



Village of
Roslyn Estates

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From the Office of Hon. Paul Leone Peters, Mayor

June 27, 2023

Dear Neighbors;

I'm afraid this is going to be a long letter, because, unfortunately, Clare and I have had some pressing family issues that have taken up so much of our time. But with that situation now eased, I'm back! Here's what's happening:

- Every season in Roslyn Estates has its own charm and beauty. Right now, as *Martha & The Vandellas* noted, “*Summer’s here, and the time is right for dancing in the streets!*” Well, maybe not much dancing, but lots of activity at least, most prominently our children out of school and enjoying the outdoors in our beautiful village. So, please, slow down, stop at STOP signs, and drive especially carefully. And while you’re at it, please do your best to avoid all the bunnies and squirrels!
- Speaking of STOP signs, *The Supremes* told us to, “*Stop in the Name of Love,*” and your Board of Trustees is investigating a system that would make that the rule rather than the exception. STOP sign violations are an acute problem in our village, because its location between major thoroughfares makes us an enticing cut-through. These outsiders are all in a hurry and pose a significant danger to our residents – especially children at or near school and camp bus stops. The inventors of a STOP sign camera enforcement system – already in operation in a Great Neck village – made a presentation to the Board. We invited them to conduct a trial demonstration at three Village STOP signs which showed far less than 20% compliance, with many violators speeding through the intersections at excessive speeds without even slowing. In the Great Neck village, once the system was up and running, compliance soared from less than ten percent to more than ninety, and we would expect similar results here. While NY State law does not yet specifically permit such enforcement, our State Senator Jack Martins is proposing legislation in Albany to change that, so we are not taking any action unless and until such legislation passes.
- *The Association* had quite a few hits (“*Along Comes Mary;*” “*Windy;*” “*Cherish;*” etc.), and The Association of Roslyn Estates gave us a hit of their own earlier this month. Their “block party” at Village Hall was a resounding success, but it was certainly the kids who had the best time. Among other treats, we enjoyed pizza from a mobile pizza oven (it was really delicious), a towel painting booth, and lots of friendly conversation. We are grateful to new Association President, Jackie Auerbach, for spearheading the rebirth of Nassau County’s oldest surviving civic association, and we look forward to more fun events in the near future. If you’re interested in participating in this important community

organization and promoting neighborhood activities, please contact Jackie at recivicassociation@gmail.com. She will welcome your involvement!

- Just like *Canned Heat* – as I’m sure you’ve noticed – National Grid is “*On the Road Again*,” and they will be resuming their work in Roslyn Estates next week, specifically on Intervale from Old Northern Boulevard to The Birches; and along The Birches from Intervale to The Maples. The “*Men at Work*” (yes; that’s a second music reference in the same paragraph – thanks, Mike!) will be installing new composite mains to replace the old iron pipes and doing temporary road repairs over them. Not too long after that, we will be starting the second phase of our latest repaving project to include all those sections of road, which will then be fully repaved. National Grid will be notifying in advance all residents affected by the roadwork, and they assure us no driveway access will be restricted during the process. If you have any questions or concerns, please address them to Mike or Sandy at Village Hall.
- *The Coasters* admonished us to, “*Take out the papers and the trash, or you don’t get no spending cash!*” Actually, we expend a great deal of our taxpayers’ cash for our carting contract, and it specifically provides for rear or side pickup at each house. Please be reminded of that and do not bring your waste containers in front of your homes on pickup days. Also, please do not place any trash, refuse, empty cartons, etc., at the end of your driveways (and certainly not in the street). If you have an unusual item to dispose of, like old furniture, simply call our contractor, Meadow Carting (516-338-0121), and arrange a special pickup. I don’t think any of us want our beautiful village spoiled by seeing piles of waste and trash as we drive around. Plus, it’s a violation of our Code, so please be a good neighbor and comply with that rule.
- Speaking of trash, *The Trashmen* told us that, “*The bird is the word*,” and we certainly have our share of birds in Roslyn Estates. That includes the occasional majestic Egrets and Blue Herons along with several families of geese that regularly visit our two ponds, all living in harmony with the Koi, turtles and frogs that make Black Ink and The Loch their homes. All this water life (except, perhaps, the Koi) predate the creation of Roslyn Estates, and while they add to the charm of our village, they can also be annoying to some of us. (At least the geese visit for only a few months each year.) Our DPW equipment now includes a device that cleans up goose droppings on grass to help alleviate that annoyance. Meanwhile, please don’t feed the geese any bread or other grains. Not only is that bad for them, but it also makes their droppings more troublesome. When geese eat only grass, their waste is basically grass, and it dissipates quickly, so please consider all your neighbors – human and avian – and don’t feed (or harm) the geese.
- Regarding our ponds, due to the recent lack of significant rain, water levels in both are critically low, especially at Black Ink. Part of the problem is that they are not, in fact, spring-fed ponds, but rather run-off basins with no other water source. When the amount of rain (“*Purple*” or otherwise) doesn’t offset evaporation, the levels recede, threatening the aquatic life and the safe operation of the aerators – which are necessary to prevent mosquito breeding. We are pursuing with the Roslyn Water District a project they would fund that addresses that issue while also preventing the occasional overflow during severe storms, but that solution is not in the near term. Meanwhile, if any residents bordering Black Ink want to use their own hoses to add some badly needed water, the Village will gladly reimburse you for whatever is diverted to that effort. Clare and I can do the same at The Loch; our treat.

- *The Coasters* also warned us about “*Poison Ivy*,” and while it may not be of the poison variety, the abundance of climbing ivy in our village can be just as harmful – at least, to our trees. If you have any trees with ivy climbing up the trunks, it is important to kill that ivy by simply severing the vine at the base – the growth up the trunk will soon wither and die, saving the tree. Allowing ivy to kill an otherwise healthy tree is just as much a violation of our Code as intentionally killing it by other means, so please take that simple action and save a tree!
- Not too many people know that the song, “*Martha, My Dear*,” on the double album, “*The Beatles*” (no; it’s not named “*The White Album*”), was *Paul McCartney’s* ode to his beloved sheepdog, Martha. Pet owners in our Village can understand that kind of affection and tribute, as our dogs and cats become members of our families, if only for relatively short periods of time. While they’re with us, please exercise reasonable restraint with them and be considerate of your neighbors – especially those without pets or with young children. Specifically, don’t allow your dog’s barking to disturb others at any time of day, and please remember to pick up after them when taking them for their daily excursions around our beautiful community. And please dispose of those poop bags properly yourselves; Thomas and Ryan have better things to do.
- Concerning noise in general, each of us has our own definition of acceptable levels of it, whether it be music, partying, or the aforementioned barking, and what may be tolerable to one person might be a terrible annoyance to another. We all have the right to quiet enjoyment of our homes in Roslyn Estates, and we all need to be considerate of our neighbors in that regard. To that end, your Board of Trustees is considering a revised section of our Code to deal specifically with noise pollution and the consequences of those very few who might not consider the effect on their neighbors of letting their dogs bark or blasting “*Helter Skelter*” in their backyards at all hours. It may also extend to our village the Town of North Hempstead’s ban on gasoline-powered leaf blowers from June 15 through September 15. We will hold a public hearing at an upcoming BOT meeting to get your input before finalizing it and enacting it into law. While it may be difficult to quantify specific noise pollution into code, we’re working with Village Counsel to put together something both reasonable and enforceable, and we welcome any practical suggestions you might offer.

Well, that’s more than enough for now. Clare and I wish you all a fabulous, long, Independence Day weekend. While many of you will take the opportunity to go elsewhere, Village Hall will be open on Monday, July 3, because that is the last date Village real estate tax payments may be received without penalty. Meanwhile, please follow the example of *Olivia* and *John*, and enjoy those “*Summer Nights!*”

Sincerely,



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