



# The Village Green

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

WINTER

2015

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## VETERANS DAY



Valley Stream honored its veterans and active military personnel at the village's annual Veterans Day ceremony with a rousing salute to its heroes. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and their families were on hand, as always, to pay tribute with their presence. Mayor Fare called upon the Color Guard to open the ceremonies and a moment of silence was observed in remembrance of veterans no longer with us. The afternoon event culminated in a selection of military inspired performances of singing, dancing and drama delivered to the delighted crowd by the students of the Central High School District's performing arts program.



## Did You Know...

### What Does A "Hot Box" Keep Warm?

1. Your Lunch
  2. Your Feet
  3. Asphalt for Pothole Repair
- (Hint: The answer is in this issue)

## TOYS FOR TOTS



The Toys for Tots campaign was kicked-off in cooperation with the United States Marine Corps and the Valley Stream Chamber of Commerce. Toy bins will be placed at the Village Hall, the Henry Waldinger Memorial Library and the Community Center, as well as businesses around the village. New, unwrapped toys may be dropped off through December 15<sup>th</sup>.



## The Village Green

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# A Special Message from MAYOR ED FARE



Dear Neighbors,

**I**t is always a great time in Valley Stream when the weather gets brisk and our residents find time to enjoy all that the holiday season in Valley Stream has to offer.

Please be sure to check the extensive array of holiday programs designed to delight children of all ages, beginning with our Christmas Tree lighting set for Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. In addition, there are a number of wonderful Winterfest activities planned for the entire holiday season, when Valley Stream is again transformed into a winter wonderland. The details are within this issue of the Village Green.

As winter approaches our workforce is busy preparing for the challenges that bad weather brings. Our road crews have been out in force utilizing brand new equipment to repair and improve the many miles of streets that wind through our village and parking fields, all of which are heavily utilized. Through prudent budgeting we have purchased a more efficient “miller” that allows us to prepare surfaces for grading and pothole repair, as well as an asphalt “recycler” which does exactly as the name implies: recycles old asphalt, saving time and money as repairs are needed. We even have a “hot box” which is hitched to a highway vehicle to keep the asphalt warm enough to form a better seal on potholes. When ice and snow fall, we will be ready!

I hope that with the holiday season right around the corner, Valley Streamers will take time out to frequent our bustling business districts, enjoying a good meal at any of our fine eateries, and shopping locally to support the many merchants who have invested their own time and money in our village. Valley Stream is home to many great people and services...and we in Village Hall welcome all!

Sincerely,

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

## Celebrating 100 years

The members of the Valley Stream Village Board recently joined with friends and family of **Julia DeFelic**e in honoring her on the occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Julia settled in Valley Stream with her late husband Frank, and it was here that they raised their two sons, Neil and Joseph. “Julia is a Valley Stream treasure,” announced Mayor Fare. “We wish her happiness and good health for many years to come.”



## “PUBLIC WORKS” FOR THE “PUBLIC GOOD”

### Valley Stream is Leading the Way by Lighting the Way



Tom McAleer (second from right), Valley Stream's Superintendent of Buildings, has been sworn in as the Vice-President of the APWA, New York Metro Chapter. “Tom will do a great job representing Valley Stream in this capacity,” stated Mayor Fare. “He continues to find ways to streamline expenses while helping our residents each and every day.”

**V**alley Stream has been recognized for its commitment to clean energy with the American Public Works Association's “Sustainability Practices Award.” The village was selected due to its innovative LED street lighting project that utilizes updated state-of-the-art technology to save taxpayers over 50% on Valley Stream's energy bill, while at the same time reducing our carbon footprint. “We are leading the way in clean, green energy efficiency!” proclaimed Mayor Fare.



Valley Stream has nearly 100 miles of roadways that wind through the incorporated village, and with the threat of bad weather right around the corner, our highway crews are getting ready to tackle winter's challenges. The village purchased new equipment to prep roads for pothole repairs, recycle old pavement and keep it warm as specially equipped vehicles travel about filling potholes with “hot patch” for better, more effective repairs.



**TRUSTEES**  
JOHN L. TUFARELLI  
VINCENT M. GRASSO  
VIRGINIA CLAVIN-HIGGINS

**MAYOR**  
EDWIN A. FARE  
  
**DEPUTY MAYOR**  
DERMOND E. THOMAS

**VILLAGE JUDGE**  
ROBERT G. BOGLE

**VILLAGE CLERK**  
ROBERT D. BARRA



# Winterfest in Valley Stream



***Santa Claus is Coming to Valley Stream!***

**Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00 P.M. – Write Your Letters to Santa at the Henry Waldinger Memorial Library**

**6:15 P.M. – Santa Arrives on his Fire Truck at the Village Green**

**6:30 P.M. – Santa Helps Light the Christmas Tree**

**6:45 – Santa and His Reindeer Will Greet the Children at Village Hall**

**Mayor Fare Will Read to the Children by the Roaring Fire**

**Movies, prizes, refreshments!**

**8:30 P.M. – Santa Returns to the North Pole**



***Remember, Valley Stream proudly participates in the Toys for Tots Program  
Please consider bringing a new, unwrapped toy for those less fortunate***

## **WINTERFEST CONTINUES WITH THESE ACTIVITIES**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 7:00 P.M. – Dedication of Nativity with Fr. Carroll K of C (Corner of Sunrise Hwy. & S. Franklin Ave.)**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 12 NOON TO 4 P.M. – Gingerbread House Contest with VS Historical Society (Pagan-Fletcher Restoration)**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 4:30 P.M. - Giant Menorah Lighting with Chabad Outreach Center (Corner of Sunrise Hwy. & S. Franklin Ave.)**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1-4 P.M. - Fire Truck Rides at Hendrickson Park with VSFD (Raindate Sunday, December 27)**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 6:00 TO 8:00 P.M.- Candlelight Tour of Pagan-Fletcher Restoration**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 28 – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30**

*Children's activities at the Henry Waldinger Memorial Library*

Visit [www.vsvny.org](http://www.vsvny.org) for more details on all Winterfest events!

*Mayor Ed Fare and the Board of Trustees would like to wish everyone a happy & healthy 2016!*

# 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.

## **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.

**In the event of a Snow Emergency, information can be obtained from the Village's Emergency Management Advisory Radio System.**  
**AM 1620**

## **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.**

## 2015 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

### Household Garbage Collection

Observed Holidays	If your regular collection is... MONDAY/THURSDAY	If your regular collection is... TUESDAY/FRIDAY
<b>Christmas Day Friday, December 25th</b>	Regular Schedule	Tuesday/Saturday
<b>New Year's Day Friday, January 1, 2016</b>	Regular Schedule	Tuesday/Saturday

### Recycling Collection - If your regular day is...

Observed Holidays	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Christmas Day Friday, December 25th</b>	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular	Pick-up Sat 12/26
<b>New Year's Day Friday, January 1, 2016</b>	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular	Pick-up Sat 1/2

*There will be normal agricultural pick-up on December 23rd & December 30th.  
Christmas Tree pick-up will begin on Wednesday, January 6th, 2016 and will continue on Wednesdays thereafter, except for January 20th.*

## 2016 Household Garbage Holiday Collection Schedule

Observed Holidays	If your regular collection is Monday/Thursday	If your regular collection is Tuesday/Friday
New Year's Day (2016) Friday, January 1st	Regular Schedule	Tuesday/Saturday
Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 18th	Tuesday/Thursday No Agriculture	Wednesday/Friday No Agriculture
President's Day, Monday, February 15th	Tuesday/Thursday No Agriculture	Wednesday/Friday No Agriculture
Memorial Day, Monday, May 30th	Tuesday/Thursday No Agriculture	Wednesday/Friday No Agriculture
Fourth of July, Monday, July 4th	Tuesday/Thursday No Agriculture	Wednesday/Friday No Agriculture
Labor Day, Monday, September 5th	Tuesday/Thursday No Agriculture	Wednesday/Friday No Agriculture
Columbus Day, Monday, October 10th	Tuesday/Thursday No Agriculture	Wednesday/Friday No Agriculture
Election Day, Tuesday, November 8th	Regular Schedule	Regular Schedule
Veteran's Day, Friday, November 11th	Regular Schedule	Regular Schedule
Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 24th	Monday/Friday	Tuesday/Saturday
Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25th	Tuesday/Thursday	Wednesday/Friday
New Year's Day (2017), Sunday, January 1st	Tuesday/Thursday	Wednesday/Friday

**2016 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 20th • February 17th • June 1st • July 6th • September 7th • October 12th

### 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 516-825-8108.
- 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 Village website for disposal information.*

516-825-8108    [www.vsvny.org](http://www.vsvny.org)

## 2016 Recycling Holiday Collection Schedule

If your regular recycling day is ...

Observed Holidays	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
New Year's Day (2016) Friday, January 1st	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular	Pick up Sat 1/2
Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 18th	Pick up Tues 1/19	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
President's Day, Monday, February 15th	Pick up Tues 2/16	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Memorial Day, Monday, May 30th	Pick up Tues 5/31	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Fourth of July, Monday, July 4th	Pick up Tues 7/5	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Labor Day, Monday, September 5th	Pick up Tues 9/6	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Columbus Day, Monday, October 10th	Pick up Tues 10/11	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Election Day, Tuesday, November 8th	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Veteran's Day, Friday, November 11th	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 24th	Regular	Regular	Regular	Pick up Sat 11/26	Regular
Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25th	Pick up Tues 12/27	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular
New Year's Day (2017), Sunday, January 1st	Pick up Tues 1/3	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular



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

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# Senior Corner



- The **Silver Threads** food shopping schedule has been expanded! Bus service is now offered to include transportation to “Food World” located on West Merrick Road on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 9:30am to Noon. Participants must be residents of the Incorporated Village of Valley Stream. Please contact our bus driver Damarus directly at 516-443-0159 to arrange for pick up and drop off.
- **Don't forget to file for your senior tax exemptions!** You may be eligible for more tax relief, so stop by the Village Hall to learn more. Remember the deadline for filing is December 31, 2015.
- Be sure to check the monthly **Silver Threads calendar** for updates on all the programs and services offered to our village's seniors.

## 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.com](http://www.vsvny.com).**