L. Weans Classroom Makeover Awards Night. L.L. Weans is located in Airport Plaza in Farmingdale. They are Long Island's largest educational store.

## Mayor Graf Attends Farmingdale Soccer Day

Mayor Graf is shown here with TOB Supervisor John Venditto at the recently held Farmingdale Soccer Soccer Day. The Supervisor and Mayor along with our other elected officials assisted in handing out trophies, medals and awards.



Pictured: (l-r) TOB Councilman Joseph Muscarella, Joe Belesi representing NYS Assemblyman Joe Saladino, TOB Councilman Tony Macagnone, Mayor Graf, TOB Supervisor John Venditto, NC County family Court Judge Richard Lawrence, Rhona E. Fisher from the County Attorney's Office and TOB Clerk Steve Labriola.

## Mayor Graf attends FBLI's Baseball Day



Mayor Graf is pictured here with some of the Boys Juniors All Stars at Farmingdale Baseballs annual Baseball Day which was held at Allen Park. The day long event had skills competitions, all star games and the younger players received their participation trophies.



# FARMINGDALE VILLAGE CELEBRATING



## TWO ANNIVERSARIES ON 7/8

The Incorporated Village of Farmingdale is celebrating two anniversaries on July 8, 2007. They are the 75th Anniversary of the Village Hall-Fire House Building and the 25th Anniversary of the Village Pops.

After its incorporation in 1904, the Village rented what had been a local office of the Town of Oyster Bay. Once the decision was made to build its own Village Hall-Fire House on the same site, the Village purchased and razed the building. In 1930 this decision was a difficult one since the country was in the midst of a great economic slump and the anticipated cost of the project was \$140,000. Village residents rejected this proposal by a 2-1 margin in December 1930. In March, a second proposal was presented to residents with the bond debt scaled back to \$74,000 and passed easily. Bids were sought, contracts awarded and construction began in the summer of 1931.

The new Village Hall - Fire House Building was officially dedicated by Mayor Frank Scholl in 1932. It was the first time the two fire services, the Hook and Ladder Company and the Water Witch Company were united under one roof.

In 1979 an addition was constructed to the building including a new entrance, lobby and meeting chamber and over the last several years, updating and upgrading of infrastructure and operation systems at Village have been completed.

In 1983, with the availability of the Village Green as a suitable site, the Village Pops was founded by Brad DeMilo. Consisting of volunteer musicians, this band has performed weekly during the summer under Mr. DeMilo's direction for the past 25 years. In recent years, the Gazebo/Bandstand at Village Green has been the site of the Pops concerts. Residents look forward to gathering with friends and neighbors weekly to enjoy these wonderful concerts.

To mark the anniversaries, the Village has planned a celebration including Open House at the Village Hall-Fire House on Sunday, July 8th beginning at 2:00 PM. There will be activities for the children in Village Green and refreshments behind the Fire House. At 4:30 PM, the Village Pops will begin their Anniversary Concert with the same musical selections performed in their initial concert in 1983.

## Sunday, July 8th

**Village Hall -- Fire House**  
**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**  
**2:00 PM**

**Village Pops**  
**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**  
**Concert at 4:30 PM**



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## Village Pops Concert Schedule



Celebrating  
their  
25th year!

All concerts at the  
Village Green  
@ 7:30 PM  
(unless noted)

7/8\*, 7/11,  
7/18, 7/25,  
8/1, 8/8

\* special 25th  
anniversary concert  
is on Sunday and  
starts at 4:30 PM

### UPCOMING TRUSTEE MEETINGS

• JULY 9<sup>TH</sup> • AUGUST 6<sup>TH</sup> • SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

Please check the Village website  
[www.farmingdalevillage.org](http://www.farmingdalevillage.org) for any changes or updates

Village of Farmingdale  
361 Main Street  
Farmingdale, NY 11735

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