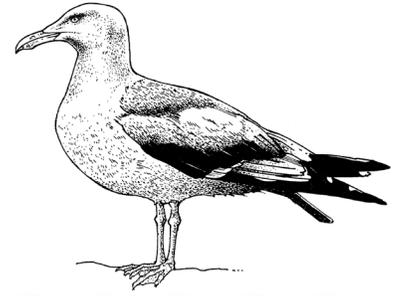


ASHAROKEN NEWS



MAYOR'S LETTER

Dear Neighbors;

I am pleased to announce that the Village and the Asharoken PBA have signed an historic 5-year police contract effective June 1, 2012. Our present full-time and part-time officers will receive pay increases of 2%, 2.5%, 2.5%, 3% and 3% for the 5 years of the contract. Full-time officers will have their duty chart reduced to 240 days and part-timers will be eligible for bereavement leave. In return, the Village received a pay freeze for new full-time officers for the term of the contract and an eighth step was added to the years needed to reach top pay. New full-time officers will contribute 15% of their health care cost and will have to work a minimum number of tours to be eligible for full night differential pay.

This contract achieves the Village's goal of long-term cost containment for police salary expenses and should allow the Village to have its police department for many years to come. We owe thanks to Deputy Mayor Pam Pierce who worked very hard compiling comparisons from other police departments and who was a strong advocate for the Village's position during negotiations. Trustee/Police Commissioner Mel Ettinger provided excellent advice during the negotiations and was instrumental in helping tie up all the loose ends. Finally, the PBA negotiating team led by Officer Jeff Josephson deserves thanks. Although we did not always agree, our discussions were respectful, informative and open.

Since the last newsletter, 5000 CYDs of sand have been placed in the beach lot area to repair the dune washed out by Hurricane Sandy. This project was fully funded by the Federal Highway Administration. Subsequently, 55,000 sprigs of beach grass were planted on the dune to help stabilize the sand. The FHWA funded 80% of the planting. Thanks go out to Deputy Mayor Pierce, Conservation Chair Marty Cohen, and Building Inspector Doug Adil for all they did on this



Signing the Police Contract: Officers Brian O'Connor & Jeff Josephson, Mayor Greg Letica. Photographer, Laura Burke

Please turn to inserted center section for Village Hall plans and explanation by John Ross.

OUR DUNES

By Village Conservation Chair, Marty Cohen

This article is being written as a landscaping crew completes the planting of 55,000 sprigs of beach grass on the reconstructed dunes along Asharoken Avenue across from the beach lots. The sprigs, just harvested from a nursery in Michigan, are brown now, but should green up with April rains and (hopefully) milder temperatures. Beach grass serves to enhance the dunes by trapping blowing sand and its roots stabilize the dunes by reducing erosion due to wave action during storms.

Healthy dunes, covered with beach grass, are critical to protecting the Asharoken Avenue roadway, so

Please turn to Page Two.

Please turn to Page Three.

MAYOR'S LETTER *continued* .

project. The fence bordering the nature preserve was repaired at no cost to our village by our neighbors at National Grid. The Village met with National Grid to start preliminary planning on the mandated 45,000 CYD sand replenishment commencing this fall. The feasibility study, needed for the full scale beach restoration, will commence as soon as the Army Corps receives funding. This is expected in late May or June.

In other news, FEMA informed the village that our submission of costs for Sandy, in the amount of \$103,074.63, has been approved. As of April 19th, Asharoken has received a reimbursement of \$77,305.98. The Village may also receive additional money from New York State.

Progress is being made on Village Hall. John Ross, who has worked tirelessly to design the building, has a very informative article in the newsletter about the structure. Trustee Laura Burke and I met with a bond counsel to discuss various funding options and FEMA came to inspect the old building to determine if Asharoken is eligible for money to rebuild the structure. Finally, thanks to those of you who have so generously donated to the building fund.

It is great to see the days getting longer, warmer, and filled with the sounds of birds. This is a harbinger of great days to come when we spend time outdoors in our yards, gardens and on the beach. I hope everyone has a great spring and enjoys watching Asharoken come back to life after a long winter.

VISIT ASHAROKEN.COM

It's the place to go to keep tabs on what's happening around Asharoken and its environs. Check out the Bulletin Board to express your opinion, swap or sell items to your neighbors, or share advice. In emergencies, it's where you'll find up-to-the-minute information. Thanks to Eric Maffei and Steve Trombetti for all their hard work.

