

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF FLOWER HILL

WINTER 2019

Mayor

Robert McNamara

Deputy Mayor

Brian Herrington

Trustees

Jay Beber

Frank Genese

Kate Hirsch

Gary Lewandowski

Randall Rosenbaum

Village Justice

Hon. Dennis Reisman

Ann Lauria-Smith, Court Clerk

Village Attorney

Jeffrey Blinkoff

Village Administrator

Ronnie Shatzkamer

Village Treasurer

Suzanne Tangredi

Building Superintendent

Peter Albinski

Code Enforcement Officer

Robert Rockelein

Highway Superintendent

Richard Falcones

Highway Department

Kevin Kothe

Elmer Guzman

Alex Falcones

Board of Zoning Appeals

Michael Sahn, Chair

William Clemency

Peter Cotelides

Dr. Arnold Goldman

Diane Turner

Alt: Norman Glavas

Alt: Dr. Glen Rubin

EXTENET SUES VILLAGE IN FEDERAL COURT

Village of Flower Hill denies ExteNet application to build 18 small-cell wireless facilities based on company's failure to address serious inadequacies

The Village previously reported that it denied ExteNet's application to construct a series of proposed wireless facilities throughout the Village. In response to the denial, ExteNet recently filed a federal lawsuit challenging the Board's denial. The Village Board intends to vigorously defend the lawsuit, and is represented in the lawsuit by outside counsel, Edward M. Ross of Rosenberg Calica & Birney LLP of Garden City, New York. We have a court date on December 17, 2019.

Although Congress and the FCC have imposed certain limitations on the authority of state and local governments, local municipalities continue to retain local control over wireless facility siting decisions with respect to aesthetic considerations, mitigation efforts and reasonable alternatives.

The Village adopted comprehensive written findings and reasons in support of its denial. Special Counsel Ross believes ExteNet will be unable to successfully challenge or disputethese reasons in court. They include ExteNet's failure to choose among less aesthetically intrusive alternatives which were identified during the review process, a projected decline in affected property values, as well as ExteNet's failure to adequately establish its coverage needs or objectives.

ExteNet has already filed a federal lawsuit against the Village of Lake Success after that Village partially granted and partially denied ExteNet's wireless siting application to the Lake Success Village Board earlier this year. Mr. Ross is currently representing Lake Success and the Village Board in that lawsuit, in which the court recently directed the parties to proceed to mediation.

Ross's message to ExteNet is clear: "ExteNet needs to come clean with the fact that its commercial objectives and contractual obligations are in conflict with the communities which ExteNet is purporting to serve, and needs to do a much better job to design networks which minimize the adverse impacts to those communities as required by law.

WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY

Expert Long-Range weather forecasters predict an active season in store for our area, so keep the following in mind during snowy weather:

There is no parking on Village roads when 2" or more of snow has fallen or is forecast so that our Highway Dept. can completely plow all roads. After plowing, you may park on the street to clear your driveway.

Do not shovel snow from your driveway back into the street. This creates dangerous icy patches and is a violation of code which may result in a ticket.

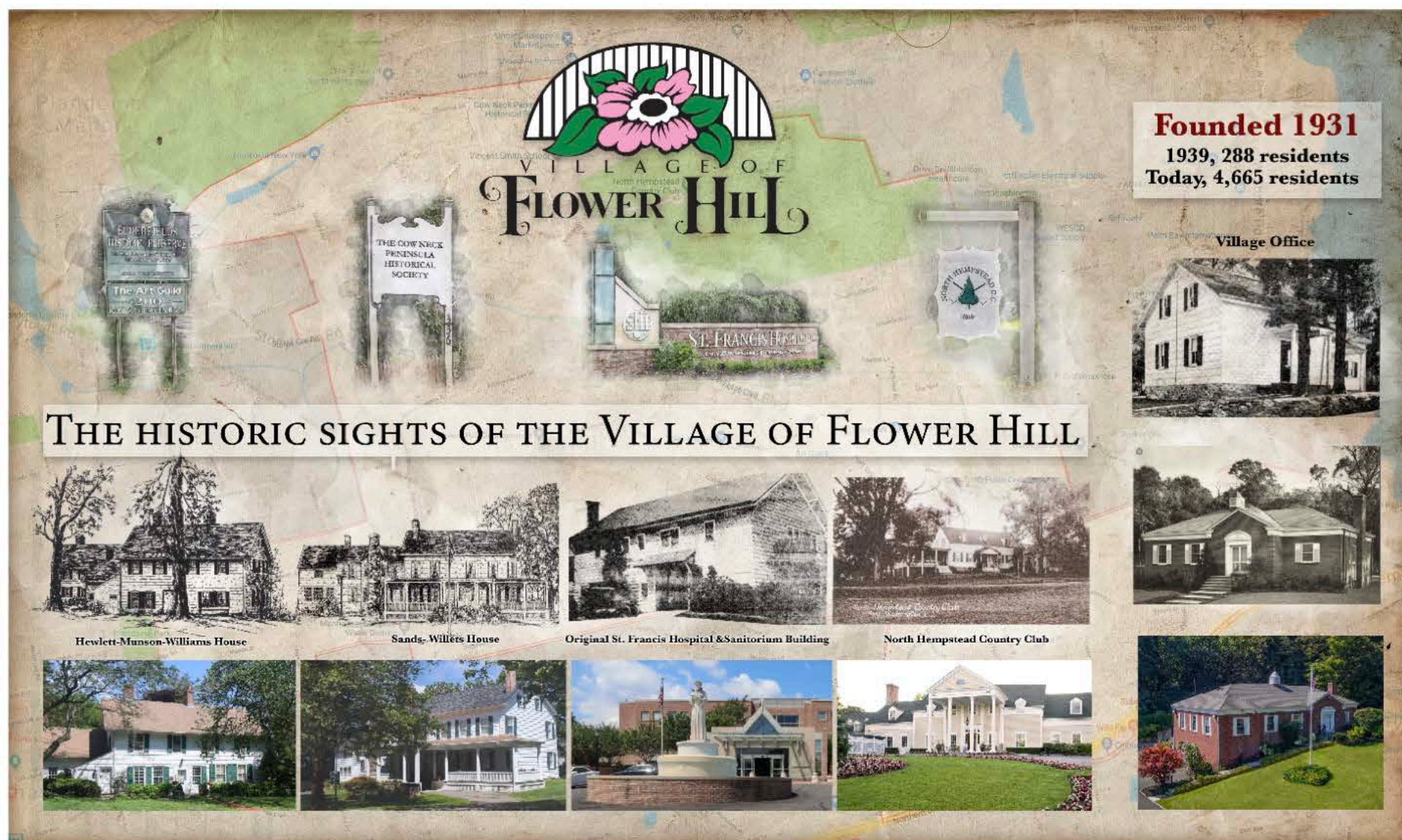
If you have a fire hydrant on your property please shovel it out. If you are unable to do so, call Village Hall and we will have someone do it for you.

Remember our elderly and most vulnerable residents.

Be a good neighbor and check on them during bad weather.



History of Flower Hill



Village Historian Rhoda Becker and Trustee Jay Beber worked together to create a display highlighting the historical sites within the Village. Our Village was incorporated on May 25, 1931 with fewer than 500 residents, we now have nearly 5,000. The changes in the “then and now” pictures are really remarkable. It is now on view in the lobby of Village Hall

NASSAU COUNTY POLICE: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

We have been advised by our local officers that when the clocks are turned back, this creates an opportunity for crime. It now gets dark around 4:30, this a time when people are usually still at work or commuting and no one is home. This is the perfect time for burglars to get in and out of your house in the dark before your arrival. The police advise:

- Leave one or more interior lights on and perhaps have a radio playing. Purchase timers to turn your lights on and off during your absence and always use your security system.
- Purchase exterior lighting with photocell activation which enables the “dusk to dawn” feature to ensure lights are in use at the appropriate time of day. Additional lighting with motion sensors is another smart choice.



OUR ROADWAYS

OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE RIGHT OF WAY

Many homes in our Village have placed rocks on their lawns abutting the pavement. This creates a hazard not just for vehicles but for pedestrians and cyclists as well.

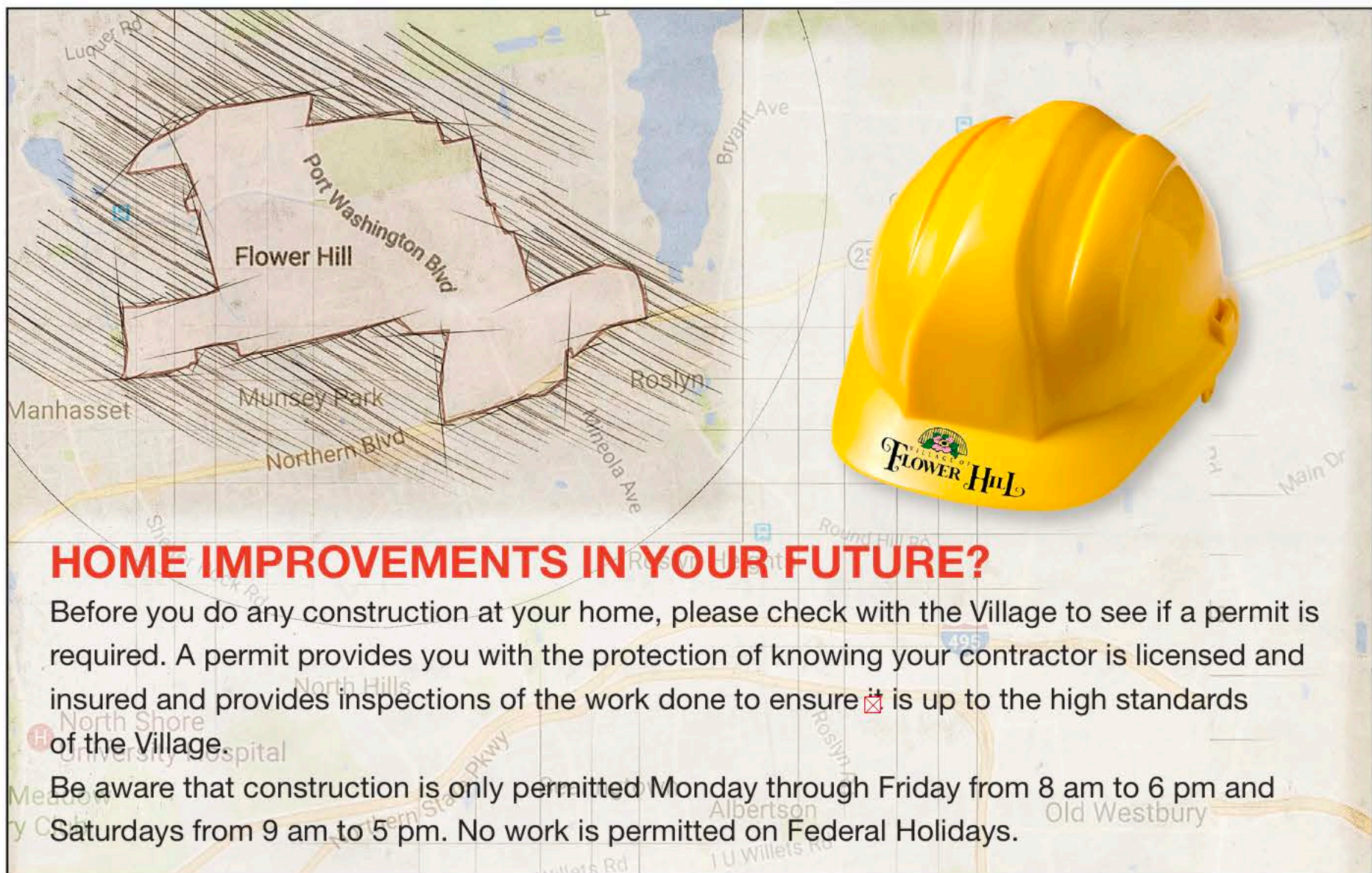
The Village has enacted a policy relating to objects in the Right-of-Way that may pose a hazard to all who use our roads. This policy works in conjunction with Village Code section 195-11 which prohibits any obstructions in the Village Right of Way. We have found that the rocks bordering the roadway of property create a potential hazard, and are subject to removal or relocation under this policy.

The Right of Way (ROW) is a strip of land owned by the Village, anywhere from 10 to 15 feet in width, that abuts the pavement and allows for utility and other municipal work to be performed in this space without abridging the rights of property owners.


The policy reads as follows:

Any object in the ROW is specifically prohibited unless:

1. The object promotes safety and enhances the beauty of the community or serves a reasonable and customary function.
2. The property owner has confirmed awareness of liability for any claim brought against the Village relative to the object(s) by signing a waiver releasing the Village from any such liability and agreeing to indemnify the Village as the result of any such claim.
3. Objects (Including sprinkler heads) up to four feet in width must be placed at least four feet apart and must be at least two feet back from the edge of any existing road surface to allow pedestrians and vehicles safety access from the road.
4. Objects greater than four feet in width must be placed such that the distance between each object is at least the width of the object having the greatest width and must be at least two feet back from the edge of any existing road surface to allow pedestrians and vehicles safety access from the road.
5. Natural vegetation shall be maintained and must be set back at least 3 feet from the road surface. Any existing vegetation that may present a safety concern within 3 feet of the road surface shall be evaluated for removal as well. Corner plantings must allow no less than 25 feet of sightline to any other roadway at intersections for vehicular safety.
6. Should the Village determine that an object must be moved or removed and the homeowner or person in possession of the property nearest the object fails to do so after notice is provided, a violation will be issued and the Village may also remove the object and impose the cost as a lien against the property.



HOME IMPROVEMENTS IN YOUR FUTURE?

Before you do any construction at your home, please check with the Village to see if a permit is required. A permit provides you with the protection of knowing your contractor is licensed and insured and provides inspections of the work done to ensure  is up to the high standards of the Village.

Be aware that construction is only permitted Monday through Friday from 8 am to 6 pm and Saturdays from 9 am to 5 pm. No work is permitted on Federal Holidays.



Village Elections, Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Noon to 9 pm at Village Hall, 1 Bonnie Heights Road, Manhasset

The following offices are on the slate:

Mayor	2-year term
3 Trustees	2-year term
Village Justice	4-year term

Be a good Village citizen and get out and vote!

VILLAGE HALL IS A TOYS FOR TOTS DROP OFF LOCATION

Once again we are participating in the US Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign to provide new toys for needy kids this holiday season. The Long Island Village Clerks and Treasurers Association has worked with the Marines for over ten years to make the holidays a special time. We have become the largest single event group donator on Long Island with over 10,000 toys donated, surpassing each previous year in the number of toys collected. Please help us reach our 2019 goal by bringing a new, unwrapped toy to the collection box in Village Hall. Our annual event takes place on December 12 so please drop off your toys prior to that date. On behalf of the kids, we thank you!



RECYCLING UPDATE

We have received many complaints about Meadow Carting's recycling methods particularly pertaining to recycling being tossed into the rear of the truck with the regular garbage. We met with management of Meadow Carting to discuss why this is happening. The trucks currently in use in our Village have a side compartment for recyclables. This compartment is usually (but not always) used for clean recyclables. When the driver has doubts about the integrity of the recycling material he will toss it in the back to be sorted at the Town of North Hempstead waste facility.

Paper from Meadow Carting trucks being sorted for recycling at North Hempstead Solid Waste facility.

When the truck unloads at the facility garbage is sorted into separate paper, plastic and glass sorting bins. After the initial sort, the material is sent out of the town for further recycling.

We have also been questioned as to why our recycling guidelines are different than the Town of North Hempstead's. According to Meadow Carting Officials, the Town Waste Management facility accepts ALL plastics numbered 1 to 7. We asked Meadow to again review our recycling guidelines and they agreed they were in compliance with current regulations. If you would like to receive a copy of our Recycling Guidelines, please call or email Village Hall.

Plastics from Meadow Carting trucks being sorted for recycling at North Hempstead Solid Waste facility.

DOOR TO DOOR SALES AND SOLICITORS

The Village of Flower Hill has strict rules regulating who may approach your home for either the purpose of sales or solicitation. In order to be allowed to go door to door, an applicant must file a letter of intent with the Village, notify us who (names and addresses) will be soliciting, license plates of vehicles used and dates and times of solicitation. We cannot outright ban these solicitations as it falls under the First Amendment of the Constitution as protected speech. What we can do is regulate the time, place and manner of solicitors.

The Village has a Do Not Solicit list that solicitors are obligated to obtain from the Village and follow. You can join the list by downloading the sign-up form from our website

www.villageflowerhill.org and submitted it to us. You can also obtain a Do Not Solicit sticker for your door. This informs solicitors that they are not permitted to disturb you and if they do, they will be subject to arrest as a trespasser. You can contact Village Hall to get a sticker or simply cut out and paste the sticker below to your front door.

House Numbers

Village of Flower Hill

1 Bonnie Heights Road
Manhasset, NY 11030

In an emergency, first responders depend on house numbers to find you as quickly as possible. Please make sure your house number is clearly marked and visible from the street. House numbers generally should be:

- In plain, block numerals on a contrasting background
- Large enough (at least 3") to be seen from the street
- Unobstructed by trees, decorations or vehicles
- Facing the street named in your address
- Displayed at your driveway entrance if your house is not visible from the street
- Reflective or lit up to be seen at night

COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

As part of our efforts to improve communication with Village residents, Flower Hill has implemented a new community notification system called CodeRED. This system provides essential information to Village residents either in targeted call areas or Village-wide. In situations where information must be communicated to residents in a timely fashion, CodeRED will be used by the Village to communicate with residents by phone, email or text. If there is an emergency such as a storm targeting our area, snow emergencies, etc. the Village can send an alert to residents with essential information. You can choose whether you want all local notifications such as road closures or emergency notifications only. You can also choose the method of communication you prefer. You can do so by visiting our website at villageflowerhill.org and clicking the CodeRED link; if you don't have computer access, call the Village office at 627-5000 and providing your contact information to one of our staff members and we will register for you.

