



The Village Green

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

WINTER

2014

In This Issue

Announcing the New Energy Efficient and Safer Streets:Page 1

Historical Society.....Page 1

Message From the Mayor Page 2

Important Dates Page 2

Valley Stream Salutes our Veterans and Active Military Page 2

Our Featured Department:
Village Treasurer Page 3

Fall in Valley StreamPage 3

Snow: Our Winter Challenge.....Page 4

2014 Holiday Sanitation Schedule
Garbage/Recycling.....Page 4

2015 Holiday Sanitation Schedule
Garbage/Recycling.....Page 5

Senior Corner Page 6

Home Safety.....Page 6

Valley Stream Mayor Ed Fare And The Valley Stream Village Board Announce New, Energy Efficient And Safer Streets At Savings Of \$6 Million Over The Next 15 Years

New Village Street Lighting, Solar PV and Energy Conservation Project Underway

The Village of Valley Stream has embarked on a village-wide project that will make its streets safer and reduce energy costs, saving taxpayer dollars.

Mayor Ed Fare kicked off this major street lighting and energy-saving project for Valley Stream by using a basket crane to replace the first of nearly 3000 new street lights with a light-emitting diode (LED) street light.

The Village has selected Johnson Controls, a global leader in delivering energy efficiency solutions, to implement the program that will include the replacement of street lights with new energy-efficient LED lighting. Additional energy improvements have been made at the Village Hall, Department of Public Works and the Village pool. A Solar Photovoltaic system was installed on the band shell at the Village Green as well.

The extensive street lighting project is the largest under an energy performance contract with a village in New York State in both cost savings and energy reduction.

"This self-funding project is a win-win for our residents," commented Mayor Fare.

"Not only do they see real energy savings that will pay for the cost of the program, but they can be proud to know that this money saving project will create jobs and reduce the community's carbon footprint at no cost to the taxpayers."

"The Village will save \$6 million over the next 15 years, and reduce public energy use by a combined 34 percent, with over 52 percent savings on street lighting alone," added Tom Burke, Johnson Controls spokesman.

Building Department Superintendent Tom McAleer expects the entire project to be completed by the end of the year.



Did You Know... Toys for Tots bins are located at

Village Hall
Waldinger Library
Community Center
All of the above

(Hint: The answer is in this issue)



The Valley Stream Historical Society has a brand new presence on the Village of Valley Stream website. Visit www.vsvny.org and click on the Valley Stream Historical Society link to read all about historic Valley Stream. You may well be amazed at our village's rich history, dating back to its earliest years when a group of intrepid settlers put down roots in this beautiful, pastoral setting. Much has changed over the years, but if you look carefully, you can still find traces of the Valley Stream of yesteryear. Have fun exploring this excellent section of our website as you acquaint (or re-acquaint) yourself with our village's interesting past. We are grateful to the dedicated members of the Valley Stream Historical Society who put so much time and effort into shepherding our history into the digital age!

At a recent meeting of the Valley Stream Village Board, Mayor Fare paused to recognize the achievements of James Buckley, retired Chairman of the Board of the Valley Stream Historical Society. In so doing, Mayor Fare bestowed the title of Chairman Emeritus upon Mr. Buckley, citing his unfailing leadership over the course of more than 2 decades to the preservation of the history of Valley Stream, and to the care of the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration. "Jim Buckley is my answer to the search engine," Mayor Fare remarked. "When it comes to Valley Stream, there is no person more knowledgeable

than Jim, and I would be hard-pressed to find another who cares more deeply about the Village that has been his life-long home." Thank you Jim Buckley, Chairman Emeritus of the Valley Stream Historical Society!



The Village Green

Published Quarterly by the
Village of Valley Stream

123 South Central Avenue
Valley Stream, N.Y. 11582

Phone: 516-825-4200
Fax: 516-825-8316

www.vsvny.org

Mark Your Calendar with these **IMPORTANT DATES**

Dedication of the Nativity Scene

Tuesday, December 2nd 7:15 P.M.

Firemen's Memorial Plaza
Corner of Sunrise Highway and Franklin Avenue
(Sponsored by Father Thomas Carroll Knights of Columbus)

Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Arrives

Friday, December 5th 5:00 P.M.

Village Hall

Children are invited to write their letters to Santa. Santa coloring sheets will be available. Raffle prizes will be awarded to some lucky youngsters! Mayor Fare will read "Twas the Night Before Christmas" in front of the roaring "fireplace." Music, snacks and Santa in his sleigh! The Village Hall will transform into a winter wonderland to greet Santa Claus and light our village Christmas Tree.

Ginger Bread Contest & Icing Demonstration

Sunday, December 5th 2:00 P.M.

Pagan- Fletcher Restoration
(Sponsored by the Valley Stream Historical Society)

Lighting of the Giant Chanukah Menorah

Tuesday, December 16th 5:00 P.M.

Firemen's Memorial Plaza
Corner of Sunrise Highway and Franklin Avenue
(Sponsored by Chabad Outreach of Valley Stream)



Winterfest

Free Movie Nights

Theatre In The Court

Friday, December 12th, 7:30 P.M.

"The Santa Clause"

Saturday, December 13th, 1:00 P.M.

"It's A Wonderful Life"

Friday, December 19th, 7:30 P.M.

"The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" (w/ Jim Carrey)

Friday, December 26th, 7:30 P.M.

"The Polar Express"

Outdoor Fun

Saturday, December 27th

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

VSFD Fire Engine Rides

Arthur J. Hendrickson Park Pool Lot

Monday, December 29th

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

9:15 p.m. – 11:15 p.m.

"Valley Stream On Ice"

Grant Park Hewlett, NY

Library Events

Monday, December 29th

Movie for Tots – 11:00 A.M.

Ages 3 – 5 with parent/caregiver

"Ice Age: A Christmas Mammoth Special"

or "Shrek the Halls"

Registration required.

Children's Monday Movie – 4:00 P.M.

Grades K – 6

"Home Alone or The Santa Clause"

Registration required.

Tuesday, December 30th

Circle Games - 11:00 A.M.

Grades K – 2

Registration required.

CheckMates – 4:00 P.M.

Grades 3 – 6

Registration required.

Friday, January 2nd

New Year's Craft – 2:00 P.M.

Grades K – 6

Registration required.

February 2015

Black History Month

(Stay tuned for dates and times)

A Special Message From Mayor Ed Fare

Dear Friends,

As the end of the year quickly approaches and winter settles in around us, I am reminded of the many reasons why I truly love the colder months. It gives us time to reflect and restore, while preparing for what lies ahead in 2015. With the holiday season right around the corner, I am looking forward to the festivities that warm us from the inside.

Here in Valley Stream we have been busy planning an exciting array of family-friendly holiday activities to usher in the season and provide children and adults alike with lots of wholesome fun. Be sure to check out the **Important Dates** section of this newsletter so as not to miss a thing!

Of course, along with the winter almost certainly comes bad weather, something that our village staff must prepare to deal with each year. I am proud of the way in which our village workforce handles the unique challenges that snow, sleet and the harsh elements of winter send our way. Please take a moment to review our "Snow: Our Winter Challenge" section dedicated to snow removal and the ways in which we can all do our part to help one another when rough weather is upon us.

On behalf of our entire Village Board, our Village Justice and our village employees, I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every resident health, happiness and joy throughout this holiday season and the New Year!



Sincerely,

What good is the warmth of summer without the cold of winter to give it sweetness. ~ Author Unknown

Veterans Day in Valley Stream, A Day to Say "Thank You!"



Valley Stream honored veterans and those in active military service with a rousing, patriotic and at times somber, ceremony, followed by an art show highlighting original artwork of our own hero-artists! A flag-waving, spirited time was had by all.

Mayor Fare, in Speaking directly to the veterans and military personnel in attendance, said "You have fought for my freedoms and the way of life that every American enjoys. There are truly not adequate words to thank you for your profound sacrifices and services."



Don't Forget the Children! Mayor Fare, Deputy Mayor Virginia Clavin-Higgins, Trustee John Tufarelli and Justice Bob Bogle joined the Chamber of Commerce and Valley Streamers of all ages on kicking off this year's **Toys for Tots** campaign. Bins have been placed in Village Hall, the Waldinger Library, the Community Center and businesses around Valley Stream to hold new, unwrapped toys for those less fortunate.



Our Featured Department: The Village Treasurer

Tax & Assessment and Payroll & Accounting

The Village Treasurer of Valley Stream, Michael Fox, oversees two distinct yet related departments, **Tax & Assessment** and **Payroll & Accounting**.

The **Tax & Assessment** staff is responsible for preparation and collection of the village tax bills, a process which is done on an annual basis. They prepare and process applications for a variety of eligible tax exemptions, and maintain and update current property ownership status.

