



Village of Flower Hill Newsletter

Summer 2012

STORM SEASON IS HERE, ARE YOU READY?

by Tab Hauser, Deputy Mayor / Emergency Manager

The hurricane season lasts from June to November, with peak season from August to late October. Weather patterns have also been erratic with increases in "microbursts" and even tornados occurring more frequently in the northeast. If a hurricane watch is issued, you will be notified by phone and e-mail if you have signed up at: NorthShoreAlert.org (Flower Hill is a member of the PWEOM that over sees North Shore Alert so messages are kept at a minimum).

Be Prepared: Think YOYO

In the event of a major storm hurricane you need to be prepared in advance and think "YOYO". YOYO in Emergency Management lingo is "You Are On Your Own". Last year tropical storm Irene was downgraded from a hurricane before it hit us. Much of the Village was without power for over a week, some areas for nearly two weeks. Had this been a true hurricane it would have been worse. The YOYO means you should be prepared to be self sustaining for four days in the event of a disaster. I recommend a week. Remember, the higher the class of hurricane, the worse the destruction. Long Island has been hit with a Class 3 hurricane before.

If a hurricane hits, you will be out of power for at least a week. It can go as long as two to three weeks depending on what class of storm comes through. The stores you deal with will also be out of power, so be prepared. Have the following ready:

- *A week's worth of bottled water.
- *Medicines at the ready. Residents are usually informed a few days in advance of a storm so look at your prescription medicines you depend on and refill if needed.
- *Canned food after your freezer food is used up.
- *Radio with fresh batteries as well as a flash lights and candles.
- *Gas your cars a few days before the storm. Also remember that your cars can be used to charge your phones as well as well laptops. Laptops with a built in DVD player can be used for watching movies. Get an inverter to plug into the power outlet.
- *Buy gel packs now for your freezer. When a storm approaches put as many packs as you can fit in the freezer and fridge. These packs hold the cold and can keep food for days. A day before the storm, turn your refrigerator thermostat to its coldest setting and keep the doors closed as much as possible.
- *Tell people where you are, whether you will ride out the storm or have to evacuate.
- *Secure your property. Put any lawn furniture in a pool if you have it ,or store inside.
- *Consider covering your home's windows with 5/8" marine plywood, cut to fit and ready to install. Tape does not prevent windows from breaking.
- *Be sure trees and shrubs around your home are trimmed in advance so they are more wind resistant. (Trees cannot be cut down without a permit).
- *Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts which keep water away from the house.

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(Hurricanes...continued from previous page)

- Reinforce your garage doors; if wind enters a garage it can cause dangerous and expensive structural damage.
- If you have an outdoor gas grill, my recommendation would be to make sure propane tanks are filled and stored carefully. You can cook almost anything on your gas grill after the storm hits.
- Fill the bathtub and other larger containers with water for washing and cleaning as a precaution
- Consider a generator if you don't like to be without power for a week or two. There are two ways to do this. One is the expensive way where you get a generator that covers the entire house. The other way, which is what I did, saved me 80% on the above by buying a portable generator that only operates our refrigerator, boiler, microwave, as well as lights and outlets in our kitchen which becomes the center of our home. (Email me at tab@tabhauser.com if you would like the details on an inexpensive way to have power.) Remember to turn off your generator at night in respect to quiet times for neighbors whose windows will be open at night. A refrigerator does not run 24 hours a day so your generator does not need to be on 24 hours either.

During Irene our road crews worked hard to get roads open. Your Village Board will also be out surveying and reporting damage as well. Report any fallen trees to 516 627-5000. If the phones are out and it is safe to go out please come to 1 Bonnie Heights Road and tell us.

MAYOR PHILLIPS CREATES TREE COMMITTEE

Mayor Elaine Phillips has appointed Trustee Karen Reichenbach as the chair of the new Village Tree Committee. The Committee's purpose is to review the current Village legislation regarding the removal and replacement of trees within the Village and to promote tree education within the Village. The Committee's members are resident Zachary Mankes, Building Superintendent James Gilhooly and Code Enforcer Robert Rockelein. Ms. Reichenbach has just submitted a grant request to the National Arbor Day Foundation with the intent of creating a Village Arbor Day celebration and educational event.

DID YOU PAY YOUR TAX BILL?

All Village taxes were due on July 2, 2012. After that date we must impose and collect a penalty mandated by New York State Law which cannot be waived under any condition. The penalty is 5% for the first month and 1% each month thereafter. Tax bills were mailed out during the last week of May. If you did not receive a tax bill, please call the Village office immediately or log onto the Village web site to pay your bill online.



CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW B.I.A.N.C.O PRESIDENT VILLAGE BUILDING INSPECTOR JAMES GILHOOLY

B.I.A.N.C.O stands for the Building Inspectors Association of Nassau County. They are a professional and educational organization whose mission is to encourage professionalism through all aspects of the building industry, including enforcement of laws and providing educational seminars to keep inspectors and code enforcement officials up to date on new local, state and federal building codes and standards including the latest information on new green building and technology. Mr. Gilhooly has been an active member of B.I.A.N.C.O and the Building Superintendent of the Village of Flower Hill since 1996. We are indeed fortunate to have such an active and exemplary Building Official representing Flower Hill and serving our community.

**INTRODUCING NEW VILLAGE TRUSTEE
ROBERT MC NAMARA**

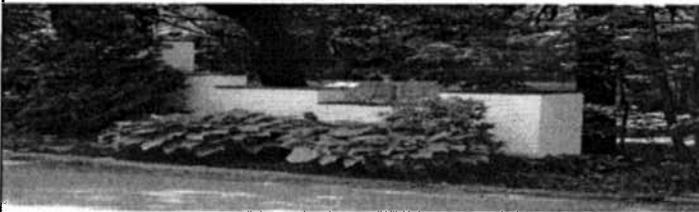
At the June 4, 2012 Board of Trustees meeting, Mayor Elaine Phillips appointed Robert McNamara to fill the remaining term of former Trustee Avery Ryan. Bob was born and raised in Manhasset and has lived in the Manhasset portion of Flower Hill for over 25 years. He and his wife Ginny are parents to three grown children. Recently retired, Bob spent over 25 years in the credit card industry.

**THANK YOU TO FORMER MAYOR JOHN
WALTER**

Mayor Walter has generously donated an original copy of the Declaration of Independence to the Village. In honor of Independence Day, the North Hempstead Country Club donated the cost of framing. The Declaration is now hanging in a place of honor in the Village Meeting Hall. Please stop by and take a look.



WARING DRIVE WALLS REFURBISHED



After years of neglect, Mayor Phillips and the Board of Trustees authorized the renovation and repair of the decorative walls at the entrance to the northernmost part of the Manhasset portion of the Village on Waring Drive, also known as Country Estates of Flower Hill. The walls face out onto Port Washington Blvd.

VILLAGE BEGINS 2012 ROAD WORK

This year's road work will include the repaving of Elderfields Road from Birch Lane to Manhasset Woods Road; Manhasset Woods Road from Elderfields Road to the Village line and the intersection of Elderfields Road and Boulder Road. Drainage improvements at Hewlett Lane south of Country Club Road and Ridge Drive West at Overhill Lane.

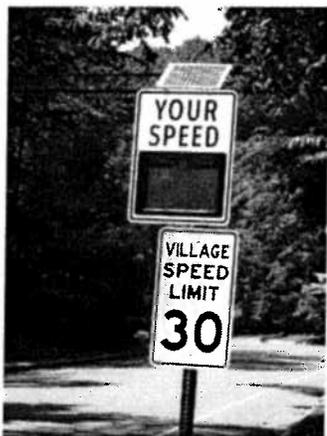
DO NOT THROW OUT TOXIC SUBSTANCES

Sometime last month a homeowner on Nassau Avenue put gasoline or diesel fuel into a trash bag for garbage collection. When the garbage truck hopper was activated, the bag split open causing a spill onto Colony Lane that leaked all the way down to Mason Drive. The spill was reported to the DEC and cleaned up to the best of their ability by the Village Highway Dept. Unfortunately because of the nature of the toxic substance, the asphalt roadway began to peel up and was damaged to the point where the only method of repair will be to replace the road.

PLEASE DO NOT PUT ANY CHEMICALS INTO YOUR HOUSEHOLD TRASH. If in doubt call the Village Hall, the Town 311 line or Meadow Carting at 338-0121.

We were unable to identify who threw out the toxic substance so the Village will have to pay for repair out of your tax dollars. Be kind to the environment and think twice before you throw out anything questionable.

WATCH YOUR SPEED



The Village has installed a sign that records your speed. We have observed too many cars going way over the speed limit in the Village particularly on Stonytown, Manhasset Woods, Mason and Bonnie Heights Roads. The police will be monitoring the

sign location and ticketing vehicles accordingly. We will also be moving the sign periodically to keep drivers alert to their speed. Please remember that this is a residential neighborhood and our streets are not highways.

A LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Residents of Flower Hill,

As I start my third month as mayor of our Village, I feel like we are settling into our new positions. For those of you that have been able to attend our monthly meetings, I think that you see the difference in our format. We discuss issues openly with both the Board's and residents' involvement. Consider attending our meetings so that you can be informed and help guide us in our decision-making.

I am happy to report that several residents read my letter in our last newsletter and emailed me to get involved. We may not have anything available immediately, but things always come up that may appeal to your particular interests.

This issue of our newsletter will give you an idea of a few of the improvements that we have to made our Village. We have put together a Policy Review Committee, chaired by Rhoda Becker, which will be reviewing all the major policies of the Village. Our first task is to review our Ethics Policy, which was last amended in 1999. You will read that our Tree Committee is in full swing and has already applied for our first grant. Several of the local mayors and I had the opportunity to meet the First Deputy Commissioner of the Nassau County PD, Thomas Krumpster, and the commanding officer of the new Third Precinct, Inspector Sean McCarthy. Commissioner Krumpster assured us that there would be no change in the number of officers assigned to our area and in fact, three POP (Problem Oriented Policing) officers have been reinstated. Let us know if you have any concerns about the patrol in our Village. Inspector McCarthy made it very clear that he is always available to hear our concerns.

Best wishes for a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

Mayor Elaine Phillips

FLOWER HILL VILLAGE OFFICIALS

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ELAINE PHILLIPS

DEPUTY MAYOR

TAB HAUSER

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