



Week of July 23, 2018

From The Desk of Mayor Don Ryan

As the summer of 2018 continues in full swing, I thought it would be helpful to pass along a few tips and guidelines to further ensure a safe and enjoyable season for everyone in our community.

While the summer sun presents a welcome change with the warmer weather it brings, overexposure to the sun's rays can lead to burns and dehydration. Sunburns, which endanger healthy skin and prohibit your body from cooling properly are not only painful, but can lead to skin cancer. According to the Skin Cancer Foundation, over the past three decades, more people have had skin cancer than all other cancers combined. When you're outdoors this time of year apply a sunscreen that's at least SPF 15 or higher. For extended periods outside reapply sunscreen every few hours just to be sure your skin is protected.

Heat exhaustion is another serious condition that can be caused by taking in too many rays or over-exerting yourself during hot weather conditions. If ignored, it can lead to slow pulse, low blood pressure, clammy skin and disorientation. During any active outdoor activities, take breaks periodically in a shady area, drink plenty of fluids, and wear lightweight, light-colored clothing.

Everyone loves the smell and taste of outdoor barbecued food, but before you light up the grill you should take a few necessary precautions. For those with a gas grill it's a good idea to check the hoses for damage and replace any worn or broken parts. Make sure that the propane container is not dented or nicked in any way, as this could cause a leak. Position your grill at least ten feet away from a building or flammable object. Avoid wearing loose fitting clothes while grilling and when you're finished, be sure to double-check that the gas was shut off. If you're using a grill heated by charcoal briquettes be mindful that charcoal can stay hot for hours so to avoid a potential fire place the leftover ashes in a metal container. If you sense a grill fire may be turning out of control please call your local fire department immediately.

Let me pass along one last summertime note. This is the time of year when residents often use their backyards for outdoor entertaining. That's the way it should be, and we encourage residents to utilize their outdoor property during the warm summer weather. However, I also ask our residents to keep their neighbors in mind when they hosting these types of gatherings. Music and noise from outdoor parties can carry further than you might think, especially on still summer evenings. Please show consideration for your neighbors when you use the out-of-doors this summer so everyone can enjoy. To learn more about any events or activities taking place in our community, including Village resources available to residents, visit www.villageofhempstead.org.

I also wanted to invite all Village residents to a special event we will be hosting in conjunction with Town of Hempstead Senior Councilwoman Dorothy Goosby. On Saturday, August 4, as part of our ongoing 375th Anniversary, we will be honoring one of Hempstead's native sons, Brigadier General Omuso George, who recently was promoted to that distinct rank by the U.S. Army. "Homecoming for a General" will take place at 5 p.m. in the auditorium at Kennedy Memorial Park (335 Greenwich Street). Please join us that evening as we show how proud we are as a community in recognizing General George's achievement. For more information please call 516-478-6209 or 516-489-5000 ext. 4304. Information about Hempstead's 375th Anniversary can be found by visiting: www.hempstead375.com.

This Week's Best of Hempstead



Best of Hempstead honors this week are extended to Nick Moffitt. A Brooklyn native who also spent part of his youth in Queens, Nick moved to Hempstead Village as a 12 year old in 1956. I first met Nick in 1958 when he was a freshmen and I was a sophomore at Hempstead High School where we both played on the basketball team. We've remained friends ever since, a period spanning over 60 years.

After graduating Hempstead High School in 1962, Nick served four years in the U.S. Marine Corps and then forged a career working in configuration data management for Grumman Corporation for 26 years, followed by serving as a maintenance supervisor for the Hempstead Housing Authority for eight years, until his retirement in 2010. In 2018, I appointed Nick to serve as a commissioner with the Hempstead Housing Authority where he continues to serve.

For 20 years, Nick also volunteered his time by coaching Hempstead Midget Football, helping shape hundreds of youngsters between the ages of 8-13 by learning the value of teamwork and sportsmanship.

Nick, you are a true gentlemen and someone who has contributed to the fiber of our Village for decades. It gives me great pleasure to offer congratulations and recognize you as one of Hempstead's best.

Sincerely,

Don

Don Ryan
Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead