

Mayor's Report for July 14 2020

The Village 4th of July celebration went off well and safely. Although the cancellation of the fireworks muted the fun, the Village still had its traditional bonfires and mother nature gave us a lovely day to enjoy the beach. I would like to thank the residents for following the bonfire guidelines and keeping things safe. Additionally, I would like to thank Officer in Charge Ray Mahdesian and the Asharoken PD for another great job on another very busy day. Let's hope that next year we will be able to once again celebrate the independence of our nation with fireworks.

The Village is soliciting bids to repair two groins in the beach lot area that have exposed metal. The Village had previously repaired several dangerous old groins in this area as well as few around 138 Asharoken Avenue. I would like to thank resident Martin Richter for bringing this situation to the attention of the Village and Deputy Mayor Pam Pierce who is leading the effort to get the proposals and repair done.

The Village finally received the application for the DASNY grant to repair the eroded dune in the beach lot area. Once the Village receives the final executed disbursement agreement it will begin the dune rehabilitation.

National Grid has installed a new fence at the Sound View boat ramp to mitigate trespassing near the nature preserve. I would like to thank Joe Warren, manager of the NG power plant, and Dom Spada, head of Huntington Maritime Services, for working with Asharoken to come up with a solution to this long-time ongoing problem.

Last month, the Village of Northport cleaned out Asharoken's catch basins. This is another example of shared services which help both Villages financially. Northport also helped the Village with the sign at the end of Ocean Avenue announcing the cancellation of the fireworks and reminder that there is no parking in the Village. Big thanks to Roland Buzzard and the Northport Highway Department.

Unfortunately, the Asharoken holiday party, scheduled for early November, has been cancelled due to the COVID pandemic. Carole Casamassima, who has run the party for the last 10 years, assured me that a date has been reserved for 2021 and that next year's event will be the best one yet. Once again Carole will be ably assisted next year by Jean Bondawandt. Big thanks to Carole and Jean for all they have done to run this event, bringing residents together for a wonderful evening and raise money to support the fireworks.

The Village received a very generous donation of \$7500 from residents' James and Diana Reilly requesting that the money be use to assist the police. As it turns out, Asharoken needs to replace its defibrillators and the cost of this upgrade should be covered by the donation. Thank you so much for your generosity it is very much appreciated.

A quick update on the Village Plover/Osprey nesting season and other wildlife; the plovers had a good year and had five chicks. The last count of the Osprey revealed a minimum of eight chicks. The Osprey chicks should start flying soon. Thanks to Dee Lento, Judy Ross and Katie Burke for finding a large number of Ring Necked Pheasants on Bevin road. Recently we heard of a possible sighting of a coyote in the Village. Numerous foxes have also been seen as well.