



The Village Green

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

SPRING

2013

In This Issue

Featured Department: The Building Department	Page 1
Tree City	Page 1
New Seedling Program	Page 1
Message From The Mayor	Page 2
Mayor for the Day	Page 2
195 Rockaway Ave	Page 3
Aircraft Noise A Big Nuisance ...	Page 3
Holiday Activities	Page 3
Black History Month	Page 3
Calendar of Events	Page 4
Walk of Honor Bricks	Page 4
Help Us Go Green	Page 4
Senior Corner	Page 4
Warning to Homeowners	Page 4

Did You Know...

How many acres of parkland does Valley Stream enjoy?

- 25
- 75
- 95
- 105

(Hint: The answer is in this issue)

Springtime Signals Home Improvement Season Meet the Men & Women of our Featured Department ~ The Building Department

With the warmer weather approaching many village residents have home improvements on their mind.



Anyone seeking to do an addition, renovation or alteration to private or commercial property in the Village of Valley Stream will become well acquainted with the Incorporated Village's friendly and responsive Building Department. Responsible for accepting, reviewing and processing all building permits for new construction and alterations, these functions are but a few of the myriad responsibilities department personnel handle.

At the helm of a staff consisting of inspectors, engineers, public health professionals and clerks, is Superintendent Tom McAleer, who brought 20 years experience in oversight of building maintenance, construction, plan examination and interpretation of local codes & zoning matters when he joined the department in 2008.

Valley Stream's size as one of the largest villages in all of New York State, in combination with the nature of work in the Building Department, means that there is a near constant flow of phone calls and counter visits from residents, contractors, plumbers, electricians, title company processors and others seeking information or records and file reviews. Additionally, the department's staff handles service requests for pot hole and street light repairs, storm drain cleaning and the removal or planting of curbside trees.

The work of the Village Boards of Zoning Appeals and Architectural Review also generate a steady stream of work for the busy staff. In the midst of it all, the Building Department is known as a place where residents can count on receiving a friendly greeting, and a snack, if hungry. The department's pretzel barrel is available to all!

Valley Stream is a Tree City!



The National Arbor Day Foundation has designated Valley Stream a "Tree City" in recognition of our ambitious & earth friendly tree planting and maintenance program. We love each of the hundreds of trees that thrive throughout our combined 105 acres of spectacular parklands. Congratulations to our expert tree professionals for their diligent stewardship of these essential natural beauties.

A New Seedling Program Sprouts in Valley Stream

Our village is joining with the state's Department of Environmental Conservation to plant hundreds of seedlings around our parks and public areas. Local groups and individuals are invited to take part in the continual "greening" of Valley Stream. To participate, call 592-5102.



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

Message From The Mayor



Dear Friends,

You may have heard me say it in the past, but it is worth repeating – Valley Stream is open for business! I am very happy report that, after more than a year of hard work and review, the dedicated committee that I put together to improve the existing zoning code brought its recommended changes to the Village Board at a public hearing. After much detailed discussion, the changes were unanimously approved. These sweeping changes to Valley Stream’s zoning code will make it easier for homeowners to improve their properties and encourage new and interesting businesses to open their doors in our fair village.

As your mayor, my goals and objectives for 2013 include finalizing the design guideline phase of our village’s Master Plan, so that future projects along the commercial corridor will conform to a modern, clean and beautiful ideal. I see a bright future for our village and we are well on our way!

Here at Village Hall, our dedicated workforce has been keeping busy tending to the day to day needs of our large, bustling village. Pool season is still months away, but extensive work was done over the winter to modernize the locker and restroom areas. Superstorm Sandy and the heavy snows of February kept our highway, sanitation and parks crews very busy clearing roads, removing downed trees and maintaining a safe environment along our public thoroughfares. The streambed restoration project at Hendrickson Park is nearing completion, and our freshly restored Community Center is actively becoming a hub of cheery events, from private parties to lively events for seniors, youngsters and everyone in between. The spring season will indeed be a time of renewal for us here in Valley Stream!

As always, I urge our residents to take advantage of all that is offered here in our beautiful village, and never hesitate to stay in touch with your local officials, should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edmund A. Fare". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



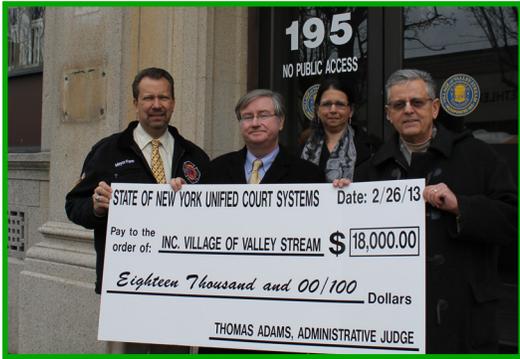
Plans are underway to ready Valley Stream’s hockey rink for the upcoming Spring season. Watch for sign-up information, coming soon.

Mayor for the Day



Two talented Valley Stream 6th graders had the rare opportunity to serve as “Mayors for the Day” in Valley Stream, when they submitted winning essays for Mayor Fare’s annual contest. ToniRaquel Spota and Eddy Clarke Alexander, both students at the R.W. Carbonaro School, spent several hours traveling around Valley Stream with Mayor Fare, meeting many of the people who keep the village humming, and learning the nuts and bolts of running a local government that is among the largest villages in all of New York State. “Mayors ToniRaquel and Eddy did a fine job today,” exclaimed Mayor Fare. “One day we may see them here again as true Mayors!”

~ 195 Rockaway Avenue ~



Pictured are (L-R) Mayor Fare, Judge Bogle, Chief Court Clerk Tangney and former village official and current building site manager John Mastromarino.

Renewal Comes to the Downtown with an \$18,000 improvement grant through the Justice Court Assistance Program, sponsored by the New York State Unified Court System. Thanks to the efforts of Judge Robert Bogle and Chief Court Clerk LuAnn Tangney, Valley Stream received one of the greatest awards in New York State and the largest in Nassau County. *"195 Rockaway Avenue is a symbol of the rebirth of our village's downtown, and this grant is vital to making the improvements that are needed,"* Mayor Fare stated. *"We are honored that the New York State leadership has confidence in this thoroughly important project,"* concluded Judge Bogle.

Aircraft Noise A Big Nuisance?

Valley Stream continues to participate in the Town-Village Aircraft Safety and Noise Abatement Committee (TVASNAC) Trustee Virginia Clavin-Higgins attends all meetings, voicing her concerns on behalf of our residents. She recently hosted a meeting in Valley Stream, empowering local citizens to be heard.

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has introduced a new noise complaint system that expands the existing program, delivering a more robust, comprehensive and easy-to-use format for members of the community to contact the Port Authority with their concerns. The PA in turn can alert the Federal Aviation Administration with specific information on behalf of our residents. The system's toll free number is 1-800-225-1071, and can be found on the Port Authority's website by logging onto www.panynj.gov/contact/contact-us.html. You can also file general complaints at this site.



Valley Stream bustled with holiday activities for all to enjoy!



Valley Stream Celebrates Black History Month



The Incorporated Village of Valley Stream

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MAYOR

EDWIN A. FARE

DEPUTY MAYOR

JOHN L. TUFARELLI

TRUSTEES

VINCENT M. GRASSO
DERMOND E. THOMAS
VIRGINIA CLAVIN-HIGGINS

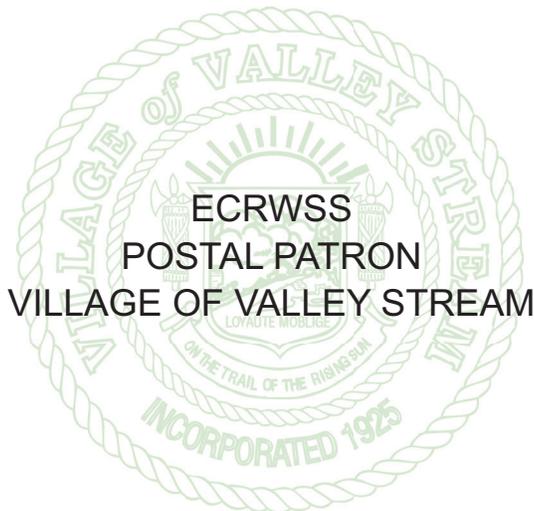
VILLAGE JUDGE

ROBERT G. BOGLE

VILLAGE CLERK

ROBERT D. BARRA

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



Mark Your Calendar with these Important Dates

DATE	EVENT	TIME
Saturday, March 23rd Raindate – Saturday, March 30th	Easter Egg Hunt at Hendrickson Park	Times vary Call 872-6003 for information
Sunday, May 19th Pagan/Fletcher Restoration House on Hendrickson Avenue	Historical Society Bocce/Croquette Day Bocce Match between Mayor Fare & President Guy Ferraro <i>(Winner donates \$25 to the Valley Stream Civilian Patrol)</i>	1:00PM - 4:00PM
Friday, May 31st – Sunday, June 2nd	Camporee on the Village Green	Opening Ceremony Saturday morning
Saturday, June 29th and Sunday, June 30th	 Weekend Fishing at Hendrickson Lake	Schedule to be announced

“Walk of Honor” bricks are going fast!

The village is still accepting resident donations of \$25 for each paver on the “Walk of Honor,” located along the path by the Henry Waldinger Memorial Library. The pavers can be engraved with up to three lines and 18 characters per line with spacing. “Walk of Honor” order forms are available through the Office of the Village Clerk by calling 516-592-5106. This is a beautiful way to memorialize a loved one, but you must hurry if you wish to purchase a paver. Only a few spaces remain.

Be in the Know and Help Us to Go Green!

You can help us save precious resources by sharing your e-mail address & other contact information. Log onto www.vsvny.org and click the vsnewswatch link to join our on-line contacts so that we can notify you of important village news and events.

Senior Corner

Silver Threads programs are being refreshed! Senior-friendly fitness activities such as chair yoga and zumba, transportation to shopping, trips to Aqueduct and beauty days at Central High School are but a few of the fun-filled offerings available for the Silver Threads. Remember, Bingo is back!

Our members are busy knitting for those less fortunate. You can help them help others by donating new yarn to the Community Center at Hendrickson Park or the Firemen’s Field Club House.

To Homeowners

WARNING

DON'T PAY MORE FOR YOUR DEED THAN IS REQUIRED!

Mayor Ed Fare and the members of your village board remind residents it is not necessary to retain a private service to get a copy of your deed. Mass mailings have targeted the Valley Stream area advising homeowners that it is necessary to purchase a certified copy of the deed to their home.

Certified copies of deeds can always be obtained from the County Clerk’s Office for \$5 to \$10. Anyone wishing to request a certified copy of their deed can contact Clerk Maureen O’Connell’s office at 516-571-2664 for further information.