



FARMINGDALE VILLAGE REPORT

GEORGE J. GRAF, Mayor

November, 2005

A Message From Village Mayor **GEORGE J. GRAF**

As I have discussed on a number of occasions, I consider Main Street and the Village the heart of Farmingdale in terms of heritage, commerce and community. Since being elected 1 1/2 years ago my administration and I have worked seven days a week to improve the quality of life in the Village. Our efforts to reverse the decades long deterioration in the Secatogue area and on Conklin Street by vigorously pursuing code violators has resulted in a significant turnaround in a very short period of time. Our Code Enforcement Department has almost tripled in size on our watch. We now have part-time officers who patrol our streets and commercial parking lots Thursday through Sunday nights and are stationed on Conklin Street starting at 6 AM during the work week. This increased enforcement combined with the diligent efforts of Village Prosecutor Tom Sabellico, has resulted in a very high conviction rate for people violating the no stopping laws on Conklin Street. The number of fines rose from 660 @ \$75 to 2000 @ \$100 in our first year. The fine is now \$125 for violators to further discourage stopping on Conklin Street.

Head Code Enforcement Officer Ron Craig has also worked tirelessly implementing this administration's directive to rid the Village of illegal apartments by focusing on the numerous absentee owner homes converted into mini boarding houses. The results of these three efforts are now becoming evident as 150 Secatogue is being sold to a nationally recog-



nized real estate corporation with a reputation for providing quality housing, Conklin Street is returning to the way it was fifteen years ago and one by one our residential streets are being rid of the density that accompany multiple families living in single family homes.

Many residents have also voiced their concerns regarding increased police patrols and faster response to non emergency calls. I have spoken with Nassau County Police 8th Precinct Commanding Officer, Monty Gerbush, on several occasions regarding increasing police coverage in the Village and the answer is always the same, there are not enough officers to meet the increasing demands of the Nassau communities. We will continue to keep an open communication with the 8th pct POP (Problem Oriented Policing) officers and continue to lobby for the police coverage we need to keep our Village safe. We also are continuing our pursuit to return "the beat cop" to patrol Main Street. We also realize the importance of supporting the many agencies that work within our community that provide other vital programs that affect our quality of life. We are proud to support YES counseling, by doubling our donation to them this year so they can continue to employ a youth gang counselor to help identify at risk children and have them avoid potentially dangerous situations. You can rest assured that my administration and I will not stop our endless pursuit to improve the quality of life in our community.

Chase Bank Opens on Main Street



Mayor George Graf is shown here at the ribbon cutting for the new Chase Bank at 334 Main Street (the old Mande's). Shown with the Mayor are Chase VP and Branch Manager Frank Jaraba (left), Nancy Lawlor, Chase Sr. VP (Right Center) and James Chalmers, Chase VP & District Manager. The grand opening celebration featured live banjo music and singing, free cotton candy, hot dogs, drinks, face painting and a caricature artist. The beautiful new branch stretches from the Main Street entrance to the back parking lot and offers full banking services. Farmingdale was one of at least 20 "downtown" locations that were under consideration for a "store front" branch. According to the Chase officials, Farmingdale was chosen because of its thriving business district and its "beautiful Main Street".

Cathrine Grassi Named Village Hall Volunteer of the Year



Village of Farmingdale resident Catherine Grassi was awarded a proclamation by Mayor Graf recognizing her as the Village Hall Volunteer of the year. Mrs. Grassi has been helping out in various duties in the Village Clerks office throughout the past year. Pictured: Ms. Grassi proudly displays her award with Mayor Graf and her family. left to right top row: Lisa Waszkiewicz (daughter), Danny Grassi (grandson), James Grassi (Son), Catherine, Ralph Grassi (husband), T.R. Waszkiewicz (grandson), Kristy Grassi (daughter-in-law), Thomas Waszkiewicz (son-in-law) left to right bottom row: P.J. Waszkiewicz (grandson), Katie Waszkiewicz (granddaughter) Jimmy Grassi (grandson), Kimberlee Waszkiewicz (granddaughter).

Village Places Cigarette Receptacles on Main Street

The Village of Farmingdale, continuing their efforts to keep Main Street as clean as possible, have purchased cigarette cans that have been placed strategically throughout the Village. Working in conjunction with the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce, the DPW Department chose various businesses that would have the greatest need for the containers. The local businesses selected have agreed to put them out when they open and take them in when they close. The Village encourages all smokers to utilize these receptacles.



Pictured l-r: Village of Farmingdale Dept. of Public Works Superintendent Fred Zamparelle, Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce President Pete Yovine, Chamber Exec. VP Ralph Ekstrand, Fred Bollinger, General Manager Bollinger's Restaurant.

Farmingdale Community Summit Holds Second Annual Homecoming



Mayor Graf attended the 2nd Annual Farmingdale Community Summit Homecoming Dinner at the Stuart Thomas Manor. Each year the Summit invites its members and any interested potential members to an informal dinner buffet. The representatives from the various organizations have an opportunity to describe what they are about and explain what events they are planning for the upcoming year. The Summit is responsible for Farmingdale Jumps, Farmingdale Reads, The Summit Expo, The 9/11 monument at the Farmingdale Public Library and the Farmingdale Family in Need Fund. The Summit usually meets the second Thursday of each month at 7PM in the Farmingdale Public Library. Pictured l-r: Mayor Graf is shown here with Summit Board Members l-r: Ellen Kramer, Debbie Podolski, Ken Ulric and Dan Kornfeld and Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce President Pete Yovine (right). Missing from the photo Summit President Tom Sabellico and Board Member ex Officio Dr. Roberta Gerrold.

Farmingdale Bethpage Historical Society Installs Officers and Honors Retiring Executive Board Members



Officers and trustees were inducted at the recent FBHS Installation Dinner (Left to Right) Jeanne Buck, corresponding secretary; Mildred Johnston, vice president; Larry Jorgensen, president; Gail Goldschrafe, recording secretary; Nancy White, trustee; Bill Brochu, trustee; Village Mayor George J. Graf; Roy Douglas, Long Island Republic Airport Historic Society, installing officer and speaker; Bill Johnston, Village historian and FBHS program coordinator.



Retiring FBHS trustees Arthur E. Kranz (far left) are George Schriro (far right) are shown with their wives Gertrude Kranz (second from left) and Patricia Schriro receive congratulations and appreciation from Village Mayor George J. Graf (second from right) and Larry Jorgensen, FBHS president (third from right).

Good Neighbor Rules



With Fall now upon us, we would like to remind you of the Village's Good Neighbor Rules. The operation of any landscaping equipment, such as lawn mowers, leaf blowers and edgers is prohibited on Sundays, holidays and before 8AM on all other days.

As a reminder, all commercial and residential landscapers, even if licensed in the town or county, must be licensed by the Village of Farmingdale (licenses can be obtained at Village Hall).

As a courtesy to your neighbors, do not bring yard waste and other garbage to the curb until after sunset the night before garbage pickup (every Tuesday and Friday). Empty garbage cans should be brought in within two hours after pick up.

Up to 10 bags of leaves may be placed curbside on Tuesday nights for pick up by the Town of Oyster Bay on Wednesday Morning.

Residents may also rake loose leaves into the street for the Village leaf vacuum to pick up. If choosing to do so, please keep in mind that although this service circulates through the community daily, it only reaches the individual streets about once every ten days.

Please remember to drive carefully and obey all speed limits when driving through our residential streets and always watch for children playing.

Kiwanis Hold Annual Rag A Muffin Parade



Village of Farmingdale Mayor George Graf (center) with some of the marchers at the beginning of the Parade.



Village of Farmingdale Trustee Ted Dorfmeister and Mayor Graf kick off the Parade.



Costume Contest Winners with Kiwanis Parade Chairperson Rosemary Trudden (back right).



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Veterans Day 2005

Mayor Graf writes a weekly column that appears in the Farmingdale Observer. The following column appeared on November 18, 2005.

To honor the dead-we serve the living. This is the creed of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. It was read once again this year as it is every year on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day in the month. The brief but memorable service takes place at the Village Green war memorial monuments. The members from VFW Post 516 recite the ceremonial blessings and passages to remember the sacrifices that men and women have made to ensure our lasting peace. They also pay tribute to our courageous servicemen and women who are protecting our freedoms today. It is truly a shame that more people do not come out to take part in this ceremony. To hear those brave veterans proudly recite the pledge of alliance brought shivers through my spine. It was and is a very memorable moment to see the pure pride in these men and women when they salute the flag. It's one that every American should experience. Veterans Day, like Memorial Day, has become a day known for its retail sales and shopping bargains. It has faded from the public's consciousness and a good portion of the children and many adults do not know the meaning of this holiday. And some do... Our local Cub Scouts from Pack 601 were on hand to help with the presentation of the colors. To see these young scouts with the seasoned War Veterans was also a very special image. It is a meeting that we need to encourage and help make happen. Our children and adults should take the time to speak with our war veterans and hear first hand about the sacrifices that they and their comrades made. It will help us all appreciate the special freedoms that we have today and why we have to continue to support our troops and their families today. We need to thank and recognize our local VFW post for continuing to allow us to honor our dead and serve the living by letting them know we care.



Farmingdale Cub Scout Pack 601 presented the colors at the ceremony. The Cub Scouts pictured here joined with the Veterans to help commemorate those who served. Shown with Mayor Graf (back row 2nd from left) is Asst. Pack Coordinator Sal Ciampo (back row left).



Village Mayor George Graf (left) is shown here with: (l-r) Flo Cisarik, Past President Ladies Auxiliary, Marge Hemberger, Post Chaplain, Doug Makosky, Commander VFW Post 516, E. McKinkley, Officer Of The Day and Village Trustee Ted Dorfmeister.

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