CHECK OUT ROOF AND GUTTERS

By Doug Adil, R.A.

Building Superintendent & Flood Plain Manager



One of the most important parts of seasonal home maintenance is checking the condition of your roof and gutters. Your Asharoken roof may have taken quite a beating this year. You may have already noticed missing shingles, worn out flashings around chimneys, or sagging gutter sections.

Needless to say, your roof may need a little more TLC than usual. Investing in a professional roofing inspection may very well be the smartest thing you can do now to protect your home from further damage. A professional roofing contractor is likely to uncover hidden problems that an untrained eye could easily miss.

Spring Roofing Inspection - What To Expect

The roofing inspection will consist of a comprehensive interior and exterior evaluation of the roof's structure. The inspection will focus on the condition of the roof surface, exposed flashing, gutters, and chimney construction.

Interior Exam: Your contractor will examine the ceilings, walls, and attic for any signs of wind, water, or hail damage.

Exterior Roof Exam: From examining the siding and eaves, checking for external water stains and indications of dry rot to a thorough check of your roofing surface as well as the state of flashings, vents, and chimneys, your roofing inspector will check it all, including missing shingles, broken shakes or tiles, cracked flashings, damaged chimney bricks, open seams, or wear from extreme sun-exposure.

Gutter Exam: Your inspector will look for improper installation, debris buildup, warped metal, sagging, cracks, and any other potential damage caused by ice and snow build-up over the winter.

Remember, if not addressed, the small roofing problems you may have now can quickly turn into significant damage in just a few weeks of typical spring rain, hail, and wind storms.



Asharoken seals in March by Ian Jablonski

OUR DUNES *continued* .

the Village is encouraging all residents to keep off them as much as possible. Remember, the worst thing you can do is to tramp across the dune. Not only will this destroy the beach grass, but a depression will be produced which will become a weak point in a storm, allowing water to wash over Asharoken Avenue.

Beach lot owners, who obviously must cross the dunes to reach the beach, have received a letter from the Village in which they are encouraged to cooperatively build stairs to minimize the number of structures on the dune. The recommended stair design is available at Village Hall and two completed sets can already be seen on the dune. Many thanks to the beach lot owners who built these stairs for their cooperation.

Additional plantings by beach lot owners for dune stabilization have also been encouraged. Some appropriate species are Montauk Daisy (*Nipponanthemum nipponicum*), Beach Pea (*Lathyrus japonicus*), Seaside Goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*), Beach Plum (*Prunus maritima*), Beach Heather, (*Hudsonia tomentosa*) and Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*).

With the start of spring, many residents are evaluating the damage done to the trees on their property by Hurricane Sandy and other winter storms. If you decide that removal of a tree or trees is necessary, please be sure to consult the Village tree ordinance (also available at Village Hall) to determine whether a permit might be required. A determination by the Conservation Board is needed before deciduous trees greater than 45 inches in diameter and evergreens greater than 24 inches can be cut down.

BIRDING

By Greg Letica

Bird and Wildlife Report



By now there is no doubt that spring is here and a couple of seasonal changes are underway. Our group of seals has probably already left for the summer. In their place, a colony of Bank Swallows will come back to Asharoken to spend the summer with us and raise their young. The Bank Swallows, small brown and white birds, nest in holes that they dig into the bluffs on Eaton's Neck. It is an amazing sight to see them emerge from their burrows early in the morning. They swarm



in a disorganized flock in front of the bluff for a few minutes and then disperse to go hunting for insects. Because Bank Swallows need sandy bluffs to nest in, Asharoken is one of their few local habitats.

The magazine, *Audubon*, had an issue devoted to the question of why birds matter. According to one article, the more bird friendly your area is, the more valuable your house will be. Texas Tech scientists found that property hosting at least two less-than-common species, which are often attracted to vegetation of different heights, could be worth \$32,000 more than other lots. Biodiversity matters. Check out *Audubon*, March-April, 2013, page 20. Also in the issue was an article that recounted the rescue of an injured Gannet found on a causeway. It was eerily similar to the story of the rescue of our injured Gannet found on the Duck Island causeway last winter.

Next month is the best time of year to see migrating birds in the village. The unusual winter weather we've had may result in the arrival of some surprising new species. For example, a Louisiana Waterthrush, species #169 for Asharoken, was found on April 25th.





POLICE REPORT By Ray Mahdesian, Officer-in-Charge

IT'S NOT JUST THE BIG ONES

In addition to regular police duties, Asharoken police officers are ever-mindful that they have a special responsibility to take action to ensure the safety of the residents of the Village, as well as of those who live nearby or travel through the Village, when weather conditions threaten the Village.

It is not just large storms that pose a problem. For example, on April 12, a strong easterly wind sent water crashing over the sea-wall in the Bevin Road area at the time of high tide. The police department was alert to this possibility before it happened and followed the usual protocol.



The first order of business is to notify the Mayor and the Police Commissioner as to conditions, and to bring in sufficient personnel to handle the situation. Mayor Greg Letica and Police Commissioner Mel Ettinger immediately responded. When the water comes over the roadway, it is necessary to provide a police car north of the breach area to handle calls for service in the Village portion of the Neck and to alert southbound traffic of any road closure. It is vital to have a police car stationed on the south side of the wash-over to control traffic as well. There also needs to be a police car available to respond to requests for police help in the rest of the Village. In addition to this, the police desk has to be staffed to coordinate communications and to field the numerous phone calls that are made to the department, so that our dispatcher in Northport is not overwhelmed.

There is also considerable interaction with other entities at these times.

The S.C.P.D. is requested to provide what help they can with traffic. Northport Police Department is also notified of conditions. The Huntington Town Highway Department is notified that equipment may be needed to clear the roadway after the flood. The Eaton's Neck and Northport Fire Departments are alerted to possible response impediments. The school district's transportation department is immediately notified. The U.S.C.G. is notified that their services may be required. Yet regardless of all the precautions taken, something unusual always seems to occur.

This was the case on April 12. At the height of the incident, with all precautions and plans in place, a car ran off the roadway into a flooded area of Duck Island Harbor, trapping the two



occupants. The police now needed assistance from Northport Fire Department, and they responded with sufficient equipment to remove a man and a woman from their flooded car. A tow truck was then summoned to pull the car out of the marsh.

Soon thereafter, we re-opened the road after the water receded and the town's highway department promptly cleared the debris. The school district was notified that buses could roll again, and the extra officers who were summoned to duty went home. The phones stopped ringing. It was business as usual again.

The Police Department looks forward to the day when the number of weather-related road closures is reduced. Village officials are working with others to ultimately restore the beach toward that end, and that will certainly make the residents happy as well. Until then, your Police Department stands ready for any eventuality.



VILLAGE HALL

By: **John W. Ross**, Chairman

VILLAGE HALL RESTORATION / DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

At this time the Village Hall Restoration / Development Committee is pleased to show village residents the proposed plans of the new Village Hall. Along with positive feedback and support from many residents of the village, I feel that all the people involved have collectively come up with a design solution that will be attractive, practical and best serve our community, now and in the future. However, there have been some concerns and suggestions which I will try to address.

After exploring the possibility of elevating and repairing the existing Village Hall, we were advised by independent contractors and F.E.M.A. that this course of action would be questionable both financially and structurally. The construction of the original building is not conducive to being elevated and all new work would have to comply with current Zoning, DEC and Health Department regulations as well as the American Disabilities Act and N.Y. State Building and Energy Conservation Codes for municipal buildings. Most everyone has realized that this course of action would not best serve the Village.

After reviewing the feasibility of modular construction, the committee realized that the cost of construction would be much more than initially anticipated. More importantly, we would not have on-site control or the flexibility of design and construction that may be needed to meet the individual and specific requirements of this project.

It was also suggested that we repair the existing structure and build a new smaller building, thereby housing the Police and Village Clerk Departments separately. We believe that the restoration, construction, operating and maintenance costs on two buildings make this an impractical solution. By incorporating all the spaces under one roof, their common walls reduce construction cost, operating and maintenance expenses to say nothing of facilitating Village business.

After many modifications and revisions, the first floor of the design occupies 2781 sq. ft. of heated area. This area accommodates our Village Meeting Hall, Village Clerk, Village Police Dept. and Village Officials that will all share areas of the main floor. There are also three half - baths and one bath with a shower for the Police (adhering to the requirements and recommendations of the ADA and N.Y.S. Building Code for Municipal Buildings). The second floor attic space contains the mechanical room, stored files (presently held off-site), and future storage and/or expansion area.

The DEC has reviewed our application and are hopefully in the final stages of inspecting the property. Once we receive approval from the D.E.C., we will make a formal application to the Suffolk County Board of Health.



FRONT ELEVATION

First Floor Total Area : 2936 sq.ft.
 First Floor Heated Area : 2781 sq.ft.

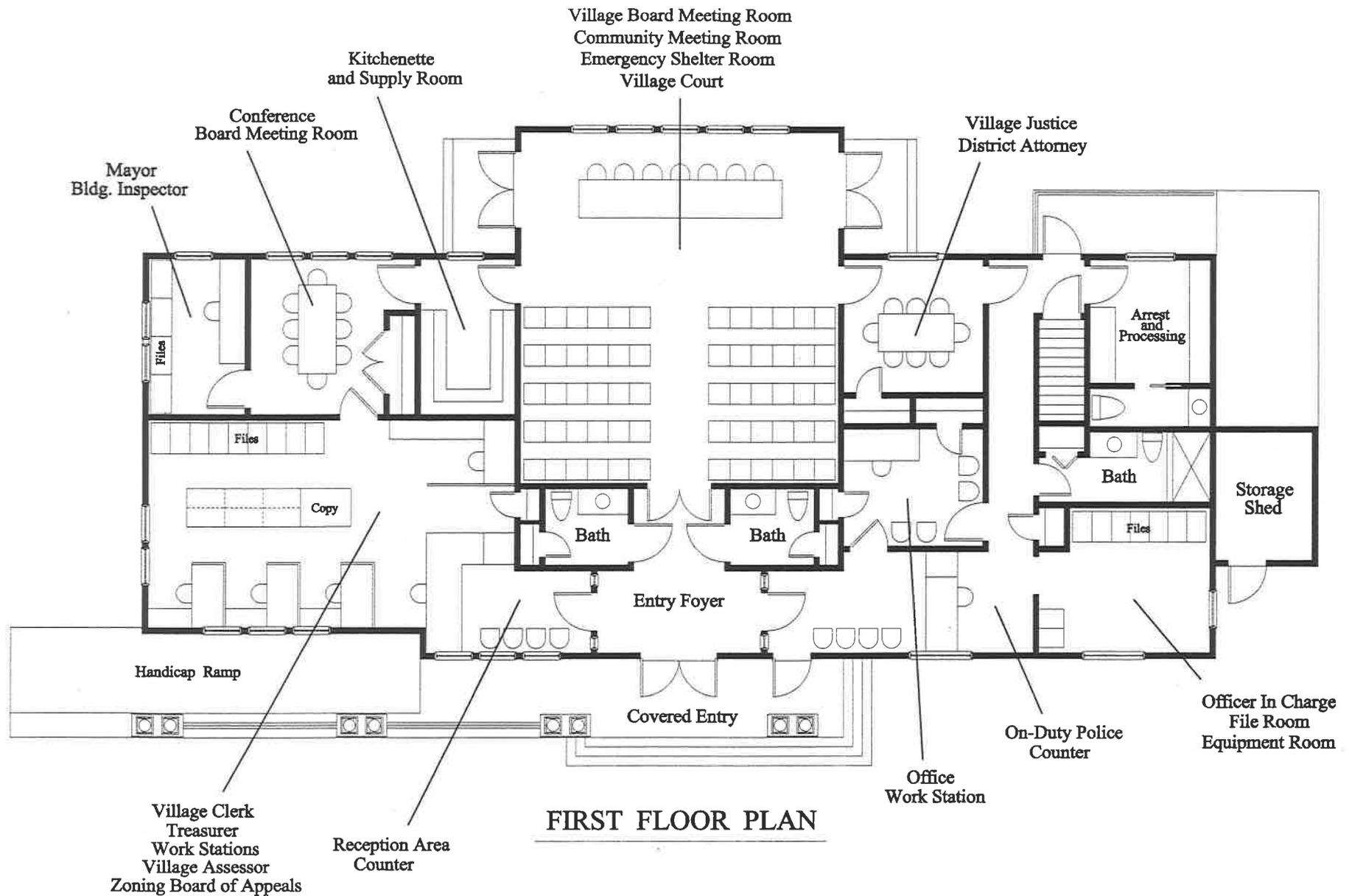
Asharoken Village Hall

JOHN WALLACE ROSS A.I.B.D.

TRADITIONAL HOME

◆ DESIGN ◆

BOX 465 NORTHPORT, NEW YORK 11768 631-757-5505 FAX. 631-757-9120

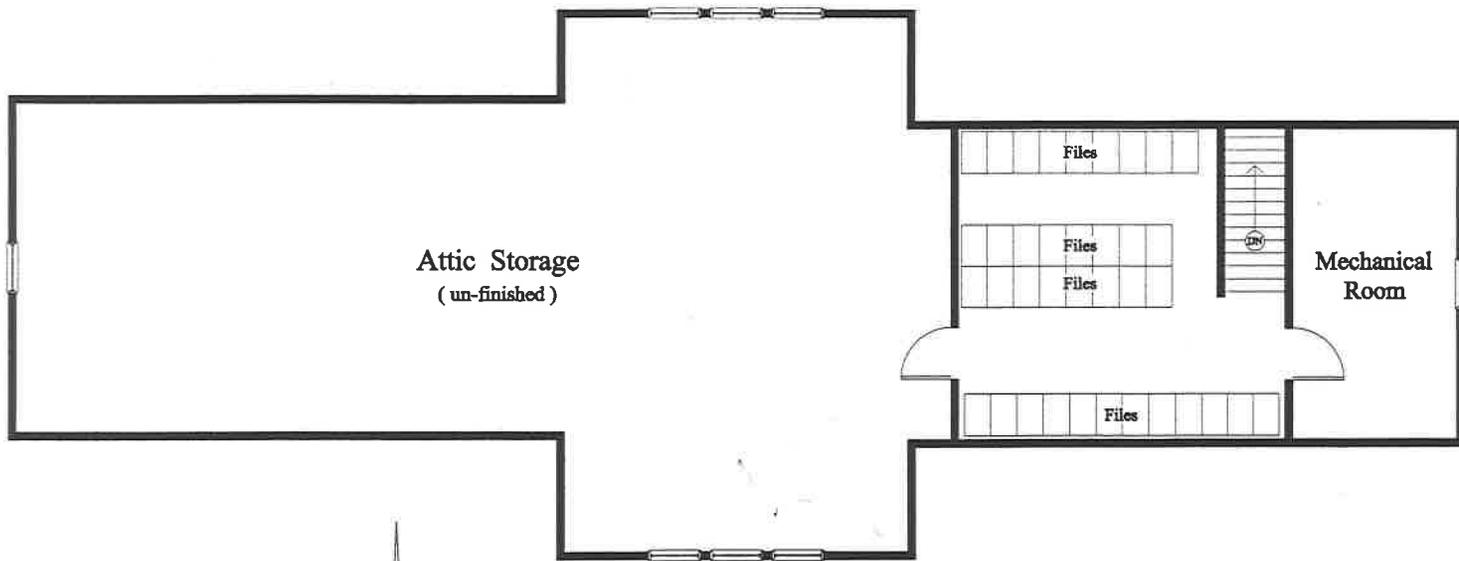


FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Asharoken Village Hall

JOHN WALLACE ROSS A.I.B.D.
TRADITIONAL HOME
◆ DESIGN ◆

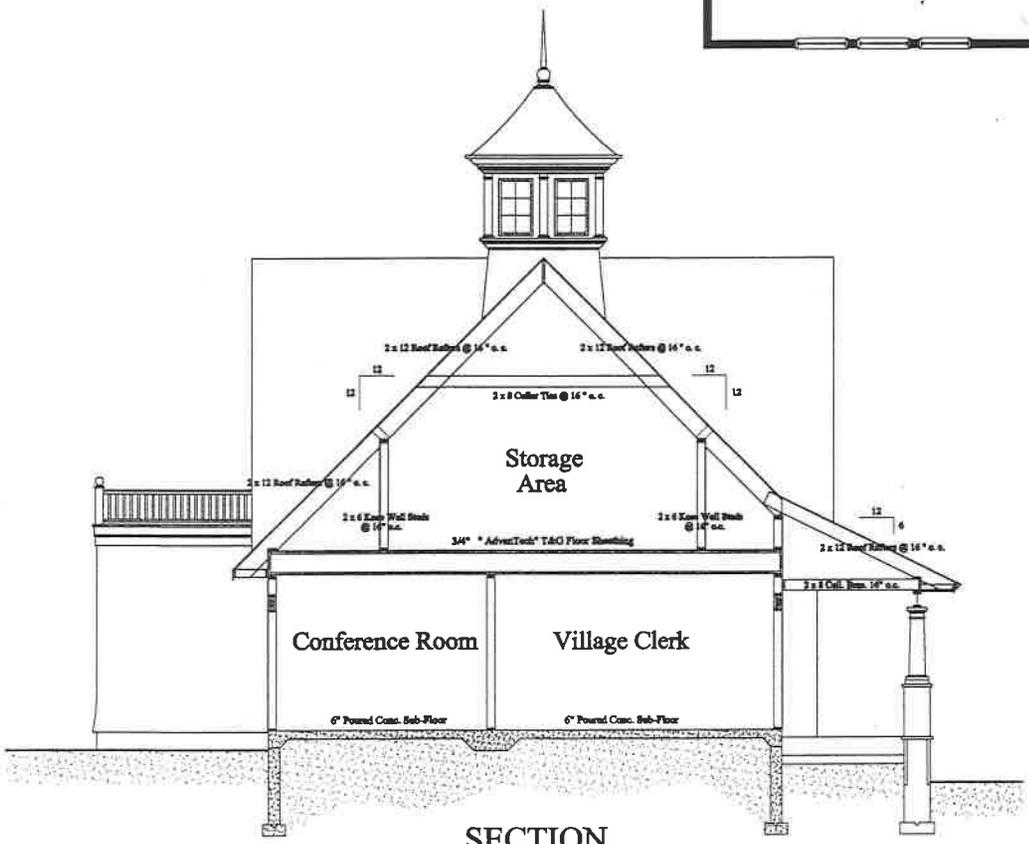
BOX 465 NORTHPORT, NEW YORK 11768 631-757-5505 FAX: 631-757-9120



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

Asharoken Village Hall

First Floor Total Area :	2936 sq.ft.
First Floor Heated Area :	2781 sq.ft.
Second Floor Mechanical Room	174 sq.ft.
Second Floor File Room	304 sq.ft.
Attic Storage and Possible Future Expansion (un-finished)	1276 sq.ft.



SECTION

Asharoken Village Hall

JOHN WALLACE ROSS A.I.B.D.
TRADITIONAL HOME
 ♦ DESIGN ♦
 BOX 465 NORTHPORT, NEW YORK 11768 631-757-5505 FAX. 631-757-9120

UPDATE ON VILLAGE HALL FUND RAISING

The initial fund-raising effort began back in 2006. At that time, many residents came forward and were very generous in their donations. Then, for five years, the Village experienced a bit of a setback with the progress of the Village Hall project. Now, because of the damage inflicted by Hurricane Sandy, it is more important than ever to give all the residents a permanent Village Hall, which will provide a community room for special events and, most importantly, an emergency shelter facility that will provide a safe haven for members of the community.

As of the end of March, the Village received 164 private donations totaling \$281,686.84 plus interest. The Village has assigned Village funds in the amount of \$183,571.00. Combining both private and village funds, we have a total start-up balance of \$465,257.84 earmarked for the Village Hall. In addition FEMA is currently working on our project worksheet to determine what monies will be allocated to the damages of the existing Village Hall incurred by Hurricane Sandy. Once these funds are determined, 75% will be allowed through FEMA to be used towards an "Alternative Project".

By Nancy Rittenhouse

THE WAY IT WAS

By Asharoken Village Historian Ed Carr

Spring is a time for new beginnings. For Asharoken, this will come soon in the form of a new Village Hall. So I thought it would be a fitting tribute to tell the story of the old structure that has served the community for well over 75 years.

The history of the structure actually begins before the Village was incorporated in 1925, and in another location. The year was 1921, and the "hamlet" of "Asharoken Beach" was concerned that the Huntington Town Police were unable to control trespassing and thievery. So the civic association raised money to hire a security officer, and to build a small wooden "booth." The officer was Rudolph Arndt, and the booth was

erected on a sharp turn in the road in front of what is today #118 Asharoken Avenue.

In 1925, residents of the hamlet joined with the DeLamater heirs of Eaton's Neck to form the Village of Asharoken, and Rudolph Arndt's status was changed from security officer to a full-fledged policeman.

In 1937, the Village purchased land at the entrance to the Village, and the following year the old wooden booth was moved to this site. In 1939, a bay window consisting of 3 windows was added to the front of the booth, along with a meeting room with fireplace, and two car garage. These original 3 windows still exist today, as does the fireplace and some of the paneling from the meeting room.

In 1983, the garage closest to the meeting room was converted into an office for the Village Clerk. And in 1992, a new meeting room was added to the back of the structure, and the Clerk's Office expanded into the second garage.

The Village is fortunate to have a resident designer, John Ross, whose many designs capture historical elements that will lend character to the new structure. That is one thing that the original village hall had... a sense of uniqueness for a unique community.

The original meeting room had a vaulted ceiling of pine paneling, a chimney made from old used brick, and true divided light windows. The old pine floor developed charming marks and imprints like the patina on copper from years of wear after countless Board meetings, court proceedings, and inaugurations. The casement and crown moldings created a cozy space. All of this served the Village well from 1939 to 1992.

The expansion in 1992 enlarged the space, but destroyed much of the interior charm with sheet-rocked walls, narrow trim work, windows lacking divided light sashes, and common oak flooring devoid of any character. When the wrecking ball comes, the only items worth salvaging are the front windows, whatever paneling remains hidden in the vaulted ceiling of the old meeting room now covered in sheetrock, and old bricks from the chimney.

Whether any of these pieces can be carefully removed and incorporated into the new village hall is not known. If so, it would be a nice historical touch. The same paneling that faced Mayor Walter Young or Sydney Bevin could face future Mayors and Boards, or glass windows that Rudy Arndt once looked out from 75 years ago can offer the same views to citizens coming into a vestibule. Salvaging some elements can ensure that there is a legacy connecting the past to the future, as some of the old structures live on.

VILLAGE NOTICES

Asharoken Property Tax Bills

Asharoken property tax bills are mailed out once a year. The tax bills will be sent out by May 15th and are due July 1st without penalty.

E-Mail Addresses

To date the Village has a "Village Resident" contact list that includes 158 residents. We would like to expand and be able to contact everyone via e-mail. If you are interested in adding your e-mail to our list, please e-mail Rittenhousevc@gmail.com. Your e-mails will only be used for Village-related business, announcements, road closures, etc.

Village Elections

The Village of Asharoken Election Day will be held on June 18th, 2013. This year due to the damages to the Village Hall, the Village Election will be held at the Eaton's Neck Fire Department located at 55 Eaton's Neck Road. Voting hours are from 12 noon to 9:00pm.

Are you registered to Vote?

The last day to register with Suffolk County Board of Elections to be eligible to vote in the Village election will be Friday, June 7, 2013. Your registration form must be received by the Board of Elections on this day.

To vote, an individual must be:

A citizen of the United States

At least 18 years of age on Election Day

A resident of Asharoken Village

Absentee Applications

All Absentee applications must be received by June 11th if the ballot is mailed to you.

All Absentee applications must be received by June 17th if the ballot is picked up at village hall.

For information regarding voter registration please contact the Suffolk County Board of Elections at 631-852-4500.

FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING

ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS:

May 7, 2013; June 4, 2013

Trustees Special Meeting: June 25, 2013

THANKS FOR THE TIDE TABLE

Thanks are due to Tony Wenderoth for the tide table we received in our copy of the *Asharoken News* last month. "I missed having one and I knew everyone else in Asharoken could use one too. It pleased me to create it and even more to donate it to my fellow residents. I'm glad the Village could send it out to everyone," he explained. "It's based on the official information about tides in Huntington, which are identical to ours within a minute or two."

NOTES FROM

BIG

BLUE



By Barry Bradley

WHAT GOES WHERE

The Town of Huntington has a reciprocal agreement with the Town of Smithtown; they share landfill and incinerator services. In many cases, material can be dropped off at either the **Landfill Drop Off in Smithtown** (85 Old Northport Road, Kings Park, Tuesday—Saturday, 7:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Call 269-660 for more information.) or **Town Recycling Center in Huntington** (641 New York Avenue, Tuesday—Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 427-6377 for details).

E-Waste

Electronic waste is a global problem. In America, we dispose of 400 million units of equipment annually. Most can be recycled and re-made in plants all over the world. It is essential to remove such items from the regular trash to make recycling easier and to keep toxins such as lead, mercury, and cadmium from contaminating our environment.

E-waste includes every kind of electronic equipment: computers (including related gear and accoutrements, such as screens, keyboards, cables,

Please turn to Page Seven

WATCH OUT FOR...

Cicadas

This is the year that 17 year cicadas, called the East Coast Brood, will erupt. Having spent the last 17 years growing and feeding under the ground, nymphs will emerge when the soil temperature reaches 64° in late



May to early June. Then they will mature, mate, and disappear again for another 17 years. Experts are warning that we may be inundated this year.

The thing to remember is that these bugs, are referred to in the Bible, are not harmful to people in any way nor do they hurt mature vegetation. They can be a nuisance. No one likes stepping on squirming bugs. Their mating call, males to females, can be overwhelming if the infestation is too large. One expert compared it to a rock concert.

No Impatiens This Year

A form of downy mildew has attacked *Impatiens walleriana* all over the country. Some retailers and growers have temporarily stopped selling the plant in hopes of stopping the spread of this blight. If you do buy it, be warned. First appearing as a white downy coating on the underside of the leaves, this mold will eventually kill the plant. For those who plant these annually, it may seem hard to replace them. Some suggestions for other annuals that will grow under the same conditions are: New Guinea Impatiens, wax begonias, coleus, torenia, as well as perennials such as heuchera, which has brilliantly colored leaves as well as flowers, *Corydalis lutea*, and as always, hostas.

Horseshoe Crabs

It's the oldest "living fossil" in these parts. Every May and June, female horseshoe crabs arrive on our beaches to lay their eggs in the sand where they will be fertilized by the males. This process begins when the monthly tide is at its highest. Within 2 weeks, the eggs will hatch and are swept out into the Sound. They have already become essential food for many migrating birds.



One of the most harmless of creatures, the horseshoe crab has a high tolerance for pollutants, which has helped it to survive. Now their blood is used for FDA testing. If you see any on the beach, don't interfere. Allow them to continue to happily coexist with us.

NOTES FROM BIG BLUE *continued* .

cords, and wiring), televisions, cathode ray tubes, small electronic equipment such as VCR and DVD players, answering machines, and video game consoles. Drop those items off, free of charge, at either site.

Other Special Waste

At the Landfill Drop Off in Smithtown , you may also bring construction and demolition debris, scrap metal, appliances, yard waste excluding grass, waste oil, porcelain toilets, basins and sink fixtures. In some cases, there will be fees. Items **NOT** accepted are furniture, mattresses, box springs, tires, carpet and carpet padding, stumps weighing over 40 pounds, hypodermic needles, and hazardous materials.

Hazardous Waste

For this, you must go to Huntington. Oil-based paint cans and compact fluorescent power-saving light bulbs are two of the most common things considered hazardous waste. Rechargeable batteries must, by New York State Law, be accepted by the store that sells them, as must cell phones by the phone service providers. You may throw regular batteries and water-based (latex) paint cans when paint is dry in your normal garbage pick-up. To dry remaining paint, use cat litter or oil absorbents.



VIEW FROM THE HARBOR

By Harbormaster Joseph Affrunti

Fellow Boaters

Now that we have turned our clocks forward and the days are getting longer, I think I speak for all of us by saying the 2013 boating season is just around the corner. It's almost time to unwrap, summerize, charge those batteries (for you power boaters) and clean our boats!

Before the season starts, it's a good time to assess your vessel and make sure PFD's, fire extinguishers, flares, and all safety gear are current and in good working order. Take some time to make a check list so you can be prepared for that first warm day and be quickly ready to go! Please observe all of the navigation aids, have respect for your fellow boaters, the bay men, and most of all, law enforcement.

On behalf of the village and my Deputy Harbor Masters, Barry Bradley and Bill Raisch, have a safe season. We hope to see you on the water!

SANITATION SCHEDULE

MAY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
			NC	Pick Up		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Pick Up	Yard Waste	BCP	Pick Up		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Mother's Day	Pick Up		NC	Pick Up		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Pick Up		BCP	Pick Up		
26	27	28	29	30		
	Memorial Day Pick Up		NC	Pick Up		

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Pick Up	Yard Waste	BCP	Pick Up		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Pick Up		NC	Pick Up		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Father's Day	Pick Up		BCP	Pick Up		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	Pick Up		NC	Pick Up		

BCP--BOTTLES, CANS, PLASTIC

NC--NEWSPAPER, CARDBOARD

YW--YARD WASTE PICKUP

Village of Asharoken

1 Asharoken Avenue

Northport, New York, 11768