



Week of June 11, 2018

## From The Desk of Mayor Don Ryan

As part of a federal anti-poverty program that resulted from the tax overhaul last December, two areas in the Village of Hempstead were recently designated as Opportunity Zones, designed to serve as a catalyst to draw private equity investment to support economic revitalization efforts. Hempstead Village was among 10 communities across Long Island to be selected out of 514 originally nominated throughout the state by Governor Cuomo. More information about this new initiative will be revealed as the process further unfolds so stay tuned.

This week I also wanted to share with residents several worthwhile programs taking place in our Village. On Monday, June 18 Hempstead's Community Development Agency (CDA) will be hosting a Fair Housing Workshop designed to inform residents about their rights as tenants and information landlords and property managers are allowed and not allowed to request. The workshop will be held at the Hempstead Community Library's Community Room, located at 115 Nichols Court, starting at 6 p.m. The event is free for all residents and refreshments will be served. Prior workshops hosted by the CDA covering subjects such as Financial Literacy, Foreclosure Prevention and other important topics have been highly informative and well attended. This one promises to be the same. For more information, please call 516-485-5737 ext. 221.

As our way of recognizing Caribbean American Heritage Month, the Village of Hempstead will pay tribute to the rich and vibrant culture of Caribbean Americans, as well as their contributions to their heritage and our great Village during this special gathering on Tuesday, June 26. This free event, from 6pm to 8pm at Kennedy Park (335 Greenwich Street), will be a fun-filled evening offering a variety of delicious Caribbean food, music and dancing. For more information call 516-478-6286.

## This Week's Best of Hempstead



Vanessa Henry is the recipient of this week's Best of Hempstead Honors. A 48-year resident of Hempstead Village and product of our educational system, Vanessa has a long-history of volunteerism across a variety of platforms. For the past 18 years, Vanessa has served on the Parks & Recreation Commission, including the past 12 years as Chairperson. This commission helps facilitate dozens of requests to utilize our parks for various events and activities that take place every year. Vanessa also lends her time to helping the Human Relations Council run by Human Relations Director Juanita Hargwood with planning and coordinating events and programs throughout the Village as well.

In addition, Vanessa is the former Vice President of the Eldridge Estates Civic Association and is a member of a board at St. George's Church that is working on establishing an after school program in memory of 12-year old Dejah Joyner who was senselessly killed during a drive by shooting in 2015. Vanessa is also a past Vice President and Treasurer of the Hempstead Little League. A career professional, for the past 28 years Vanessa has worked in the finance department at Associated Global Systems corporate office based in New Hyde Park. Vanessa currently works in the International Accounting Department and she also helps write a company newsletter using skills she learned while studying Journalism at Pace University many years ago.

Vanessa, your willingness to volunteer in so many areas is greatly appreciated and has not gone unnoticed. Please accept our sincere gratitude and thanks for all you have done and continue to do and congratulations for being recognized at one of Hempstead's best.

Sincerely,

*Don*

Don Ryan  
Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead