



# The Village Green

Official Newsletter of The Incorporated Village of Valley Stream  
www.vsvny.org

SPRING/SUMMER

2014

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## Quality Of Life in Valley Stream Matters To Us All

**It's about our neighborhoods, our homes our families!**

**I**t's All About Our Quality of Life! Introducing Mayor Fare's new task Force, charged with enforcement of village laws and ordinances that affect the quality of life of all Valley Streamers. From unkempt properties, to bars on windows, excessive garbage and any other issues that affect our quality of life, Valley Stream's Quality Of Life Task Force is set up to address issues that bug us all. Before the small problems become big problems, our dedicated members of the Code Enforcement Department are out patrolling our village roads and neighborhoods.



Mayor Fare and the members of his "Quality of Life" Task Force gather here to discuss their work keeping Valley Stream's neighborhoods the best they can be.

### Announcing Mayor Fare's Helpline

Mayor Fare and the Board of Trustees have established a brand new, toll-free "Helpline" that residents can call to report any village related problems or concerns they may have. We want to hear from you on issues that are important to your "Quality of Life." If it involves letting us know of violations that you notice, rest assured, all calls will be considered confidential. Let's work together to keep Valley Stream the beautiful village that we all know and love! **Mayor Fare's Helpline 1-855-99MAYOR.**

### Mayor Fare says no to graffiti!

We don't do it some of the time... we do it all of the time! Graffiti is not a form of art. It is the systematic destruction of property. If left unchecked, it will spread like wildfire.

In Valley Stream, we take the fight against graffiti very seriously. Fighting graffiti is not something we do once in a while; we do it all the time. It is the ultimate quality of life issue. It is the ultimate property value issue.

**We have a zero tolerance for graffiti in Valley Stream!**

**To report information about a graffiti incident, or any quality of life concerns you may have, please contact my newly established Mayor's Helpline at 1-855-99MAYOR (1-855-996-2967).**

### Quality of Life Court

**M**ayor Ed Fare and Village Justice Robert Bogle have teamed up to create Valley Stream's first-ever "Quality of Life Court." This specially scheduled court night will be strictly dedicated to tackling the everyday annoyances, big and small, that disrupt the peace, tranquility and beauty of our village.

"Judge Bogle and his staff plan to deal head-on with violations to the village code as they arise," Mayor Fare explained.

"Our new Quality of Life Court" is designed to streamline complaints, enabling us to preserve Valley Stream as the lovely village that it is," continued Judge Bogle.

The first "Quality of Life Court" night is scheduled for Thursday, June 26th at 7 pm. For further information please call 592-5126. (photo)



**Something Bugging You? Call Mayor Fare's HELPLINE at 1-855-99MAYOR**



## The Village Green

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Mark Your Calendar with these  
**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Spring Cleaning Day**  
Saturday, June 7th

**Pool Opening Day**  
Saturday, June 14th

**Family Fishing Weekend**  
Saturday, June 28th  
Sunday, June 29th

**Fourth of July Fireworks  
and Concert**  
Friday, July 4th

**West Point Band**  
Friday, July 18th

## A Special Message From Mayor Ed Fare

Dear Friends,

**A**s your mayor, one of my most important goals for our residents is to bring back a sense of community to this village. We live in one of the most successfully diverse communities found anywhere in the United States. We are proud of our past, and poised for a bright future.

I have initiated a task force that's sole purpose is to improve the quality of life in Valley Stream. We start with our neighborhoods. Property maintenance is the key. Lawns must be kept manicured, houses should be maintained in good order and our roads shall be pothole free and repaved on a rotational basis in keeping within budgetary allowances. We want a "clean and green Valley Stream" and our task force will help us do just that!

Valley Stream is a beautiful, vibrant village with so much to offer its citizens. We can all do our part to keep it lovely and appealing. When you see our task force out and about you can be assured that they are working hard for you and all of us, preserving Valley Stream as the great place that we call home.

I invite you to take advantage of all the wonderful recreational programs Valley Stream has to offer this summer, and hope to see you often around our lovely village.



Sincerely,

## Valley Stream Salutes Our Veterans and Active Military - Heroes All!



**T**hrough the generosity of Valley Stream's American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars members, our Veterans Memorial Plaza has undergone a refurbishment with new LED lighting, fresh sod, and beautiful flags, just in time for Memorial Day. "Our veterans deserve nothing less than to have their memorial in beautiful condition for the Memorial Day ceremonies that follow our grand parade," declared Mayor Fare. "They have served our nation proudly, and our community owes them only the best!"

*Pausing at the Veterans Memorial Plaza for the solemn ceremonies after this year's Memorial Day parade are (L-R) Judge Bogle, Trustee Thomas, Deputy Mayor Clavin-Higgins, Trustee Tufarelli, Grand Marshal Jerry Hahn, Mayor Fare and Parade Chairman Marty Kielawa.*

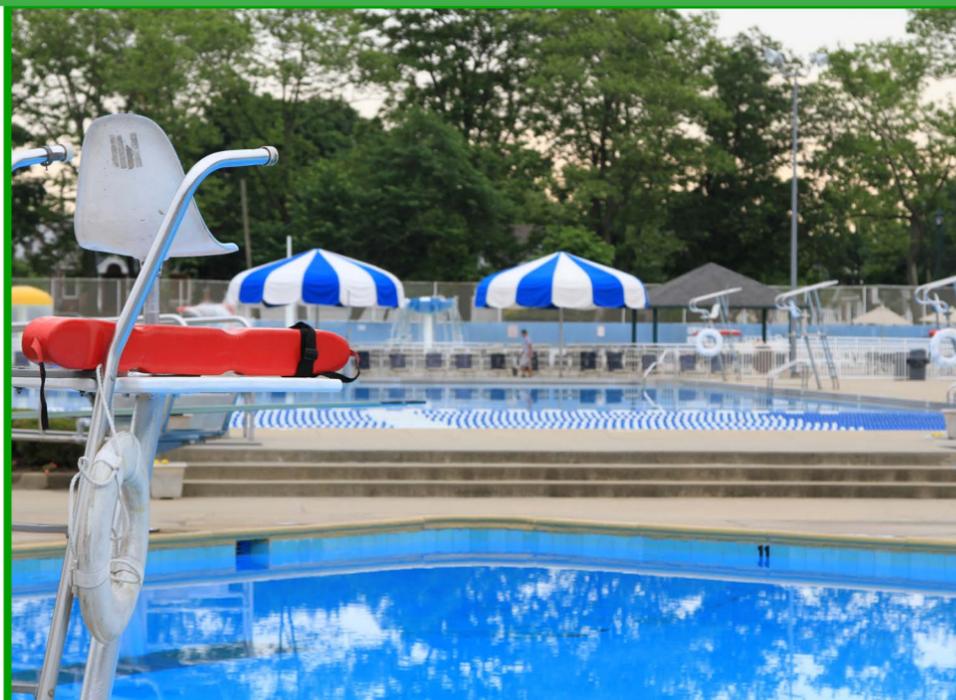
## The Valley Stream Pool Opens Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>

**M**ore improvements this year at the Valley Stream pool! You can purchase your pool membership at the pool complex. Call 872-6003 for more information, and be sure to check out the Summer Guide that was recently mailed to homes for all the exciting summer recreation programs our village has in store for all to enjoy!



**NEW FOR 2014!**

**VALLEY STREAM WILL NOW BE ACCEPTING CREDIT/DEBIT CARD PAYMENTS FOR ALL RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS! ALL REGISTRATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE POOL COMPLEX AT HENDRICKSON PARK ON MERRICK ROAD IN VALLEY STREAM.**



# Featured Department - Sanitation

The Incorporated Village of Valley Stream Sanitation Department facility is located at 175 Arlington Avenue. The office includes two Supervisors a Weighmaster and part time staff. Here you are able to call in to schedule a special pick up to get your furniture, household appliances and E-Waste picked up. You are also able to bring up your debris and dispose of it for a nominal charge. We handle all complaints and issues regarding Sanitation here.

The Sanitation Department currently has 35 men working on 13 trucks picking up various debris around the Village. Eight garbage routes pick up solid waste four days a week on the north and south sides of town. On Wednesdays the same eight trucks pick up sixteen routes of agriculture throughout the Village. We also send out a "litter run" which is responsible for picking up all of the litter baskets located within the parks and our business districts every day.



Sanitation crew members hard at work.



(L-R) Michael Rechner, Christine Francese and Wayne Mastrangelo at our Sanitation office at Arlington Yard

Recycling has two trucks which pick up a different section of the Village each day. In Valley Stream we recycle #1 and #2 plastics, tin cans, bottles and cans newspapers and magazines and small corrugated cardboard.

The bulk and metal truck are responsible for picking up larger furniture items and metal items such as refrigerators, washing machines, dryers etc. This material is separated and sent to a different location than the other materials.

The Village of Valley Stream currently has an E-Cycle program which separates all electronic material and actually generates revenue annually from this material. E-Waste includes televisions, computers and their components video games and all other electronic equipment.

Moving forward, the Village of Valley Stream Sanitation Department is in the process of demolishing the old incinerator building and replacing it with a new state of the art transfer station. We are always looking for ways to be more economical and efficient with our solid waste moving into the future. This will benefit all Village residents.

## In Memoriam of Wayne Mastrangelo

Wayne Mastrangelo, Village of Valley Stream Sanitation Supervisor, passed away suddenly a few short weeks ago, leaving his family, friends and co-workers grappling with a profound loss.

Wayne was a consummate professional in every way. He was highly regarded by his co-workers, not only because he was very kind, pleasant, and even-handed, but because he himself was an extremely hard worker who lead by example. He began his career in the Valley Stream Sanitation department behind a truck, and worked his way up the ranks through perseverance and a demonstrated strong work ethic.

He fully grasped the quality of life issues that go with trash, refuse, and agricultural removal. He had a sincere desire to do his very best for the people of this village by handling every aspect of his responsibilities in the best, most courteous and efficient way. This was a top priority of his that he emphasized to his workers on a daily basis.

Wayne had a keen understanding of the intricacies of sanitation in all its various aspects.

From recycling to e-cycling, from scheduling to budgeting, to him his job was not only about the collection and disposal of trash, but more about how the quality of his work would affect the residents that he served. He took pride in a job well done and he was the "go to guy" for all things relating to sanitation.

Wayne's job as Sanitation Supervisor took on greater depth as he became the driving force behind the highly complex project the village has underway, that of the dismantling of the old incinerator at Arlington Yard. He took an extremely active role in every facet of this operation. He talked about it constantly because he saw the immense benefits to the village and took this project on with an enthusiasm that was actually evident to everyone around him. This will be his great legacy for Valley Stream, and rightfully so. Losing Wayne is an indescribable loss, as a friend and a wonderful man. At the Village of Valley Stream, we have had a death in the family.





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VILLAGE OF VALLEY STREAM

**THE SPRING WEATHER BROUGHT VALLEY STREAMERS  
OUT FOR A SEASON OF ENJOYABLE ACTIVITIES**



## Project Pothole & Our Ongoing Road Maintenance

### Facts you should know...

The village has 80.6 miles of roadway it must maintain on a daily basis. That is like traveling from Valley Stream to East Hampton along Sunrise Highway and being responsible for that entire stretch of road.

However, we also have about 11 miles of road not under village jurisdiction. These are county and state roads that are repaired (including potholes), swept, sanded and snow plowed by each respective municipality.

The cost of re-paving the average village street is approximately \$1 million a mile!

After an extraordinarily harsh winter, Valley Stream, like most municipalities, experienced a larger than usual number of potholes. To date, the village has used 70 tons of cold patch asphalt to repair potholes on village streets, an initiative we call "Project Pothole."

If you find a pothole on your street, or any road maintenance problems, please call **Mayor Fare's Helpline at 1-855-99MAYOR (1-855-996-2967)**.



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### COMPTROLLER REPORT: VALLEY STREAM PRACTICES GOOD FISCAL POLICY

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An exit interview was recently conducted after an audit of the village of Valley Stream's cash receipts and selected village operations from June 1, 2011 to December 31, 2012 by the New York State Comptroller's Office. The tone of the meeting with comptroller's office personnel was very congenial and confirmed that our village was in excellent financial condition.

Audits can be very sobering and minutely critical. They often nitpick at the smallest of things, such as "why don't you staple duplicate receipts to your documents?" Audits usually tell you only what you are doing wrong and are devoid of compliment.

However, the state auditors who conducted the job were genuinely pleased by what they encountered over the six months they viewed our documents and business practices. They made some non-binding suggestions – only suggestions - on some perfunctory procedures. And to their delight, most of these recommendations were already put in the works by our supervisory staff, even before the audit report.

Over the audit of 18 fiscal months, on the average, Valley Stream has had about a \$36 million budget. The only monies that there was a "discrepancy" about was some unbalanced amounts between cash register tapes and daily admission logs. This netted \$262 more in cash collected than recorded by the manual admissions log. The money was not missing; it was there. This \$262 represents four tenths of one percent (.04%) of the \$660,047 in pool receipts collected during the summer.

In a \$36 million fiscal plan, this represents an infinitesimal portion of the village collected revenue. All in all, not bad. The village is in excellent fiscal shape.

The village has a healthy \$6.2 million in reserves (rainy day fund), a strong and steady AA2 bond rating and a solid tax base with reasonable village taxes. With the implementation of new state-of-the art computer programs, designed to eliminate mistakes and heighten accountability, our village should enjoy an even better record of fiscal excellence.

## Don't forget to take advantage of all the Henry Waldinger Library has to offer!!!

Why not take a cool break from the summer swelter, and enjoy a good read in our comfortable modern library. While you are there, be sure to check out the museum passes that are available to Valley Stream cardholders. They can open up a whole world of adventure for families, providing a fun, affordable way for patrons of all ages to enjoy many of our area museums!

Museum Passes are free to Valley Stream library cardholders, but it's a good idea to reserve them in advance during the busy summer season. For more information call 825-6422, or visit [www.vsvny.org](http://www.vsvny.org) and click on the library tab.



# Change is coming to Arlington Yard

The old, unsightly incinerator is about to be removed, making way for a new, state-of-the-art transfer station.

**A**fter many years of usefulness, the current incinerator is no longer operational. Standing dormant over Arlington Yard, it has to go. Mayor Fare's administration is addressing the situation head-on!

Replacing the incinerator will be a brand new, low-profile transfer station. This new modern facility will be energy efficient, saving Valley Streamers many taxpayer dollars in daily costs and tipping fees over the coming years.

The quality of life of all our neighborhoods affects the entire village and all Valley Streamers. That is why the improvements at the Arlington Yard sanitation facility are so vital to the overall quality of life throughout Valley Stream...

## The Health & Safety of our Residents Comes First!



The new transfer station will be environmentally friendly.



Careful monitoring of air & dirt will be conducted before, during and after the process of removing the old structure and building the new facility.



All recycling activity will be done on the inside of the new transfer station, substantially decreasing noise & disruption to nearby homes.



The impact on the neighboring community will be immediately noticeable, from noise abatement to a visibly more attractive overall site.

Check out the progress at Arlington Yard by visiting [www.vsvny.org](http://www.vsvny.org) and following Mayor Fare on Twitter @VStreamMayor.

## Save the Date for Spring Cleaning Day in Valley Stream

Saturday, June 7th, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

(corner of Hicks Street & West Valley Stream Boulevard)

**J**oin Valley Stream's "Swiffer Couple," Lee and Morty Kaufman, for a day of good, clean fun. Stop down to Valley Stream Boulevard & Hicks Street to e-cycle old electronics, shred unwanted documents and learn about the initiatives your village government is taking to keep Valley Stream clean & green! There will be awards for children who participate, prizes and surprises ...be sure to take this opportunity to clean up while keeping our environment healthy. For more information and a list of e-cyclable items call 825-8108 or visit our website at [www.vsvny.org](http://www.vsvny.org).

You can now follow Mayor Fare on Twitter at @VStreamMayor.

