



# VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK OFFICIAL REPORT— FALL 2008

Village Hall: 354-0022

DPW: 354-0064



## *Mayor's Letter to the Residents*



Normally the summer months tend to be a little quiet for the Village Board, but for my fellow Board members, this summer was a rather busy one.

We had our most successful summer camp program at Memorial Park with a record number of children participating. I would like to extend a thank you to Rich Coppola and Trish Sheridan for all of their efforts. The parks also received a face-lift this summer. The tennis and basketball courts at Memorial Park were resurfaced and new tennis nets were installed. As an avid tennis player, I am excited at the prospect of playing on the new surface and I hope to see my fellow tennis players out there using the courts.

Donald Barbieri continued to work hard on several projects related to our revitalization efforts. We eagerly await the installation of the pocket park across from the new library on Lakeville Road. Don is also involved in the Brooklyn Avenue Parking Lot Project which has taken up a lot of his time and I'm sure it will be beautiful when it is completed.

The Building Department, under the direction of Rich Belziti, has been keeping Larry Montreuil very busy this summer. We have had a significant increase in building permits during the summer. There has been a constant flow of activity with continued efforts on the issue of illegal apartments and Zoning Board applications. To Larry's credit, he takes a personal interest in every case that appears before the Zoning Board and the Architectural Review Board.

Jim McCloat and the men in the Department of Public Works have had a busy summer with park maintenance issues, the tree trimming program, and our annual Jericho Turnpike clean-up.

Deputy Mayor Bob Lofaro has been crunching the numbers and working to finalize

the details for our 2009 Road Improvement Project slated to cost in the area of \$2 million.

Thanks to the efforts of Village Attorney John Spellman, it looks like we will be wrapping up the labor contract negotiations with the CSEA. Hopefully by the time you are reading this Newsletter, the contract will be finalized.

Pat Farrell, Village Clerk/Treasurer, has also been hard at work. Thanks to his efforts, the Village has secured a state grant earmarked for records retention. The amount of the grant is approximately \$45,000. With this money, we will be able to convert a number of our building files from paper to micro-fiche and in time will be stored in the basement of Village Hall providing additional space to the now crowded area of the Building Department. Plans for the renovation of the space previously used by the Village Library are coming together nicely and work should be starting on that project shortly.

Finally, plans are almost completed for the 13th Annual Village Street Fair. This year's event will be held on Saturday, September 20 from 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM. The annual fair is a special event in the Village and we look forward to seeing you on the Turnpike. The street fair draws thousands of visitors into our community. Car and pedestrian traffic will be heavy so I ask everyone to be extra patient and extra vigilant as you go about your daily activities.

So as you can see, there is a lot going on in the usually "sleepy" days of summer. I am sure that the fall will be just as busy and I look forward to seeing some of the exciting changes come to fruition. I can't thank everyone by name. So, if I missed anyone I apologize. Expressing my thanks and appreciation to all....

*Mayor Dan Petruccio*



## 13th Annual Village Street Fair

We are just days away from the annual Village Street Fair, considered by many to be the *Premier Street Fair Event on Long Island*.

This annual event brings in thousands of visitors from all over Long Island into our wonderful community. This is our day to showcase our Village, our beautification efforts, our community spirit and our diverse merchant base to the thousands of visitors who choose to spend the day on the Turnpike.

The Street Fair will be held on **Saturday, September 20th** from 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM (rain date is Saturday, September 27th). Jericho Turnpike will be closed from New Hyde Park Road to Covert Avenue. We expect 250 street vendors and over 100 sidewalk merchants, service groups and charitable organizations participating this year. The New Hyde Park Fire Department and the Children's Carnival will be located in the Central Blvd. parking lot. Bring your appetite because, in addition to our wonderful Village restaurants, there will be a diverse and tasty food court, located in front of the Central Blvd. parking lot.

