Incorporated Village of Lake Grove

VILLAGE NEWS

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Working Together For A Better Lake Grove



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As we continue to create a high standard of living and aesthetically pleasing environment, a blight remains in our community.

The First Congressional Church on Middle Country Road which is a symbol on our Village seal has been boarded up for far too many years. Unfortunately, the church is not ours and not on Village property. The church and cemetery are owned by the Town of Brookhaven and are designated as parkland.

A few years back, the church and adjoining cemetery were desecrated by vandals, doing considerable damage to both. At that time, the Town offered the building and the land to the Village with some monetary contribution to do some restoration of the building. Unfortunately, the dollar amount would not provide enough value to cover the repairs and allow us to maintain the cemetery. Cutting the grass and maintaining the property is a full-time job that we just do not have the resources to accomplish.

I have been in many discussions with Town representatives for a couple of years now to remove the boards off the windows, repair the fence and paint the building. This is a historical landmark and should be treated as such. However, as with the Village, budgetary restrictions, and the cost of doing the repairs properly put the project on the back burner.

More recently, after bringing the situation to the attention of Town of Brookhaven Supervisor Panico, progress was made. The Supervisor came out to look at the location and was appalled at the condition and acted immediately. Budgetary adjustments have been made, and the bidding process was started to make some preliminary repairs and clean up this blight within our village.

I want to give special thanks to Supervisor Panico, Councilman Manzella, and as always, our previous council person and now Town Clerk, Kevin Lavalle. Kevin continues to work with the Village with all concerns, even if it is just acting as a liaison with our Councilman and Supervisor.

Many of you have been concerned about how this represents our village, and I felt it necessary to address it here. Thank you all for caring about our village and for your continued support. We will continue to work together for the betterment of our village for the highest standard of living that we can provide.

Robert J. Scottaline
Mayor

Feel free to contact me directly anytime:
Email: mayor@lakegroveny.gov
Tel: 631-585-2000 x112
Cell: 631-872-0606

Mayor	*Village Clerk*
Robert J. Scottaline	**Kara Haufler**
Deputy Mayor - Trustee	*Village Justice*
Richard J. Cohen	**Scott D. Middleton**
Trustee	
John G. Peterson	*Contact us*
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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 MaryAnn at 631-804-7470.

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

- Lake Grove Justice Court Sessions (call for exact dates)
  - Traffic Court is held 1st Tuesday each month - 6:30pm
  - Village Code Violations are held 3rd Tuesday each month - 6:30pm

WEDNESDAY

- 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



RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

Honoring Carmela Constant

Some people leave a lasting mark on a community through years of dedicated service, and Carmela Constant is certainly one of them.

A longtime resident and respected public servant, Carmela served as a village employee for over 34 years, helping to guide the village through decades of growth, change, and progress. Although best known for her role as Village Clerk starting in 1997, she held several positions in the village prior to that. She worked alongside numerous village officials and administrations, providing professionalism, experience, and a depth of knowledge that proves invaluable to the village's success.

We would like to recognize Carmela Constant for her many years of dedication, faithful service and loyalty to the Village Board, the staff and our entire village community. Through her selfless commitment, the Village of Lake Grove has flourished and become the wonderful community it is today. After retiring full-time in 2022, Carmela continues to play a vital role as assistant to the mayor. We just couldn't let her go that easily! Carmela has been committed to our village for more than thirty years…and to many of us she has been regarded as the "Face of our Village".

Throughout her three decades of service, Carmela witnessed Lake Grove evolve while maintaining the small-town values that make it such a special place to live. We are proud to recognize Carmela Constant for her remarkable contributions and thank her for the lasting impact she has made on our community.

Village of Lake Grove Annual Harvest Festival

Lake Grove was treated to a wonderful day filled with music, games and activities at our Harvest Festival on October 10th at Kelly Park. This is a favorite amongst our community residents, so it was no surprise that we had a wonderful turnout. Many showed up in costumes and enjoyed the pumpkin decorating, pony & hayrides, a petting zoo and much more!

Special thanks to Trustee Wienclaw and his team for making it a great event. Until our next festival, please keep in mind that volunteer help is always needed and appreciated.
Please call 631-585-2000 if you would like to become involved.



A Recap of our Fun-Filled Summer!

Summer Recreation Program



We are very pleased with the success of this summer's program and with our talented staff. The camp directors and counselors are the heart and soul of this program. They interact with the children and encourage them to participate in all the activities provided.

The kids enjoyed playing games, arts and crafts, sports, water balloon games, and so much more! The highlight always seems to be the several field trips that are incorporated into this fun-filled camp. The Summer Recreation Program concluded with its usual big finish of their wonderful variety show, where family and friends attended.

Many thanks to our camp director, Rosemarie Rivera and Trustee Wienclaw for making this camp the success it is. We encourage all residents to consider this program next year for their children.

LG C.A.R.E.S. Sponsored a Night of Meditation & Sound Healing!

Community residents enjoyed a peaceful evening designed to help them relax, unwind and reconnect through meditation & healing sound vibration. This guided mindfulness session was a powerful way to help attendees reduce stress, quiet their mind, and reset the nervous system. All who attended left feeling calmer, lighter and more connected. We hope you can join us at our next event!



Lake Grove Summer Festival Another Huge Success!

Hawkins Avenue came alive once again for our annual SummerFest held on August 16th; a community tradition that always draws large crowds. The event was well attended by residents of all ages, families, and visitors from neighboring towns. The weekend started off with bands playing Friday and Saturday night at the Village Memorial Park, in addition to our very popular car show which was held on Saturday afternoon this year. The fun-filled weekend wrapped up with a full day of festivities on Sunday, which included over 100 vendors, numerous food trucks, and a full day of music. We would like to offer a very special thank you to Trustee Richard Kick and his dedicated committee for planning the event. It takes months of planning to make the festival as successful as it is, and their hard work does not go unnoticed. We would also like to thank Wegmans, Steel Equities, Hummus Fit, Crunch Fitness, Global Restoration, Rockefellers Kitchen & Cocktails and LG CARES for sponsoring our bands this year. Hope to see you there next year!









World Cup 2026





We also enjoyed cheering on Lake Grove's very own, Joe Scally, who competed in the World Cup this summer. It was his second World Cup, and it has been a thrill to follow his journey representing the United States National Team. The Lake Grove community is beyond proud of his amazing achievement.

New Business SPOTLIGHT

The Grove Season







Long Island's newest immersive event venue just opened in the Village of Lake Grove, where every celebration is designed to feel unforgettable. This event space is perfect for intimate gatherings. Whether you're planning a bridal shower, baby shower, birthday, engagement party, corporate event, or simply looking for a beautiful content studio, The Grove Season would love to celebrate your special occasion. For more information, check out their website at www.thegroveseason.com

Exciting News:

New Stores Are Coming to Smith Haven Mall!

We are excited to share that several new stores will soon be opening their doors at Smith Haven Mall, bringing even more shopping, dining, and lifestyle options to our community.

These additions are part of the mall's ongoing efforts to enhance customer experience and provide visitors with a wider variety of popular brands and services. Several high-profile stores and returning favorites are opening as part of a multi-million-dollar property redevelopment.

Notable additions include the fashion giant Zara, GOAT USA, returning brand Coach, and the comeback of Abercrombie & Fitch. There will also be some new dining options including Ugly Dumpling restaurant and Box Car Burgers.

We look forward to welcoming these exciting new additions to Lake Grove!

Grand Opening of Gerald L. Lotto Memorial Park

The Village of Lake Grove proudly celebrated the grand opening of Gerald L. Lotto Park on June 2nd , marking an exciting milestone for our community. The park, located next to village hall, is an all-inclusive playground, providing equipment for all children, including those with special needs. Special thanks to the entire Village staff, for assisting in converting a blighted property next to village hall into a beautiful village park. Through the outstanding efforts of our office staff in obtaining grants and donations for the park and our DPW staff in helping to create this scenic and well-visited location, we as a village have something additional to be proud of.

The mayor, village clerk and village attorney worked tirelessly to legally remove the undesirable conditions, acquire the property from the bank, tear down the blight, and create a canvas for what is now an outstanding addition to our downtown area. Gone is the decaying structure housing squatters where some unfortunate person overdosed and lost his life, replaced with an area that provides a serene setting, a place to assemble, and a place for children of all abilities to be children. Thank you again to all that contributed to the success of this project.

Before...









...After!




GERALD L. LOTTO
MEMORIAL PARK
Incorporated Village of Lake Grove













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

Even though we continue to be enjoying fall, winter will inevitably be here soon. We urge our residents to follow the Village's state of emergency ordinance prohibiting vehicles parking on the road. Working together, we can help ensure that roads and sidewalks are cleared in a safe and efficient manner. Here's how you can help:

- Do not park on the street during snow events
- Basketball hoops should be kept off the street at all times
- Do not throw snow from your walkway or driveway onto the road. Having snow removal teams return to the same street multiple times increases the cost and time necessary to clear the roads.
- Remove snow from your vehicle while it is still parked in your driveway and certainly before you travel.
- Village Code requires that residents and business owners remove snow and ice from the sidewalk within 24 hours of the snow event.

If you have questions on snow removal, please call the Department of Public Works at **631-585-2000**

Village of Lake Grove Sets the Standard with Kratom Sales Ban

The Mayor and Village board took action earlier this year as one of the first, if not the first, municipality in Suffolk County to ban the sale of Kratom, also known as gas station Heroin; a substance that has been associated with addiction, adverse health effects, and risks to young people. The decision to prohibit the sale of Kratom (in all forms) reflects our proactive approach to protecting our community, particularly our young people, from potentially harmful substances.

We continue to work closely with the Fourth Precinct of the Suffolk County Police Department for the safety of all. If anyone is aware of any entity selling, or promoting Kratom within our boundaries, please make either the Village, the Fourth Precinct or both aware immediately.

The Village of Lake Grove continues to be a safe and healthy place to live, work, and raise a family. Your continued support is a big part of everything we do.

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

- **Saturdays: 7:00 am to 12:00 pm all year**
- **In addition, Wednesdays 7:00 am - 1:00 pm beginning the Wed. after Memorial Day until the Wed. after Labor Day**

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

DID YOU KNOW?

With winter approaching, please keep this in mind!

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 glass, nails, wire, cans, etc. 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.

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**

The Village of Lake Grove is pleased to welcome Zakary Griffin as our new Fire Marshal. We are excited to have him join our community and look forward to the leadership, expertise, and dedication he will bring to helping keep our residents and businesses safe. At the same time, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Andrew Brofman for his 30 years of service and commitment. We wish Andrew a happy, healthy, and well-deserved retirement, and we thank him for his many years of outstanding service.

Lake Grove Village Department of Public Works Guide

Save This Page!

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, swing sets, water heaters, metal lawn furniture, auto engines, automobile parts, chain link fences, 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.

⚠ RECYCLING REMINDER ⚠

One of the largest expenditures we have is the cost of carting and dumping of our garbage. Our present-day culture, with constant deliveries means that we all have a lot more boxes to dispose of than in years gone by. With that being the case, we see a lot of boxes and paper goods at the curb on household garbage days.

The dumping fees for this are a lot higher than if it was sent to the landfill on recycling days. Also, when paper and cardboard are left to get wet, we now pay higher dumping fees, as we pay by the ton and are now being charged for water when we dump. Please be cognizant of recycling carefully whether it be paper or co-mingled garbage day. It makes a big difference monetarily.

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 until October 31st.** 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 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 **10/5, 10/19, 11/2, 11/16** (last week)

SOUTH SIDE PICK-UP
Any street south of Village Hall
(including Washburn Street & Moriches Road)
WEEK OF **10/12, 10/26, 11/9, 11/23** (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

Playground Improvement Project

Upgrades to Olga Wilk Park and Francis P. Kelly Park have recently been completed and include the replacement and installation of new swing sets and the addition of artificial turf throughout the play areas. In addition, we have installed concrete pathways at Kelly Park. These improvements enhance safety, reduce maintenance requirements, and provide a more enjoyable recreational space for families and children. We look forward to seeing residents enjoy our parks for years to come.

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LAKE GROVE, NY
11755-0708

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IMPORTANT LAKE GROVE VILLAGE INFORMATION INSIDE

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.

Give Your Old Eyeglasses New Life!

Did you know that your gently used eyeglasses can change someone's life? The Lake Grove Lion's Club is proud to collect and recycle eyeglasses to help provide clearer vision for people in need. Just simply drop off your used glasses at the Lion's collection box inside the village hall lobby and be part of a simple act that makes a big impact.

New York Blood Center

Blood Drive

Village of Lake Grove

Thursday
Nov. 12th
12:30PM-6:30PM

Sign up at nybc.org/sponsor and use code #19685

Community Center - 980 Hawkins Ave., Lake Grove



KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR FUTURE LAKE GROVE VILLAGE PROGRAMS & EVENTS!

Will be listed on our FACEBOOK PAGE: www.facebook.com/LakeGroveVillage
WEBSITE: www.lakegroveny.gov as well as the Display Screen Outside Village Hall

- Thank You for Your Continued Support -