



## From The Desk of Mayor Don Ryan

Week of July 31, 2017

Next weekend two important events will be taking place in our Village, both involving our strong Salvadoran American connections. The first event will be held on Friday, August 4 as the Village of Hempstead celebrates Salvadoran American Day when we will honor the many contributions of Salvadoran leaders and representatives who make our community special. As part of the festivities, which will begin at 11 a.m. at Village Hall (99 Nichols Court), we will raise the Salvadoran flag while those in attendance sing the Salvadoran and American national anthems. At the conclusion of that ceremony, costumed performers will entertain guests with folkloric dancing.

Then, On Sunday, August 6, a full day festival recognizing Salvadorean American Day will take place from 12 noon to 7 p.m. at Nichols Court and Station Plaza, next to Village Hall. That event, entering its 11<sup>th</sup> year in Hempstead, will celebrate the founding of El Salvador in 1525 and will highlight Salvadoran culture with live music, dancing and food.

This is a great opportunity for all village residents to gather and share in learning and gaining a better understanding of the diversity of our population that makes our Village so unique. I encourage you to make some time to participate in either or both of these worthwhile events.

### This Week's Best of Hempstead



This week's Best of Hempstead honors go to Lourdes Rivera. Born and raised in Hempstead Village, Lourdes, whose parents are both from El Salvador, is an honor roll student with a 97 average at Hempstead High School and will be entering her senior year this fall. Her favorite subject is science and she has applied to Duke University where she would like to study to become a pediatrician.

Besides her academic achievements, Lourdes plays soccer on both the high school team and travel league and has accumulated quite an array of trophies and awards since taking up the game about seven years ago. This summer, Lourdes is sharing her athletic and intellectual prowess working as an assistant soccer coach at a summer youth program run by the Hempstead Economic Opportunity Commission Soccer Club. Lourdes is a

shining example of how blending sports and academics together are so important in our children's lives. Congratulations to Lourdes for being one of Hempstead's best. I have no doubt you will continue to make us proud.

Sincerely,

*Don*

Don Ryan  
Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead