



# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

## FALL LEAF PICK-UP

Leaf season is here and collection is scheduled for six Tuesdays: **October 22, 29, November 12, 19, 26 and December 3, 2019**. In case of inclement weather, leaves will be picked up on Friday of the same week. Leaf piles should be kept to 18 inches high and 12 inches from the curb line. Please remember not to pile the leaves too high in front of your home so that the Village contractor can pick them up. For safety reasons, please make sure children do not play in the leaf piles. **Disposal of leaf piles after December 3, 2019 will be the responsibility of the homeowner.**

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IF YOU HAVE A LANDSCAPER, YOUR LANDSCAPER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LEAF REMOVAL FROM YOUR PROPERTY. A reminder letter has been sent to all licensed landscapers and their respective clients within the Village. Also, it would be helpful if you have a catch basin near your home, that you assist us in keeping it clear of leaves by raking the leaves away from the grates. This will help prevent flooding during heavy rainstorms.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

### Village Road Reconstruction Project

**The Village Road Project has begun and is scheduled from mid-October through December 31, 2019.** Last month, the Mayor and Board of Trustees approved the notice to proceed for United Paving Corp. in conjunction with H2M Architects + Engineers, PC (H2M) to reconstruct Hudson Rd (between Commonwealth & Massachusetts Blvds.) and Ontario Rd (between Commonwealth Blvd. and the west side dead-end). The Board is working diligently on this extensive reconstruction project as an immediate priority to improve Village infrastructure. H2M was procured by the Board of Trustees and tasked with evaluating and classifying streets for repair, assisting in obtaining construction bids, establishing construction schedules and monitoring contractor performance. The base bid cost of the Road Project for 2019 is approximately \$775,000. I met with Senator Anna Kaplan in September and I was successful in securing an additional \$50,000 State SAM road grant and Senator Kaplan restored the \$125,000 Transportation grant from the State. The Board of Trustees and I are very grateful to Senator Kaplan and her staff for their assistance in helping us to fund this project and move it forward.

**Repairs to Village Hall** – The Village plans to repair the wood façade on the exterior of the Village Hall. Bill Bensberg, Master Carpenter has been hired to do the repairs and the project should be completed by December.

### Belmont Redevelopment Project & LIRR

I met with officials of the Empire Development Corp. (EDC) and the Long Island Railroad (LIRR), including its President, Phillip Eng. EDC & LIRR both reported that the Bellerose train station and underground tunnel from Bellerose to Floral Park-Bellerose (FPBS) Elementary School will remain



open. That was good news to hear. The Belmont Project is now entering the construction phase and there are two main issues that Bellerose Village requested be addressed: 1. Necessary Emergency Services Levels Be Maintained or Enhanced (Department of Homeland Security, Police, & Fire including equipment and vehicles, particularly the BFD's need for a new firetruck to replace the 25 year old firetruck); and 2. Sound & Safety Barriers to mitigate the increased noise levels due to construction and future increased train volumes along the LIRR Right Of Way.

### Village Services

The Board of Trustees is constantly evaluating the services provided to its residents to ensure the most efficient delivery at the best price. We are always looking to improve. Some of the services that we are happy to report on are:

1. **New Maintenance Department Pick-Up Truck** - The Village recently purchased a new pick-up truck to replace the 1999 truck that was on its last legs. The truck was purchased through a competitive bidding process with New York State to ensure that the taxpayer benefits from the best pricing available state-wide. The new truck includes an emergency snowplow kit. It cost \$32,254, a savings of \$12,746 from the \$45,000 price tag in the marketplace. Thanks to Buddy and Matt for helping procure the vehicle.
2. **Shared Services** – The Village is participating in the NYS Shared Services Initiative to provide services at the most competitive rates to the taxpayer. To date, the Village has entered into inter-municipal agreements with the Town of Hempstead for street sweeping services and property tax mailings, and the Village of Floral Park for catch basin cleaning and fuel services.
3. **New LIRR Munimeter App – “Flowbird”** – The Board is pleased to announce a new parking application “app” called Flowbird for commuters who park at the LIRR parking lot. By using the new app, commuters can bypass the Munimeter and pay for parking by phone or computer. The Village can monitor payment through its portal and there is no need for windshield tickets any more. Commuters will enjoy hassle free parking and the Village can streamline collections and reduce nonsense parking tickets. Cash and credit card payments can still be made at the Munimeter. Thank you to Deputy Clerk Kathy O’Malley for working with DEVO Munimeter. Flowbird will be available in November.
4. **LIRR Bellerose Station** – Trustee Dorry and I have had a number of meetings with officials from the LIRR regarding the deteriorating conditions of the Bellerose train station. We toured the station with them and plans are underway to remediate signage, crumbling cement, stairs, and lighting and for general clean-up to improve conditions. There is no scheduled date as of yet. We are hoping that the clean-up will happen in the next few months.
5. **Trees** – The Tree Board has been evaluating the Village tree stock. Several dead trees were recently removed due to age and disease. Plans for tree trimming have been presented to the Board of Trustees and trimming will begin shortly. Tree trimming is performed on a seasonal basis. Call Village Hall if you would like to be added to the tree list.
6. **Sidewalk Repairs** – The Village is contracting with ORA Construction to perform sidewalk repairs and the repair list has been finalized. Repair work will begin in October and continue through November. Like trees, sidewalks are repaired on a seasonal basis. Call Village Hall if you would like to be added to the sidewalk list.



## VILLAGE BUSINESS

I would like to thank Kathleen Woodruff who was sworn in as Trustee at the September Board meeting. Kathy has been a civic minded leader in the Village for many years. Kathy's professional financial and organizational background will bring expanded expertise to the Board and to the community. Thanks for taking a seat at the table.

Bellerose Village is very busy and relies on many volunteers to serve in a variety of areas. I'd like to especially thank Police Commissioner Bill Tamparo who has served the Village for over three decades. As a law enforcement professional, Bill shares his expertise to liaise with the Nassau County Police Department and Department of Homeland Security to ensure the safety of the Bellerose citizenry. I'd also like to recognize Highway Commissioner, George Braun who also been an exceptional leader in the Village. As a professional engineer, George has devoted his expertise to care for the Village roads for over thirty years and is now helping to oversee the Village Road Reconstruction Project, a major undertaking. George also has served as Fire Chief, Fire Commissioner and a volunteer firefighter in the BFD for over four decades. The Village is lucky to have both Bill and George who selflessly devote their time and expertise to the betterment of the entire neighborhood. They both perform these jobs on a volunteer basis for no remuneration. Please be sure to thank them.

Speaking of volunteers, the Village is always seeking new ones. If you have any expertise that can help the Village or if you are interested in becoming more involved, send an e-mail to Rosaleen Shea, Village Clerk at [villageclerk@bellerosevillage.org](mailto:villageclerk@bellerosevillage.org) for consideration by the Board. Check the village website for the various departments. Currently, there are openings for a Village Historian and for an alternate to serve on the Architectural Review Committee (ARC). The Board of Trustees makes the final decisions on all appointments at its annual organizational meeting in April.

The Village Playground will be open 7 days per week 9AM to dusk through November 30. The Village plans to keep the playground open through December 13<sup>th</sup> weekdays only Monday – Friday, 9AM to 4PM, weather permitting.

Please visit the Village Website for village news at [www.bellerosevillage.org](http://www.bellerosevillage.org).

The next Board of Trustees meeting is on Monday, October 28, 2019 at 7:30PM at Village Hall. I invite everyone to attend. If you would like to contact me or any of the Trustees, we can be reached by email on the Village Website or by calling Village Hall at 516-354-1000 and we will get back to you.

Respectfully,

**Kenneth Moore**  
Mayor