



## From The Desk of Mayor Don Ryan

Week of January 7, 2019

I hope your holidays were filled with much joy and happiness. While memories of 2018 will linger in our minds for a while longer, the start of the New Year offers a renewed sense of resolve and the prospect of greater opportunities in the 12 months ahead.

Here in Hempstead Village, the rest of January brings a steady flow of activity I wanted let you know about.

In the next week or so, our 2019 Sanitation-Recycling Guide will be mailed to all residents in the Village. The guide will provide monthly calendars for both trash pickup and recycling along with a holiday schedule indicating any changes from the normal collections cycle. There will also be sections in both English and Spanish that offer guidelines to follow for both trash collection and recycling that should prove useful as well as phone numbers to call should there ever be any questions. Please be on the lookout for the guide and keep it in a place for easy future reference. Following the guidelines will help ensure that our sanitation and recycling efforts run smoothly and make a positive contribution to our environment.

There are also several important and interesting events I wanted to bring to your attention to:

- **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Parade** -- This year's parade to honor the legacy of Dr. King will be held on Monday, January 21, starting at 9:00 a.m. The parade begins at Kennedy Memorial Park (335 Greenwich Street) and will end at Miracle Christian Center (334 Fulton Avenue) where a brief ceremony will follow. For more information about this event, please contact Juanita Hargwood at 516-478-6286.
- **Brownfield Redevelopment Public Meeting** – Hosted by the Hempstead Community Development Agency (CDA), the meeting will explore redevelopment opportunities of brownfield areas in the Village. Brownfields are former industrial or commercial property sites that are no longer in use. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 23, at the Hempstead Public Library (115 James A. Garner Way), starting at 5:30 p.m.
- **Hempstead Community Land Trust Public Information Session** – Residents are invited to join us and learn more about how the Land Trust will help revitalize the community by developing and stewarding affordable housing, community gardens, civic buildings, commercial spaces and other assets in Hempstead Village. This meeting will take place on Thursday, January 31 at Kennedy Memorial Park (335 Greenwich Street) starting at 5:30 p.m.

I am so thankful to be Mayor of a community that's the only place I've ever called home. I wish every one of you a blessed and Happy New Year.

### This Week's Best of Hempstead



Best of Hempstead honors this week are extended to the father and daughter team of Jeffrey and Cheyenne Spencer. Both Jeff and Chey are incredible examples of individuals who give back to the community through volunteerism and philanthropic endeavors that have touched the lives of thousands.

For the past five years, Jeff and Chey have hosted an annual Christmas gathering at Brierley Park that draws over 500 residents and includes dinner, a visit by Santa and toy giveaway for all the kids who attend. Each October for the past five years as well Jeff and Chey have held a Halloween Party at Campbell Park that provides a family-fun and safe environment for hundreds of youngsters to enjoy a full assortment Halloween activities and gift bags full of candy and other goodies to take home. In addition, for the past several years, Jeff and Chey have

hosted a Thanksgiving Dinner at Campbell Park in advance of the holiday that includes turkey and all the trimmings as well as a turkey or ham for attendees to take with them and enjoy on Thanksgiving.

Jeff is also a board member of the Village's Parks and Recreation Commission and has been a volunteer firefighter for the past 25 years. Both he and Chey were born and raised in Hempstead Village and graduated from Hempstead High School. Chey has gone on to earn a degree from Nassau Community College as well.

According to Jeff, he and Chey truly enjoy the spirit of giving back and believe they can't be blessed without blessing others. Their actions certainly embody that statement and I'm grateful and proud to both know them and recognize their contributions by naming them among Hempstead's best. Congratulations, Jeff and Chey for all you've done and continue to do to make our Village a better place.

Sincerely,

*Don*

Don Ryan  
Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead