

Incorporated Village of Lloyd Harbor Suffolk County, New York



VILLAGE OFFICES
32 MIDDLE HOLLOW ROAD
HUNTINGTON, NEW YORK 11743

(631) 549-8893
Fax (631) 549-8879

Leland M. Hairr
Mayor

Eileen B. Schulz
Clerk-Treasurer

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

We mourn the passing of our Mayor, Lee Hairr, and write to advise you that the Village government will continue to operate as it has for a number of months during Lee's illness with the sitting Board of Trustees (Bill Burdo, Leland Deane, Steve Herling, Hilary Rolih, and Matt Strunk) and Deputy Mayor, Jean Thatcher, presiding.

A special election for the position of Mayor for a term of one year, the remainder of Mayor Hairr's term, will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2014.

Deputy Mayor Jean Thatcher gave a memorial in honor of Lee at his service (see attached), and we wanted to share it with the residents.

We extend our deepest condolences and sympathies to Lee's wife, Cheryl, and his family. He will be greatly missed by all of us.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REMEMBERING LEE HAIRR

by Jean Thatcher

Lee and I were colleagues for 15 years. I served as his Deputy Mayor during his entire tenure as Mayor of Lloyd Harbor. When you work with someone as closely as we did, when you campaign together, face all sorts difficult situations, when you launch significant and far-reaching initiatives such as the overhaul of the Village zoning code, which took 2 years, and the perfection of the Federal grant for the paving of West Neck Road, which took 7 years, you get to know your colleague really well.

Here's what I learned about Lee: He was dedicated - persistent - determined - enormously ethical - unfailingly courteous - extremely kind. He would refer to the most appalling situations as "challenges." He was the best kind of colleague - smart, responsible, reflective, always pulling more than his weight. I loved working with him...He always laughed at my humor, and signed on enthusiastically to my best ideas. How could you not love a guy like that??!?!?!

I saw Lee for the last time on the Monday before he left us. Chief Flynn and I went to visit, to perk him up, to keep him in the loop as to the agenda for the meeting that night. We brought him some reading material, a Mounds bar, and several lottery tickets.

Lee looked at the lottery tickets and laughed, "This is great", he said, "but I've never done one of these, never won anything. Would you handle this for me?" Chief Flynn and I scratched off the numbers on the cards, and it crossed my mind that, of course, Lee felt no need for the luck of a lottery. When you have the love of family, the deep affection of friends, and admiration of colleagues and community, you're lucky enough...and Lee so completely understood this..

In the elegant and erudite book, "**Things That Matter**", the prodigious intellect Charles Krauthammer writes that politics, when malign, has the capacity to make all around it wither. Get it right, however, and Krauthammer asserts that politics, "When benign, allows all around to flourish." By that standard Lee got his politics - and his life - exactly right. Lee was such an excellent leader, a solid presence, and a touchstone for all of us who are dedicated to, and willing to do the work required to support the volunteer government of our Village. We miss him every day.