Hicksville Gardens News

A Newsletter of the Hicksville Gardens Civic Association

Spring 2025



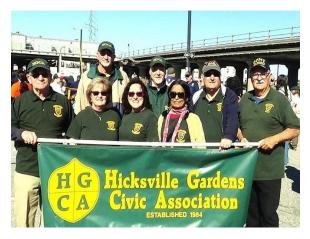
Dear Members and Friends, we are thrilled to present the first edition of our newly revamped civic newsletter! Welcome to the Spring 2025 edition of the Hicksville Gardens News! As always, we're excited to share updates, events, and achievements that make our community truly special. From celebrating local accomplishments to hosting enriching activities, there's something for everyone to enjoy this season. Let's dive into what makes Hicksville thrive and come alive.

'People Want to Live Here': Hicksville just snagged the third spot in a statewide ranking by U.S. News & World Report. The rankings were based on things like quality of life, affordable housing, and desirability. As reported in Newsday (5/22/25) Supervisor Saladino chimed in, saying this ranking "shows that we've got safe neighborhoods and top-notch schools.". **Way to go,**

Hicksville!!

Let's work together to keep Hicksville clean and beautiful. After a storm, take a moment to gather any litter in your area. It may have blown from a neighbor's yard or been left behind accidentally. Small actions like this help foster a stronger, more caring community.

Memorial Day Parade: A Salute to Our Heros



The Memorial Day Parade in Hicksville was a heartwarming tribute to the heroes who have served our nation. This year, the Gardens Civic Association proudly marched alongside the vibrant High School marching bands, whose stirring melodies uplifted the spirits of the entire community. Their precision, talent, and dedication brought a musical magic to the streets, adding a profound layer of reverence to the event.

Equally delightful was the participation of the elementary school children, whose cheerful energy and colorful attire

injected a sense of youthful enthusiasm into the parade. Marching with banners, they represented the future of Hicksville, paying respect to the past while carrying the torch of unity and gratitude.

The combination of music, community spirit, and heartfelt tributes made this cherished tradition an unforgettable event. Each step of the parade route reflected the harmony and solidarity that define Hicksville, as residents of all ages came together to honor the sacrifices of those who have served.

ALERT: Fire Department Donations are down significantly. Of 11,500 businesses and residents only 4,000 have donated. Please donate when you receive your next reminder. The Hicksville FD is staffed mostly by volunteers. Your donations pay for trucks , safety equipment and building maintenance. PLEASE support you largely Volunteer Force.

Downtown Revitalization Highlights & Other Community Initiatives

Members attending the April & May regular Gardens Civic meetings received important updates on Downtown Revitalization efforts. Town representatives included Tim Zike Deputy Commissioner Planning & Development and Jim McCaffrey, Director of Operations. The revitalization project aims to enhance public spaces, improve infrastructure, and create a more vibrant downtown area. **The latest**:

Festival Plaza: construction of a raised walking path with landscaping, seating areas, and safer pedestrian connection to LIRR station

Kennedy Park Expansion: transforming an existing parking lot into green space for outdoor activities like concerts and pop-up vendors.

The Underline: transformation of the area under the train trestle, between Newbridge Rd. and Broadway, with new pavers, lighting and amenities for pop-up shops and outdoor cafes.





Alpine development at 99Newbridge:
Construction is in full swing for this 189unit mixed use building in the shadow of
the Hicksville train station; a prime
example of transit-oriented development.
Apartments should be available for rent

early in 2026.

<u>Fieldstone</u> at 76 N Broadway: This 104-unit mixed use building with restaurant and retail space. The entrance will be moved to West John St to avoid traffic backups on Broadway. Construction will hopefully begin this summer (Editor's note: existing building is becoming an eyesore).

Sears: recently purchased by Steel equities, the property will be

developed within the existing building footprint. As we understand it this is considered "as-of-right" development therefor no hearings are required. The basement will include a veterinary laboratory (no animals) and a trade school. The first floor will include "white box shells" for retail.

The Mall: a site plan for this significant redevelopment was filed with the Town but many steps in the approval process remain before



Other downtown projects that will impact Hicksville's future growth and development include:

- West Cherry Townhouses, featuring 10 new residential opportunities.
- West Cherry Street Development, featuring 20 new residential opportunities.
- Chroma Paint, featuring 30 residential opportunities along with a rooftop restaurant.

Nassau County POP Officer Update

Problem-Oriented Policing Officers, also known as POP Officers, Chris Guidice and Bobby Difalco delivered an informative presentation at our May 15 meeting on the proper instances for calling 911 versus contacting the precinct directly. They highlighted that POP officers typically work during weekdays, responding to daytime or repetitive incidents rather than night-time or weekend occurrences. They reassured attendees that there is no need to hesitate when calling 911 out of concern that the matter may not be urgent; the 911 operators are trained to prioritize calls accordingly. In contrast, one-time activities occurring at night will likely conclude before POP can follow up. So, follow this guidance:

When to call your local POP Officer at 516-573-6870. For example: poor road conditions, stop signs, or illegal parking. Or any systemic problems such as speeding or other repetitive problematic activities. POP officers will follow up with analysis and share concerns with regular patrol officers. Remember your POP officers work for the community.

Scam Alert: Hicksville POP Officers would like to remind all residents to take the following precautions against scams, which remain a prevalent issue in our community:

- Avoid answering phone calls from unknown or unrecognized numbers.
- Do not respond to text messages requesting personal or sensitive information.

If you are uncertain about the legitimacy of a situation, please contact your local POP officer at 516-573-6870. Our POP officers are here to help and ensure your safety.

When to Call 911: For true emergencies requiring immediate police, fire or emergency medical response 24/7. But also after hours for other problems, such as loud parties or music, construction at off hours, neighborhood disturbances, parking conditions. Operators are trained to prioritize calls accordingly.

School Budget Update

Superintendent Dr. Ted Fulton and staff gave a detailed budget presentation at the May 15th general meeting. The budget passed by 65%. But less than 2300 voted out of 29,000 registered voters. Be informed to attend future meetings. And make your voice heard, Vote!

Upcoming Events and Meetings

June 15: Annual Scholarship Awards

September 18: TBD

October 16: Meet the Candidates Night

November 20: Veterans Art Contest

December: Holiday Party

Oil Prices: Expect an

announcement for the price of home heating oil by the **Oil Consortium**Committee later this month before the existing contract expires.

Stay Connected

We'd love to hear from you! If you have suggestions for future events, topics for discussion, or ways we can improve our newsletter, please reach out to us. Follow us on social media for the latest updates and reminders about upcoming events.

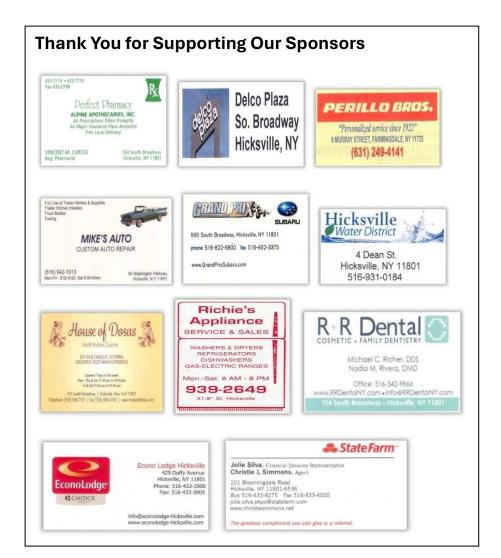
Closing Remarks

We hope you're as excited as we are about the events ahead. Each one has been designed to strengthen our community and create meaningful connections. Mark your calendars, invite your neighbors, and let's make these events a resounding success! Thank you for being a valued part of our civic association.

Together, we can achieve incredible things.

Warm Regards

The Gardens News Team



Mark your Calendar! Meeting Dates



- June 18
- No meetings July & August
- September 18
- October 16
- November 20
- December 18

Executive Board

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1st ViP- Nicholas Sarandis
2nd VP Joseph Dubon
Treasurer Bruce Wimbiscus
Recording Secretary Susan
Petrosillo
Corr. Secretary Margaret Eaton
PR Officer Subhan Choudhury
Board Member Frank Guarasci

Board Member Phil Heckler

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