

Making A Dream A Reality : The Village Club of Port North

By MICHAEL SCHENKLER

Yes, it is going to happen.

Port North is going to have a Village club.

Although it would be nice to have for next summer, look to Memorial Day 2005 for our ribbon cutting. No, that's not a promise; it's a goal — a target date. It's an optimistic target date.

I, for one, will be working from now until then to insure that we do have a Village Club and it is designed and built to provide for the recreation and lifestyle of the families of Port North.

The Mayor and Trustees of Port North have entrusted me with the Village Club project. They appointed me Chairman of the Port Washington North Village Club Commission. Actually, I asked for the job. Let me explain why.

Like you, I remember reading a brochure and hearing talk of the Village Club, sometime in the future. Then through my involvement on the Bay Walk Steering Committee and then editing the Port North newsletter, I got to touch the Village Club concept close up.

I observed some very overworked volunteer Trustees and a longtime dedicated Mayor who wanted to do the best for our Village. But Village politics, the burden of the ongoing grind, and some competing interests for funds, seemed to place on temporary hold the one project that could truly make a dramatic and permanent difference in our Village.

The creator of the Village Club concept, Noel Ilberg, is moving out of Port North, but his idea must not be allowed to die. I watched other Trustees with other

priorities and very full schedules as I heard proposals for other uses of funds that Noel, the Mayor and several of the Trustees had indicated would be used to build the Village Club.

I offered to champion the project. I asked the Mayor and the Trustees for their commitment of the available one-time funds and a mandate to make the Village Club happen. Last month, they gave it to me.

The Village Club Project

Earmarking the \$875,000 contribution for the developers of Mill Pond Acres (the new senior development of the 41 acres), the \$100,000 contribution from Stop & Shop, and an added \$150,000 by moving the Village Hall out of the new Mill Pond Acres to the Village Club to give us a capital budget of \$1,125,000 to build our small piece of Port North heaven was part of the commitment I received from the Board of Trustees.

Eight acres adjoining Mill Pond were donated to the Village, and shall be the home of the Village Club: a swimming pool; tennis courts; a community center which will include meeting rooms, an auditorium, changing rooms, restrooms and the new Village Hall and administrative office; a parking, and lots of open and green space.

Can you imagine us less than two years from today, sharing our village joyfully?

- A tranquil place of respite
- A pleasant swim
- A place for a quiet meeting
 - A jungle gym for the kids
 - Games for the kids
 - Games for you: chess, bridge, Scrabble or whatever.
 - Cultural and educational programs run by your neighbors
 - And lots more

Living in and raising a family here will be enhanced greatly. Along with the incredible quality of life improvement will likely come a significant property value increase. Our community will be more desirable and a heck of a lot more fun.

Making the Dream a Reality

When I describe our Club to neighbors, many ask about a snack bar, while others have their own twist. Fellow residents of Port North, the Village Club is yours and it shall be built according to your desires, funds permitting.

There is much to be done. And I assure you, I can't do it by myself. Just as the Board of Trustees reached out to me in a new found spirit of expanding the management of the Village through volunteerism, I reach out to you.

We need a finance group to create and oversee both a capital and operating budget.

We need a legal group to help steer us through the morass of regulations, codes, and whatever else you guys do.

We need those with construction and design expertise.

We critically need a large group to reach out to all residents and help us get our surveys back. We must accurately assess usage and needs to utilize our funds most effectively.

We need lots more help than that.

We need you.

This Club – the Village Club of Port North will be a reality, our reality. But it will be better and more effective by the participation of a broad base of residents.

Please join our effort in whatever way you can. If you don't know where you fit in, just volunteer. You can reach me at Club@PortWashingtonNorth.org – just email me your name, address and phone number and put "Village Club" in the subject line.

If you can help or not but are in favor of the Village Club, we need to know you're out there. We need everyone to return a Village Club Survey – see page 7 of this newsletter.

Photocopy it or clip it out and fax it back to me at 718 357-0972 or mail it or drop it at: Village Hall, 1 Soundview Dr., Port Washington, NY 11050.

Your voice matters to the Village.

We need to know you want the Village Club.

Please return your survey.

See you by the pool!



Preliminary Architectural Site Plan of the 8 acre site of the Village Club of Port North.



BOB WEITZNER

Preserving Port North's Character Board Enacts Subdivision Moratorium

In order to preserve our Village's character and study present zoning laws, the Board of Trustees has established a temporary moratorium on all subdivisions of real property within Port North.

Aware of the trend on Long Island, and especially along the north shore of Nassau County, for developers to purchase one or more parcels of property for the purpose of subdividing the property into a greater number of parcels, often demolishing the existing buildings, without regard to the effect the loss of such building, because of its history and/or architectural style, may have upon the community the Board enacted Local Law 8 of 2003.

It recognizes the unique character of the Village of Port Washington North, which is created in substantial part by the size and dimensions of the existing building lots.

That unique character is an essential part of the common plan and scheme of the Village and a valuable right which all of the Village residents share.

It acknowledges that such subdivisions are now occurring within the Village of Port Washington North and if the trend continues to encroach into the Village, the unique character of the Village and certain buildings of special significance worthy of perpetuating may be destroyed.

Cognizant that a large part of the Village is presently nonresidential property and that much of that property may be changing from the present to different uses which may or may not be consistent with the best interests of the Village, and to allow time to investigate and determine whether any changes in the present zoning regulations are needed to protect the unique character and the best interests of the Village, the Board enacted a moratorium effective until December 31, 2004:

(1) on all subdivisions of real property within the Village, and (2) on the issuance of demolition and/or building permits which would result in the demolition of more than 15% of an existing structure or the addition of more than 15% to an existing structure within the Village.

The law provided for applications that were presently under consideration as well as hardship relief variances but basically, it prevents any subdivision of any real property in Port North. It prohibits the Building Department and the Planning Board from processing any applications for the subdivision of real property. And prevents the demolition or the addition of more than 600 square feet or 15%, of a structure, whichever is greater.

The Board has established a "2004 Subdivision Moratorium Commission" to study the issue and report back to the Board. If you are interested in serving on the Commission contact Bob Weitzner Commission Chair at Village Hall.

Local Safe Streets And Traffic Calming Program Grant

In a continued attempt to improve the community by securing grants for local Port North initiatives, the Village has submitted a grant application under the Local Safe Streets and Traffic Calming Program issued by the N.Y.S. Dept. of Transportation.

There is \$2.7 million dollars pool available for municipalities to use for traffic calming and pedestrian/bicyclist safety. Port North is the lead agency on the local grant. However, it is an inter-municipal project with the Villages of Manorhaven and Baxter Estates, the Town of North Hempstead, and Nassau County all involved. Residents For A More Beautiful Port Washington is providing assistance as well.

The scope of the grant is traffic calming and pedestrian/bicycle crossing along and across Shore Road. Concepts such as traffic medians, new and improved crosswalks, elevated intersections, additional crosswalks with pedestrian activated lights, are some of the improvements being considered.

This grant opportunity is benefited by the Walkable Communities Workshop



The Walkable Communities Workshop which was instrumental in the Port North Local Safe Street and Traffic Calming Grant.

that was hosted by Port North in October. That workshop identified many problems that exist along Shore Rd. The participants of that workshop have been engaged to help in the decision making of what specific areas of concern need to be addressed.

Port North hired Cameron Engineering to complete the formal grant application.

"In light of the recent Bay Walk Park

public meetings clearly identifying the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists along Shore Rd, and the need to slow down traffic, as a priority issue, we feel this grant could not be better timed. If successful, it will give us the needed funds necessary to vastly improve Shore Rd. for the entire Port Washington Community" said Trustee Bob Weitzner, who helped write the grant and spearheaded the effort.

Village Club Commission Set

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Washington North established the Port North Village Club Commission (PNVCC), to oversee the design, construction and financing of a Village Club and appointed Michael Schenkler as Chairman.

The PNVCC is charged with the responsibility of assessing the desirability/feasibility of such an entity; and managing the creation of the Port North Village Club.

The Commission was directed to define a capital budget for the Village Club in the vicinity of \$1,125,000 (calculated from the \$875,000 from Mill Pond Acres, \$100,000 from Stop and Shop, and \$150,000 contribution as an offset to building the Village Hall in the Mill Pond Acres Club House). The scope and dimension of the Village Club could change as the desires of the residents are factored into the final plan. The final capital and construction plan will be presented to the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees recognized the significance of this project and the enormous positive impact it can have on the Village and therefore pledges its full and complete cooperation and encourages the same on the part of all those associated with the Village.

Village Club Commission Members

Michael Schenkler - Chair
 Howard Krebs; David Keisman; Mary Snyder; Alan Nelson; Alex Moches; Bob Weitzner; Bob Davis; Steve Grande; Harold Cohen; Daria Hoffman; Jerry Kaniuk; Janet Orloff; Brenda Collins; Steve Cohen; Dan Stelcer

Return Your Village Club Survey

Please help them by filling out you survey - pg 7. You can return your survey to them or drop at Village Hall or fax to 718 357-0972.

Storm Water Management

The Board of Trustees is reaching out for public comment at its Monday, March 8th meeting at 7:30 p.m. on the Village's EPA Storm Water Management Plan. The plan, which has within its scope public education, run-off and erosion control, was put into place last year. Since then, the Village has undertaken various activities towards its implementation. Please join us to offer any comments you may have.

Port North Planning Board 120 Years of Public Service

ne hundred and twenty — that is the combined number of years of service that members of the Port North Planning Board have devoted to our village.

Under its Chairman Thomas Imperatore, members Dr. Irwin Kellner, Noel Ilberg, Martin Diesing and Stanley L. Ronell, ensure that subdivision applications are processed in accordance with all required village codes and that the welfare of the residents is protected. Almost exclusively, the Board relies on expert guidance in its decision making process, be it from a legal and/or technical aspect. In that regard, the Board relies heavily on legal counsel provided by its attorney, Chris Prior and technical expertise by our Village Engineer, Richard Weber.

According to our Village Code, the Planning Board is empowered to confirm, modify, change or supplement the zoning regulations as part of a plot plan application submitted to the Board — very often, as a subdivision for the purpose of erecting

either a residential dwelling and/or a commercial establishment. In that capacity, the Planning Board was extensively involved in the 41 acres project, having held numerous public hearings during which public input was welcomed and considered in the decision making process. Very often these hearings provide the applicant(s) with some valuable suggestions, which in the long run not only enhance the end product but most importantly result in generating a result that is in the best interest of the village.

Presently the Planning Board is busy with two important projects, those being the Bay Walk and the Reclamation of the Waterfront.

Come and see your Planning Board at work. You are always welcome at any public meetings. Watch the announcements.

– Stan Ronell

Bossa Nova: A Brazilian Culinary Beat

Mayor Tom Pellegrino with Michael and Yvette Txxxxx (right) cutting the opening ribbon at Bossa Nova. Txxxxx, proprietor of Port North favorite Romantico has opened Bossa Nova, an upbeat Brazilian Steakhouse, just a few steps from his fine Italian eatery. Michael's Italian heritage is complemented by the Brazilian background of his wife Yvette, one of the attractions of the new eatery on Port North's restaurant row.



photos: Evelyn Burack

Port North Kid And The U.S. Attorney General



Seven-year old Port North resident Scott Weitzner and his Golden Retriever McKenzie. Scott was held out as an example of our national spirit by Attorney General John Ashcroft.

Attorney General John Ashcroft began his remarks at the recent 90th anniversary celebration of the founding of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League by acknowledging a seven-year-old Port North Resident.

Ashcroft shared a handwritten letter received by his legal counselor Chuck Rosenberg, which was written by his young Port North nephew, Scott Weitzner.

“Dear Chuck,

To help find Osama Bin Laden you should use German Shepherds because they have great sense of smell. You will need about nine thousand of them. But to find him you should get some of his clothes and let all the dogs sniff it. Good luck.

*Love,
Scott Weitzner”*

Ashcroft said, “This is a nation of problem solvers. We are a people who do not shirk from moral challenge. And besides, it really isn't a bad idea.

Scott's letter is a testament to our national spirit and the creativity and ingenuity that flourish in freedom. It is a testament to just how much our terrorist enemies underestimated the resources and resolve of the American people.

And might we add: Port North kids, too!

Big Port North L.I. Village Contest

The following are synonyms for towns and Villages on Long Island. Port North resident and contest submitter Bill Klein makes it easier by giving you the first answer: Lengthy Shore is Long Beach. He wishes you luck on the rest.

Win Dinner For Two At A Local Restaurant.

Email your name, street and answers to news@portwashiongtonnorth.org and put CONTEST in the subject line or drop your entry at Village Hall.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Lengthy Shore | 14 Rocky Shore |
| 2 Sunrise Field | 15 Taxless Harbor |
| 3 Monarch's Dot | 16 Ben's Geometric Figure |
| 4 Wine President | 17 Animal Playground |
| 5 Additional Wealth | 18 Cold Mouth |
| 6 Droopy Port | 19 Jamaican Speaks |
| 7 Jump Pig | 20 Partially Empty Fields |
| 8 Old Lamb Village | 21 Liz Bookleaf |
| 9 Hairless Victory | 22 Red Neck Town |
| 10 Sunset Fruit | 23 Core Stretch |
| 11 Ordinary Scene | 24 Mend Swine |
| 12 Ocean Car | 25 Eastern Dot |
| 13 Smart Liquids | 26 Envious Harbor |

Share The News: Please let us know about you good news: your birth, wedding & engagement announcements, your awards, kids, and charitable endeavors!

The Big Port North Contest - The Answers & Winners

CONTEST ANSWERS

Contestants were asked to identify the pictures at the right: Answers are below photos,

CONTEST WINNERS

Winners of Dinner for 2 at Romantico or at the new Bossa Nova restaurant on Shore Rd. selected at random from correct entries:

Marnie Keane, Dock Lane
Mary Weinum, Sndvw Grdns

HONORABLE MENTION

Ellen Nelson, Driftwood Dr.
Dolores Waters, Sndview Grdns
Bob Keane, Dock Lane
Jonny Schechner, Driftwood Dr.
Lisa Schechner, Driftwood Dr.

photos: Allison Schenkler



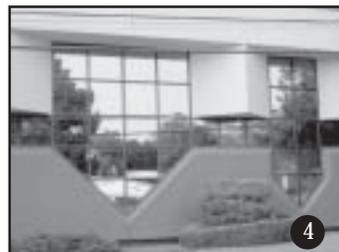
Village Hall (adjoining the Roslyn Saving Bank).



Mill Pond (from Harbor Rd.).



Stop and Shop (under construction).



L.I. Alzheimers Assoc. building (formerly Hyde Ins.).



Behind Soundview Shopping (by Waterview).



Pleasant Avenue (it's the biggest hill in Village).

Return The Survey! fax 718-357-0972; Drop or mail to Club, Village Hall, 1 Soundview Dr, Port Wash., NY 11050

PORT NORTH VILLAGE CLUB COMMISSION

Resident's Survey #1

Please return this survey: **fax to: 718 357-0972**
mail or drop: "Club," Village Hall, 1 Soundview Dr., Port Wash., NY 11050

Your assistance in completing this survey will be extremely helpful in designing the Village Club to meet the needs and wishes of the residents of Port North. We are attempting to reach as many of you as possible and since we are a volunteer group, request that even if you have no additions to the present concept, you return this form filling out at least the top half. Thank you for helping us build your Village Club.

Name _____ sex ___m ___f ___age ("+" okay)
 Address _____ Port Washington NY 11050
 Phone number _____ email _____
Others at address (please give name; if adult, please provide at least age range)
 _____ relationship _____ sex ___m ___f ___age
 _____ relationship _____ sex ___m ___f ___age
 _____ relationship _____ sex ___m ___f ___age
 _____ relationship _____ sex ___m ___f ___age
(attach additional page if necessary)

On all of the following questions, please check all answers that apply.

Club facilities my family would probably use:

- Pool
- Tennis Courts
- Lounge chairs
- Basketball court
- Kid's playground
- Snack Bar

I view the club as a place my family can go for :

- Exercise
- Recreation
- Family activity
- Socialization
- Fun

My family would probably use the club:

- In the summer
- All year round
- Weekends
- During the week

I would be willing to pay extra for:

- Additional Tennis courts (more than 2)
- Summer Day Camp
- Restaurant
- Tennis court bubble (yr round)
- Pool bubble/enclosure (yr round)

Since the building will be available year round, I would like to see the following types of programs:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate bridge | <input type="checkbox"/> Mommy and Me |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community art gallery | <input type="checkbox"/> Yoga/Aerobics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art/cultural programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Teen center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Board Games (chess, backgammon, scrabble, etc) | <input type="checkbox"/> Children center (crafts, games) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental workshops | <input type="checkbox"/> Homework help |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hobby workshops (digital photography, _____) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please suggest): _____ | |

- I want a Village Club for the exclusive use of Port North residents.
- If the price per summer was in the \$400 per family range, I would likely join.
- I'd like to help with the Village Club Project, contact me.
- I can help by getting neighbors to take the survey

Please consider the following suggestions for the Port North Village Club:

Please tell the Board of Trustees that I approve their efforts in building a Village Club for the Residents of Port North.

Signature _____ Date _____

THE PORT NORTH NEWS

... for our neighbors ...
... by our neighbors ...

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Village Clerk: Palma Torrisi

Robert Weitzner

Janet Orloff

Gary Levi

Noel Ilberg

Trustees:

Mayor: Thomas Pellegrino

Port Washington, NY 11050

1 Soundview Drive

Port Washington North

Incorporated Village of

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2004

PORT WASHINGTON, NY

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PRESORTED STANDARD

Port North Bulletin Board

page 8

Important

Board of Trustee Meetings

- Monday, March 8,
- Monday, March 22
- Monday April 12

Village Hall at 7:30pm

BOT meetings are usually held the
2nd Monday of each month at 7:30pm

If you support the Village Club Concept

RETURN YOUR SURVEY!

The Village Club Commission needs your participation. Please complete your Village Club Survey and fax it to 718 357-0972 or drop it or mail it to "Club" Village Hall 100 Soundview Drive, Port Washington, NY 11050

We Can't Build it Without Your Support!

Volunteer To Help Port North

Commissions:

- Village Club
- Moratorium
- Newsletter

CALL VILLAGE HALL

883-5900 or email:

news@portwashingtongnorth.org

Share The News

Please send your birth, wedding & engagement announcements to us! Inform us if a new family moves to Port North!

Let us know about your awards, kids, charitable endeavors or good news! You can reach us at: news@portwashingtongnorth.org

or News, Village Hall, 1 Soundview Drive, Port Washington, NY 11050

Visit Port North Online:

www.portwashingtongnorth.org

Our website is under construction but please stop by for a visit

email: webmaster@portwashingtongnorth.org

HELP WANTED

Editor & Writers

for this newsletter

news@portwashingtongnorth.org

or call: 883-5900

Port North Election Day

Tuesday, March 16

VOTE

Village Hall

noon to 9:00pm