



From The Desk of Mayor Don Ryan

Week of October 16, 2017

For over 125 years Hempstead's Public Library has ably served our Village by continually providing an environment that creates and promotes opportunities for learning, recreation and personal growth. While many of our residents take advantage of the vast variety of services available at the Library some of you might not be fully aware of all that it has to offer.

The first step to opening the door to all of the wonderful resources found at our Library is to obtain a library card or renew an expired one. With a valid library card, besides giving you access to explore the large selection of print items, audiovisual materials and other services available at the Library, the digital age will allow you to do things such as download audiobooks directly onto your own devices, search online databases from your own computer or tablet, search for materials and reserve books electronically and even renew borrowed items via text alerts to your cell phone.

Thanks to a recently forged partnership with Tutor.com, students with a valid library card can also receive online access to real time tutors to help them with their studies resulting in better grades, greater confidence and more completed homework assignments.

Additionally, throughout the year, our Library has an action packed calendar with children, teen, adult and senior programs covering a variety of fun activities and interesting topics ranging from bi-lingual storytime, arts and crafts, yoga and culinary tips to defensive driving classes, personal finance matters and how to classes for things like successfully applying to college, understanding the basics of Medicare, buying technology, applying for jobs and more.

Our Library also take great pride in its Children's and Young Adult Departments, including the Teen Advisory Group (TAG), which provides youth with the opportunity to meet and recommend programs and services they would like to have at the Library. Students between 6th through 12th grade are invited to join TAG by visiting or contacting the Library directly by calling 516-481-6990.

There's a lot more to the Hempstead Public Library beyond some of the highlights I've presented. I encourage our residents to do some exploring on their own. Chances are they will be pleasantly surprised at what they discover. I'd recommend stopping by the Library, which is located at 115 Nichols Court and is open Monday through Saturday. There's plenty of parking in the front or back of the building. You can also learn more by visiting: www.hempsteadlibrary.info.

This Week's Best of Hempstead

This week's Best of Hempstead honors are extended to the Hempstead Hispanic Civic Association, a not-for-profit organization that since 1977 has made a positive impact throughout our Village and beyond. Currently, a large part of the group's efforts are focused on a collection drive that the Village of Hempstead is teaming up with to benefit the residents of Puerto Rico who have been devastated by the recent hurricanes.

In addition to this humanitarian effort, the organization led by its Executive Director George Siberón, provides an array of important services to the community, including counseling and advocacy for housing development, recreational activities and instructional programs, parent leadership training and family counseling, and bilingual after school tutoring for elementary through middle school aged children by high school Hispanic students. They also offer a program that teaches English as a second language (ESL) for adults as well. Those interested in learning more can contact the civic association by calling 516-292-0007 or by visiting www.hempsteadhispanic.org.

For now, according to George Siberón, the hurricane relief collection drive is first and foremost. For those interested in making donations, they can be dropped off at Village Hall at 99 Nichols Court, Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. or at the Hempstead Hispanic Civic Association office, located at 236 Main Street, Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Among the items most in need are bottled water, non-perishable food items, hygiene essentials, toiletries and mosquito repellent.

We salute the Hempstead Hispanic Civic Association for doing what it can to help the Puerto Rican community and for all the contributions it has made for the past 39 years in our Village that make the organization one of Hempstead's best.

Sincerely,

Don

Don Ryan
Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead