

The North Shore Over 72 Years!
Leader

The Leading News Source for Long Island's Gold Coast Communities.

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Locust Valley, New York 11560

www.northshoreleader.com

\$1.00



Photo: Christine Loring

Ship Ahoy! The ferry operator Hornblower Cruises is signing on with the City of Glen Cove for an April 2020 embarking out of Glen Cove Terminal to New York City and beyond. See story on page 3.



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for Venditto**

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LOCUST VALLEY'S 20TH ANNUAL VILLAGE



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For more information go to www.locustvalleychamber.com

Sales TO BE Continued...Simple Sidewalk Sale
Aug 10th, following Saturday (Rain date)

Guilty But No Jail for Ex-Supervisor Venditto

Former Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor John Venditto plead guilty to charges of “illegal hiring” while Supervisor, but the deal he struck with prosecutors avoids any jail time.

The 70-year-old Venditto, of Massapequa, pleaded guilty to “corrupt use of position” and “official misconduct.” He was sentenced to a conditional discharge. When reached for a comment about where he goes from here, Venditto sighed, “Back to retirement - where every day is Sunday.”

The charges filed by Nassau County District Attorney Madeline Singas (D-Roslyn) alleged that Venditto had hired an employee at the Town; paid him “too much” for his credentials; and then later fired the same employee at the request of Fred Ippollito, a corrupt former Buildings Commissioner.

In a separate case last year in federal court, Venditto was charged with 27 counts of “honest services” fraud and “securities violations” regarding the Town’s lease of the TOB Golf Clubhouse building to caterer Herendra Singh.

Venditto was found “not guilty” of all federal charges last May, after a federal jury rejected the prosecutor’s novel theo-



John Venditto when he was Town Supervisor
Photo: TOB

ry that Venditto’s receiving a \$25 “free taxi ride” constituted a “criminal bribe.”

The local charges Venditto plead guilty to stemmed from an investigation by Singas, a Democrat, into the Republican government in Oyster Bay.

Venditto served two decades as the Supervisor of Oyster Bay, but retired in 2017 after the federal charges. The Obama Justice Department was criticized for timing the federal charges against Venditto to do maximum electoral damage to his son, a former State Senator.

Former LV Music Teacher Arrested

Charles Bull, a Sea Cliff resident was arrested by the FBI on July 24th, and appeared in a Central Islip federal court on July 25th for his attempts to entice a 13-year old boy into having sex - a crime he admitted to.

Bull was caught in a sting: The boy he was trying to lure was actually an undercover FBI agent. Bull is expected to be charged with second-degree attempted criminal sexual act and attempted endangering the welfare of a child.

Cindy A. Wolff, an FBI special agent, said between July 23rd and July 24th, Bull tried to entice and coerce a teenager into sexual activities on an online forum.

On July 23rd, the FBI investigated an online Kik chatroom called “LongIslandDLMenOnly.”

One user had a chat display name of “Charlie Blue” with the username “bull-musik.” The account belonged to Bull, who worked as a music teaching assistant at Locust Valley School District last year. He also worked at “The School of Rock” music schools in Huntington and Roslyn.

Bull used the account to respond to a post in the chatroom from the officer who was posing as the teenager’s father. The “father’s” message stated that he was on vacation with his son in Long Island and looking for “stuff to do.” Bull privately messaged the father asking for more information.

During the conversation, Bull asked about the sexual orientation of the father and son, as well as the son’s age, which was stated as 13 years old. Bull then expressed interest in having sex with the son and made arrangements to meet the father at a coffee shop in Farmingdale to determine the validity of the father’s messages.

Later that day, around 4 PM, the FBI was surveilling the coffee shop when Bull arrived and introduced himself to the “father” as “Charlie.” Bull then asked for photos of the son. The “father” showed Bull photos purportedly of the boy, who



Charles Bull
Photo:LVCSO

was said to be at a nearby hotel, and then started a three-way Kik private chat between Bull and the accounts of the “father” and “son.”

In the chat, Bull discussed sexual acts he hoped to perform with the boy and requested his hotel room number.

Around 5:15 PM, the FBI saw Bull arrive at the Melville hotel where the “son” was located, but Bull then left.

On July 24th, at 7:16 AM, Bull messaged the “father” to arrange to meet the father and son at the hotel to engage in sexual activities.

Bull arrived at the hotel and entered at 4:14 PM and began heading towards the meet-up spot. Just as he was arriving to the room, the FBI arrested him. Bull had three condoms and an Xbox gift card on him.

Bull admitted he was at the hotel to have sex with the boy. “I’m not going to lie, I was there to have sex with the 13 year old boy,” he said. “I know it was wrong, I can’t hide that and I know there’s consequences. I had the condoms and Xbox card with me, the condoms for sex with him if it got past oral sex and the gift card as a gift for the boy.”

Police Officer Injured

Second Squad Detectives report the arrest of an Oyster Bay man for Leaving the Scene of an Auto Accident with an Injury that occurred on Monday, July 15th, at 8:30 PM in Oyster Bay Cove.

According to Detectives, a Nassau County Police Officer was traveling northbound on Berry Hill Road in a marked police vehicle when it was struck by a black Chevrolet Suburban traveling southbound. The collision caused the police vehicle to leave the roadway and strike a tree. The operator of the suburban, Christopher Drabin, 55, of 73 Cove

Road, fled the scene eastbound on McCouns Lane. During the investigation, the defendant returned to the scene and was placed under arrest.

The officer was taken to an area hospital by Nassau County Police Aviation Helicopter 6 for treatment of multiple non-life threatening injuries.

The defendant, Christopher Drabin, has been charged with Driving While Intoxicated, Leaving the Scene of an Accident with Physical Injury and Multiple VTL Infractions.

Tree-Check Month



The Asian Long Horned Beetle

Photo: Wikipedia

kills valuable hardwood trees. Progress has been made in Brooklyn and Queens, but USDA is still fighting the pest in Suffolk and Nassau Counties. Here’s how you can help:

1. Look for signs of the beetle in their trees, including round, dime-sized holes.

2. Other things to look for include sawdust-like material in branches or on the ground.

3. Report any signs to USDA (866) 702-9938.

Or one can use the online form at www.AsianLonghornedBeetle.com.

It’s time for Tree Check Month, when residents are asked to examine their trees for signs of the Asian longhorned beetle, which starts to emerge in August. The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) is working to get rid of this invasive beetle, which is not native to the U.S. and

Glen Cove Signs on Ferry Operator

BY CHRISTINE LORING

By a 4 to 3 vote, the Glen Cove City Council has approved a ferry operator - Hornblower Cruises - to provide commuter services to New York City.

Glen Cove will commence ferry service between Glen Cove and Manhattan in April, 2020. The service might also include stops in the Bronx and/or Roosevelt Island. Glen Cove officials hope to finalize a contract by October.

There was some dissent among council members due to Hornblower wanting to charge the City \$1200 an hour. During the summer of 2017, the MTA offered ferry service out of Glen Cove. New York Water Taxi provided that service. Their bid was \$950 per hour compared to Hornblower.

Councilwoman Marsha Silverman,



Hornblower Cruises.

who voted for Hornblower, said that risking paying \$16.6 million to the Federal Highway Administration for not having a ferry service in place was a factor. The council decided that Hornblower was a better option because New York Water Taxi would not be able to make as many trips out of Glen Cove as needed.

“We are excited to partner with Glen Cove to finalize details with the goal of delivering a new, reliable and resilient connection.” a Hornblower spokesman said in a statement.

John Venditto's Unfair Conviction

Being an elected public official these days can be like having a target on your back - an increasingly dangerous profession: Political opponents launch attacks all the time; Crazy people are drawn to public meetings, where the tone and intemperance are becoming toxic and violent; the media - unless you are their darling - dig for dirt and snipe at you and your family; and rival party prosecutors look for excuses to investigate, leak, target and prosecute, sometimes on the flimsiest of grounds.

That is why what happened to former Oyster Bay Supervisor John Venditto was so unfair. In a plea deal, Venditto, a Republican, plead guilty last week to two counts of 'official misconduct.' The Nassau District Attorney, Madeline Singas, a Democrat currently running for re-election, agreed to 'no jail,' provided Venditto waived his right to trial. Prosecutors do not agree to 'no jail' deals unless their case is very weak.

For Venditto, it was the end of a five-year nightmare. The Obama Justice Department targeted and investigated him for years. Then they - "coincidentally" - just three weeks before his son's re-election to the State Senate - indicted him on 27 felony counts of 'honest services' fraud and securities fraud. His son lost the election, but the federal charges were so flimsy - the alleged 'bribe' taken by Venditto was a mere '\$25 taxi ride' - that after a three-month trial, the jury immediately acquitted Venditto - 'not guilty' of all federal counts.

The local charges filed by DA Singas were the legal equivalent of a 'pile-on.' An attempt by a media-hungry local prosecutor to say 'me too' and grab some publicity. Except her charges were also weak - charging Venditto with 'improperly hiring' a Town employee; 'paying him too much' and then 'improperly firing him.' Employment issues don't usually rise to the level of 'criminal' charges. But then, to paraphrase the old saying, 'if they want, a prosecutor can indict a ham sandwich.'

The bigger danger of what happened to Venditto is that intelligent, clear-eyed people will avoid the danger, and shun 'the honor' of holding public office in America. Why put yourself and your family in harm's way? Why allow you and your family to become a target for some nut-job activist, or some ambitious unprincipled prosecutor, out to make a name for him or herself?

Venditto - age 70 and a grandfather - expressed relief that his long nightmare was over, telling reporters that he was going to enjoy his retirement, "where everyday is Sunday." *The Leader* thanks John Venditto for his decades of public service, and wishes him well in his future.

The Publisher

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: We encourage our readers to express their view regardless of opinion, through the Letters to the Editor column. Letters published represent the viewpoint of our readers. *They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Leader* and, in fact, may be of opposite viewpoint. Letters should be typed and mailed or emailed to the editor's attention. Letters will be edited for length, clarity and accuracy. All letters should be signed and contain author's address and telephone number for verification. Although it is discouraged, we will withhold an author's name if the subject matter is sensitive or the writer may be subject to intimidation or harassment. Letters that contain accusations or important "facts" must demonstrate knowledge in the area described or show evidence for their writing. *The Leader* will not return letters and reserves the right to publish them at a later time or not at all, due to lack of space or editor's discretion.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Leader has received several unsigned letters to the editor. We will respect an author's request for anonymity, but must have your name, address, and phone number. We want to hear from you and publish your opinions, so in the future, kindly include the above requested information.

DECRIMINALIZING MARIJUANA

To The Editor,

On July 29th I signed legislation (S.6579A/A.8420) to further decriminalizing marijuana use in New York State. New York's existing marijuana laws disproportionately affect African American and Latino communities, and this legislation will address those racial and ethnic disparities by reducing the penalty for unlawful possession of marijuana to a violation punishable by a fine, and by creating a process for individuals who have been convicted for possessing small amounts of marijuana to have their records expunged. I first proposed the further decriminalization of marijuana in 2013, and again in the FY 2020 Budget. The bill will take effect 30 days after becoming law.

"Communities of color have been disproportionately impacted by laws governing marijuana for far too long, and today we are ending this injustice once and for all, By providing individuals who have suffered the consequences of an unfair marijuana conviction with a path to have their records expunged and by reducing draconian penalties, we are taking a critical step forward in addressing a broken and discriminatory criminal justice process."

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, "Decriminalizing marijuana is an essential part of reforming our state's broken justice system. For too long, communities of color have been disproportionately targeted and negatively impacted."

This legislation will make marijuana enforcement fairer and more equitable by:

*Reducing the penalty for unlawful possession of marijuana to a violation punishable by a fine and removing criminal penalties for possession of any amount of marijuana under two ounces; and

*Creating a process for individuals with certain marijuana convictions to have their records expunged both retroactively and for future convictions.

Governor Andrew Cuomo

Yes, I want *The Leader*.

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Leader

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Workplace Safety



(l-r) Michael F. Rich III, NSWCA President and Oyster Bay Commissioner; William Schuckmann, NSWCA 1st Vice President and Hicksville Commissioner; Kenneth P. Wenthen, NSWCA 2nd Vice President and West Hempstead Commissioner; Lawrence F. Zaino Jr, NSWCA Treasurer and Carle Place Commissioner; and Mr. Brendan Narell President of Northside Consulting Group, Inc.

As part of an ongoing Educational Speaker Series, Long Island water commissioners recently received a detailed presentation on New York State Public Employee Safety and Health Bureau (PESH) Trainings along with Sexual Harassment Prevention Policies during a Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioners' Association (NSWCA), which consists of commissioners representing 21 Long Island water districts, including Oyster Water District Commissioner Michael F. Rich III, who is NSWCA President. Hosted by The Roslyn Water District and its Commissioners William Costigan, Michael Kosinski and Dr. Sanford E. Klein, the speaker program is part of the NSWCA's on-going Workplace Safety & Training series and was hosted by the Roslyn Water District, and Commissioners.

The presentation was led by Guest Speaker Brendan Narell, President of Northside Consulting Group Inc. of North Bellmore, who commented during the meeting, "The need for all municipalities and governments, including water and fire districts, to train personnel is both constant and ever-evolving, and, by law, all must meet Federal and New York State standards.

This is also time sensitive. For example, in New York, it is mandatory for all such employees to complete interactive sexual harassment prevention training no later than October 9, 2019. Future training is to be completed on an annual basis."

Drawing from his perspective of over 15 years dealing with the changing landscape of various programs available, Mr. Narell, who is currently Chief of Department of the North Bellmore Fire Department, an instructor at the Nassau County Fire Academy, and teacher as well as administrator for Kellenberg Memorial High School in Uniondale, NY, reviewed other required annual trainings with the water commissioners in attendance. These topics included Workplace Violence, Right to Know (HAZCOMM), Workplace Safety, and Outdoor Worker Safety.

NSWCA President and Oyster Bay Water District Commissioner Rich III, commented, "All NSWCA member districts regard the safety and training of water district employees with utmost seriousness and attention to detail. We truly appreciate the depth of Brendan Narell's presentation regarding both mandatory and additional training programs."

Camp Visits Supreme Court



Justice Timothy S. Driscoll with Holy Trinity students.

New York State Supreme Court Justice Timothy S. Driscoll, a resident of Locust Valley, recently invited students from the Holy Trinity School Mock Trial Camp to visit the Nassau County Supreme Court. Justice Driscoll spoke to the students about the critical and diverse responsibilities of Judges and the importance of a fair and independent judiciary.

Justice Driscoll, an active participant in Nassau County Courts educational initiatives, provided the students with an opportunity to develop an understanding and positive impression of our judicial system. Students observed real-life interactions between attorneys, courtroom staff and court administration officials during various court proceedings.

A Fish Tale

Recently a plaque was placed in the Bayville Seafood Store, telling the story of the giant stuffed Blacktip Shark hanging on the wall. The shark was caught by Vincent J. Dippolito back in 1977 in Fort Lauderdale Florida.



Blacktip Shark and memorial plaque.

Photo: Patricia Brexel

Vincent was on a fishing trip with his uncle Michael J. DeCosimo who caught

a Hammerhead Shark that day, also. Sadly Vincent passed away last year.

LOCUST VALLEY LIBRARY AUGUST EVENTS



- Mon, Aug 5, 12, 19 & 26** **Latin Dance Fitness**
6 PM
Registration and \$20 fee prior to first class.
- Tues, Aug 6** **Family Fun at Bailey Arboretum**
5 PM
For grades K - 5, Summer Reading Closing Program.
- Tues, Aug 6** **Shaping Your Universe Through Hypnosis**
6:30 PM
Presented by Carolyn Mahon.
- Fri, Aug 9** **AARP Driving Course**
9:30 AM
Registration and \$20 fee for AARP members, \$25 non-members.
- Sat, Aug 10** **Wire Jewelry Workshop**
1:30 PM
Registration and \$15 material fee required.
- Tues, Aug 13** **Self-Identity and The Art of Tantra**
6:30 PM
Presented by Mankh.

Art Exhibit
Saul Addison
Photography

On display August 3 - 27

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August 8 and 22
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Wed, July 31	NEW MOON 5:19 am	11:19 am	5:32 pm	11:37 pm
Thurs, August 1	6:09 am	12:10 pm	6:25 pm	
	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
Fri, August 2	12:29 am	6:59 pm	1:01 pm	7:18 pm
Sat, August 3	1:21 am	7:49 am	1:53 pm	8:12 pm
Sun, August 4	2:14 am	8:40 am	2:45 pm	9:08 pm
Mon, August 5	3:09 am	9:34 pm	3:40 pm	10:07 pm
Tues, August 6	4:07 am	10:29 am	4:37 pm	11:08 pm

Locust Valley Native Stars on Broadway

By: ELISA GRIMALDI

What lengths would you go to in order to become popular? That's one of the many questions that Broadway's newest hit asks the audience to think about as a super-computer dances across the stage in a shopping mall. Sound confusing? That's just one of many jaw-dropping and hysterical musical numbers in the new Broadway/internet sensation, *Be More Chill*.

Based on the 2004 novel by Ned Vizzini, *Be More Chill* tells the story of high school loser, Jeremy Heere. When Jeremy hears about a special pill containing a super computer that will help him be cool, he jumps at the chance to try and fit in and get the girl of his dreams. But is being cool worth losing your friends and self in the process?

The show, which made its world premiere in 2015 in a regional New Jersey theater, recorded a cast album of the show which suddenly blew up on social media. This prompted the show to do a limited run Off-Broadway in 2018. With fans ogling over the show and the demand to see it so high, the show made the transfer to Broadway and officially opened on March 10, 2019.

What has the appearance of a goofy sci-fi show about a high school kid who wants to be cool turns into a message of self acceptance and insecurity. Will Roland, who plays the lead role of Jeremy, grew up in Locust Valley and made his Broadway debut as Jared



Kleinman in the 2017 Tony Award-winning Best Musical, *Dear Evan Hansen*. Alongside Broadway-favorite George Salazar as his best friend, Michael, the entire cast seamlessly shifts from character to character as many of them perform double duty as main cast and ensemble. This musical

comedy has a genius score written by Joe Iconis and amazing cast that beautifully bring the crazy characters to life! With show-stopping numbers like "More Than Survive" and "Michael in the Bathroom," audience members will be laughing and crying with witty one-liners and that turn into moments of self-reflection. The theme of self acceptance and being yourself is something that every high school student should see!

Although the show mainly appeals to a younger generation of Broadway-goers, fans young and old will find the show mesmerizing. Heartwarming and joyous, *Be More Chill* shows that even though life is hard, "don't you want to figure it out for yourself?" as Christine, Jeremy's main love interest, puts it. Fans and audience members will find themselves giddy with joy watching the story unfold in front of their eyes and never want the show to end. Musical theatre magic is truly happening down at the Lyceum Theater! It is definitely worth checking out before the curtain closes on this show on Aug. 11th.

Community Oyster Gardening



Senator Jim Gaughran and community members holding one of the oyster cages used as part of the "Community Shellfish Gardening" program. File Name 'IMG_7991' (L to R): Assemblyman Charles Lavine, Rob Crafa, Supervisor Joseph Saladino, Senator Jim Gaughran, Heather Johnson, Jeff Miritello, Barry Udelson, Mayor Dan DeVita, Mayor Charles Goulding, Community gardener Deborah Perrone, Mayor Bob DeNatale

On July 29th, Senator Gaughran and Supervisor Saladino joined local oyster gardeners at Laurel Hollow Beach to call for an expansion of a crucial water quality program -- community oyster gardening -- at a time when Long Island's water quality is facing unprecedented challenges. The oyster gardening program is an initiative that supports the local bays using oysters' natural water-filtering qualities, which helps to restore unfarmable water back to its original, healthy state. The program is a collaboration between Friends of the Bay, the Oyster Bay/Cold Spring Harbor Protection Committee, academics, shellfish experts, local officials, and area residents. In its third year, the program is seeking approval for an expansion to additional area and calling for volunteers to continue growing this critical water quality project.

Senator Jim Gaughran said "Protecting our beautiful bays is important for our environment and our water quality, but also for our sustainability as a region. Programs like Community Shellfish Gardening support our local waterways, help restore our shellfish population, and improve our local water quality. I encourage local residents to get involved with this excellent and expanding program and I applaud the tireless work of the volunteers who run these critical programs."

In its third year, Community Shellfish Gardening is a proven outreach tool to connect residents to their local waterways and raise awareness for the condi-

tion of local waterways. Shellfish by their nature can enhance the marine habitat, and oysters' natural water-filtering qualities improve water quality in the Long Island Sound.

Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor Joseph Saladino said "Initiatives like the Community Shellfish Gardening Program help bolster the local economy and improve the resiliency of our coastal communities by restoring shellfish populations to our beautiful harbor. This program demonstrates our joined commitment to helping our environment, and working together to protect our most precious resource -- our water supply."

Village of Laurel Hollow Mayor Dan DeVita said "In cooperation with the Oyster Bay Cold Spring Harbor Protection Committee and Friends of the Bay, now in its third year Laurel Hollow is proud to have been the first North Shore Village to have an Oyster Garden Program. From the beginning, our residents have been incredibly enthusiastic about this program. Not only do Laurel Hollow residents make up the largest number of participants, but many other of our residents generously sponsor cages for other groups or individuals or simply donate funds for the benefit of the program. The cause of a cleaner Long Island Sound has become a community goal uniting our residents and stretching beyond our Village to other North Shore Communities, such as Bayville and Oyster Bay Cove. We look forward to its continued growth and success."

Join us at the Mill Neck Manor for an evening of 1920s fun!

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NSHM Visits St. Josephat's

By VICTORIA CROSBY

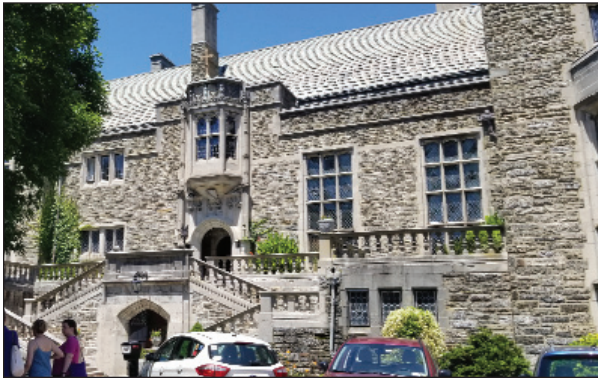
The North Shore Historical Museum sponsored a tour to St Josephat's in Lattingtown recently. The group was welcomed by Brother Andrew, as they gathered outside in the courtyard on a warm sunny day.

The mansion was built as a summer home in 1916 for John Edward Aldred who made his fortune in utilities.

He was director of United Railways and Electric, president of Consolidated Gas, Electric and Power in Baltimore, and the Pennsylvania Water and Power Company and was also the Chairman of the Gillette Safety Razor Company.

The house was called Ormston, Aldred's mother's maiden name, and was designed by architect Bertrum Goodhue in the Tudor Revival style, with landscaping by the Olmstead Brothers, and is on the United States National Register of Historic Places in New York.

The Basilican Order of St. Josephat



The front entrance of the monastery.

bought the property in 1944, at the time when the taxes on the property made it impossible for Aldred, and other wealthy property owners, to keep their Gold Coast mansions. They are a Ukranian, Catholic Brotherhood, headed by The Pope.

According to Brother Andrew, the stone and woodwork is all said to come from England, and the wood from Sherwood Forest in Nottingham, England.

Guests were then led into the front hall and down a corridor to the large room which now serves as a chapel, and services are held every day, both in Ukranian and in English. Following a tour of several other rooms on the main level, guests then went outside to the gardens, where refreshments were served.

NSHM is located at 140 Glen Street in Glen Cove in the restored 1907 Courthouse and Police Station. For further information visit northshorehistoricalmuseum.org



Beautiful icons in the chapel.
Photos: Victoria Crosby

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GRENVILLE BAKER BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

ROBERT RHODES

This month, Grenville Baker Boys & Girls Club lost a great friend and hardworking volunteer in Robert Rhodes. Rob died on July 13th at the age of 70. Rob first joined Grenville Baker Boys Club as a young boy in the 1950's and credited Woody Lewis and the many volunteer coaches at the Club with having a positive influence on him as a boy.

Rob began his lifelong involvement as a Club volunteer in the 9th Grade when he volunteered at the Clam Bake with his friend Tom Colgrove. As a teenager, he volunteered at the Club as a football coach for the younger kids. Rob went on to play Varsity football at Locust Valley High School and graduated in 1967. After a brief career in the world of show horses at the old Gold Coast Equestrian Center in Upper

Brookville, Rob joined his father-in-law at the Country Inn on Oyster Bay Road. A favorite meeting place and historic landmark for the local community, Rob took over and ran the restaurant for 20 years.

As a young dad, Rob became active in the Men's Club and helped cater various Boys and Girls Club events. Rob's own kids, Melissa and Rich, became members of the Club as children. Both Melissa and Rich worked in programming at the Club in their twenties. Although Rich has gone on to a career in insurance, Melissa has remained committed to the Boys & Girls Club mission, serving in Clubs and the national organization throughout the country over the last 20 years.

Over the years, Rob continued to support the Club by serving on the Clam Bake and Pidge Martin Golf Tournament Committees, as well as by providing catering for our Leaders Circle event. Rob was a loyal alumnus and a good friend to all of us at Grenville Baker and he will be sorely missed.

Ray Reyes

25 Years Ago...

By LC Scully

The Leader had begun its 49th year of publication. At nearly the same time, Pidge Martin founded the two clubs that led to the Grenville Baker Boys and Girls Club. The original clubhouse was given by the Baker family in memory of Grenville Baker, the son of Mr. and Mrs. George F. Baker of Vikings Cove who died at his mother's plantation in Tallahassee, FL.

The Rant family participated at a tree dedication at the Grenville Baker Boys and Girls Club in honor of Joseph W. Rant.

St. John's of Lattingtown was undergoing reconstruction at its entrance to make it accessible to those who could not get up the steps.

A federal grant of \$60,000 was given to the village of Bayville for residential rehabilitation as part of the Community Development Block Grant Funds.

Stephen M. Caronia was appointed director of land and new home sales for

Daniel Gale Real Estate.

Locust Valley's Evelyn Johnson was master of ceremonies at a retirement celebration for George K. Wittlinger who stepped down after nearly 50 years at Old Westbury Gardens.

Michael Zucaro of Bayville graduated from SUNY Institute of Technology, Utica.

Midshipman James Lorenzo of Bayville was selected as CCOMM2 at the Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point.

Dominick Cullire of Bayville recently retired from his position with Nassau County.

Several local residents died including: Lewis Waters age 96; Brian Tilton, age 60; Adeline M. Virag of Bayville; and Michael Livolsi of Oyster Bay.

An exceptional New England style colonial, situated on 2.9 serene Centre Island acres, was listed for sale for \$895,000.

Staying Cool at Bayville Library

By VICTORIA SIEGEL

Due to the forecasted heatwave, the Bayville Free Library stayed open extra hours over the hot weekend to serve as a "cooling center" for the residents of Bayville. Many residents showed up to take advantage of the air conditioning and relaxing atmosphere, whether to check their email, play games or just cook up a little fun in the children's room! Visitors even showed up on both days for the Nassau Library Tour that is taking place this summer (for more info on that see <https://tour.nassaulibrary.org/>)! Everyone was very grateful for the extended hours and the relief it provided from these dog days of summer!



The children's room was fun for kids and parents. Photos: Victoria Siegel

50 Years Ago...*By LC Scully*



A devastating fire destroyed a Mill Neck home. The house, part of which was 200 years old, had been part of Kaintuck Farm, the property of the late Stuart Johnson. Set in a hollow and surrounded by trees, it once was reached by going down Kaintuck Lane, over the rail road track and across a wooden bridge. At the time of the fire, the only road leading to the house was Kaintuck Lane, off Feeks Lane. The fire was discovered by some boys who were canoeing on

Kaintuck Pond and from the pond came the only water the Locust Valley firemen could use.

Several local residents died including Guido Rosolino of Oyster Bay, William Boge of Locust Valley and Anna Porteus of Bayville.

All names are spelled as they were when these articles were written, back in the day. If there was a typo then, there is, with regret, still a typo.

Legal Notice

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW C-2019
INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF MILL NECK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before and by the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of Mill Neck, Nassau County, New York at the Mill Neck Village Hall, 32 Frost Mill Road, in said Village on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

The hearing will be on whether to enact proposed Local Law C-2019 which will repeal Chapter 93, "Peddling and Soliciting, in its entirety and add new Chapter 93, "Peddling and Soliciting," to the Code of the Village of Mill Neck. The proposed law will provide the application process to obtain a license for any person, organization, society, association, company or corporation or their agents or representatives to proselytize, canvass, solicit businesses, take order for goods or services or to dis-

tribute handbills, pamphlets or other written material or solicit donations or contributions of money or property or financial assistance of any kind upon the streets, upon private property, by house-to-house canvass or in public places in the Village of Mill Neck.

A copy of proposed Local Law C-2019 is on file at the Village Hall at the above address where it may be reviewed between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Monday through Friday until the time of the hearing.

All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard at said hearing.

By Order of the Board of Trustees

Donna M. Harris
Village Clerk/Treasurer

Dated: July 31, 2019

Obituary

KYTOSKI, Lillian M. of Bayville, on July 28, at age 75. Beloved wife of the Late Joseph. Loving mother of Katherine Abbondandolo (Joseph). Adored grandmother of James, Joseph, Nicholas and Johnpaul. Dear sister of Filomena Hoffman (William), Nate Bifano (Yvonne), Salvatore Bifano (Marilyn), and the late Biffy Bongiorno. Private visitation at Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home, Glen Cove. Former parishoner of St. Hyacinth RC Church, Glen Head, NY. Interment at Holy Rood Cemetery. www.dodgethomas.com

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Reflections of a Bygone Era

“Cloverly Manor” The Estate of Vincent Astor



BY: ORIN Z. FINKLE

Many significant bygone reflections concerning our local area, have perhaps been forgotten by most people. Schools, teaching the current generation, probably don't even dwell on wonderful historic facts concerning our own surrounding neighborhoods. So sad.

This monthly article is geared to keep some of the remarkable memories alive, at least for a while longer, so that youth will hopefully possess or gain some of the knowledge. Well, let's go back into past decades reviewing what I consider to be one bit of noteworthy Long Island North Shore antiquity happenings.

At the age of twenty, William Vincent Astor had instantly become the wealthiest young man in America, when his father, John Jacob Astor IV sadly perished in April of 1912 aboard the sinking ship Titanic. The Astor family had become the first millionaires in our fledgling nation during the early 1800s through a booming fur trading industry in addition to their astute realty purchases.

Vincent, was born in New York City on November 15, 1891 and basically reared by his father, using private tutors and stern discipline. He had scarcely entered Harvard when the Titanic went down with his father John Jacob Astor IV and he thereby inherited close to \$200,000,000 dollars of various assets. He subsequently left school and went to work in the family business which, over the years, he helped to significantly expand.

In later life, Vincent Astor; he dropped the William, reportedly told his third wife



Circa 1957. Vincent Astor at his NYC office. His project “Astor Plaza” is in the background.

Brooke, that when he passed on, she would have “one hell of a good time” giving away an accumulated vast fortune. Brooke believed that money should liberally be spread around “like manure” and so over the four decades after his death she contributed about \$195 million to what she considered very worthy causes.

While effectively working at amassing his assets, Vincent proceeded to become a boundless philanthropist, especially concerned with helping children's organizations and the construction of low income playgrounds. Also, in 1917, when the U. S. entered the war in Europe, he donated his 264 foot yacht Nourmahal to the Navy to be utilized for carrying troops and numerous supplies. He served in the Navy himself and as a true patriot, he placed millions of dollars into a Liberty loan to support the World War I effort.

Vincent Astor did possess the ancestral interest in real estate holdings but apparently was adding on more diverse business concepts than the preceding Astor clan. Some of his many properties included the St. Regis Hotel, the land at 34th Street and Fifth Avenue on which the Empire State Building would be constructed during 1931, The Beechwood mansion in Newport, Rhode Island and his 3000 acre estate, Ferncliff, in Rhinebeck NY. He was a complicated person and quite an astute businessman. His many activities were widely publicized during his lifetime. His photo also appeared on the cover of Time Magazine at various times. However, Vincent Astor passed away from a heart attack at his New York City residence at 130 East 80th Street, on November 6, 1959 at age sixty seven.

Concerning his years spent upon Long Islands North Shore, in the early 1920s, he purchased “Park Hill”, a thirty five acre waterfront estate at what was the very rustic area of Sands Point, owned by renowned yachtsman and New York Yacht Club member William Butler Duncan Jr. It also seems eerie that Astor and Duncan had both dropped their first name of William and that their fathers passed away in the year 1912. During the roaring twenties, Astor developed his purchase of an adjacent 322 acre Sands Point subdivision which he named Harbor Acres. Today, this area remains a prominent, countrified community dating from a charming period as well as displaying more recently constructed beautiful homes designed to blend gracefully with the overall rolling landscape.

Actually, Astor's purchase of the Duncan estate included a fine home built only twenty years prior during 1902 and designed by the prominent architectural firm of Carrere & Hastings. However, the huge structure was promptly demolished on orders by Astor. In 1922, his new brick and granite trimmed, thirty room Cloverly Manor was basically built atop the original footprint and planned by the well-known architectural firm of Delano & Aldrich. They had recently designed Otto Kahn's vast, one hundred room plus mansion, Oheka at Cold Spring Hills.

Astor loved the mansions waterfront views and the convenient location allowing to commute via the Sound, easily into New York City. At the time that he had moved into this summer country estate, Astor had been married since 1914 to childhood playmate Helen Huntington. Years later, by 1940, they divorced but he had again married two more times. However, he never had any children of his own.

What is fascinating about the stately Cloverly Manor residence, aside from its commanding Long Island Sound setting, is its freedom from stilted reminiscence. The



Circa 1928. “Cloverly Manor” at Sands Point. Front entrance court view.

heavy variegated slate roof and brick walls with their whitewashed effect represented the early American period and the stone trimmed window patterns were calculated to be distinctly English. It was fascinating to produce the honest originality of a Norman farmhouse in combination with restrained simplicity and true dignity. The appealing home continues to retain an air of fitting and harmonizing into the floral seaside setting originally and carefully laid out by the truly talented landscape architect of the period, Annette Hoyt Flanders.

Astor loved spending the warmer weather months at this splendid Sands Point home, but eventually during early months of 1933, he sold Cloverly Manor to Mr. Allan J. McIntosh, a prominent member of the New York stock exchange. The beautiful estate has since changed hands several more times over the past eighty years and presently is composed of about sixteen prime waterfront acres. The manor remains a privately owned, treasured for its history and carefully maintained in excellent condition. Meaningful, lovingly preservation of Long Island's “Gatsby Era” estates, such as Cloverly, is actually safeguarding historic structures and traditions of a delightful bygone era that has made the North Shore of Long Island so uniquely special.

My arrival at Cloverly Manor during various occasions, had provided the pleasurable experience of motoring along the scenic countryside. Passing through wide brick covered archway leading into the mansions entrance forecourt, places one into that charming old-world nostalgic atmosphere. I've leisurely roamed about the peaceful terraced grounds and certainly enjoyed exploring the many grand scale rooms boasting magnificent water views. The experience never fails to afford a distinctive aura of majestic tranquility bringing forth the grand lifestyle which was undoubtedly practiced by the Astor's.

Vincent Astor is interred at the picturesque Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, near Tarrytown NY. His wife, Brooke Astor, who passed away in 2007 at age 105, lies peacefully beside him. Mr. Astor certainly was quite a distinguished man of the era whose lifetime of good deeds will continuously be well admired.

Ozfinkle@gmail.com



Circa 1935. Mrs. Vincent Astor, the former Helen Huntington. They were married in 1914. Returning on the ship “Europa” from a musical festival in Bavaria. They divorced in 1940.


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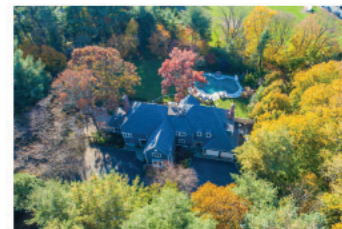
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