THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PLANDOME HEIGHTS

Newsletter

SUMMER 2010

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Happy Summer One & All!

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A Special Summer Intern

Matthew Woo is having an exceptionally productive summer. Currently, he is enjoying a summer internship at the Office of Legislator Judith Bosworth, where he is learning much about county government and how legislation is accomplished. As Matt's internship with Legislator Bosworth is not five days a week, Matt is also able to intern with the Village of Plandome Heights. For our Village, Matt is documenting and photographing the location and conditions of each and every storm drain in Plandome Heights. You may have seen him walking around with his camera.

This project is an interesting one for Matt because it follows on from the storm drain project initiated by his father, former Mayor Gene Woo, who served our Village for years.

Matt is a student at Vassar College where he is a biology major. Although Matt has not firmly decided on a career, he is considering going into the teaching profession. He is a 2008 graduate of Manhasset HS and an Eagle Scout from Troop 97.

Matt understands that he needs to get the storm drain project completed before he goes back to school. In accepting the internship, Matt sent a note "Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to follow up on what my dad started many years ago." ■

Capital "Project Preserve Bay": Status

As reported in the Spring Newsletter, "Project Preserve Bay", funded through a grant from Senator Craig Johnson, was expected to be ready to be executed this summer. Per our engineers, Sidney Bowne and Son, we wanted the project to start this August and expected it to take about 30 calendar days to complete. As noted at the Village meeting and previous Newsletter, the actual start date continues to be dependent on the funding agreement with the NYS Dormitory Authority finalizing the "disbursement agreement" which allows the village to draw on the funds needed for the project. Since Albany must pass the New York State Budget prior to the NYS Dormitory Authority releasing the contracts, Plandome Heights has no choice but to wait it out. To be continued! ■

"Project Green Lighting" Passes House Sub-Committee on Appropriations for FY 2011

At press deadline, we were notified by Congressman Gary Ackerman's office that our $120,000 request for funding to swap out streetlights with "green" LED technology has passed. This is the first in a five-step process – so we shall not pop the champagne cork just yet. As more is known, we will update you. For this crucial step, however, we are grateful to Congressman Ackerman! ■

Changes around Town

Senator Craig Johnson's Chief of Staff, Rafe Lieber, has resigned that position to become the Director of Inter-Municipal Affairs for the Town of North Hempstead. Rafe replaces Kevin Kelly, with whom we held a wonderful working relationship. Kevin has returned to his original post in the Parks Department. We have worked hard at developing a good relationship with Rafe in his post with Senator Johnson, and are hopeful that the camaraderie will transfer to his new post – and we're off to a good start. The Clerk's first call to Rafe was to reinstall a stop sign, pulled up by area kids over the weekend. It was reinstalled the next day. We wish Rafe and Kevin well in their new positions.

We also congratulate former Greater Council of Manhasset president, Ann Marie Curd, in her new role as Manhasset Park District Commissioner.

... and Changes around our Village

After nearly 20 years of service to Plandome Heights, Architectural Review Board member Marlene Nowicki has sold her home and will be leaving us. Her guidance and insight has been an invaluable contribution over these many years, and all of her friends and colleagues throughout the Village will very much miss her and her counsel.

To fill the vacancy created by Marlene's departure, effective August 2nd the Mayor is appointing resident John Starck Jr., from 11 Bournedale Road South. John is the President and CEO of Showcase Kitchens - a family owned design firm specializing in upscale kitchen and baths for over 75 years with locations in Manhasset, Manhattan, Island Park and Greenwich, Connecticut. John has been a professional interior designer for over 20 years. He is an active member of the National Kitchen and Bath Association and the National Association of the Remodeling Industry. He is certified as a kitchen and bath designer and accredited as a space planner for upscale furniture design. John's designs have won national and regional awards as well as being published in magazines such as Better Homes and Gardens, Architectural Digest, House Magazine and @Home Magazine. He has been featured in "The Who's Who of Kitchen Design" as well as named as "Top Ten Interior Designers on Long Island" by New York Spaces Magazine. Over the last 6 years John has lived in Manhasset with his wife and 2 children and has been actively engaged in local charities and organizations such as the Manhasset Community fund and the local Chamber of Commerce.

Clerk-Treasurer Valerie Onorato has left her post at Plandome Heights to become Clerk-Treasurer at Roslyn Harbor. Roslyn Harbor and Plandome Heights are similar in population and environment. The single biggest difference between the two situations is that Roslyn Harbor participates in the NYS Retirement System, and Plandome Heights does not. Valerie helped to organize the new Village Hall office and was directly involved in many of the improvement projects over the last several years. We wish her well in her new endeavor, and thank her for her contributions to our Village.

We are most fortunate to have been able to hire Marianne Lobaccaro as our new Clerk-Treasurer and would like to welcome her. Marianne resides in Albertson with her husband Michael and her daughters Stephanie and Elizabeth. Marianne received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Binghamton University and a certificate of Paralegal Studies from Adelphi University. She has varied work experience including ten years as a paralegal in Manhattan. She spent 13 years working part time for the Town of North Hempstead and the Incorporated Village of Williston Park. Marianne has devoted many hours to various volunteer activities including teaching religious education, Herricks PTA, Nassau County Girl Scouts and has coached softball, soccer and swimming. She currently is the Treasurer of the Herricks Athletic Booster and the Coordinator of the St. Aidan's Swim Team. She sits on the St. Aidan's Youth Council Steering Committee. ■

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PLANDOME HEIGHTS

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Trustee

Silva Ferman
Trustee

Don Parker
Trustee

Kenneth C. Riscica
Trustee

Norman Taylor
Trustee

Marianne Lobaccaro
Village Clerk / Treasurer

Ann Demeri
Deputy Clerk
Court Clerk

Cye E. Ross, Esq.
Village Justice

Edward P. Butt, AIA
Village Building Inspector
Stormwater Mgmt Officer

Richard Hirt
Architectural Review Board, Chair

Marion Endrizzi
Planning Board, Chair

Trey Harragan
Technology Advisory Board, Chair

Eugene O'Connor
Zoning and Appeals Board, Chair

Animal Control

Clerk-Treasurer Marianne Lobocarro has received information from the new Town of North Hempstead Director of Inter-Municipal Affairs, Rafe Leiber, regarding raccoon sightings in our Village and indeed the community at large. The Town of North Hempstead has no jurisdiction in dealing with this matter. As the Village is in close proximity to Manhasset Bay, we have to learn to co-exist with many different wildlife species. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) will handle raccoons if there is human exposure, meaning someone is attacked or if the raccoon is trapped in their home. You can contact them at 631-444-0345 or R1info@gw.dec.state.ny.us. If that is not the case, you can contact a certified "Nuisance Wildlife Trapper". A list of the trappers is available in the village office. For further information, you can contact Mike Clark, NYSDEC Wildlife Biologist at 631-444-0311 or our Village Clerk. ■

Mosquito Season

It is very important that we all do our share to help keep the mosquito population as contained as possible. You can help. Please ensure there is no stagnant water on or about your property. Some examples include birdbaths, unused tires or tire swings which may be hanging on trees. Mosquitoes love to breed in stagnant water. ■

Memo from our Emergency Management Coordinator

It has been several weeks since the Thursday afternoon storm that rolled through Great Neck and our Village. While our Village's main damage to property was from winds, which came up Cove Drive to Plandome Road, many households suffered from loss of electricity until the next evening. This storm, which lasted less than a half hour, devastated parts of Great Neck and Kings Point.

Tree maintenance should be performed periodically by every homeowner, thinning out top-heavy trees and removing dead limbs and branches can help reduce the chance of damage to your property.

As we enter into hurricane season it is vital that each and every family be prepared for what could be a major storm event. There are many publications available online from The National Hurricane Center (www.nhc.noaa.gov) and the Red Cross (www.nassauredcross.org) which contain valuable information for you and your family. A free "Your Family Disaster Plan" template from FEMA and the American Red Cross will be posted on-line at www.plandomeheights-ny.gov and also available at the Village office.

We have all experienced blackouts in the past, most last only a few hours. What would you do if LIPA could not restore electricity for five to seven days? Or all roads around you are impassable for a couple of days? Major storms are rare here on the North Shore, but they do happen, ask some of the village's seniors if they were here in '38.

The Scout "Be Prepared" motto cannot be stressed enough. ■

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that our Village mourns the passing of former Building Inspector Tom Byrne, who served Plandome Heights and our neighbors in Plandome so well for so many years.

We extend our sympathy to Tom's family and celebrate his many life achievements.

Summer LIPA News

LIPA sent all villages this notice and asked that we circulate to residents:

With the weather hot hot hot, the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) is encouraging its customers to take advantage of its rebate programs for retiring and replacing old central air conditioning units, pool pumps and recycling old refrigerators. This can help Long Islanders save money on their energy bills and increase their home's energy efficiently.

LIPA is introducing a new *Cool Homes Retirement* program, allowing customers to replace aging central air conditioning units (installed prior to 2004) with a qualifying high efficiency model. Depending on the energy efficiency rating of the new unit, customers will be eligible to receive up to $700 in LIPA rebates as well as possible federal tax credits. Central air conditioning systems 10 years or older can be as much as 40% less efficient than new, high-efficiency models. A new high-efficiency unit can save customers an average of $250 a year. Visit http://www.lipower.org/residential/efficiency/programs/coolhomes.html for more information.

In addition, LIPA is continuing to offer a $75 rebate to customers who purchase or replace their older single-speed pool pump with a two-speed pump, or a $200 rebate for installing a qualifying variable- speed pump. To be eligible for the *Energy Efficient Pool Pump* rebate, customers must use a participating LIPA contractor for the installation. Visit http://lipower.org/residential/efficeincy/rebates-pool.html to learn more.

LIPA is also incentivizing residential customers to rid themselves of old energy consuming refrigerators or freezers. The *Refrigerator Recycling Program* provides customers with the opportunity to receive a $35 reward when they have their old refrigerator and freezers picked up free of charge. Recycling the old appliance may result in savings $100 or more per year in energy costs and it assures the old unit will be properly recycled, preventing up to 95% of it from entering the waste stream. Program information is available at http://www.lipower.org/residential/efficiency/programs/refrigerator.html.

The programs listed above are part of LIPA'S *Efficiency Long Island* initiative. This initiative is a 10-year, $924 million energy efficiency program launched in 2009, which offers a wide array of incentives, rebates and initiatives to LIPA's residential and commercial customers to assist them in reducing their energy usage and thereby lowering their bills.

For additional information on residential programs offered under LIPA's *Efficiency Long Island* Initiative, visit http://www.lipower.org/residential/efficiency/programs/ ■

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