The counter at the **Tax & Assessment Department** is often a busy area of Village Hall. This is where home and business owners can stop by to pay their taxes in person, file mortgage satisfactions and ownership changes and seek assistance with general tax and exemption inquiries. While discussing taxes is not always everyone's favorite pastime, our village employees do their best to make it a painless process by always addressing the concerns of the taxpayers in a friendly, courteous and efficient manner!



The **Payroll & Accounting Department** at Village Hall is where all internal financial operations take place. While the public may not see the day-to-day operation, they can be assured that the budget process, payroll operations and processing of all village expenditures is done in the most timely and professional way possible. This is where the village budget of \$36M is researched, balanced and prepared for public presentation. In addition, all employees who fall under the supervision of our Village Treasurer assist with an annual audit conducted by an independent firm.

The village budget and all related tax and financial information can be found on the village website at www.vsvny.org.

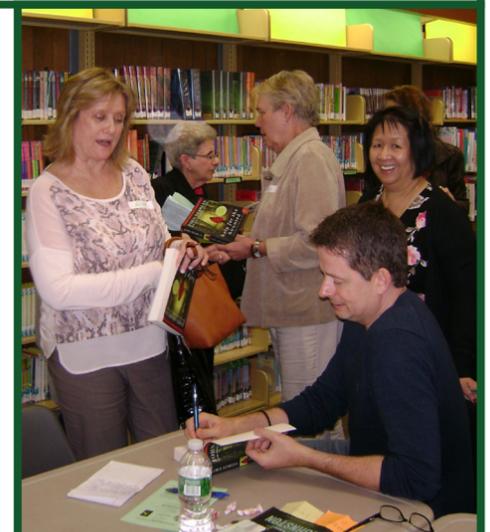
Fall in Valley Stream is always a brisk and fun time!



Pro-Football legends joined Mayor Fare and the Valley Stream family in a seminar celebrating their illustrious careers in the NFL. A portion of the event's proceeds went to the veterans' charity, "Building Homes For Heros." Pictured (L-R standing) are the Village Clerk Bob Barra, Royce Boyles, Greg Buttle, Kenny Schroy, Mayor Fare and Leonard Marshall; (L-R seated) Sean Landeta, Jerry Kramer and Marv Fleming.



The Henry Waldinger Memorial Library Book Club welcomed John Searles, author of *Help for the Haunted* and other thrillers. Mr. Searles visited the Valley Stream Book Club on Tuesday, October 28, 2014 and shared stories about his writing and insights about the book. This visit was his New York State stop of his "50 Book Clubs in 50 States" promotional tour. The book club is open to all. For further information please call Mamie Eng, Library Director at 516-825-6422.





PRESORT
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 597
Valley Stream, NY

The Incorporated Village of Valley Stream

123 South Central Avenue • Valley Stream, N.Y. 11582

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MAYOR

EDWIN A. FARE

VILLAGE JUDGE

ROBERT G. BOGLE

DEPUTY MAYOR

VIRGINIA CLAVIN-HIGGINS

VILLAGE CLERK/ ADMINISTRATOR

ROBERT D. BARRA

TRUSTEES

JOHN L. TUFARELLI

VINCENT M. GRASSO

DERMOND E. THOMAS



SENIOR CORNER

The Silver Threads celebrated the beginning of a new season of activities with a welcome back party at the gazebo overlooking beautiful Hendrickson Lake. More lunches and events are in the works, as well as the usual line-up of interesting things to do. All are welcome to join the fun. Just call 516-825-8571 for more information.

Mayor Fare And The Board Of Trustees Announce More Tax Relief For Seniors And Qualified Disabled Residents With Limited Income

Valley Stream has raised the income limit for the village's real property tax exemptions, signaling real savings for many qualifying senior citizens and disabled individuals. The household limit was raised from a maximum of \$29,000 to \$34,699, and the scale ranges from a five percent decrease in exemption to a 50% decrease.

Those who have qualified in the past will see more savings in their tax bills, while many others who did not previously qualify may find that they do now.

Any residents who have questions or would like an application are encouraged to call the office of Village Treasurer Michael Fox at 516-592-5109. The filing deadline is December 31st.

HOME SAFETY

The winter season, particularly through the holidays, is a time to be extra vigilant about home safety. Valley Stream Office of Emergency Management reminds us of some important tips, passed along from the National Fire Protection Association.

Christmas Tree



When decorating Christmas trees, always use safe tree lights, and follow the manufacturer's instructions.



Do not use lights with worn, frayed or broken cords, or loose connections.



Always unplug Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to sleep.



Water live trees frequently and safely dispose of the tree when it begins dropping needles

Candles



Unattended, abandoned or inadequately controlled candles are the leading cause of home fires, and December is the peak month for candle fires.



Keep candles on a sturdy, uncluttered surface and away from items that can catch fire.



Extinguish all candles when leaving the room or going to sleep.



Don't allow children or teens to have candles in their bedrooms.

Carbon Monoxide Safety - Good Common Sense and it's the law!

In New York State homeowners are required to have carbon monoxide detectors wherever a carbon monoxide source is located. Here are some important facts to know about carbon monoxide.

What is carbon monoxide? Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless gas produced by burning material containing carbon. You can't see it, smell it or taste it; but carbon monoxide can kill you.

At low levels symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include headache, dizziness, nausea, fatigue and flu-like symptoms. If you or a member of your household experience these symptoms, or you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning, get to fresh air immediately! Dial 911 and seek medical assistance right away!



Check that all fuel-burning appliances are properly installed, maintained and operated



Keep all fireplace chimneys and flues cleaned and checked annually



Never use a gas range or oven to heat a home.



Never run a generator or other gasoline-powered device indoors; never use a charcoal grill, hibachi or portable camping stove inside a home, tent or camper.



Install and maintain smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in the home. You changed your clocks-did you remember to change your batteries?

For more helpful hints about winter safety visit www.vsvny.org.

Snow: Our Winter Challenge

A Guide for Valley Stream Property Owners and Residents

It's the neighborly thing to do!

If you own property, please remember to:

- ❄️ Keep the adjacent sidewalks clear of snow and ice. If you are out of town, please make arrangements for someone else to clear the sidewalks.
- ❄️ Snow should not be shoveled or blown into the street. This creates a hazard for both the property owner and drivers.
- ❄️ Residents who have catch basins in front of their homes can help by keeping ice and snow away from the openings, so water from melting snow can drain freely.
- ❄️ If you have a fire hydrant by your property, please remove snow from the area around the hydrant for easy access in case of an emergency.
- ❄️ Resident cooperation is essential to the success of the snow removal operations. It is very important that vehicles are removed from the streets. With fewer cars on the streets, snow plows can do a more effective job of clearing snow and ice from Valley Stream's 90 miles of roadway.

Safety:

Please instruct children to avoid snowplows. Drivers and workers are concentrating on their jobs. Young children should not be allowed to play near the street when snow has accumulated. Snow banks make it difficult for motor vehicle and snow plow operators to spot them. For safety reasons, the Valley Stream Highway Department crews will spray deicer on the streets and plow in the following order: Major arteries and Roads; Secondary Streets; dead end streets and Cul-de-sacs. Snow plowing begins when three (3) inches of snow have fallen on the pavement.

Ice:

For people on foot, ice can be worse than snow. It can cause dangerous falls. Property owners are also responsible for removing ice on their sidewalks. • Stock up on ice melt before the storm. • Use ice melt with Calcium Chloride or Potassium Chloride. It's better for the environment and only a small amount is required to melt ice. Avoid rock salt or Sodium Chloride as it kills plants and trees. • Avoid sand. Sand makes hard ice more slippery. • Use ice melt on your driveway entrance and sidewalks early and often to prevent snow packing down and forming into ice.

Important - For safety's sake, please remember to keep your vehicles off the street before, during and immediately after a snow storm. This is to allow our plows to do their job most effectively, as well as to provide easier access for fire and police vehicles in the event of an emergency.

In the event of a Snow Emergency, information can be obtained from the Village's Emergency Management Advisory Radio System.

AM 1620

Please don't take it personally.

Often the Dept. of Public Works plows snow back into your driveway. Pushing snow into a driveway opening or along a car parked on the street is often unavoidable as we work to keep streets passable during all stages of a storm.

Please keep in mind that in the Village of Valley Stream on-street parking is always prohibited between the hours of 3:30 a.m. and 5:30 a.m.

Need assistance in Valley Stream?



Mayor's Helpline is available for residents to call with issues or complaints. If no one is available to answer your call immediately, please leave a detailed message with your phone number and a representative of Mayor Fare's office will respond to you as promptly as possible. Remember it may take several rings before your call is answered so don't hang up before leaving your message—every call is important and will receive proper attention!

