



Week of September 24, 2019

From The Desk of Mayor Don Ryan

Our 375th Anniversary Celebration is finally here and I can't wait for it to begin! All residents are invited to come out this Saturday, September 29 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in front of Village Hall (99 Nichols Court) and join in on the celebration as we observe our 375th Anniversary in a big way!

The festivities kick-off with an official street renaming ceremony in honor of former Mayor James A. Garner. Nichols Court will be renamed "James A. Garner Way". Immediately following will be an amazing lineup of fun and activities for the entire family which will include live music, Kids activity zone, as well as the "Flavors of Hempstead" a mouthwatering array of cultural dishes provided by our diverse selection of restaurants. There will also be an incredible exhibit on past mayors, presidents and founders of Hempstead. And it's all FREE.

This is a great opportunity for all of us to express our collective spirit during this historical occasion that marks the founding of Hempstead Village back in 1643. Pretty amazing when you think about it and all the changes our Village has witnessed throughout its long history to where we are in the present day as a culturally diverse community and the most populated Village in New York State.

Please join us on Saturday, September 29. This is truly a celebration not to be missed. For more details, please visit the Village website at: www.villageofhempstead.org or call 516-478-6286.

I also wanted to send another reminder to you about our new and improved App that is now available and at your service. Renamed **My Hempstead**, the new Village Services App replaces the former Village Line and now offers many more features for Village residents to tap into, including Village News, Sanitation Schedule, Employment Opportunities, Village Events, Service Requests, Social Media and Website links and more.

For those unable to utilize the new My Hempstead App, service requests can also be placed by calling 516-478-6333 or by visiting the Village's website at www.villageofhempstead.org. The phone line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Once a service request is made, residents will receive a ticket number and can check in at any time to check on the status of their request without having to restart the entire process. Service requests can be made for just about anything that is non-emergency, much like the 311 systems that operate in other municipalities. Examples of the types of service requests we've seen include tree-stump removal, curb repair, street sweeping, litter issues, damaged or missing street signage, fire hydrant malfunctions and more.

Since the old Village Line was launched in 2013, more than 3,300 service requests have been reported and addressed. We expect the revamped My Hempstead will operate even more efficiently and further improve our ability to respond to the service needs of our residents. Please note that for any emergency situations, 911 remains the best avenue for assistance.

With the newly revamped My Hempstead App, residents can make service requests along with the other features mentioned above allowing you to stay in touch with what's happening in Hempstead Village in so many meaningful ways all from the quick convenience of your smartphone. The My Hempstead App can be easily downloaded at no cost on Google Play or the App Store. It's a great tool that will help further improve the lines of communication between residents and Village government. I hope you'll take advantage of utilizing the My Hempstead App and will enjoy all of the benefits it now offers.

This Week's Best of Hempstead



Steven Giardino receives this week's Best of Hempstead honors. A resident of Hempstead Village for 37 of his 39 years, Steve has served as a volunteer in the Hempstead Fire Department for the past 17 years. In April, Steve became Chief of the Fire Department after serving as Assistant Chief for three years prior. As head of the 200 member department, Steve oversees the variety of activities performed by this dedicated group of volunteers that often put their lives on the line in order to keep our residents out of harm's way during a potentially deadly fire. In addition to providing fire protection and fire extinguishing services, Hempstead's Fire Department offers life rescue, emergency medical assistance, hazardous material containment and other related services. The Fire Department also administers and enforces the prevention and housing codes in the Village. So while the job as Chief comes with awesome responsibilities, Steve relishes the challenge of making the department the best it can be.

Besides his duties as Chief, Steve has been working in the Village's Water Department for the past 14 years where he currently serves as a water plant operator.

Steve, your volunteerism began at an early age and your ongoing commitment to serve our residents has led to your well-deserved appointment as our current Chief of the Hempstead Fire Department. It is with that same spirit and respect that I now recognize you as one of Hempstead's best. Congratulations.

Sincerely,

Don

Don Ryan
Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead