



The Village Green

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

FALL

2012

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Summer of 2012 Went Swimmngly



As always, Valley Streamers of all ages have taken advantage of the wealth of summer activities offered through the village's recreation department. There were Concerts on the Village Green, Parades and Fireworks, Fun and Games at Camp Barrett, and Synchronized Entertainment at the Pool Show. The Valley Stream Pool Complex underwent a series of improvements, including the addition of a new Tiki Deck to welcome pool patrons with a bit of the tropics. Hendrickson Park is home to a newly renovated COMMUNITY CENTER that will be available for group activities as well as private gatherings. From mini-golf, to newly upgraded basketball courts, a skate park and a dog park, the village continues to provide recreational outlets for all to enjoy!



The West Point Band performed alongside the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force Central Band on Valley Stream's Village Green. The evening was punctuated by soaring patriotic strains that brought concert goers to their feet!

Did You Know...

The new "Law Enforcement Annex" will house?

- Department of Public Safety
 - Auxiliary Police
 - Code Enforcement
 - Civilian Patrol
 - All of the Above

(Hint: The answer is in this issue)



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A Message From Mayor Edwin A. Fare



Dear Friends,

After a beautiful summer of hot days and humid nights, the first crisp breezes of the autumn season remind us that it is again time to settle back into our more regular routines. In Valley Stream, that means closing the doors of the pool complex to the public, while opening up the walls of the restrooms to the long-awaited renovations that will take place in the cooler months.

Our village workforce has been busy renovating our beautiful new Community Center, which is now open to the public. I urge everyone, whether you are part of a group, club or not-for-profit organization, to come down to Hendrickson Park and avail yourself of this welcoming facility. Private groups may also book parties and events here, so please take advantage of your new Community Center. It is here for you!

As always, our Recreation Department has a wealth of autumn activities lined up, whether you are a senior, a youngster, or fall somewhere in-between. Even a walk through Hendrickson Park, ablaze with the colors of the season, is a glorious activity on a bright fall day.

I must make mention of an event that is nearest to my heart. On Tuesday, September 11th our village family will gather to remember the terrible events of 11 years ago, and to ponder the unspeakable loss that we as a community suffered. However, from that loss has been borne a steely resolve, in the form of a permanent monument to the victims and families of 9-11-01. It will be my great honor on that day to unveil Valley Stream's lasting tribute, a breathtaking memorial fashioned from a 2300 pound steel beam that was recovered from the rubble of the World Trade Center. I hope you will be able to join us for this solemn occasion.

As always, your entire Village Board and Village Justice look forward to meeting and chatting with you as we travel about the village. My door at Village Hall is always open.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edwin A. Fare".

COMING SOON! The "Law Enforcement Annex" at 195 Rockaway Avenue will soon be the new home to our Auxiliary Police, Department of Public Safety, Code Enforcement and Civilian Patrol. A grand opening is planned for this fall!

Our Featured Department: Our Pool Crew

Our Pool Crew, Making the Summer of 2012 Safe & Fun For All!

Thanks to the dedication of Valley Stream's skilled "Pool Crew," under the direction of Recreation Supervisor Tom Roberts and Licensed Pool Operator, Supervisor Doug Clark, the summer of 2012 was one of our most successful pool seasons ever!

Hundreds visited our state-of-the-art pool complex through June, July and August and had nothing but rave reviews for the



cleanliness of the facility, the wide variety of aquatic activities that were available, and the exceptionally courteous and skilled staff that greeted them each day.

Comprised of staff ranging from plumbers, mechanics, electricians, landscapers, and of course more than 50 life-guards, as well as a full complement of recreation attendants, the "Pool Crew" worked hard all summer long for the enjoyment of those water-loving patrons who took advantage of Valley Stream's great jewel in our expansive park system.

Mayor Ed Fare Forms New Citizens Advisory Panel



Seated Left to Right: Patti Franco, Tina Correa, Glen Wyche.
Standing Left to Right: Pat Burke, Lee Feinman.
Missing from photo is Steve Thom

Given the many issues facing the board of trustees regarding all of our parkland, sports programs and recreation facilities, as well as future Cultural Arts offerings, the mayor created a new committee, affectionately known as SPARC (Sports, Parks, Arts, Recreation Committee). The committee is made up of six dedicated community activists, all with various backgrounds in each of the areas that the board of trustees would like to have input, as new decisions are made for Valley Stream's future.

"There are some unique challenges ahead for SPARC members," Fare said. "We have opportunities to continue to grow programs, yet we want to hold the line on taxes, and keep any fee increases to a minimum."

Deputy Clerk Richard DeAngelis serves as the liaison between the BOT and the SPARC members. He added, "The BOT has let us know that non-tax revenue is a priority of this administration. The members of SPARC are charged with seeking innovative ways to offer programs to our residents without raising taxes. These ideas have to be researched and vetted, as the board considers all factors in any changes and improvements that SPARC may suggest," concluded DeAngelis.

An example of this concept is the philosophy behind the opening of the new Community Center in Hendrickson Park, a redesigned and renovated facility that will provide a beautiful and gracious venue to our residents, for a variety of gatherings, both public and private. Other advisory committees that are up and running are The Mayor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Youth Issues, and the Traffic Advisory Committee. Mayor Fare and the board of trustees thank each of these fine individuals for volunteering their time as a service to the community.

Valley Stream's Bond Rating is A-OK!

With so many reports of towns and cities all around our nation sliding into financial default, Valley Stream is proud to report that it continues to preserve its Moody's bond rating that ranks us among the highest credit ratings in the nation. Prudent planning and sound fiscal policies have kept our village solidly in the "black" column. A recent bond rating analysis said "the rating reflects the village's conservative fiscal management, strong financial position with ample reserve levels, sizeable tax base and modest debt burden." The report goes on to say "Moody's believes that the village of Valley Stream will maintain a healthy financial position due to conservative management practices..."

Our borrowing power remains strong and our rainy day fund is safely intact, enabling Mayor Ed Fare and the Village Board to maintain a carefully thought-out schedule of necessary improvements to our roads and infrastructure. The mayor and the board keep an eye on Main Street while garnering accolades from Wall Street.

The future is looking bright for our village, with further modernization planned for the pool complex, slated to begin soon. The men's and women's restrooms will be completely renovated and fully handicapped-accessible, and all the work will fit within the village's very trim budget.

Keeping taxes under control and enhancing non-tax revenue streams, while providing excellent services, is a top priority of Mayor Fare and the Board of Trustees. They continue to seek ways to keep Valley Stream the beautiful village it is, while maintaining affordability for its citizens.

Community Center

The Community Center boasts meeting rooms that are named for some of Valley Stream's earlier, historic neighborhoods, such as Rum Junction, Fosters Meadow and Tiger Town. In addition, there are two beautifully appointed banquet rooms, The Lake Room and The Burgundy Room, complete with kitchen facilities to accommodate privately catered events. Please visit our website at www.vsvny.org for more information about reserving rooms in the COMMUNITY CENTER.



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FEMA Alert! An Important Update for Residents Living in the FEMA Flood Zones!

At the insistence of Mayor Ed Fare and the Village Board of Trustees, FEMA has announced that, until an implementation plan for the new flood insurance law is put into place, preferred risk policies may continue to renew at the *lower cost rate*, beyond the previously designated two-year period. *This means that those already in the Preferred Risk policy rate can remain so until the issue of the flood designations is resolved.* The Mayor and Village Board continue to urge our federal representatives to keep the pressure on FEMA to resolve this issue on behalf of our property owners.

Calling All Seniors!

The fall season of activities is about to get underway... don't miss out! Sign-up at the Firemen's Field Clubhouse or call 516-872-6003, ext.12 for information about all that Valley Stream has to offer its Golden Agers!

9-11 Memorial

You are invited to join the entire Valley Stream community as we pause to solemnly commemorate the 11th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. At this time Mayor Ed Fare and the Village Board of Trustees will unveil a permanent monument in the Memorial Garden at Hendrickson Park.

Tuesday, September 11, 2012 11:00 a.m.



Wedding Bells

Wedding Bells Are Ringing For One Lucky Veteran and Fiancée! Nassau County's Veterans Service Agency has announced a wedding contest for a lucky Nassau County service person and his/her fiancée. The winner of the all-inclusive wedding gift package must be an honorably discharged veteran or a service person still on active duty. The wedding will take place on Veterans Day, November 11, 2012. Applications must be postmarked by September 24th. For information, contact Joseph Pascarella at 516-572-6512.

Save These Important Dates

Tuesday, September 11th:
Memorial commemoration of permanent monument

Saturday, October 13th:
E-Cycle Electronic Re-cycling Day

Saturday, October 20th:
Pumpkin Painting Contest (Raindate October 27th)

Wednesday, October 31st:
Halloween Hi-Jinx & Mad Monster Costume Party
Please visit our website at www.vsvny.org for more details.

From October 1st through October 31st come visit Valley Stream Village Hall for our family friendly Halloween House of Horrors! All departments will be decorated and dressed in unique Halloween themes. Beware, not for the squeamish!!



Sanitation Schedule

To make sure you are "in the know" for household garbage & recycling schedules for Columbus Day, Election Day, Veterans Day and Thanksgiving Day, please refer to your 2012 Sanitation schedule (previously mailed). You may also visit our website at www.vsvny.org or call 516-825-8489.

To Remember
School Contests!
- 2nd Annual Mayor for the Day Contest Coming Up!
(Valley Stream 6th graders only... Watch for details)
- E Cycling
Visit the village website at www.vsvny.org to learn more!

Trustee Dermond Thomas Introduces the Excellence in Entrepreneurship Program

Workshops run from September 20, 2012 to November 1, 2012 at Valley Stream Village Hall Court Room. For details, call 631-420-2765 or visit our website at www.vsvny.org.