1-855-99MAYOR (1-855-996-2967)

Please be courteous and remember that Valley Stream has noise restrictions that prohibit loud music played after 11 p.m. Let's do our part to keep the noise down for the benefit of all.

2014 Holiday Schedule

Household Garbage Collection

Observed Holidays	If your regular collection is... MONDAY/THURSDAY	If your regular collection is... TUESDAY/FRIDAY
Christmas Day Thursday, December 25th	Monday/Friday	Tuesday/Saturday
New Year's Day Thursday, January 1, 2015	Monday/Friday	Tuesday/Saturday

Recycling Collection If your regular day is...

Observed Holidays	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Christmas Day Thursday, December 25th	Regular	Regular	Regular	Pick-up Sat 12/27	Regular
New Year's Day Thursday, January 1, 2015	Regular	Regular	Regular	Pick-up Sat 1/3	Regular

*There will be normal agricultural pick-up on December 24th & December 31st.
Christmas Tree pick-up will begin on Wednesday, January 7th, 2015 and will continue on
Wednesdays thereafter, except for January 21st.*

2015 Household Garbage Holiday Collection Schedule

Observed Holidays	If your regular collection is Monday/Thursday	If your regular collection is Tuesday/Friday
New Years Day (2015) Thursday, January 1st	Monday/Friday	Tuesday/Saturday
Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 19th	Tuesday/Thursday No Agriculture	Wednesday/Friday No Agriculture
President's Day, Monday, February 16th	Tuesday/Thursday No Agriculture	Wednesday/Friday No Agriculture
Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th	Tuesday/Thursday No Agriculture	Wednesday/Friday No Agriculture
Fourth of July, Saturday, July 4th	Regular Schedule	Regular Schedule (pick-up Fri 7/3/15)
Labor Day , Monday, September 7th	Tuesday/Thursday No Agriculture	Wednesday/Friday No Agriculture
Columbus Day, Monday, October 12th	Tuesday/Thursday No Agriculture	Wednesday/Friday No Agriculture
Election Day, Tuesday, November 3rd	Regular Schedule	Regular Schedule
Veteran's Day, Wednesday, November 11th	Regular Schedule No Agriculture	Regular Schedule No Agriculture
Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26th	Monday/Friday	Tuesday/Saturday
Christmas Day, Friday, December 25th	Regular Schedule	Tuesday/Saturday
New Year's Day (2016), Friday, January 1st	Regular Schedule	Tuesday/Saturday

2015 YARD WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE: Grass and leaves will be collected on WEDNESDAYS ONLY.

EXCEPTIONS: Yard waste will not be collected on the following dates:

January 21st February 18th May 27th September 9th October 14th November 11th

Helpful Reminders from Valley Stream's Sanitation Department

- Construction waste is the responsibility of the homeowner and their contractor.
- Special Bulk Pick-ups of items such as mattresses, furniture, carpeting and appliances must be arranged by calling 825-8108.
- Curbside Collection the neighborly way! Please remember to place your trash at the curb in a covered pail or sealed garbage bag not to exceed 32 gallons or 50 pounds. Do not put trash out before 6 p.m. on the night before your collection, or after 6:30 a.m. on the morning of your collection day.

Please call the Valley Stream Sanitation Department or visit the website for disposal information.

516-825-8108 www.vsvny.org

2015 Recycling Holiday Collection Schedule

If your regular recycling schedule day is ...

Observed Holidays	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
New Years Day (2015) Thursday, January 1st	Regular	Regular	Regular	Pick up Sat 1/3	Regular
Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 19th	Pick up Tues 1/20	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
President's Day, Monday, February 16th	Pick up Tues 2/17	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th	Pick up Tues 5/26	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Fourth of July, Saturday, July 4th	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Labor Day , Monday, September 7th	Pick up Tues 9/8	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Columbus Day, Monday, October 12th	Pick up Tues 10/13	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Election Day, Tuesday, November 3rd	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Veteran's Day, Wednesday, November 11th	Regular	Regular	Pick up Thur 11/12	Regular	Regular
Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26th	Regular	Regular	Regular	Pick up Sat 11/28	Regular
Christmas Day, Friday, December 25th	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular	Pick Up Sat 12/26
New Year's Day (2016), Friday, January 1st	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular	Pick Up Sat 1/2