

# LAWRENCE VILLAGE BRIEFS

## Police and Fire Report

A report on police activity in Lawrence for July and August was given by Sgt. Burke of the Fourth Precinct. Seven arrests were made, a total of 193 summonses for moving or parking violations were given, and there were 31 accident and 21 "aided" calls (folks who required help for falls in the house or on the street, chest and other pains, intoxication, seizures, confusion). Comment was made by the Board about the low number of parking tickets issued in August (there were only nine). Because of the high number of accidents at Central Avenue and Rockaway Turnpike, a traffic survey is being conducted in an attempt to determine the cause of and, if possible, a solution to, the dangerous situation at this intersection.

A report on the activity of the Lawrence-Cedarhurst Fire Department for the months of July and August was given by Chief Michael Sasso. During the two months, the volunteer fire department responded to 61 calls. There was only one fire with damage, and that damage amounted to \$10,000. The other calls included no damage, grass, and ambulance and rescue calls.

## Trial of Reverse 911

Part of the Village's disaster preparation has been the establishment of a reverse 911 system, whereby the Village sets in motion a series of 911 calls to warn all Villagers of an impending danger. The system was utilized to warn Lawrence residents of the approach

of Hurricane Hannah. For a first trial, the system worked remarkably well. Over 1800 calls were made within 16 minutes. Out of over 2500 numbers in the Village data bank, 2035 were successfully reached. The Village is now checking to see why it could not get through to the other numbers, i.e., was there something wrong with the numbers or something wrong with the system.

## Grant to Auxiliary Police

PFC David Speer of the Five Towns Unit of the Nassau County Auxiliary Police presented the Unit's request to the Village for an increase in funding. The increase was requested due to a dramatic increase in personnel. Shortly, there will be 11 Officers in the Five Towns Unit, the current roster plus two additional officers completing the required 50 hours of training. In addition, there are 15 individuals now undergoing background checks, the first step in becoming an Auxiliary Police officer.

The Auxiliary Police depend on funding from the various villages they serve in order to provide these services. Nassau County does not provide any cash, although it does provide cars. The Town of Hempstead donates \$1000. There is no federal funding, but hopefully a grant from the State will provide for more efficient radios. In addition, each individual officer is responsible for paying for their own uniforms, an outlay of \$1,400 apiece.

The Village of Lawrence increased their donation from \$1,500 to \$2,000.