



NORGATE NEWS

AN IRREGULAR PUBLICATION OF THE
NORGATE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

LATE SPRING 2024

A Report to Norgate Neighbors from President Connie Bruno, and the NCA Executive Board

It seems as though yesterday we were wearing winter coats and are now beginning to flirt with summer-like weather. The community is looking lovely with the lush grass and flowers in bloom. The corner of Highmeadow Lane and Norgate, adorned with patriotic flags placed by Eric Breitweiser, stands as a heartfelt tribute to our fallen heroes.

In this issue of the Norgate News we report on the NCA executive board’s plans for the coming months as well as on past activities and items of interest.

Annual Meeting to be held on Wednesday, June 26th — Save the Date! The annual meeting of the Norgate Civic Association will be held for the first time in many years in our own neighborhood at 7:00 P.M. at the west end of Normandy Lane (we’ll use the second-floor conference room in the Manhasset Public Library in the event of rain). Be sure to come out to discuss the community with your neighbors, share concerns and successes, make plans for the future, and enjoy some refreshments and the chance to chat after the business part of the meeting. *We expect a good turnout. Bring a folding chair along with you so you’ll have a place to sit!*

Slate of Officers and Block Captains for 2024-2025 — The executive board proposes the following slate of officers and block captains for the coming NCA year. Nominations will be received and a vote will be held at the annual meeting:



President	Connie Bruno
Vice-President	Divya Verma
Secretary	
Treasurer	James Pelzer
Block Captains	
Dennis Street/Memorial Place	Sam Choong
Highmeadow Road/Robin Road	Erin Wiegand
Norgate Road	Jon Leipsic
Normandy Lane	Christa Felice



Treasurer's Report — The Executive Board has traditionally planned to maintain a minimum bank balance of \$5,000 to cover unforeseen contingencies. Funds in excess of that sum are usually committed to neighborhood events, beautification projects, and maintenance. Repairs to the Norgate columns are expected to exceed \$3,500. The present balance in the NCA account at Apple Bank is \$7,883.54, which is insufficient to pay the anticipated costs of the column repairs and refurbishment and other expenses, while maintaining the planned balance.

Many thanks to the following households that have already paid dues for the 2023-2024 NCA fiscal year: Norgate Road numbers 25, 28, 44, 56, & 59; Highmeadow Road numbers 7, 15, 16, 19, 22, 28, 35 & 39; Robin Road numbers 14 & 19; Normandy Lane numbers 16, 21, 35, 42 & 49; and Dennis Street numbers 16, 54, 66, & 91.

If your household has not yet taken the opportunity to contribute for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, a check in the sum of \$100 payable to the Norgate Civic Association and sent to NCA Treasurer Jim Pelzer at 91 Dennis Street, would be gratefully received.



Light the Night — We planned an outdoor evening event before Christmas to celebrate the season in which lighted luminaries would illuminate our streets and give residents an opportunity to meet and enjoy some refreshments and holiday music. Unfortunately, Mother Nature did not cooperate with our plans for “Light the Night.” Rain marred the original date and the event was rescheduled several times—but our rain dates had rain! We still have the kits and will schedule the event for early December 2024.

Community Clean-Up — Originally planned for Earth Day, April 20th, rain forced a cancellation until the following Saturday during the spring school recess. As a result, we had a limited number of volunteers. However, those who came out worked hard and fast, with the assistance and supervision of Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Jen DeSena and her dog Sandy, and our youngest volunteers, Luke and Cameron. Many bags of leaves and refuse were removed from either side of Norgate Road between Northern Boulevard and Highmeadow Road.



Secondary School Baseball Field Renovations — Over the winter, the high school field west of Norgate homes on Highmeadow Road and Normandy Lane became the site of a construction project in which heavy equipment regraded the field, and installed a drainage system, a new backstop, and other improvements. The site underwent a significant transformation, resulting in a beautiful new astroturf baseball field. During the renovation, there was collaboration between the Norgate Civic Association, Superintendent Dr. Gaurav Passi, Assistant



Superintendent Dr. Sam Gergis, and representatives from the construction management company, Landtek. The team considered our concerns, particularly regarding noise levels and vibrations from the construction, and communicated with us throughout the process. Based on our request, a brand-new fence was added to the project, benefiting several Norgate homes that border the field. We were given a special thanks for “putting up with the construction” during the ribbon-cutting ceremony. The understanding and cooperation from the schools was very gratifying. If you haven’t seen the field, we encourage you to take a walk to see the remarkable improvements made for the benefit of our students and community.

Construction at 1285 Northern Boulevard — The construction of the new BMW showroom is well underway. The old Sunset Chapels building has been demolished, many trees on the site have been removed, older and larger trees were saved at our request, much of the property has been regraded, and the footings and walls of the foundation for the building have been poured. During planning for the project, it was discovered that one of the lots that form the site was served by an additional waterline, which has been repurposed to supply irrigation to plantings on its west side and along Norgate Road. This is wonderful news, as the plantings can be installed earlier than had been anticipated due to this source of water. A design for the plantings along Norgate Road has not as yet been finalized. The property owner expects construction to be completed in the spring of 2025.



Ice Cream Social — Our Association hosted this event again on June 9th from 2-3 P.M. at the end of Normandy Lane. Mel’s Ice Cream truck provided soft-serve and ice pops to about 40 residents—kids and adults—who came out to enjoy an afternoon filled with tasty ice cream and to socialize with neighbors.



Norgate Columns — The two brick columns that mark the entrance to Norgate at Northern Boulevard, and the smaller column at the corner of Norgate Road and Dennis Street, urgently need repair and refurbishment. More than 80 years of summer heat and winter cold have cracked the bricks and their many coats of paint are chipped and peeling, leaving the columns looking shabby and dilapidated. They were last painted in 2019 and do not reflect well on our community. We plan to either repair and repaint the columns or entirely replace the brickwork as soon as work along the western edge of the BMW property is complete and new plantings are installed along the eastern side of Norgate Road.





Manhasset Al Fresco — This year Manhasset Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its 4th annual summer nights out on the town featuring outdoor dining, shopping, and live entertainment on Plandome Road. The dates for South Plandome Road are Sunday, June 23rd and Saturday, August 10th. North Plandome Road events will be held on Sunday, July 28th,

and Sunday, September 15th. If there are any “Swifties” in the house, you won’t want to miss the “Totally Taylor” concert at 3:30 p.m. on June 23rd at the Mary Jane Davies Green. Please visit the Chamber website at <https://www.manhassetchamber.com/swiftieviptickets> for information on VIP access tickets.

In past years, road closings for Al Fresco events on the South Plandome Road have resulted in the diversion of a cavalcade of traffic into Norgate’s dead-end streets where they make U-turns searching for a way out. We have discussed this problem with Councilman David Adhami and officials of the Chamber of Commerce who have promised to work with the police to prevent a recurrence.

Block Party Planning Committee Needs Volunteers — We are looking to host a community block party with food and music on September 14th with a rain date of Sept. 21st. Volunteers are needed to join the planning committee. Please email norgatecivicassociation@gmail.com or call Connie Bruno at 516-551-9845, if you are interested.

Plandome Road Sewer Project — The Manhasset Chamber of Commerce and the Council of Greater Manhasset Civic Associations have been working for years on this project to bring sewer access to 86 commercial properties along Plandome Road and to town hall and its annex, a wastewater treatment infrastructure that can support a vibrant financially successful downtown main street. The driving factors behind this project were the impact cesspools are having on nitrogen levels and bacteria in Manhasset Bay, the high costs to Plandome Road businesses of cesspool pumping and maintenance, and the potential for economic growth and tax revenue derived from filling vacant storefronts with businesses that would otherwise have difficulty in cesspool areas. It will not provide service to surrounding residential streets.

A \$5 million grant was secured from New York State for the project and over the fall and winter the sewer line was installed along Plandome Road from the north end of the commercial district southward to Northern Boulevard where it connects with a sewer of the Great Neck Water Pollution Control District. The new line along Plandome Road is a low-pressure system that has a smaller pipe, and because it is pumped, installation just below the frost line, about 5 feet deep, was possible. The next phase of the project involves local businesses individually connecting their locations to the Plandome Road line and then closing and filling their now-unused cesspools. This work should be happening in the near future. Since sidewalks may be torn up in the process of connecting individual locations, discussions are underway for repairing the entire length of our sidewalks. We will keep you informed of any local developments.