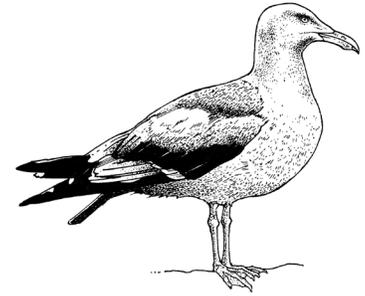


# ASHAROKEN NEWS



## VILLAGE HALL

Since July of 2006, the Village has begun working on either renovating the existing Village Hall or constructing a new one. The decision to construct a new Village Hall was made when the village received \$533,854 of funding from FEMA to construct a new building. The remaining funds to support the project have come from Asharoken resident donations and two New York State grants secured by the Village.

In early 2014, Victor Cuneo was hired to complete plans and help prepare the detailed bid package. The first bid specifications were sent out on July 7, 2014; responses were due back on July 25th and after careful review of the bids the Village Hall Committee recommended that the Board re-bid the Village Hall project because of higher than expected bid prices. On September 12th, an adjusted bid package was sent out, which included seven alternates, to give the Committee more flexibility in cost. The bids were received on October 8th and were found to be more in line with the building budget.

The Village Hall Committee carefully reviewed the lowest bidders and recommended Ravco Construction Inc. to the Board. At the November 3rd, 2014 Board Meeting, the Asharoken Trustees passed a resolution to enter into agreement with Ravco Construction Inc. for \$924,900.

It is very exciting for the Village to be able to move forward and accomplish a goal that began almost eight years ago.

**Please turn to pages eight and nine  
to see a rendering of Village Hall  
and the first floor.**



## POLICE REPORT

**By Ray Mahdesian,  
Officer-in-Charge**

### Don't Fall For It

"Grandma, I have been picked up by the police near my college with some other kids, and I can't get out without bail money. I'll explain later. Can you please wire me \$500.00?"

"Good morning, Mr....., I have great news. You have won the Publisher's Sweepstakes. The money is yours, but we need a credit card number to handle the administrative fee in order to forward you the money, and a bank account number for deposit purposes."

"Mr....., This is Mr.....from the IRS. An error of criminal proportion has been discovered in your last return, and you owe \$1200.00 immediately. To avoid prosecution and penalty action you need to take care of this now. Provide credit card information at this time to resolve the matter so that the IRS will not commence action."

Fortunately, the three Asharoken residents who recently received these actual calls reported them to the police before falling prey to telephone scams. You may be surprised to know that attempts like this to steal from you happen all the time. It is best to immediately hang-up; do not engage in any conversation whatsoever.

There are steps to be taken to avoid being victimized. The FTC warns you to never give out your financial information to someone who contacts you for any reason! Never wire money to anyone who requests it. Never provide information to anyone over the phone or on line even if it sounds legitimate, especially any personal information such as your social security

*Please turn to page three.*

# MAYOR'S LETTER

It is a pleasure to fill you in on what is happening in Asharoken since our last newsletter. We were blessed with one of the nicest summers in memory and the lovely weather is continuing. The two year anniversary of Sandy just passed and the village has made remarkable strides since then.

The construction of a new Village Hall is almost a reality. This is a historic event: one which spanned 8 years and 3 administrations. The new design of the Village Hall will create spectacular entry into the Village. The new building which has been supported by donations from many residents will serve the Village well for the years to come. John Ross and the members of the Village Hall Reconstruction Committee (Mel Ettinger, Doug Adil, Rich Pandolfi, Nancy Rittenhouse, and Ray Mahdesian) deserve major thanks for their tireless work to bring the project to this point.

The Board of Trustees voted to accept Ravco Inc.'s bid and pending the submittal of all of the required documents, construction should commence very shortly. Thanks to \$533,854 from FEMA, two NYS Grants totaling \$77,000, and net donations from residents of \$282,861 (THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!), Asharoken has a total of \$893,715 of non-taxed money for construction of Village Hall. The total estimated maximum cost of the project, including a contingency of \$100,000, some or all of which may not be needed, is \$1,032,400. To cover the shortfall of \$138,685, the Village has money in reserve accounts totaling \$248,000. Therefore the Village has the funds to complete the project. On the Village web, [Asharoken.com](http://Asharoken.com) site, there is a power point presentation explaining all of this in detail.

Additionally, the Village is waiting for a decision on a Hazard Mitigation Grant (\$55,000) as well as news on reimbursement of our local cost share from FEMA for Village Hall (\$59,317). Should the Village receive these funds Asharoken's financial position will be that much better.

The Asharoken Storm Damage Reduction Project has been moving along at a bureaucratic pace, but there are several things to report. Many suggestions were made by residents, one of which was to create a plan whereby part of the beach was public and part was private. The Village proposed this plan to the NYSDEC and the ACOE. The Village justification for this solution was that there was a tremendous public benefit to protect the road. Congressman Israel, Supervisor Petrone, Assemblyman Raia, NFD Chief Pansini and ENFD Chief Boronow all wrote letters of support for a compromise solution to the public access requirement. Unfortunately, the USACOE responded that a split beach does not fall within their regulations and can't be done. The Village was also informed by the NYSDEC that if the project is completed, the beach will not fall under the NYS Department of Health Bathing Beach Regulations.

On October 27, 2014 the Village mailed the NYSDEC the first draft of the public access plan. In summary, the plan called for public access points to the beach in three spots: the sea wall area, the village owned beach lot and the Sound View boat ramp. Parking was offered at the sea wall and Sound View ramp. The draft plan proposed no parking at the beach lot, which would be only for pick up and drop off. The Village's draft plan was turned down by the DEC and we are waiting to hear what the next step is. It is likely that we will need 5 access points and public access to the entire beach in order to receive federal funding. Finally, the Village has been informed that by February, the ACOE will be done with their modeling and will present the Village with the latest plan for rebuilding the beach. Upon receipt of the plan, the Village will determine what its next step will be.

The Asharoken Storm Damage Reduction project is complicated and involved. By its nature it will move forward in slow and measured steps. I would urge all of our residents to review the ACOE presentation on our website and to review the article in the Village newsletter (July/August 2014) in order to have a thorough understanding of the project. Ultimately, every Sound Side property owner will have to decide whether protecting resident's safety, homes, personal property and the real estate values of the entire village is worth allowing public access to the beach.

In closing I would like to thank Joan Hauser for her years of serving as editor and publisher of the Asharoken News. Joan put her heart and soul into every issue of the news-letter. Her efforts created a publication that kept everyone informed of the news of the Village and fostered a real sense of community. She has been one of the most dedicated and hardest working volunteers over the last 20 years. Joan, thank you for a really outstanding job and all the best to you and Dick in the years to come.

Linda and I would like to wish you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Greg Leticia

**POLICE REPORT** *continued.*

number. Scams may be reported directly to the FTC at 1-877-382-4357.

If you actually become the victim of identity theft, it is a serious matter that must be reported immediately to the police. The FTC further reports that identities have been stolen by thieves going through garbage, as well as by employees working for legitimate entities including commercial establishments, stores, pharmacies, and medical offices to name just a few. Thieves of one variety or another use your information to empty your bank account, open accounts, run up charges, or even receive medical treatment. Never reveal any personal information through inquiries made by phone or e-mail!

The Asharoken Police Department is ready to help you if your identity is stolen. We will advise you to cancel credit cards, notify financial institutions, place a fraud alert on your credit file, ask for a copy of your credit report, and be alert to unusual activity on your accounts. In serious loss cases, Asharoken police will seek assistance from Suffolk County Police Department detectives as needed.

Just as it is a good idea to keep your house and car locked, keep your personal information locked up as well. As with all aspects of police service, do not hesitate to contact us – we are happy to help.

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## ASHAROKEN NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT

We are sorry to say that this will be the last issue of the *Asharoken News*. Our editor, Joan Hauser, will be stepping down and will no longer be able to produce our unique newsletter. Her creativity, talent, and dedication to this publication will be truly missed. Thank you, Joan, for your hard work and enthusiasm. We are going to miss you!!!

Village Hall

*I'd like to thank everyone who has helped me in this endeavor, past and present. Contributions were always appreciated, especially those columnists whose work appeared in every issue. My skilled proof readers ensured that most of my errors were corrected before printing. I have greatly enjoyed editing and writing Asharoken News for my neighbors and will miss all of you.*

*Joan G. Hauser*

## SANTA IS TAKING A SABBATICAL THIS YEAR



Sadly, this year we have to postpone Santa's visit due to the Village Hall construction project, which will be occurring during the month of December. We are excited to have

Santa visit our new Village Hall next year in 2015. See you then!

**Have a wonderful holiday!**

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### New E-Waste Recycling Law



After January 1, 2015, the Village can no longer pick up household electronic waste for collection. Per the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, all electronic waste will be barred from trash disposal and must be dropped off at the Town of Huntington recycling center located at 641 New York Avenue. It is open Tuesday-Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for individual households at no cost. Go to [www.asharoken.com](http://www.asharoken.com) for a list of E-waste items.

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## GO TO [www.asharoken.com](http://www.asharoken.com)

This web site, created by Eric Maffei and Steve Trombetti, provides answers to all your questions about our Village and its scheduled events plus emergency information when required. The larger local community is represented as well. Check it out!

## WHAT A PARTY!

On November 1st, 2014 over 90 guests attended the Fifth Annual Asharoken's Holiday party held at the Northport Yacht Club. Chairperson Carole Casamassima organized this successful event, which included dinner and dancing. Spectacular raffle prizes were all donated by residents which helped fund the Asharoken Fireworks event. Northport Mayor George Doll won the grand prize, a kayak for two. Martin Hakker was presented a "Letter of Commendation" for all his dedication and effort organizing Asharoken's annual Fourth of July Fireworks display. Many thanks to Carole Casamassima, Deputy Mayor Pam Pierce, Jamie Pierce (for creating the beautiful centerpieces) and the "raffle women", all of whom helped to make this a memorable evening.





## A BLAST FROM THE PAST

### Excerpts from “Asharoken News”

#### 1995: ASHAROKEN COOKBOOK

“At last, a labor of love is finished. “What’s Cooking In Asharoken”, a collection of favorite recipes from soup to nuts, has been completed. It took many months of editing to put together the more than 200 recipes donated by your neighbors....The book will sell for \$15. The funds raised will be added to the Village Hall Beautification Fund”.

*Sylvia Hosie, who had a cooking column from 1994 to 2006, was the primary editor of this successful book.*

#### 1995: DEER SIGHTED

“On November 1st, two stags were sighted moving down Asharoken beach towards Eaton’s Neck. They crossed Asharoken Avenue between numbers 413 and 475. Later, they were seen swimming over to Bevin Road.”

*The good old days--when a deer sighting was worthy of notice!*

#### 1996: ARTIFICIAL DUNE MEETS NOR’EASTER

“The artificial dune at Bevin Road had a real test on Saturday, October 19th when a sudden severe Nor’easter hit, with winds of 60 knots and 8 foot waves...caused tides 5 feet above normal high tide...the artificial dune fulfilled its function. The roadway was protected and telephone poles did not fall. The sand will be replaced so that beach grass can be planted later.

By Ray Ingersoll

*Gentler times... it worked.*

#### 1998: FIREWORKS GENERATED BY SURVEY

...92 surveys were returned on the topic of the Village providing fireworks for the 4th of July.

59 residents were in favor

58 said they would invite neighbors with no view of the Sound to join them to “witness the display” Some comments:

“The display would be just one more reason to live in Asharoken.” “Use no tax dollars for such an event” “Pay for admission?” “Let someone else let their money go up in smoke but not mine. Let the Sound side people pay for it if they want it.” Fireworks should be a must!” “This is insanity.” “It would be enjoyed by all.”

*This was a heated issue at the time.*

# DEER TRACKS

By Joan G. Hauser

According to the DEC, the deer population of Suffolk County has been increasing dramatically. As Joshua Stiller of the DEC pointed out, deer population will double every two to three years without wild life management. In Asharoken and Eaton's Neck, there have been many near collisions and a few serious accidents this



year. Asharoken has installed warning signs for motorists on Asharoken Avenue and Bevin Road as well as at the approach to Eaton's Neck. According to the Asharoken police, two places to be extra careful are at the curve at the bottom of the hill as you enter Asharoken and up the hill on Asharoken Avenue past Bevin Road.

The most driver/deer encounters happen in November, their peak breeding season. Does usually breed during their second year, although some may procreate at six months. Fawns are born in the spring, after a gestation period of 202 days. Since a mature buck can weigh 200 to 300 pounds, they need plenty of food over their 10 to 12 year life span. Unfortunately, most of it comes from our gardens.

Deer control is a procedure that demands state and local agreement. When they range on private property, the situation becomes complicated. Even in the best of all possible worlds, deer are not going to disappear overnight, so I've gleaned the following information from many sources, many of them frustrated gardeners, to help you protect your horticultural favorites. I can't guarantee success. When a deer population become dense and hungry, many measures are doomed to failure. One caveat: deer are creatures of habit. If they have already chosen a path—and it happens to be in your garden, it will take behavior modification to convince them to diverge.

## Choose Plants The Deer Won't Eat

Barbara Johnson, on a well-traveled deer route in Asharoken, has painstakingly compiled a list of plants safe from deer in her garden. The perennials are bee balm, *Coreopsis*, catmint, *Asclepias*, goldenrod, and lavender. The shrubs are *Caryopteris*, *Callicarpa*, bayberry, and lilac and as well as all ferns, grasses, and *Epimedium*. For a more extensive list, visit the Cornell Cooperative Extension, Suffolk County web site and look for "Bridgen's Deer Resistant Plant List". Since most of the other methods of deer avoidance are either view-blocking or smell noxious, choosing the right plants seems like a good solution to the problem, although you may have to forego some of your favorites.

## Smell And Taste Can Balk Deer

Deer have a very sensitive sense of smell and taste and may stay away from areas "protected" by such repellents as rotten eggs, garlic, Irish Spring soap, or human hair. Chris Petersen, whose rare daylily collection was damaged this year, has provided a list of recommendations from members of the Long Island Daylily Society and the American Hemerocallis Society.. One person recommends purchasing garlic clips (tubes containing concentrated garlic). She attaches them to a garden marker every 50 feet around the perimeter of her garden. It seems to work, she says. Fresh garlic can be used, but must be replenished often and is less strong.

Scat or urine from predator animals will keep deer away. The question is how many of us are anxious to collect or purchase the same and place it throughout our gardens. A clever daylily fancier who lived near a zoo acquired some lion scat, installed a mound of it, and saw no deer for the whole season. Others suggest Liquid Fence or adding a cup of Gain fabric softener to two gallons of water to make a spray. You may also plant oregano and mint around your favorite plants.

Resident Alex Janow has come up with a compound he swears works. He suggests adding one egg, 3 or 4 shakes of hot sauce, a tablespoon of hand soap or cooking oil to a quart of water and running it through the blender. Scoop off the foam and spray the compound on your plants.

## Frighten Deer Away from Your Property

Another daylily expert suggested setting up high bamboo stakes around your garden with a light fishing

*Please turn to page seven.*

## DEER TRACKS *continued.*

line running between them at waist height. Place upside down buckets between the stakes and attach empty tin cans all along a smaller vertical line that will run from the fishing tackle to rest on the bucket a few feet above the ground. Old CDs and DVDs with a hole punched in the edge can be used instead, minus the bucket. They will flash in the light or wind. Whirligigs and solar lights are a possibility.

Unfortunately, most deer become accustomed to all of these measures. Steve Trombetti bumped into a few of them in his garden in the middle of one morning. Despite his best efforts to advance, to yell at them, and to otherwise frighten them, they did not budge. When he finally gave up, they continued to munch placidly.

### Build A Physical Barrier

The only certain way to keep deer out of your garden is to build a fence. An electric fence is recommended, but if deer have already been encroaching, they will disregard the shock. You will have to re-train them by attaching tin foil with a spoonful of peanut butter smeared on it in various places on the barrier. Instead of leaping over the barrier, they will lick the food and receive a full charge, which should force them to change their path permanently.

If a solid fence is to be installed, contact the DEC for their suggestions and information about height. Make sure it's securely staked to wood or metal posts. For added security, a second fence several feet inside the main fence will be sure to stop them. Angle the fence away from the garden at about 60 degrees.

If you do not have a fence, wrapping susceptible shrubs with black nylon netting or nylon window screening may protect them from winter browsing.



*Post-deer Day Lilies*  
Picture by Chris Petersen

# BIRDING



By Greg Letica

## Annual Bird List

Three species of birds, just three more, and a new record for species of birds in Asharoken for a calendar year will be set. It seems easy, tantalizingly close, but the record of 122 may not be broken. Following fall migration, you are very lucky to find a straggler or two



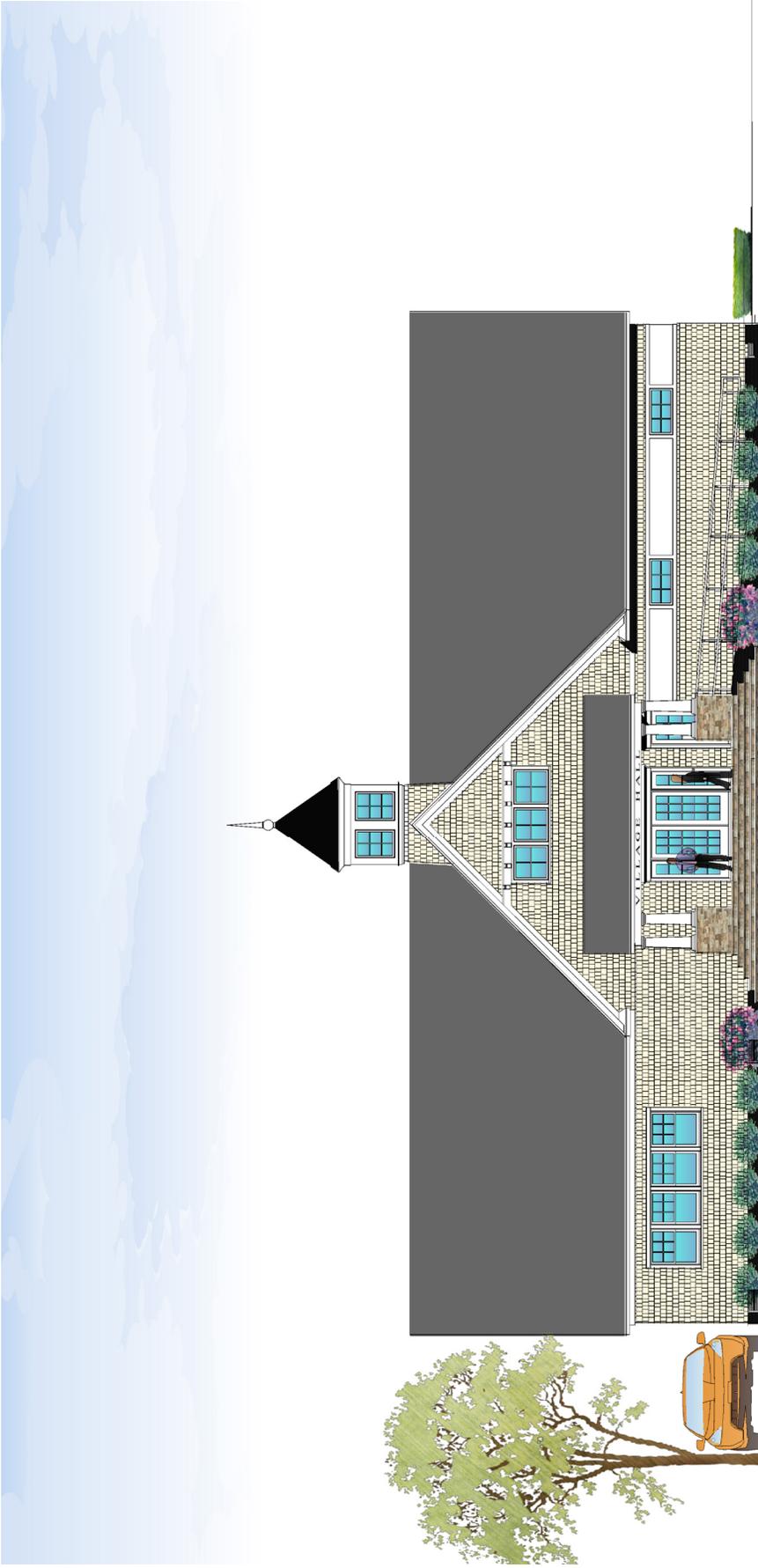
coming through the Village. Up to now, most of the usual suspects have been sighted, so there aren't even one or two fairly easy ones to find. For example, last year I added a Great Horned Owl on New Year's

Eve, a bird that made this year's list for January 1st. We'll know on December 31 if a new record will be registered.

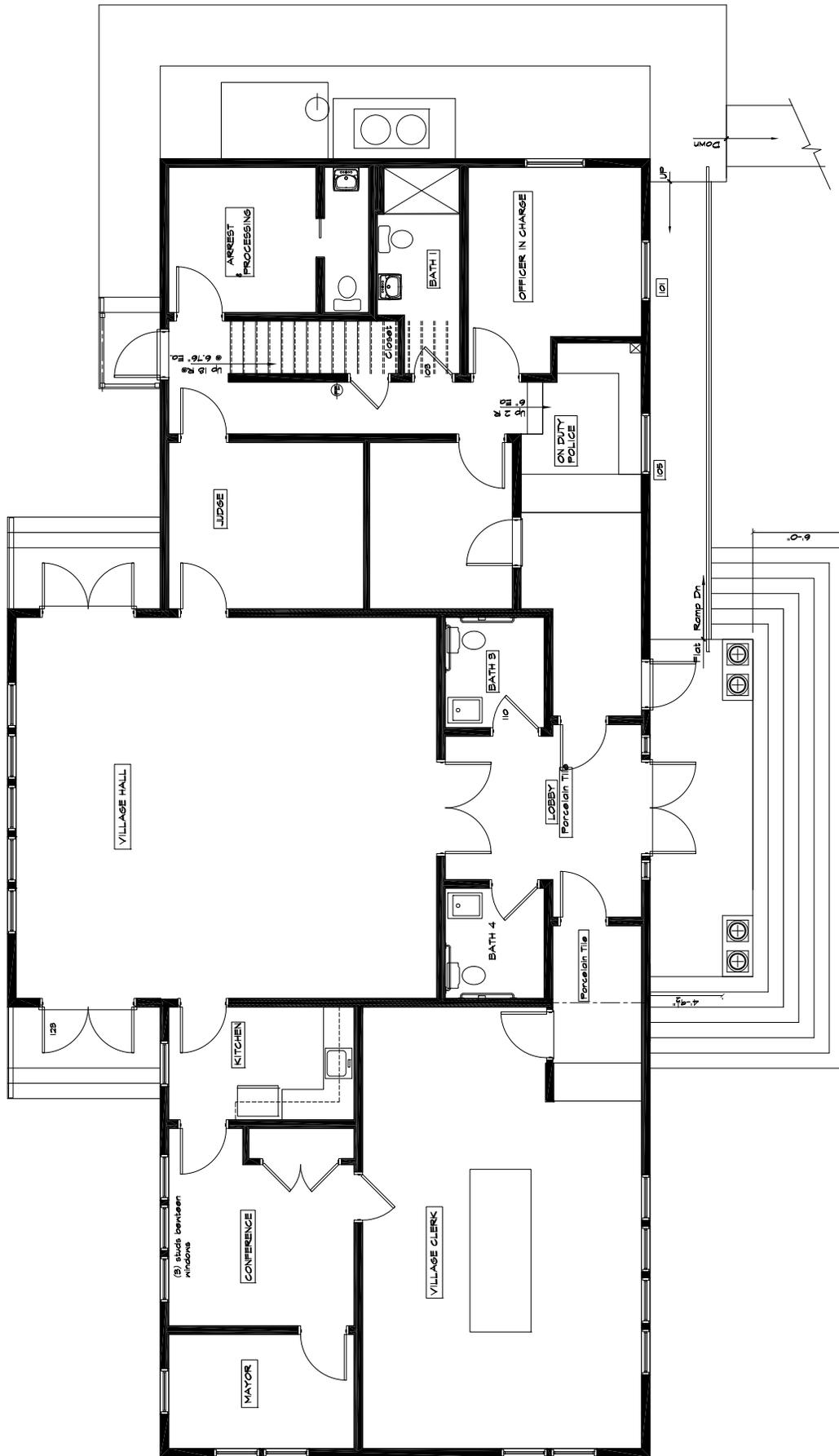
In September, the Village was home to a gigantic flock of Laughing Gulls, named for their distinctive call. Many birds have names that come from their calls: chickadees, pewees, catbirds, and whippoorwills are examples. I imagine that when they were first noted, it was the easiest way to come up with a name. Anyway, back to Laughing Gulls. They are seen yearly, but only in small numbers. It was interesting to see such a large concentration.

In contrast, this time of year Asharoken is usually overrun by yellow-rumped warblers. This year, there are less than previous years. This warbler is distinctively marked in the spring but by October, they have become rather drab—a gray bird identified by a yellow patch on its rump. You can't make this stuff up.

What is interesting is that with all of the yearly variations in species and number of individuals seen, the yearly total over the last 10 years generally settles between 110 and 120. Every year, some usually easily seen birds are missed but they are always replaced by something unexpected. Nature has a knack of balancing itself out. Birds are a great way to see that in action. Please consider putting out a feeder to help our year-long birds get through the cold winter months.



● ASHAROKEN VILLAGE HALL ●



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

# HISTORY OF ASHAROKEN AVENUE

By Ed Carr, Village Historian

The first instance of a name being associated with what is today Asharoken Avenue was in 1840, when the field notes of the United States Coast Survey denoted the road extending from Northport to Eaton's Neck as Eaton's Neck Road. This name was in use from that time until April 4, 1900, when William B. Codling filed the maps (Map A and Map B) for his Asharoken Beach development, extending from what is today #105 Asharoken Avenue to Duck Island Road. As part of his development plan, he re-named the section Asharoken Avenue, which essentially bifurcated Eaton's Neck Road in two pieces—a situation that still exists today.

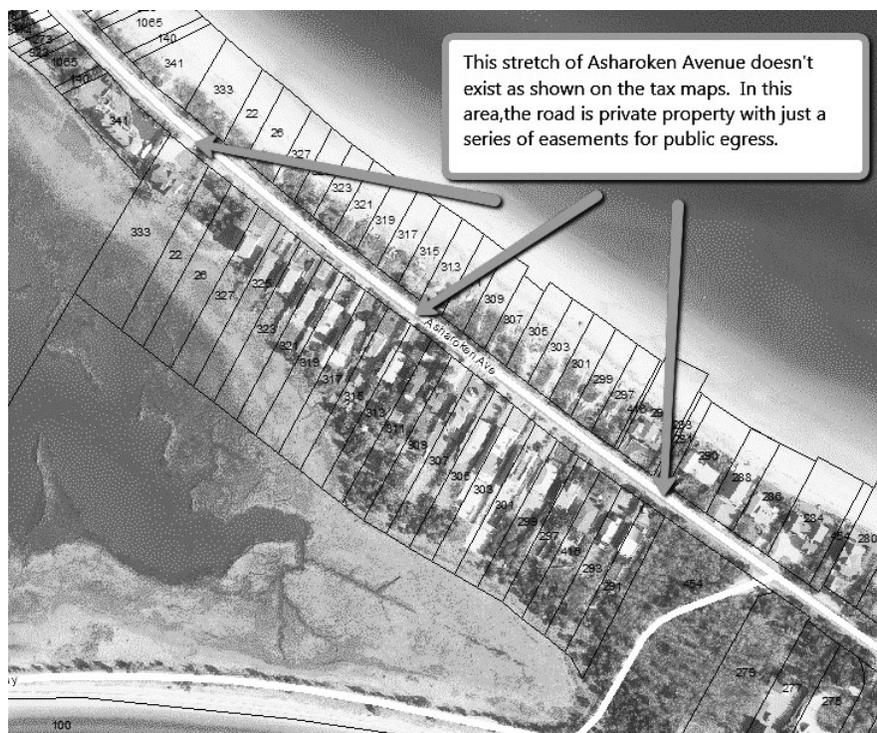
Asharoken Avenue was legally defined on Map A and Map B in 1890 when surveyor Oscar Darling laid the public road out for Ida Smith. Although the maps were not filed until 10 years later when Codling bought and re-subdivided the entire development, the roads existed as 75-foot wide road beds for much of the length.

To the north of Duck Island Road, Asharoken Avenue was legally defined by the Estate of Laura DeLamater Bevin Map of 1920 as a 50-foot wide public road bed. Asharoken Avenue was further defined north of this area by the Weinrichter Map of 1927 where the DeLamater heirs defined the road as a 50-foot wide bed.

An interesting nuance exists that is not commonly known to most. Asharoken Avenue “disappears” as a legally defined (and Village owned) public road for a 1,000-foot stretch north of Duck Island Road through what was formerly the Mary E. Jones property. In this stretch, despite what Suffolk Tax Maps incorrectly denote, Asharoken Avenue is nothing more than an easement across private property. The lots in this area are not part of a filed map but were subdivided by individual deeds of described property that extended from the Duck Island Cove side to the Sound side as one continuous lot. Each deed states that the public has a right to “transverse the property” across a 50-foot wide area “known as Asharoken Avenue”. The 50-foot wide bed is open to interpretation and could begin at the east side of the paved surface or the west side. Front yard setbacks could very well vary, although the Village typically assumes that the 50-foot bed coincides more or less with the center of the paved surface.

Lastly, the portion of Asharoken Avenue that exists from #1 Asharoken Avenue to #105 is on only 49.5 feet in width, so defined on a 1946 filed map.

The entire length of Asharoken Avenue was paved with concrete in 1928. This pavement existed maintenance-free until 1998, when a decision was made to cover the surface with asphalt.



# COASTAL CLEANUP

On September 27, 2014, approximately 250 volunteers arrived to clean up 8 shoreline sites. They collected over 5,000 pounds of trash, filling a 40 cubic foot dumpster. Their data has been forwarded to the American Littoral Society. Captains Cathy Zimmermann, Deb Masterson, and Michele Tilleli are grateful for everyone's hard work. Especially noted this year were Tracy Aboff, Mimi Atkinson, Trustee Pierce and her brother, Jamie, Mayor Letica, and Police Commissioner Mel Ettinger.



# SANITATION SCHEDULE

## NOVEMBER

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

## DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Pick up		BCP	Pick up		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Pick up	YW	NC	Pick up		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Pick up		BCP	Pick up		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Pick up		NC		Pick up	
28	29	30	31			
	Pick up		BCP			

BCP--BOTTLES, CANS, PLASTIC

NC--NEWSPAPER, CARDBOARD

YW--YARD WASTE PICKUP

Village of Asharoken

1 Asharoken Avenue

Northport, New York, 11768