Considering the thousands of visitors that come to the Fair and the increased car and pedestrian traffic it brings to our Village, we ask everyone to please be extra vigilant and patient as you travel throughout the area. We look forward to seeing you at the Street Fair on **Saturday, September 20th!**

### **Department of Public Works *National Grid/Keyspan Projects***

The Village was recently notified by National Grid (formerly Keyspan) that the

utility company has been mandated by the Public Service Commission and New York State to replace faulty gas lines in the streets as well as to all existing indoor meters. Since these projects will impact the Village, our residents, and the 2009 Road Improvement Project, the Village Board, the Department of Public Works, the Building Department and the Village Attorney are committed to working with National Grid to coordinate a schedule and a time line for the projects.

This is what we know to date. There are two separate projects which National Grid needs to complete within the next five years. One project involves replacing 50 to 60 miles of defective gas mains throughout Nassau and Suffolk County. Gas mains will be replaced only in the streets where National Grid has found the mains to be defective.

The second project involves replacing all existing gas lines to the homes that have indoor gas meters. The scope of this project includes the excavation and replacement of the grass strip/tree lane alongside the sidewalks and then installing a new gas line to the home. National Grid is confident that this project will not affect/damage the homeowner's front lawn. If National Grid finds it necessary when they excavate the grass strip, they may need to obtain a street opening permit for a 4 foot x 4 foot opening in the street. During this project, if the homeowner desires, National Grid will set the existing indoor gas meter outdoors. This will enable the homeowner to avoid all future indoor gas meter readings. The Village has been communicating daily with National Grid to avoid any possibility of new streets or proposed new streets to be affected by the two construction projects. We understand that faulty gas lines need to be replaced. However, we feel it critical that National Grid works with the Village to coordinate its five-year plan and work with us to secure the integrity of the public streets as well as protecting Village residents.

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## **Village Board Opposes North Hempstead Flow Control**

The Town of North Hempstead's Town Board held a public meeting on July 8th to obtain input to their proposal to implement flow control for all communities in North Hempstead. In attendance from the Village were Mayor Petruccio, Trustees Barbieri, Coppola, and Montreuil, and Superintendent of Public Works, Jim McCloat. Presentations were made by Mayor Petruccio, Trustee Montreuil and Jim McCloat stressing the Village's strong opposition to North Hempstead imposing a law which would require all municipalities, including our Village, to bring their garbage to a Town regional collection point. The Town claims this effort will reduce the cost for all municipalities. This is, in fact, not true for our Village because the Village's disposal rate is significantly less expensive than what other Villages pay at the Town of North Hempstead's collection site.

The Village Board and the Superintendent of Public Works vehemently oppose this measure which would restrict the Village from competitive rates and from continuing to enjoy the favorable rates that it does. Estimates indicate that an additional \$150,000 - \$250,000 would be added to our tipping fees which would amount to approximately a 3 1/2% tax increase, just for sanitation removal.

In his presentation to the Town Board, Mayor Petruccio said the Village Board is opposed to this measure and is "not willing to negotiate." Trustee Coppola added that "it makes no sense for the Village to pay the Town of North Hempstead \$10 a ton more than the Village pays now." The Village has benefited for many years because of the favorable collection rates that Jim McCloat has been able to secure. Why would the Village want to relinquish such a favorable deal? The Village Board stands united in

their firm opposition to the Town of North Hempstead and will continue to keep residents informed as developments occur.

## **New York State Department of Transportation Jericho Turnpike Improvement Project**

Over the past several months, the Village Board has held several meetings with representatives of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to discuss their upcoming project to improve Jericho Turnpike.

The DOT will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, September 23, 6:00 PM, at the New Hyde Park Memorial High School Cafeteria. The DOT will present their proposed plans for public input. All residents are encouraged to attend this public hearing and voice their opinions, concerns, and suggestions.

The DOT preliminary plans contain, for example, that at each intersection on Jericho Turnpike in the Village, traffic signals will be changed so that there will be count-down devices included so people know how much time they have to cross the street. The project also includes the elimination of some left-hand turns and some traffic lights. The Village Board is trying to coordinate its Operation Main Street Project with the NYSDOT's improvements.

Trustee Don Barbieri has been working closely with representatives from the DOT and feels that the DOT has tried to incorporate elements from the Village Operation Main Street Project into their preliminary plans. As Trustee Barbieri recently remarked, ultimately the goal is to make Jericho Turnpike more pedestrian-friendly and a safer street.

## **Building Department**

### ***Pool Permit Requirements***

### ***Village Amnesty Program***

For safety reasons, and due to the publicized injuries and fatalities in above-ground and in-ground pools, the Village is extremely concerned that all existing swimming pools bear valid Village permits that meet all State and Village Codes.

Those of you who fall into the category of not having a Certificate of Completion for your pool must immediately come to Village Hall to file a permit to legalize and maintain this structure.

If you submit your application during the amnesty period, which expires on January 1, 2009, there will be no late filing fee of \$150.

If you already possess a Certificate of Completion for your pool, you are required to visit Village Hall for a copy of the latest changes to the New York State Code, which will insure the safety of all residents. Your cooperation is anticipated and appreciated. If you have any questions or would like further information, please call the Building Department at 354-0022.

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## **Village Clerk's Office**

### ***Resident Parking Permits***

On Monday, December 8, the 2009 resident "R" parking permits go on sale. "R" parking permits can be purchased in the Village Clerk's Office during regular business hours. Residents must present a current driver's license and car registration that reflects their Village address. The 2009 "R" parking permit must be affixed to your car by January 1, 2009 to insure compliance to Village parking codes. The fee remains unchanged at \$50 for the calendar year. Questions can be referred to the Village Clerk's Office at 354-0022.

## **Village Obtains State Grants**

Patrick Farrell, Village Clerk/Treasurer was successful in obtaining two substantial grants for the Village.

In July, the New York State Archives Association awarded the Village approximately \$45,000 to help fund a project to improve and modernize the Building Department's Record Management Program. In essence, this will involve scanning and micro-filming the extensive number of building department records and files. Ultimately, this project will allow Building Inspectors and Village personnel to quickly and efficiently retrieve building records on-line and insure the safety and preservation of the large number of these documents.

The Building Department is currently researching record retrieval software programs and they hope to begin the implementation phase by the end of the year.

In early August, the Village received the good news that the New York State Development Corporation approved our grant application and has awarded the Village \$250,000! This grant money will be used to refurbish the William Gill Theatre, including upgrading the lighting, electrical, and AV control systems, installing a new stage, fire shutters, rear fire exits, stage curtains, carpeting, etc. Additionally, the Board plans to convert the former Library space into a youth/senior center, which will provide young adults and senior citizens a safe environment to gather and host events. Finally, a portion of the grant monies is projected to be used to construct a Village Historical Society/Museum on the second floor of Village Hall. This area will be used to display and protect historical documents, pictures and records pertaining to the Village of New Hyde Park. The Village Board appreciates the support received from Senator Johnson and sincerely thanks him for his efforts to get this grant awarded to the Village. Until the State budget is approved by Governor Paterson, the final amount of this award may be modified and/or reduced.

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## Dog Walking Etiquette

Walking the family dog down our quiet suburban tree lined streets is one of the more relaxing times in our otherwise stressful lives. It's a great time to get a little exercise, bond with your pet and greet some of the neighbors. There are few scenes that better reflect the simple joys of suburban living.

There is of course a less pleasant task that presents itself during this serene interlude with man's best friend. The labor of love to clean up after your dog reflects the commitment to the family pet, similar to changing your baby's diaper. It's also greatly appreciated by the neighbors, here in New Hyde Park, and all Long Islanders who use the beaches and bays. Happily, the vast majority of dog owners in the Village respect their neighbors and love their pets. Yet, there are those very few who don't.

It's difficult to imagine something that is more disrespectful and inconsiderate to a neighbor than failing to perform this simple responsibility. It is baffling that anyone can be so rude or lazy to walk in front of someone else's home for the purpose of having your pet defecate in front of their property and leaving it there. Obviously, that person doesn't want the mess in front of their own home or having it tracked into their home on the bottom of a shoe.

Leaving the job undone also contributes to pollution of our waterways when material is washed down the storm drains during the rain. Some folks, while fastidious about cleaning up, dispose of the dog waste illegally in storm drains. This is also illegal and disgusting. The drains are not sanitary sewers that lead to a magical sewage treatment plant. The contaminated

runoff from the streets leads to the aquifer that supplies our drinking water and to the bays and ocean. The proper method of disposal is to seal the waste in a plastic bag and place it in your trash can. It is recommended that trash cans be cleaned out every so often in consideration of the Sanitation Crew who uncovers your trash cans every week. Once again, it's a simple matter of being considerate.

The DPW has recently affixed medallions to many of the storm drains in New Hyde Park to remind residents that "Only Rain Goes In The Drains."

It is also interesting to note that the code requires that dogs must be walked in the street. That means within the curb lines. It is actually illegal to walk your dog on the median between the sidewalk and the curb without the owners permission. Dog owners are also responsible for preventing their animals from urinating in these areas. This will often kill the grass your neighbor is required to maintain. Once again, curb your dog means in the street.

Please contact the Village DPW if you notice someone who is not obeying these simple rules of law. Provide their name and address and the Village will follow up with a letter to the owner, reminding them of the law and the applicable fines. A copy of the letter can be sent to the Town of North Hempstead Animal Licensing Bureau. Chronic violators may be summoned to court on the basis of a sworn complaint or observation by Code Enforcers. Usually, such a gentle but firm reminder will help curb the indiscretions.

So, here are a few helpful reminders to be a good dog owner and a respectful neighbor, operating within the law include:

- **Only walk your dog within the street, from curb to curb**
- **Don't allow your dog to urinate or defecate anywhere but in the street**
- **Always clean up after your dog**
- **Dispose of the waste in a plastic bag in your own trash pail**

***LIRR Delays Third Track Expansion***

In a monthly report to the MTA’s LIRR Committee, LIRR President Helena Williams stated that the Third Track Expansion Project will be delayed due to funding issues. This news was met with cheers and joy from the communities along the main line, but everyone should be reminded that this is just a delay, and not a cancellation of the project. “We had always suspected the LIRR would not have sufficient funding for this 1.5 billion dollar project, but our objective still remains to get the LIRR to abandon the Third Track project entirely” said Deputy Mayor Bob Lofaro. The LIRR also voted to spend \$100,000 to explore alternatives to better utilize the current two track configuration. The Village expects that the LIRR will still present a Draft Environmental Impact Statement to the public after the general elections in November. For more information, please visit the Village web site at [www.vnhp.org](http://www.vnhp.org) and click the LIRR tab.

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**Beautification Committee**

The Beautification Committee will be participating in the upcoming Street Fair. Their table will be located in front of Village Hall and they hope you take a moment to visit them. As always, the Committee will be sponsoring some great raffles and free give-a-ways. Take a chance, this could be **your** year to win a great prize!!

The Committee needs volunteers to help plant bulbs and autumn flowers. Fall Planting Day will take place on Monday, October 13 beginning at 10:00 AM. Volunteers are asked to meet in the Village Hall Parking Lot. Volunteers do not have to bring a thing. Gardening supplies, equipment, and light refreshments will be provided.



**The Cultural Committee  
*Summer Concert Series***

Members of the Cultural Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the Summer concerts and shows. We were very fortunate to have our friends from Maspeth Bank kick off the season with a performance from “Time Was”. Other shows included musical entertainment from Ron Gartner; a great production of “The Emperor’s New Clothes”; our very own The Sewanaka Adult Education Community Band; crowd-pleasing music from “Sweetwater”; and finally “The Magic of Amore” which was generously sponsored by Robert Valli of HSBC Bank.

Please mark your calendar for the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 6 from 3:30 - 4:30 PM. Please join us in Marcus Christ Hall and the front lawn of Village Hall for holiday music, entertainment, and light refreshments. What a great way to kick-off the start of the Holiday Season!

***NHP Little League Senior Girls  
State Champions!***



On Friday evening, September 5th, the Village Board and elected officials recognized the NHP Little League Senior Girls Division Team for winning the New York State Championship. A reception was held in Marcus Christ Hall directly preceding Movie Night, which was moved indoors due to storm warnings. The Board honored the team’s incredible accomplishment with a plaque which will be hung in the lobby of Village Hall for all to see. Additionally, plaques and certificates of recognition were presented to the team and each player by local elected officials.

## Parks & Recreation Committee

### *Children's Summer Program*

Trish Sheridan, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee, proudly reports that the Children's Summer Recreational Program experienced it's largest number of participants in both the morning and the afternoon sessions. Hats off to all the Program Counselors for the great job they did in engaging the children in a vast array of activities. There were arts and crafts, organized games, and plenty of sports to keep the children busy and amused. Another record breaker....the weather cooperated each and every day. Unlike prior years, rain storms and/or severe heat never relocated the group indoors.



**What a Team!** The 2008 Summer Program Counselors, from left to right: Michael Alli, Michael Bartaloni, Joseph Goetz, Joanne Bartaloni, Katie Sheridan, Melissa Montreuil, Dina Nicastro, and Dawn Weihs.



**On the last day of the Program, Eamonn Lennon and Nicholas Sieban (wearing the hat) brought their musical equipment to Memorial Park and entertained the crowds. Great job guys!**

### *Memorial Park Improvements*

Attention all tennis and basketball players. Trustee Rich Coppola is pleased to announce that the tennis and basketball courts in Memorial Park have been resurfaced and are in perfect shape for your use and enjoyment. If you haven't been to Memorial Park recently, please stop in and see what improvements have been done over the Summer. Bring your tennis racket or basketball, or both ... and enjoy!



**Residents Frank and Allen Lin of North 7th Street enjoy a friendly game of one-on-one .**



**You must see the tennis courts in person to truly appreciate the deep blue color and the bright white base, foul, and side lines.**

### *Flag Football League*

A Flag Football League is now forming. A one-day registration will be held in Memorial Park on Sunday, September 21 at 11:00 AM. This program is open to boys ages 9 - 10 and games will be played on Saturday and Sunday mornings either at Nuzzi Field or Memorial Park. For more information, please call Rich Pallisco in the evening at 328-3591.

**The Village of New Hyde Park  
Official Report - Fall 2008  
1420 Jericho Turnpike  
New Hyde Park, NY 11040**

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**Village of New Hyde Park  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.VNHP.ORG](http://WWW.VNHP.ORG)**

**Mayor: Daniel Petruccio**  
**Deputy Mayor: Robert Lofaro**  
**Trustees: Richard Coppola**  
**Donald Barbieri**  
**Lawrence Montreuil**

**Village Clerk's Office: 354-0022**  
**(M-F) 8:45AM-4:15PM**

**Dept of Public Works: 354-0064**  
**(M-F) 9:00AM-3:00PM**

**Village Court: 354-6330**  
**Building Department: 354-0022**  
**Fire Department & Ambulance: 742-3300**

## **Veteran's Affairs**

### ***Veteran's Day Observance***

At the 11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month of the year, Americans across the nation will pay honor and tribute to all veterans who serve heroically in the military to protect our families and preserve our freedoms. The Village will host a ceremony on the front lawn of Village Hall on November 11th at 11:00 AM. All guests are asked to assemble no later than 10:45 AM.

Please always remember the men and women in our armed services, especially the members who are serving overseas and at home.





**SANITATION SCHEDULE CHANGE**

**Columbus Day**

**Monday, October 13**

Garbage for North Side **POSTPONED** and rescheduled to Tuesday, October 14

**Tuesday, October 14**

Garbage collection for the entire Village and newspapers for North Side

**Election Day**

**Tuesday, November 4**

Garbage for South Side and newspapers for North Side **POSTPONED** and rescheduled to Wednesday, November 5

**Wednesday, November 5**

Garbage for South Side, newspapers for North Side, recycling and yard waste entire Village

**Veteran's Day**

**Tuesday, November 11**

Garbage for South Side and newspapers for North Side **POSTPONED** and rescheduled to Wednesday, November 12

**Wednesday, November 12**

Garbage for South Side, newspapers for North Side, recycling and yard waste entire Village

**Thanksgiving Day**

**Thursday, November 27**

Garbage for North Side and newspapers for South Side **POSTPONED** and rescheduled to Friday, November 28

**Friday, November 28**

Garbage for entire Village and newspapers for South Side

**Christmas Day**

**Thursday, December 25**

Garbage for North Side and newspapers for South Side **POSTPONED** and rescheduled to Friday, December 26

**Friday, December 26**

Garbage for entire Village and newspapers for South Side

**SANITATION SCHEDULE CHANGE**

**New Years Day**

**Thursday, January 1, 2009**

Garbage for North Side and newspapers for South Side **POSTPONED** and rescheduled to Friday, January 2

**Friday, January 2**

Garbage for entire Village and newspapers for South Side

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

**Monday, January 19**

Garbage for North Side **POSTPONED** and rescheduled to Tuesday, January 20

**Tuesday, January 20**

Garbage for entire Village and newspapers for North Side

**President's Day**

**Monday, February 16**

Garbage for North Side **POSTPONED** and rescheduled to Tuesday, February 17

**Tuesday, February 17**

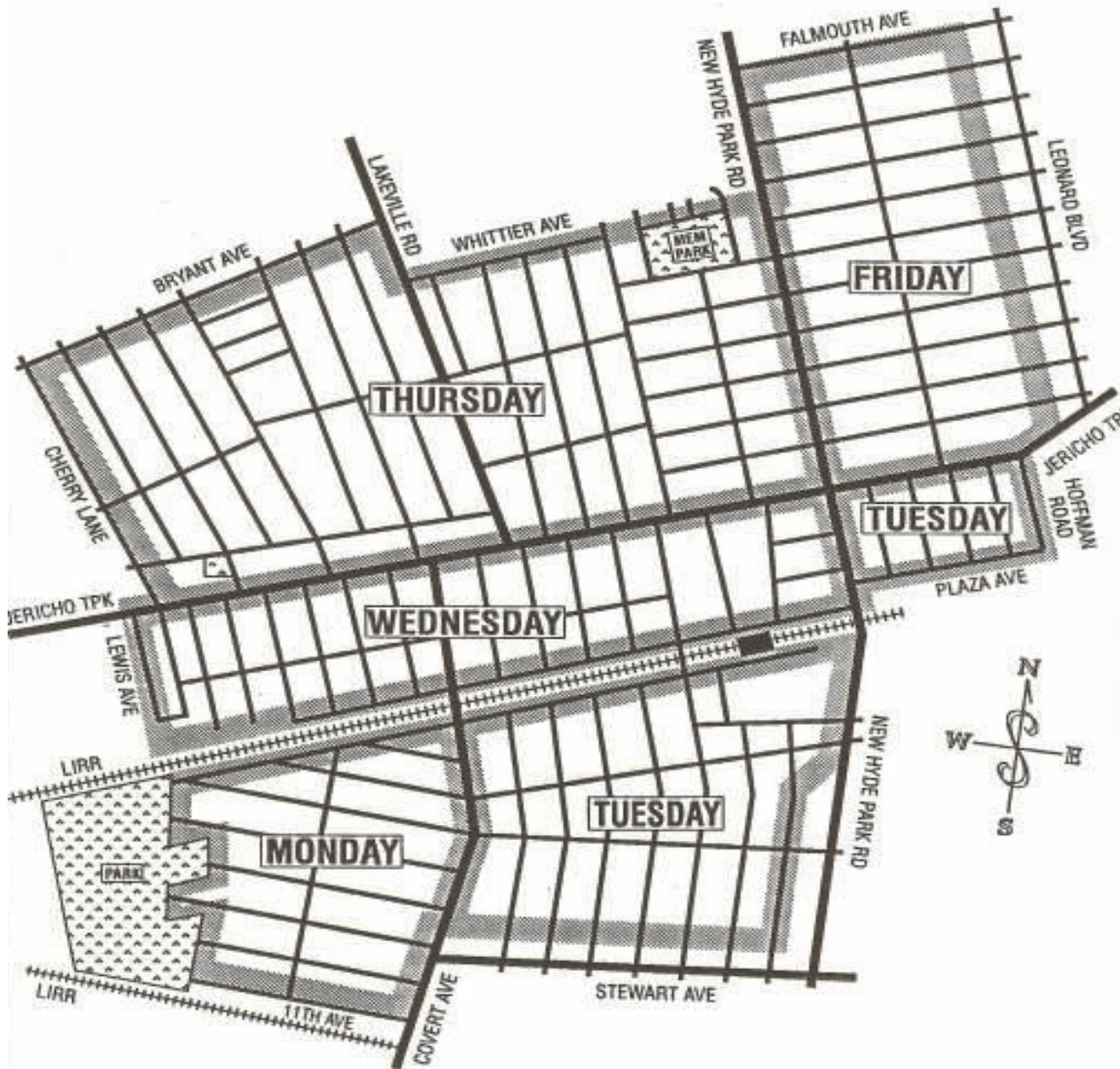
Garbage for entire Village and newspapers for North Side

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Tues 9/16 Village Board Meeting 8:00 PM Village Hall
- Sat 9/20 **Village Street Fair 10:00AM Jericho Tpke (rain date 9/27)**
- Tues 10/7 Village Board Meeting 8:00 PM Village Hall
- Wed 10/8 Board of Zoning Appeals 7:30 PM Village Hall
- Mon 10/13 **Columbus Day Village Offices Closed No Garbage Collection**
- Tues 10/21 Village Board Meeting 8:00 PM Village Hall
- Sat 10/25 Homecoming Day Parade 12:30 PM Jericho Tpke.

- Tues 11/4 **Election Day No Garbage Collection**
- Thurs 11/6 Village Board Meeting 8:00 PM Village Hall
- Tues 11/11 **Veteran's Day Village Offices Closed No Garbage Collection**
- Wed 11/12 Board of Zoning Appeals 7:30 PM Village Hall
- Tues 11/18 Village Board Meeting 8:00 PM Village Hall
- Thur 11/27 **Thanksgiving Day Village Offices Closed No Garbage Collection Village Hall Closed**
- Fri 11/28 Village Board Meeting 8:00 PM Village Hall
- Tues 12/2 Holiday Festivities & Tree Lighting 3:30 - 4:30 PM
- Sat 12/6 Purchase 2009 "R" Parking Permits - Village Hall
- Mon 12/8 Board of Zoning Appeals 7:30 PM Village Hall
- Wed 12/10 Village Board Meeting 8:00 PM Village Hall
- Tues 12/16 **Christmas Day Village Offices Closed No Garbage Collection**
- Thur 12/25 **New Year's Holiday Village Offices Closed No Garbage Collection**
- Thur 1/1/09 Village Board Meeting 8:00 PM Village Hall
- Tues 1/6 **Martin Luther King Jr. Day Village Offices Closed No Garbage Collection**
- Mon 1/19 Village Board Meeting 8:00 PM Village Hall
- Tues 1/20 Village Board Meeting 8:00 PM Village Hall
- Tues 2/3 Village Board Meeting 8:00 PM Village Hall
- Mon 2/16 **President's Day Village Offices Closed**

# LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE FALL 2009



Please refer to this map to determine the day leaves will be collected on your block.

Once the leaves begin to fall, the road crews will be out with the street sweeper or the leaf collection equipment. Residents only have to rake the leaves into the street the day before and the Department of Public Works will sweep or vacuum the leaves away.

**No bagging, no fuss, no mess!**