



Week of December 11, 2017

From The Desk of Mayor Don Ryan

Next Thursday, November 22, people across the country will come together to celebrate Thanksgiving. Eating turkey and watching football or the annual Macy's Day parade might be part of your tradition, but for me, and hopefully for you as well, the holiday is also a time of personal reflection and an opportunity to give thanks for all of life's blessings.

While it is easier to recognize obstacles and problems in everyday life, one day a year we are asked to put aside our complaints, take notice and be grateful for all the wonderful things that we take for granted.

As the official kick-off to the holiday season, Thanksgiving stirs up excitement and anticipation. Parents eagerly await to spend time with their sons and daughters and other family members to enjoy the holiday together and school children look forward to their upcoming vacations. Surrounding yourself with loved ones and remembering special moments you've shared together exemplifies the season's true meaning.

I have much to be thankful for including my family and friends and the wonderful memories I've been so fortunate to share with them. I am especially grateful for the opportunity to represent the citizens of Hempstead Village as your Mayor and for what the Village stands for; a hardworking, diverse community where we can all gather together and give thanks for life's blessings, both large and small. I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a joyous and healthy holiday season. May God's blessings be bestowed on you and your loved ones.

This Week's Best of Hempstead



Chasity Sparks is the recipient of this week's Best of Hempstead honors. An 8th grade student at ABGS Middle School, Chasity keeps herself extremely busy with both her academic studies and extracurricular activities. An honor roll student, Chasity is currently taking AP classes in both Algebra and Earth Science, her favorite subject. She also takes classes on Saturdays at Hofstra University focusing on Algebra, Robotics, Computer Coding, Entrepreneurship Studies and Earth Science. This past fall, Chasity was the captain of the Cross Country Team and runs hurdles on the Track Team as well. Last month, she was named Miss 8th Grade Homecoming Queen. While she still has much more time left to decide, right now Chasity is interested in possibly pursuing a career as a lawyer but is keeping her options open as she continues her education.

Recently, Chasity was one of a select group of students from throughout the Hempstead School District afforded the opportunity to participate in the Village's annual Student Government Day. During the event Chasity was assigned to shadow Trustee LaMont Johnson where she attended a meeting in my office with Trustee Johnson and Deputy Mayor Charles Renfro, visited the police station, enabling her to get a close-up look at how the department operates, and partook in a mock Village Board meeting at the end of the day. She especially enjoyed her time spent at the police station and said Trustee Johnson taught her a lot in such a short period of time.

Chasity, it's amazing how much you've already accomplished already at the age of 13. You are certainly on a path that promises to lead toward a great future. I wish you continued success and look forward to hearing about your ongoing achievements in the years ahead. Congratulations for being named one of Hempstead's best.

Sincerely,

Don

Don Ryan
Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead