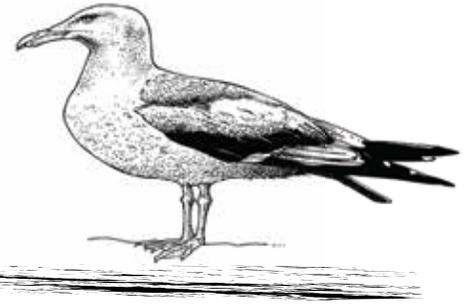


Asharoken NEWS



Mayor's Letter

Looking back on 2016 the overwhelming issue that dominated the Village's consciousness was the ASDRP. Throughout the year the uncertainty of the project weighed heavily on people's minds. Fortunately that burden was lifted when the USACOE decided to terminate the project and, simultaneously, the Village residents resoundingly said that they were not in favor of the project (see Deputy Mayor Pam Pierce's recap in newsletter). The sense of relief that the conclusion of this chapter in the history of Asharoken brought was clearly felt.

There was much accomplished during the year:

- Asharoken Avenue was paved from 160 -224 and the entire road was re-stripped
- 45,000 cubic yards of sand was placed on the beach by National Grid
- The Village stayed below the NYS 2% tax cap with a 0% property tax increase
- Dangerous, decaying old groins on the Sound Side beach were removed
- A bathymetric survey of Duck Island Harbor was completed as a precursor to possible dredging
- The Village modernized its police force by replacing two old SUVs with Chevy Tahoes
- The Village planted two trees at Village Hall and distributed saplings paid for by an Arbor Day grant
- The Village hired and trained a backup sanitation truck operator
- The Village hired two new part time police officers
- The 4th of July celebration highlighted by the Grucci fireworks display
- The Village entry sign and message board donated by resident Mike Mere
- Village Hall paid for by donations and grants; no tax dollars were used

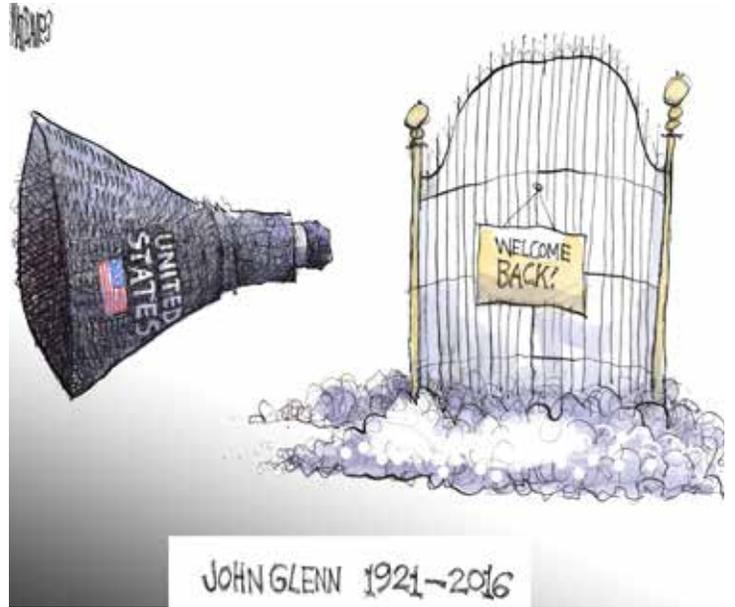
Our residents did amazing things last year. They volunteered their time to make Asharoken and the surrounding communities better and distinguished themselves as outstanding people. Students Emma Turner and Joe Barry for helping Veterans; Andy Giffin for collecting shoes for the needy; Jon Press for being named pro bono lawyer of the year in Nassau County; Tony Burke for organizing a food drive; Stephanie Quarles and Avrum Golub for water quality preservation; Mike Cox for donating services and bluestone for Village Hall; Kathy Martin and Amanda Filliberto for their success in distance running; Deb Masterson, Cathy Zimmermann, Michele Tilleli, Tracy Aboff, Pam Pierce, Jamie Pierce and Mr. Cupertino for the Coastal Cleanup; Carole Casamassima and my wife, Linda for fundraising for the fireworks; the Asharoken Garden Club for designing and donating the Village Hall landscaping, Judy Ross for holiday decorating and Carole Casamassima for another memorable holiday party. And there are many others whose efforts make the Asharoken community so giving and caring. Thank you to all.

Each morning when I wake up and look out my bedroom window I am reminded of what a gorgeous place we all get to call home. I hope that everyone has a chance to enjoy all that Asharoken has to offer in 2017.

-Mayor Greg Letica



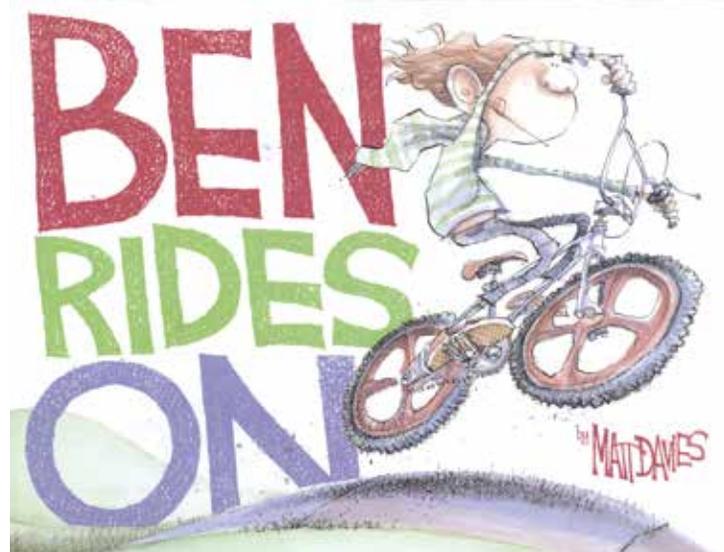
Welcome Newcomers!



▼ New residents on Bevin Road include the Davies Family, Matt, Lucy and their children Severn (16), Larkyn (13) and Keiland (9). Lucy writes "...I think one of our favorite things about living here is the drive home. That extra 10 minutes (driven at a strict 30 mph) is a forced deep breath and appreciation of sand, salty air, water views... It's a face to face with Mother Nature and every day is different. I love reading up on the history of Asharoken in Faded Laurels... We walk around the neighborhood and look out for the original homes and farms and landmarks. Matt loves the idea that he'll write and illustrate his next children's book here, so close to where Antoine de Saint-Exupéry wrote *The Little Prince*. There is such a rich history here and we love being by the water after being land-locked for many years!



New Bevin Road resident Matt Davies is a Pulitzer Prize winning political cartoonist and children's author and illustrator. He recently joined Newsday as the editorial cartoonist. You'll often see Matt running the strip early in the morning! Look for his entertaining and thought provoking cartoons in Newsday!



Matt is a noted author and illustrator of children's books. Above is artwork from his first book Ben Rides On, and some of his memorable cartoons.

▼ The McCreight Family (Mary, Dennis, Amanda (19), Zac (16) and Lexi (13) and mini-Australian Labradoodle "Harley" bought the original "Murphy" home in April and hopes to move in full time in the future. "We had the best summer enjoying the water daily, swimming, paddle boarding, boating. Our neighbors are fantastic and have welcomed us so kindly... we feel so fortunate to have our little slice of heaven..." Mary owns Advanced Physical and Occupational Therapy in Northport. Dennis is retired NYPD and has his own security and private investigation company called John Shield's Detective Agency.

Feasibility Study and Asharoken Storm Damage Reduction Project (ASDRP) Ends

The fourth quarter of 2016 was the definitive time period for the ASDRP. During that period, Colonel David Caldwell of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) changed the parameters of the project by requiring the Village of Asharoken (VOA) to commit to supporting construction of the project as a prerequisite to completing the Feasibility Study (FS) otherwise the project would be ended by year end. This change occurred in September and was contrary to the guidance that both the Village and the New York State Department of Conservation (NYSDEC) had been given since the project was funded in January 2013 with the Superstorm Sandy relief bill authorized by Congress. The VOA notified Colonel Caldwell that it needed to survey its residents and hold a public hearing to make a final determination in early January. NYSDEC also notified the USACE to reconsider as the FS was 95% completed and that the results of the FS needed to be known before the village could commit to the construction of the project. Mid December, USACE notified NYSDEC that their request was denied and that USACE was terminating the FS/project by year end. NYSDEC in turn notified the VOA.

On December 20th, the VOA completed surveying its residents and emailed the results of 85% voting No and 15% voting Yes on going ahead with the ASDRP. On January 4, 2017, the VOA held a public hearing on the project with similar results-13 speakers opposed, 1 in favor and 1 undecided. Based on these clear results, on January 10, the Village Board of Trustees approved resolution (2017-07) that stated “Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Village of Asharoken considers the Village Agreement to be terminated by the action of the Department of Army and no further action will be taken by the Village of Asharoken with respect to the Feasibility Study.”

All relevant documents and letters can be found in the ASDRP Archive at asharoken.com.

-Deputy Mayor Pam Pierce



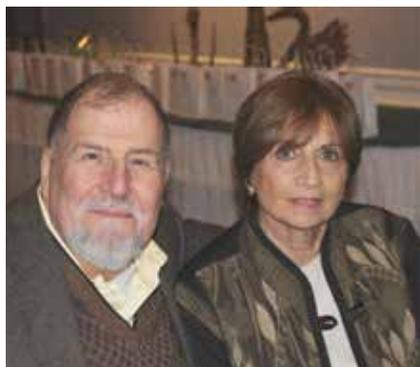
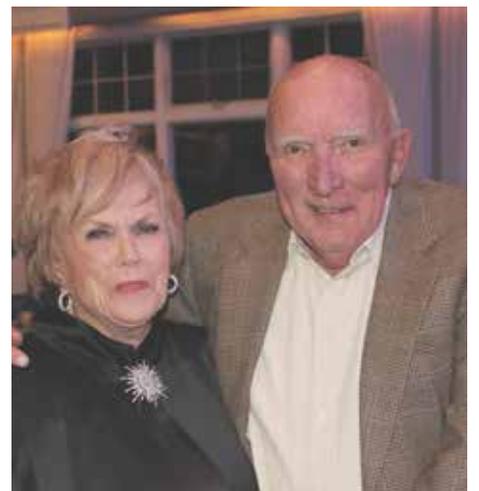
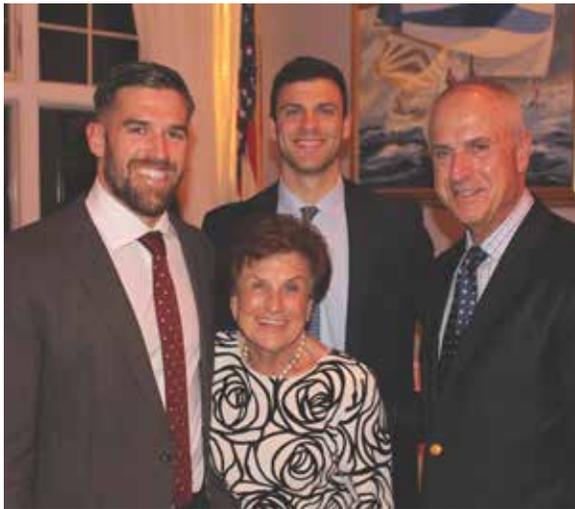
National Grid placed 45,000 CY of sand on sound side beaches from houses 100 to 252 from October to December, totaling 135,000 CY in the past six years.

Dangerous exposed sheet metal “groins” removed from two sections on sound side beach.

2016

THE YEAR IN PHOTOS





Dear Neighbors

I would like to offer a heartfelt “thank you” to those residents that helped make our annual 2016 holiday party a huge success. It’s always a wonderful evening when residents and friends get together and this year’s party was the largest yet. Pam Pierce and Jamie Pierce received awards from the “Save the Fireworks” committee for their enormous support of the event over the many years. Jamie creates the lovely centerpieces each year and Pam helps with many other aspects of the party. All attendees acknowledged Deputy Mayor Pam Pierce’s dedication to the village. Residents and friends donated the baskets for the event, and I’d like to thank everyone for their enthusiastic support of the raffle sales.

Each year at the May BOT meeting, the “Save the Fireworks” committee and Linda Letica, who raises money from Asharoken shirt sales, present their checks, which helps cover the barge and tugboat costs for the annual fireworks display. If anyone would like to contribute to support the fireworks, please send your contribution to “Save the Fireworks” 110 Asharoken Avenue before May 1st. Thank you! Carole Casamassima 261-1895

Ed Note: Carole has worked tirelessly as Chairwoman for this party and it is a testament to her that this event is sold out and so successful every year... Thank you Carole!



Carole welcomes Jean Bonawandt as new Raffle Chairwoman for the Nov 4th 2017 Holiday Dinner



Carole congratulates acting Village Justice Stan Somer and wife Batia, winners of the beautiful basket donated by The Giunta Family

Soles4Souls

Drop used or new shoes at Village Hall... Thanks to the Northport/East Northport Rotary for their many good deeds in helping people around the world.

Police News

The police department completed another successful year, and I am pleased to report that crime continues to be virtually non-existent, with no burglaries reported in our village in 2016.

Two new Tahoes replaced two twelve-year-old SUV's, and we are starting the second year in our wonderful new facility. Of interest is some recent personnel news.

Two part-time officers recently joined the force. Both are also employed as Suffolk County police officers and come to us with impressive backgrounds that will be an asset to the village. Joseph D'Alessandro is assigned to the police academy where he serves mainly as an instructor and tactical medic. Frank Tricamo is a detective who previously served many years in the highway patrol division. Both officers have over 30 years of police service and also volunteer at the Dix Hills Fire Department.

The department's police surgeon, Dr. Scott Coyne, recently was honored by being designated the Physician of Excellence for both Suffolk County and New York State, two very prestigious awards.

I first became friends with "Doc" many years ago when we served together in the same police department before he left to go to medical school. After becoming a doctor specializing in radiology for many years, he returned to resume his police career and now serves as the Chief Surgeon for the Suffolk County Police Department.

With his law enforcement background, he started the Medical Crisis Action Team (MEDCAT), a tactical medical team of thirty police officers who are trained as advanced life support paramedics and critical care EMT's who respond to dangerous situations, such as active shooter incidents, to render medical aid, sometimes under combat conditions.

I have always had the utmost admiration for "Doc" and remember the night that he responded to the Avianca plane crash in Cove Neck. He was the first doctor on scene and administered life-saving care in the dark for hours under most difficult conditions.

Dr. Coyne helps our department in many ways. He has trained members of our department in combat medical care and other emergency medical aspects. He oversees our defibrillator and NARCAN programs. He has performed physical screenings for our police candidates and has helped individual officers as needed. He makes himself available and is on-call to respond to police emergencies. What is so remarkable about all this is, "Doc" volunteers his services to our department, receiving no compensation.

Our officers look forward to serving the village in the coming year.

-Raymond C. Mahdesian
Officer-in-Charge



New part-time officers Frank Tricamo (left) and Joseph D'Allesandro (right, with Officer-in-Charge Ray Mahdesian) have over 30 combined years of police service and are both volunteers at the Dix Hills Fire Department.



Village of Asharoken
One Asharoken Ave.
Northport, NY 11768

Village Notices

Tax Grievance Day Feb 21 Noon to 4:00 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting March 7th 7:30 pm

Soles4Souls Shoe Drive

sponsored by Npt/E.Npt Rotary now through March 31:

Drop off all used or unused shoes at Village Hall (over 20,000 pairs were collected from local communities last year!)

May 4: Blood Drive Village Hall 2:00-8:00 pm

Meeting dates, trash pick-up calendar, permit and application forms, board of trustee minutes and so much more can be found at asharoken.com