



## From The Desk of Mayor Don Ryan

Week of November 6, 2017

It's early November, which means real cold weather is just around the corner. Soon, everyone will start to bundle up and layer winter clothing in search of warmth.

Homeowners will, of course, be adjusting thermostats to their own tolerance level for heat, as well as the cost of the energy they use to heat their homes. However, tenants in multiple family dwellings and apartments may not have the option of turning to their own thermostats to seek relief from the elements. Therefore, I would like to review the heating regulations established by the Hempstead Village Building Department which owners and superintendents are required to follow:

**From September 15 thru May 31 landlords must maintain buildings at a minimum temperature of 68 degrees to all habitable rooms.**

During normal business days, if your heat is not being operated within those guidelines, please call the main switchboard at 516-489-3400 and hit option #5 for the Building Department.

An inspector is also available on the weekends throughout the heating season. Residents can call 516-478-6364 to report no heat. On "extremely" cold days during the week an inspector will be available until 7:00 p.m.

The building department also suggests that your building's tenants' association designate one or two people to make any necessary calls, if possible. This will help speed response time considerably.

Heat is essential in our lives during the winter months and every tenant should be provided with that basic need. The Village of Hempstead will do everything possible to make sure that landlords meet their responsibility and follow guidelines in supplying this service to tenants in the community.

## This Week's Best of Hempstead



Hempstead Village Police Detective Darrell Aiken is our Best of Hempstead honoree this week. A Hempstead resident since 1992, Darrell has been a member of the Village police force for 20 years. He started his career in law enforcement with the NYPD in 1994, joined the Hempstead Village police force three years later and was promoted to Detective in 2005. Besides that important job, about a year ago Darrell took on the duties as Director of the Hempstead Police Athletic League (PAL), a role he was well-suited for based on his background with the organization and past activities as a college basketball player.

While growing up in Harlem, the PAL was a big part of his life. It helped allow him to hone his basketball skills and taught him other important lessons about teamwork, education and other life coping skills. At St. John's University back in the late 1980's he played for legendary coach Lou Carnesecca while earning a college degree. Among his teammates were Malik Sealy, Jayson Williams and Boo Harvey. After graduating from St. John's he briefly worked for the Harlem PAL before joining the NYPD. Now he has

come full circle taking on the Director's position at the Hempstead PAL, which currently has about 100 local youngsters in the program and includes activities such as track, basketball, bowling and karate. However, Darrell knows the PAL should be more than sports so he is currently looking get more kids involved by introducing additional programs like mentoring and tutoring along with having the police more actively working with the PAL youngsters. As someone with more than 50 years of experience as a coach and mentor, that's a formula that leads to success in helping our youth become the backbone of our future.

Godspeed to you Darrell in your daily duties as a police officer, much luck in your efforts with the PAL and congratulations for being recognized as one of Hempstead's best.

Sincerely,

*Don*

Don Ryan  
Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead