



## From The Desk of Mayor Don Ryan

Week of March 11, 2019

Throughout March, Women's History Month is being celebrated in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia. Women's History Month had its origins as a national celebration in 1981 when Congress passed legislation which authorized and requested President Jimmy Carter to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week. In 1987, Congress declared March as National Women's History Month in perpetuity. A special Presidential Proclamation is issued every year which honors the extraordinary achievements of American women throughout history.

As noted in the 2019 Presidential Proclamation, during Women's History Month, we celebrate the countless women whose courage and resolve have contributed to the character and success of our Nation and the entire world. The equal opportunity of women in every facet of daily life is an essential feature of a free and prosperous society. This month, we honor women who have fought for equality and against the status quo, and who have broken the bonds of discrimination, partiality, and injustice for the benefit of all. These women created a legacy that continues to inspire generations of women to live with confidence, to have a positive impact on their communities, and to improve our Nation every single day. We remember all the American women, past and present, who have inspired and empowered today's women to advocate for their beliefs and pursue their dreams without hesitation.

Here in Hempstead Village, we will be celebrating Women's History Month on Monday, March 18 with a program titled "Honoring Visionary Women." Everyone is invited to join us as we recognize women and the tremendous contributions they have made to society here in America and in other places abroad as well. The event will be held at Kennedy Memorial Park (335 Greenwich Street), starting at 6 p.m.

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I also wanted to remind residents about the upcoming election for two Village Trustee seats that will be taking place on Tuesday, March 19. All registered voters are encouraged to take the time to exercise their rights to cast a ballot. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information please call the Nassau County Board of Elections at 516-571-8683 or visit: <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/BOE/index.html>

### This Week's Best of Hempstead



This week's Best of Hempstead honors go to Pat Brown. A native of Atlanta, Georgia, Pat has been a resident of Hempstead Village since 1978. A licensed social worker with a Master's Degree in Social Work from Stony Brook University, Pat worked in that capacity for the Hempstead School District for 26 years. Pat attributes her destiny to become a social worker resulted from her own personal experience of her father's passing from kidney disease on her first day of high school many years ago. This disease later afflicted Pat, who was fortunate to find a donor in her sister Gwen when she needed a kidney transplant. However, the loss of her father caused Pat to flounder in high school, until a guidance counselor recognized her potential and helped her get into the NOAH program at Hofstra University. Because of her journey through a difficult childhood and overcoming those challenges, Pat has developed a special gift that enables her to relate to children in all degrees of crisis and help them find their way out. Over the year's she has used that gift to help countless youth with their own personal struggles.

Pat is also renowned for her service to the Hempstead community. She is the founding director of the HOPE Foundation, an organization designed to help underserved families access services available to address their specific needs and help them become successful and independent.

Throughout her distinguished career, Pat has been the recipient of many community awards, citations and honors for her commitment to Hempstead students and community. These honors include but are not limited to: The Dr. Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award, N. Y. State Teachers Association State Social Worker of the Year for Outstanding Community Service and Operation Get Ahead's Humanitarian Award.

Pat, you've modeled your life by the motto that "One person can make a difference." Your efforts over the years have certainly reflected that principle and have benefitted people who truly need it most. Therefore, it gives me great pleasure to recognize you as one of Hempstead's best. Congratulations.

Sincerely,

*Don*

Don Ryan  
Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead