



Week of November 26, 2018

## From The Desk of Mayor Don Ryan

Now that Thanksgiving has come and gone have you caught the holiday spirit yet? I know I have and as I travel around the Village I see signs of it everywhere. Homes being decorated with glistening lights and other adornments, stores full of merchandise for the busy crowds out buying gifts and just a general excitement from most folks you encounter.

At Village Hall, we are gearing up for a number of activities that will be taking place as part of our way of recognizing the holiday season.

On Monday, December 3, Rabbi Abe Lebovic of Congregation Beth Israel will lead us in our annual Hanukkah celebration in front of Village Hall (99 James A. Garner Way) at 4:30 p.m. All residents are welcome to join us as we celebrate the Festival of Lights.

This year, our annual tree lighting ceremony will be held at Village Hall (99 James A. Garner Way) on Wednesday, December 5, from 4:30-6 p.m. This festive occasion is always a lot of fun for everyone so if you haven't yet caught the holiday spirit this is a great way to do so. There will be children singing Christmas carols, poetry readings and a special visit from Jolly Ole St. Nick who will arrive by firetruck and pass out treats to enjoy.

For more information about any of these events and others that will be taking place over the holidays, please call 516-478-6286 or visit: [www.villageofhempstead.org](http://www.villageofhempstead.org)

As the holiday season moves forward I hope you will take some time to slow down and rejoice. Too often we get caught up with all the busyness this time of year brings and we miss out on the important things that make it so special. Whether it's at one of the Village events or perhaps a gathering or activity you decide to engage in, live in the moment and enjoy every minute of it.

## This Week's Best of Hempstead



This week's Best of Hempstead honors go to Chelsea Prudencio, an honor roll student at Hempstead High School, the 15-year old Chelsea has lived in Hempstead Village her whole life. Her favorite subjects are Science and English and she's currently taking AP World History while also being on track to receiving an advanced Regents Diploma. Chelsea enjoys ceramics where she gets to hone her craft as a member of the school's Art Club. In addition, Chelsea serves on the Hempstead High School Youth Council and is possibly interested in pursuing a career as a Marine Biologist. Her dream college would be to attend the University of Maine.

Recently, Chelsea was one of about 30 students selected from throughout the Hempstead School District that participated in our Annual Student Government Day. I had the fortune of having Chelsea assigned to shadow me throughout the day, which I thoroughly enjoyed and Chelsea told me she did as well. She indicated her favorite part was sitting in the Mayor's chair in the Village Board room and presiding over the mock board meeting that ended that special day.

Chelsea, it was a pleasure getting to know you during Student Government Day and it's especially gratifying to see that there are students like you enrolled in our school system that are receiving a quality education and show great potential for a bright future. Congratulations for being named one of Hempstead's best. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

*Don*

Don Ryan  
Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead