



# Incorporated Village of Lake Grove VILLAGE NEWS

Spring 2026 Issue • Published by the Incorporated Village of Lake Grove • [www.lakegroveny.gov](http://www.lakegroveny.gov)

## A Message From The Mayor



Dear Friends and Neighbors,  
As we look to put this winter in the rear-view mirror, I would like to acknowledge an extraordinary group of people. The men and women that kept us safe this winter deserve recognition.

This was an extremely difficult winter for these employees that leave their homes and their families to safeguard our roadways. They don't often get the respect that they deserve.

We often receive calls that they "pushed snow in my apron", or "they damaged my mailbox". Snow coming off of plows gets pushed to the side of the road, because that's what it's designed to do. It is frustrating at times that this occurs after we as homeowners have cleared our areas, but it's just the way it is. You just can't take it all away.

With that being said, it is very frustrating for our workers that after they make a pass to clean roads, people illegally push or blow their driveways back into the road or clean their cars off on the freshly cleared areas. This creates a dangerous area, or if we return to clear again, it causes snow to be pushed back onto someone's apron. New York State law prohibits such actions, and as such, these violations are subject to fines.

Our DPW workers take pride in what they do, often working many consecutive hours and not returning home for a couple of days at a time when necessary. That means that they depend on family members or neighbors to dig their homes out.

Plowing is a very stressful and even a dangerous job at times. Yes, they're paid to do it, but that doesn't make the task less stressful. I've gone out with them in the past, and I'm glad to have walked a mile in their shoes, so that I may give them the accolades that they deserve for a job well done this winter. They have made me and the entire Village board and staff proud to call them colleagues.

While I'm talking about our tax dollars at work, it should be mentioned that we replaced four of our fleet trucks last spring, with new trucks, sanders, and plows; a decision that now seems to be a very good one. Ten- and eleven-year-old equipment would not have fared well with the amount of snow and ice we had this winter.

We now look forward to the completion and opening of Gerald L. Lotto memorial park. The park, which is located next to Village Hall is to be an all-inclusive park providing equipment for all children, including those with special needs. Thank you to our village staff for making this come to fruition through dedicated hard work and acquiring multiple grants.

I hope to see you all at one of our upcoming events. Despite the winter weather, Summerfest will be here before you know it.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Robert J. Scottaline**  
Mayor

*Feel free to contact me directly anytime:*

**Email:** [mayor@lakegroveny.gov](mailto:mayor@lakegroveny.gov)

**Tel:** 631-585-2000 x112

**Cell:** 631-872-0606

*Mayor*

**Robert J. Scottaline**

*Deputy Mayor - Trustee*

**Richard J. Cohen**

*Trustee*

**John G. Peterson**

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*Trustee*

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*Contact us*

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*Fax:* 631-981-0965

*Email:*

[info@lakegroveny.gov](mailto:info@lakegroveny.gov)

[www.lakegroveny.gov](http://www.lakegroveny.gov)

# Attention Seniors!

Residents and taxpayers of the Town, age 60 years and older, are welcome to join our senior groups held here at the Village Recreation Center. It's a great way for our fellow residents to socialize with one another and enjoy a nice day out. New members are always welcome to join!

**Brookhaven Seniors** meet every Tuesday at 11am. This group provides social interaction through games, cards, and other activities such as luncheons, special events and trips. For more information, please contact Village Hall at 631-585-2000.

**Homemaker's Club** meets every Wednesday at 10am. This group is craft oriented and residents create craft related projects that count; such as holiday stockings for the military, lap blankets for nursing homes, and other charitable projects. For more information, please contact Susan at 631-588-3137.

## Village Hall Meeting Schedule:

### TUESDAY

- Senior Citizen Group- 11:00am-4:00pm
- Lake Grove Justice Court Sessions (call for exact dates)
  - Traffic Court is held twice per month on Tuesday nights- 6:30pm
  - Village Code Violations are held once a month on Tuesday nights- 6:30pm

### WEDNESDAY

- Homemaker's Club- 10:00am-2:00pm
- Zoning Board of Appeals
  - 1st Wednesday each month- 7:00pm

### THURSDAY

- Planning Board Meeting
  - 2nd Thursday each month- 6:30pm
- Village Board Meeting
  - 3rd Thursday each month- 6:00pm

### - JUSTICE COURT CLERK OFFICE -

**Hours:** Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00am – 2:00pm

**Phone:** 631-585-2008

**Address:** Justice Court,  
P.O. Box 1231, Lake Grove, NY 11755-0531

## VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL!

*It's YOUR turn to be part of the process....  
Find out what is going on in your community!*

## Tax Exemption News for Seniors of Low-Income Households

Could you be eligible for the Village of Lake Grove's Over 65 limited income property tax exemption? The maximum income to qualify for this exemption is \$37,399.99 per household. If you wish to apply for the next year's tax bill over 65 exemption, please contact us for an application. Applications are available in person or can be mailed to you by calling Jessica in the Tax department 631-585-2000 ext. 108. All completed applications must be received by the end of each calendar year; however, we strongly advise you to submit your application as soon as possible.



We have made some format changes to the village tax bill. You can now detach the bottom portion of your bill and remit with payment, while keeping the rest of the bill for your records. There will also be a payment envelope provided for mailing payments. To those that are not aware, village taxes can be paid online for a nominal fee.

You can go to our website [[lakegroveny.gov/pay-your-taxes-online/](http://lakegroveny.gov/pay-your-taxes-online/)] and pay by e-check (\$1.95 transaction fee) or by debit/credit card (2.95% fee of total bill). The village continues to accept payments by mail via check or money order and in person via exact cash, check, or money order.

Your next bill will be mailed the last week of May where it will become due June 1st. As always, you have until July 1st to pay it without penalty.

### Menorah Donated to the Village of Lake Grove

The Village of Lake Grove is pleased to announce the donation of a menorah, symbolizing the values of light, hope, and perseverance associated with the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah.



The menorah will be displayed during the Hanukkah season as part of the village's acknowledgment of this important holiday. The village thanks the donor for their generosity and for contributing to the enrichment of the community.

### Winter Coat Drive A Huge Success



Thank you to everyone who supported the recent coat drive, as your generosity directly provided warmth and comfort to community members in need this past winter.

With the help from our village residents, this drive successfully collected hundreds of coats...the town made four separate pickups just from our office! Your contributions made a real difference in the community, and we are deeply grateful.



# IMPORTANT REMINDERS FROM OUR BUILDING DEPARTMENT & CODE ENFORCEMENT

## Building a Safer, Stronger Community One Permit at a Time

The village building department is the cornerstone of responsible growth and safe construction in our community. We are committed to maintaining the integrity, safety, and beauty of the village by regulating and supporting all building-related activities — from small home improvements to major commercial developments. The inspector ensures that the construction is performed within the guidelines of the Village of Lake Grove’s code and the New York State Building and Fire code. If you are unsure whether your project requires a permit or not, please do not hesitate to contact us.

### Do I Have Any Open Permits?

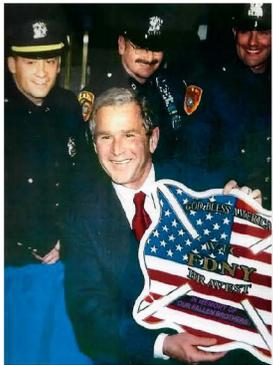
#### How to Properly Close Out Building Permits

Any time you are building or remodeling commercial or residential property, a building permit must be obtained. This gives you the legal permission from the village to begin construction work or demolition. These permits must be obtained before your project can begin and many people are vigilant about applying for their permits. However, at the end of your project, you must close out your permits in order to receive a Certificate of Compliance. This step is something that many people sometimes forget. Permits can remain open after construction is finished because a final inspection is never obtained, or the contractor did not complete the proper paperwork before closing the job. Any open permits should be fully addressed and resolved by contacting the building department at 631-585-2000 x105 or x114.



## Reminder to Landscapers...

Warm weather is around the corner, which means you’re probably starting to think about Spring clean-ups in your yard! We would like to remind our residents that all landscapers working in Lake Grove Village must obtain a permit ANNUALLY to ensure they are aware of village rules and regulations. Applications are available on our website or stop by the village office. Possession of a permit is not a recommendation by the village as to the quality of the work a landscaper will perform. It is the responsibility of property owners to make sure any contractors hired are properly insured. Landscaping functions may be performed by landscapers only during the hours of 8:00 am through 7:00 pm Monday through Friday, and 8:00 am through 5:00 pm on Saturday. Homeowners performing their own landscaping, please be courteous to your neighbors and abide by the Village’s Noise Ordinance Policy.



## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

### Remembering 9/11 and its lasting impact, 25 years later

This September, the nation marks the 25th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Twenty-five years later, the attacks remain one of the most defining moments of the 21st century, reshaping global politics, security, culture, and collective memory.

Matthew and Francesca Yellico, residents of the Village of Lake Grove, have played a significant role in 9/11 remembrance. They presented the village with a copy of a memorial Maltese cross, formerly presented to President George W. Bush, following the attacks on that fateful day. Matthew Yellico was an FDNY firefighter and 9/11 responder at the time. The cross was designed in large part by Matthew Yellico and his department. The village’s copy is framed and resides in the mayor’s office and conference room. The village later created a bronze replica of the FDNY Memorial Maltese Cross and placed it on a monument in our Village Green Memorial Park, followed by a dedication ceremony.

A few years later Matthew and Francesca gifted a young tree to the village, which is actually a sapling grown from seedlings of what is known as the survivor tree at ground zero; a Callery pear tree that survived the World Trade Center collapse. There are “survivor trees” at five different 9/11 memorial parks. We are fortunate to have one of the five to promote a message of hope and resilience, placed alongside a peaceful waterfall in our Memorial Park.

The Yellico’s also assisted the Village of Lake Grove in getting a piece of steel from the Twin Towers, which resides in the Village Green intended to educate younger generations and provide a lasting tribute to the victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

With the 25th anniversary of that tragic day approaching it is the appropriate time to thank the Yellicos for giving so much to our community, so that we may never forget.





# UPCOMING HAPPENINGS IN THE VILLAGE!

S.C.P.D. FOURTH PRECINCT PRESENTS



## OPERATION MEDICINE CABINET

Don't let your medication fall into the wrong hands.  
Have any unused or expired medication at home?  
Please bring for safe disposal by the S.C.P.D.  
No syringes, auto-injectors, creams or liquids will be accepted.  
Please remove pills from packages and bottles and place loose medications in a Ziploc type bag for collection.

**Saturday April 11th**  
**Lake Grove Village Meeting Hall**  
**10:00am-12:00noon**



**LAKE GROVE LIONS CLUB**  
ANNUAL **PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER**

All-You-Can-Eat Pancakes • Sausage • Juice & Coffee

**SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Lake Grove Village Hall Rec. Center  
980 Hawkins Ave, Lake Grove, NY 11755

Tickets: \$10 Adults • \$5 Children (12 & Under)  
Kids 3 & Under • FREE

Raffles • 50/50 • Community Fun!

For More Info: (631) 312-1517 • www.lakegrovelions.org

## BLOOD DRIVE

DONATIONS SAVE LIVES

### Village of Lake Grove

Sponsored by  
Mayor Scottalino of the Village Board  
Senator Dean Murray,  
and Legislator Leslie Kennedy

**Community Center**  
**980 Hawkins Ave.**  
**Lake Grove**

**Thursday, June 4th**  
**12:00pm - 6:30pm**

Appointments strongly preferred.  
Scan the QR code to the right,  
call 1-800-933-2566,  
or visit [www.nybc.org](http://www.nybc.org)



Any further questions contact Jennifer at 516-310-2382  
Medical Questions call 1-800-688-0900

New York Blood Center 800.933.BLOOD • nybc.org #Englishtoblood

Save the date August 16th



# SUMMERFEST 2026

The most highly anticipated event our residents look forward to every year is our annual SummerFest! It will once again be a whole weekend event, with bands playing Friday and Saturday night at the Memorial Park adjoining Village Hall, as well as a full day of festivities Sunday August 16th on Hawkins Avenue. The car show will be on Saturday at 4PM, and Sunday's events will include numerous vendors, and a full day of music. The bands this year are:



# SUMMER CAMP

## Lake Grove Camp is BACK... ...and ready for Summer 2026!

**Limited to Lake Grove Residents**  
**Lake Grove Village Hall-980 Hawkins Avenue, Lake Grove**  
**Ages: Students currently in Kindergarten to 7th Grade**  
**July 6th - August 7th • 8:30am - 12:30pm\* Fee: \$575** Non-refundable, additional fees for trips (optional)  
**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**

\*Trip days may have extended times

**Keep an eye out for future programs!**  
Events will be listed on our Facebook Page & Website, as well as the Display Screen Outside Village Hall

# New Business SPOTLIGHT

To build a strong community, we must support the dreams and growth of our local businesses.



## • JINYA Ramen Bar •

JINYA Ramen Bar is a popular international restaurant chain, offering a contemporary dining experience with small plates and a focus on fresh ingredients. We are excited that Lake Grove is the first Long Island location

of JINYA! This unique restaurant is known for its authentic, customizable Japanese ramen featuring rich, slow-simmered broths (pork, chicken, veggie) and handcrafted noodles. JINYA opened this winter and so when you have the opportunity, we encourage you to stop by and try some of their unique offerings.

## • Bloom & Brew •

Bloom & Brew is a coffee café and floral shop that blends a cozy café experience with a boutique flower-shop environment—something relatively new to Long Island. It opened in a former retail space on Middle Country Road and has become known for its great service, inviting atmosphere, as well as its variety of specialty coffees, along with fresh blooms. They also offer imported cakes and pastries, homemade soups, fruit drinks, and sandwiches. Bloom & Brew is more than just another coffee shop — it's a hybrid café + flower boutique that makes it a nice stop for coffee lovers, flower enthusiasts, or anyone looking for a unique local hangout.



Bloom & Brew Café Opens in Lake Grove



## • Ugly Dumpling •

Ugly Dumpling is a growing dumpling-centric Asian restaurant brand known for its modern take on Chinese favorites — especially soup dumplings and other dim sum staples with creative flair. This unique restaurant will be located in Smith Haven Mall and an opening date should be announced soon!



## • ZARA •

Zara is a fashion retail brand known for its trendy, affordable clothing. The new Zara at Smith Haven Mall is part of a major redevelopment of the mall.

Zara is expected to open in 2026; it will be the brand's first location in Eastern Long Island.

## • ROSS Dress For Less •

Ross Dress for Less, a discount retail favorite across much of the country, is opening several Long Island locations and just recently opened in the Wegmans shopping center. Ross offers brand-name clothing, footwear, home goods and accessories at steep discounts off department store prices. Be sure to stop by to check them out!



## • The Veterinary Center for Operational Wellness •



The Veterinary Center for Operational Wellness (VCOW) was founded by Dr. Rosemary Lombardi as an outpatient surgical center (no overnight care), dedicated to orthopedic, soft tissue, CT imaging, mobile surgery, and regenerative treatment options. By focusing exclusively on surgical care and adjunct therapies, VCOW provides a surgery-focused option without the cost structure and logistical barriers of traditional referral hospitals. VCOW is designed to complement the care given by the primary care veterinarian. They work collaboratively with referring practices to deliver high-quality surgical care and alternative therapies in a professional, personal setting. We are looking forward to this addition in our village. They are expected to open this Spring!

There is no better way to support your local community than by patronizing local businesses. We wish all of the businesses in Lake Grove nothing but success!

# SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORTS

*Help Keep our Village Safe and Clean*

Please help our Department of Public Works maintain our village to the highest standards. Although it is always important to keep us informed of problem areas, it is imperative during any storm season. Please contact us about any of the following problems, or any other maintenance issues now and throughout the year.

- Storm drains blocked or clogged with debris
- Excessive sand or debris on roads, intersections & sidewalks
- Possible unsafe conditions at any of our parks
- Low tree branches hanging over sidewalks or roads
- Damaged or open fences around sumps
- Signage obstructed or damaged
- Litter



## Household Hazardous Waste

The Town has a **Stop Throwing Out Pollutants (STOP)** program in place to prevent the contamination of our environment and groundwater; items such as certain batteries, flammable items, pesticides, etc. The **STOP Facility** is located at the Town's Landfill. Residential waste only; commercial or business generated hazardous materials are not accepted at the **STOP Facility**.

**For a list of accepted material, go to**  
<https://www.brookhavenny.gov/407/Household-Hazardous-Waste>

### STOP Facility Hours of Operation

- April 1 to October 31: Wednesdays and Saturdays: 8 a.m. to Noon
- November to March 31: Saturdays: 8 a.m. to Noon

*If you are unsure if your household item can be thrown out in the regular garbage, please refer to Brookhaven Towns throwing it out guide*  
<https://www.brookhavenny.gov/1309/Throwing-It-Out-Guide>



**Glass bottles and jars are NOT ACCEPTED** with curbside recyclables.

For a complete list of drop-off locations, please visit

<https://www.brookhavenny.gov/940/Recyclable-Glass-Drop-Off-Program>



## DID YOU KNOW?

*With the winter now behind us, please keep this in mind for next year!*

Article 1219 of New York State VTL prohibits plowing, shoveling or blowing snow into a street or highway. This law also covers other items likely to pose a hazard to motorists, including sand, dirt & leaves. Fines for a first offense include up to a \$150 fine and/or 15 days in jail, plus applicable surcharges.

This law also stipulates that anyone that places or permits to be placed upon any highway any material which interferes with the safe use of the highway shall immediately remove the same or cause it to be removed. This includes snow! If you are a homeowner and you hire a person to plow your driveway, and you permit him/her to plow the snow into the road, you could be cited under this law.

Please, also be advised that clearing snow and debris from sidewalks is the responsibility of the homeowner. Homeowners and businesses that fail to provide clear passage on the sidewalks are subject to fines at the local level.



### A MESSAGE FROM THE LAKE GROVE VILLAGE FIRE MARSHAL

*Andrew J. Brofman, Lake Grove Fire Marshal*

**Planning ahead can save your life!** Do you know which fire department protects your home? Calling the direct number to the fire department that protects your part of the Village, can save 4 to 6 minutes response time! If you don't know the answer to this question, call the Village Fire Marshal. He will provide the information. Call these numbers in an emergency requiring the response to your designated fire department.



### FIRE DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY LINES

Nesconset Fire Dept:	631-924-5252
Centereach Fire Dept:	631-981-0177
Ronkonkoma Fire Dept:	631-588-8410
Setauket Fire Dept:	631-941-4441

*Make sure your house number is visible from the street.*

***If we can't find you, we can't help you!***



# Lake Grove Village Department of Public Works Guide

## APPLIANCES & SCRAP METAL

Appliances & scrap metal will not be picked up with regular garbage. Place items at curb only after contacting Lake Grove Village Hall for a scheduled pick up.

**You MUST call Lake Grove Village Hall at 631-585-2000 to schedule a pickup!**

These items include: appliances, air conditioners, metal bathtubs, swing sets, water heaters, metal lawn furniture, metal pool frames, auto engines, automobile parts, chain link fences, boats & trailers, metal sheds, coiled bed springs, along with washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators & freezers with doors removed, and other similar items.

- **Major homeowner construction, commercial construction and demolition debris** won't be accepted and must be removed by a private firm.
- **Lumber** must be cut into 4-foot lengths and tied & bundled securely. Nails must be removed or flattened against the wood.
- **Propane tanks** can be brought to any place that sells or services them. No oil tanks or other metal items contaminated with toxic substances will be picked up. Used oil can be taken to the Brookhaven Town Landfill, or your local service station.
- **Bulk items**, such as sofas, coffee tables, TV's, etc. do not require a phone call for special pick up. Residents are allowed to put out up to 4 bulk items per week on Thursdays or Fridays, depending on where you live in the village. Place at the curb by your garbage pails and the bulk item will be picked up on the 2nd garbage collection of the week.

## PAPER BAGGED LEAVES & BRANCHES ONLY

Paper bagged leaves and branches should be placed curbside at the beginning of the scheduled week.

- No bag should exceed 50 pounds
- Branches & Brush- must be bundled and tied in 4' bundles (maximum length)

**Please note: Leaves & Brush not bundled appropriately or placed in plastic bags will not be picked up.** Each Fall and Spring the Village of Lake Grove provides an allotment of paper bags to each homeowner. **We will be giving out Leaf Bags March 30th through May 2nd.** Just come down to the Leaf Barn on the designated dates highlighted in yellow on the recycling calendar. Each resident was mailed a recycling calendar and it is listed on our website as well. Additional bags can be purchased at home improvement stores. The pick-up schedule for Spring 2026 leaves & brush is as follows:

### LEAF BAG & BRANCH CLEAN UP DATES

PAPER LEAF BAGS, BRANCHES & BRUSH  
(BRANCHES & BRUSH MUST BE TIED AND BUNDLED & NO LONGER THAN 4 FEET LONG)

### NORTH SIDE PICK-UP

Any street north of Village Hall  
WEEK OF 4/13, 4/27, 5/11, 5/25 (last week)

### SOUTH SIDE PICK-UP

Any street south of Village Hall  
(including Washburn Street & Moriches Road)  
WEEK OF 4/20, 5/4, 5/18, 6/1 (last week)

*Leaf bags & tied and bundled brush CAN NOT be combined. They get picked up separately. Brush must be at curb Sunday night prior to pick up week. Will be picked up one day between Monday and Friday Leaves ONLY in bags and NO GRASS*

### **Public Service Announcement!**



We want to inform you that deer have been recently observed in the village sump areas. Please be assured that this situation is not dangerous.

The deer are not in danger and are able to leave the sump area on their own if they choose to do so. Deer are naturally timid and avoid people, and do not pose a threat to residents or pets. The area is being monitored, and appropriate steps will be taken if assistance becomes necessary.

Please do not approach or feed the deer. While it may seem helpful, feeding wildlife can be harmful to the animal and may encourage it to remain in the area longer than necessary.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Save This Page!





P.O. BOX 708  
LAKE GROVE, NY  
11755-0708

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Lake Grove, NY

# RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

## *Please Save!* Lake Grove Residents

### IMPORTANT LAKE GROVE VILLAGE INFORMATION INSIDE

Dear Reader...

*Mark Your Calendars*

We put a lot of time and effort into the content of our newsletters. To get the most out of the village newsletter, it's essential to create content that our audience wants to read.

Surveying our audience can help us better understand what subject matter is most valuable to them.

Offering us some feedback will help to improve future issues of our newsletter.

*We would love to hear from you...*  
please email your comments and/or suggestions to  
Deanna Scollo at [deannas@lakegroveny.gov](mailto:deannas@lakegroveny.gov)

**Save the date August 16th** **SUMMERFEST 2026**

The most highly anticipated event our residents look forward to every year is our annual SummerFest! It will once again be a whole weekend event, with bands playing Friday and Saturday night at the Memorial Park adjoining Village Hall, as well as a full day of festivities Sunday August 16th on Hawkins Avenue. The car show will be on Saturday at 4PM, and Sunday's events will include numerous vendors, and a full day of music. The bands this year are:

RETRO VIBE  
FOREIGN JOURNEY  
MILAGRO  
Amber Ferrari Band  
DECADIA

**KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR  
FUTURE LAKE GROVE VILLAGE  
PROGRAMS & EVENTS!**  
Will be listed on our **FACEBOOK PAGE:**  
[www.facebook.com/LakeGroveVillage](http://www.facebook.com/LakeGroveVillage)  
**WEBSITE:** [www.lakegroveny.gov](http://www.lakegroveny.gov)  
as well as the **Display Screen Outside Village Hall**

**Notify Me!**  
If you are interested in being added to our notification call list for emergency related matters or any upcoming events, please contact Village Hall at 631-585-2000.

- Thank You for Your Continued Support -