

VILLAGE OF PORT WASHINGTON NORTH  
June 2005



# Port North Honors Tom Pellegrino; Dedicates Park

## YOU'RE INVITED!

Sunday, June 12, 2005  
at 2-5 PM

Tent at Stop & Shop parking lot  
overlooking the waterfront  
& Tom Pellegrino Park

Join the fun at the dedication of the  
Thomas J. Pellegrino Waterfront Park  
celebrating our Village's natural  
resources and the vision of the man who  
served Port North for 35 years.

Bring your family to enjoy the festive  
atmosphere with food, the big band  
sounds of Rhythm, Reeds and Brass,  
and neighbors sharing the spirit that  
makes Port North a very special place.

### Bring The Kids

Sunday, June 12, 2-5 PM

## Food, Music, Fun



**BOB WEITZNER**

## A Message From The Mayor

*Dear Neighbors*

There is so much I'd like to share with you as this, the first newsletter of our new Village administration goes to press.

I want each Village resident to realize that the beautiful Port North we live in has an incredibly hard-working Board of Trustees and staff that keeps it that way by providing for the quality of life and operation of municipal government that the residents of our Village have come to expect.

I am privileged to be part of such a team. Our Board of Trustees, Mike Schenkler, Steve Cohen and Daria Hoffman, are visionaries, business-minded and creative forces that will not let our Village receive anything but the best. They inspire me and the staff daily. They share the work burden and I am grateful to each of them.

On page 3 of this newsletter are some of the thoughts I shared when I was sworn into office; when you have a moment, please scan the page and feel free to send your thoughts to portnorthmayor@optonline.com. We are always interested in the feedback of our Village residents.

The most important thing I want to express in this, my first Village newsletter as Mayor, is our entire Village's gratitude and respect for the man who has led Port North for three and a half decades.

Mayor Tom Pellegrino has set a standard of service in New York State that is unrivalled. He has set a standard of quality of life in Port North that keeps our home values high and our neighborhood clean and safe. He has also set a standard of preparing others to take on the task of municipal governance, for which I am personally grateful.

Please join us as we honor Mayor Tom, his 35 years of service, and officially name our new Waterfront Park in his honor.

Celebrate Tom Pellegrino Waterfront Park with family and friends on June 12, 2-5pm, in the tent at Stop & Shop Plaza.

Sincerely,

Bob Weitzner



**Honoring Tom  
You're Invited  
June 12, 2-5pm**

**-see page 4**

## Inside Port North .....

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## An Update: The Village Club

The Village Hall/ Village Club project is alive and well. In May, after months of negotiations, we finally received the deed to our 8-acre parcel, behind the new senior development. Addressing the \$1 million in fees from the developers, we earmarked the entire amount for the construction of the Village Hall/Village Club. We have received the first \$75,000 payment, expect the balance over the next year and are exploring any additional fees that may be due.

As we have reported previously, we have entered into negotiations with Danaher, owners of the Thompson Industries, and hope to shortly reach a conclusion on our efforts to, in effect, swap our slightly less than 8-acre parcel for their almost 11-acre parcel off Shore Road. The Thompson property contains the Village's "great lawn," a 10,000 sq. ft. structure known as the Woods Building which would serve as the Village Hall and Village Club. Refurbish the building, add a swimming pool, a kiddie pool, a snack bar and a couple of tennis courts and we're off and running. Our vision is to find additional funding from public sources to convert a large portion of the property to a public park.

We have performed an environmental study on the Thompson Property and have retained the services of N2 Design and Architecture, P.C., working with Consulting Engineers Dvirka and Bartillucci, to test the building and property for feasibility and to provide initial sketches and ideas for the Village Hall/Club Program.

At the end of this process, in the not very distant future, we hope to be able to present to the Village residents, a final site for our Village Hall/Village Club and an initial construction budget including the source of non-tax funds to complete it. We will also begin to develop an operating budget which will present alternatives to ensure sufficient funding to maintain operations.

The process has been long and arduous for those involved in it. However, we shortly expect to reconvene the Village Club Commission and begin the task of planning, design, planning operations, establishing a membership committee and looking forward to the moment we can say to you all . . .see you at the pool!



Marking a new era in our Village, the Port Washington North newly elected Board of Trustees celebrates on election night with friends and family at the Village's newest restaurant, now open as "360 Degrees." (Left to right): Daria Hoffman, Mayor Bob Weitzner, Mike Schenkler, Steve Cohen. photos by: Allison Schenkler

## A New Board, A New Era, A Little Fun



Reading The Election Results: Bob, Scott and Rachel Weitzner join Joe D'Alonzo and Mike Schenkler watching Mayor Tom Pellegrino.

A moment of relaxation: after the returns  
Treasurer  
George Stack,  
Joan Pellegrino,  
Deputy Clerk  
Linda Kropacek,  
Village Clerk  
Palma Torrisi



The evening's roundtable (clockwise from left ): Jerry Sharfman for Congressman Gary Ackerman, North Hempstead Councilman Wayne Wink, Supt. of Public Works Tom McDonnough, Mike Schenkler, North Hempstead Councilman Fred Pollack, Planning Board member Stan Ronnel.

# Weitzner Ushers In A New Era In Port North

*Abridged from Mayor Bob Weitzner's Inaugural Address April 11, 2005*

Good evening. It's an honor and a privilege to serve as your new Mayor. For three years I have been part of what I call the best club you can be elected to. As Mayor, I hope to continue the legacy Mayor Tom has left, and if possible, improve upon it. And that certainly cannot happen without the help of the hardest working, most proactive board this peninsula has ever seen. Mike, Steve and Daria, I thank you all for your support and guidance, and look forward to helping you complete the initiatives you have currently started, or will bring to the board in the future.

**Quality of Life:** Some describe Port North as paradise. We need to keep it that way. Services and amenities that our Village offers must be second to none. We will continue to provide and, where possible, improve our services, including street sweeping, snow removal, leaf and garbage pickup and road repair. Rusted and illegible signs in our Village should be a thing of the past. We have been acquiring waterfront property and developing it as recreational open space, aggressively pursuing road projects to improve our streets and sidewalks, and working diligently to prepare plans for the proposed new Village Hall and Village Club project will serve well in helping to make homes in Port Washington North more desirable to own, and a pleasure to live in.

**Sense of community:** How many of you moved into Port North, without even knowing what that meant? What was the big difference between living in the Terrace section or in Soundview or Smull Place? It takes time, years in some cases, to know who is running the Village, what services are offered, and in some cases, where Village Hall even is. That's got to change. We will explore ways of educating and informing new residents of the virtues of living in Port North and helping them get acclimated in our Village. We will also reach out to our commercial business owners to explore ways of reminding our residents to shop Port North first. We must continue to inform our residents of the ways to communicate with our Village — not just monthly meetings, but the internet, the cell



Bob Weitzner installed by Tom Pellegrino.

phone and written correspondence. And Village Hall must continue to respond promptly to those correspondences.

**Restoring our gateways and aesthetics:** People need to know they are entering Port Washington North. It is not enough to just see a blue oval sign with our Village's name on it. We have to clean up our existing Village of Port Washington North gateways and create small gardens at these locations.

**Safety:** I am tired of seeing people speeding down Radcliff, whizzing through Soundview, and using Shore Road as a speedway. We will expand local law enforcement; add new signs to alert motorists that we live in a community of families. We are also reaching out to LIPA to address the frequent loss of power in our Village.

**Trees:** We will establish the Village's first tree assessment policy, which will include inventorying type and condition, and creating a process by which residents are notified in advance of any impending removal. We have hired an independent arborist who will inspect any trees that are questionable, and he will report his findings to the board. No tree will be cut down, except in dire emergencies, without board approval.

**Tight fiscal policy and controls:** In light of Roslyn, the Village has instituted tight financial management controls and produces the most comprehensive reports for our Board and residents in our Village's history. We are financially very healthy and will continue to employ the necessary changes to keep us that way.

**Technology:** We have a website that keeps reinventing itself, and that will

continue. Our office is becoming more automated. A day will come where residents can come up to the front desk and access their files, obtain information, and receive forms via computer, instead of sifting through mounds of paper files. We are currently digitizing all building records that will be available on a computer and also protected off site.

**Upzoning:** We are forming committees to explore upzoning, so our existing districts conform better to the vision of what Port North should look like today and in the future.

**Challenges ahead:** We must continue to pursue sources of funding for our Village. Last year we were awarded three grants. We will continue to explore ways of gaining access to funds to pay for waterfront acquisition and restoration road improvements, and specific projects. Road repair and snow removal represent a large part of our budget. We will explore ways to reduce those costs, including researching the prospect of creating a public works dept.

**The Village Hall/Village Club project is moving forward:** We are committed to building a new Village Hall. We must have our own Village Hall that can accommodate our residents and provide the services we are entitled to. The Village Club plan is very much alive. What we need is to decide on a location to build it, do the due diligence on how it will financially work, and bring that plan to the community for review.

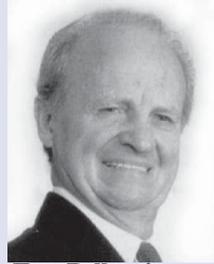
The proposed land swap of 8 acres for the 11-acre Thomson Industries site has far reaching implications for our Village and the community. We will continue to work toward communicating with the Village and the Port Washington community of its virtues. We believe the securing of usable open and recreation space near our waterfront will not only benefit Port North residents, but Port Washington residents as well.

**One final note:** We are a board of dreamers who see the future for our Village and our community, and will work hard to achieve nothing short of greatness for Port Washington North. What I ask of the community is to join us, assist us in achieving this greatness. The saying many hands make light work has never meant so much as it does today. Thank you all, and God bless Port Washington North.

***You're invited to a party:***

# To Dedicate A Park And Salute A Living Legend

Please join the Village of Port Washington North as we have some fun and celebrate local history on June 12, 2005. With the dedication of the Thomas J. Pellegrino Waterfront Park, we will begin the process of the Shore Road and waterfront restoration. The park will serve as a place for residents and visitors of Port to come and enjoy the beauty of the harbor that drew early settlers to the area centuries ago. The park also represents a present appreciation of the wonderful natural resource of which the community was built upon and a commitment to keep its majesty for the future.



**Tom Pellegrino**

This day will also celebrate the man whose name will be attached to the park, Thomas J. Pellegrino. After serving the Village of Port Washington North for 35 years -- as the longest-serving Mayor in New York State -- we will pay tribute to his vision for the community that he cherishes.

The afternoon will be a festive celebration of community with the big band sounds of Rhythm, Reeds and Brass, food, and neighbors sharing the spirit that continues to make Port North the special place it is.

Please join us and bring the family.



## Dedication Of Tom Pellegrino Waterfront Park

**June 12, 2005, 2 – 5PM Bring The Kids!**

At the tent on the Stop & Shop parking lot, overlooking the waterfront



## Home Goods Is Open!



**IT'S OPEN!!! A recent early Sunday morning ribbon cutting by Mayor Weitzner (top) and Home Goods (bottom) is now in Stop&Shop Plaza, serving all your home furnishing, gift and shopping needs.**

## Share Your Thoughts

*Email to the editor:*

After living in Port North for 62 years, I moved to Manorhaven temporarily while awaiting the completion of my condo at Mill Pond Acres. I picked up the February 2005 newsletter at the village office today and must commend Michael Schenkler. The newsletter is attractive and worthy of reading. One negative comment: why does the masthead have photos of Port locations that are *not located in Port North*? I love Shish Kebab for good food and for Ayhan's community involvement and I surely love our wonderful library, but I think that both are located in Baxter Estates or, if not, they are in the unincorporated area of P.W. Surely, Port North must have some pretty vistas. I look forward to being back in Port North very soon and will look forward to receiving any communications about the Village via email. Sincerely,

--Joyce D. Rudnick

Editor's note: Joyce, It is your newsletter written for the residents of our Village. We've taken your suggestion, checked our photo files and sent my kids out shooting, and changed the masthead photos. We welcome reader input and suggestions. You can reach us at: [news@portwashingtongnorth.org](mailto:news@portwashingtongnorth.org).

--Mike

# A New Era: It Doesn't Get Much Better Than This!

By MICHAEL SCHENKLER

Our Mayor, Bob Weitzner, has shared with you his vision for our future Village. I wanted to use my limited column space to share just a brief part of what is being done for you by our Board of Trustees. Daria, Steve, Bob and I have tackled and accomplished a great deal in the brief period of time since we've taken over the reins of the Village in April. Not complete, but here's a list of recent accomplishments, not in any particular order:

- The awarding of two State Grants totaling \$550,000 for the first phase of Bay Walk Park brings Port North into the leadership role on the peninsula park issue and brings our Village residents and neighbors a beautiful waterfront place in which to relax and enjoy.
- We received our 8-acre property worth more than \$10 million — paving the way for our new Village Hall/Village Club Park on one of two Port North parcels.
- Serious progress has been made and negotiations proceed for the swap of our 8 acres for the Thompson 11 acres offering us a more central Village location adjacent to the waterfront, with three additional acres and what appears to be a valuable usable building for the Village Hall/Club preserving the Village Green/Great Lawn as the center of Port North. If completed, we have effectively prevented big box stores,



or traffic-and truck-producing factories from occupying this former industrial site while recapturing it for open/recreational/municipal use.

- Effective Board of Trustees supervision of the new senior development closing process has identified significant additional fees due to the Village which we are in the process of collecting.
- We anticipate the imminent first closings and the arrival of new Village residents to our Senior Development - Mill Pond Acres.
  - We have passed new legislation which has ended the building of two-family houses in Port North.
  - When Romantico Restaurant put up a sign without a permit which offended many residents, we were able to resolve the difficulty to everyone's apparent satisfaction — a satisfied business owner, a satisfied Board of Trustees and a positive step for Village aesthetics. Look for a replacement sign shortly.
  - Smithtown Bank joins Radio Shack in Stop & Shop Plaza offering a new friendlier personal banking service.
  - The hoopla is over and Home Goods is open, providing a mecca to the home and decorating conscious. A new optometrist is to join that part of the center formerly known as Delco Plaza, bringing that Port North venerable shopping strip, which currently houses the Village Hall, to capacity.
  - A new kids party and cooking school



**Michael Schenkler is sworn in as Deputy Mayor by Mayor Bob Weitzner.**

has opened at Soundview Market Place. Ace Hardware is set to open at the former Pergament site bringing us some nuts and bolts. And you'll be able to buy your Father's Day cards at a new Hallmark Store which will face the entrance of King Kullen.

- 360 Degrees makes its culinary debut in Port North (see below).
- Engineering is beginning for roadwork on Soundview Dr. between Schooner & Cove and between Fisherman & Shore Rd. -- a first step of a program to effectively maintain our roads.
- Planning is underway to implement our Shore Road Traffic Calming Grant bringing safety and beauty to our major thoroughfare.
- The Board of Trustees passed a most effective budget and set out an ambitious year, at less than a 3% increase.
- We have collected all our taxes due.
- And . . . We're working hard and enjoying it!

*Comments: news@portwashingtonnorth.org*

## 360 Degrees

The most glorious location in our Village, where Mill Pond meets the Long Island Sound by Shore Road, is the new home of a culinary delight. 360 Degrees offers an exciting and different menu – featuring Central and South Asian specialties plus steaks, grilled seafood, sandwiches, pastas and more with especially exciting appetizers.

Five Spice Seared Tuna with Soba noodles was the perfect appetizer — the Wasabi Oil which I requested in addition to their complex Asian dipping sauce, created an excellent, just-hot-enough experience with the tuna fresh enough to be right off the boat.

The Prawns Thai Thai were with extra heat and memorable. Also with considerable heat were the Lamb Rogen Josh and Lamb Vindaloo, both tasty lamb stews over rice – we chose a

medley of beautifully prepared grilled veggies instead of the rice. An interesting offering of breads are a perfect complement to the meal. When venturing into the South Asian part of the menu, we suggest you negotiate the amount of spice you want with one of the very accommodating wait staff.

360 Degrees is planning an outdoor second-story deck facing both the pond and Sound, which will offer the best dining views on the peninsula.

The menu is too diverse to share in this small space. However, the interestingly prepared quality food, the ambiance, the service, the beautiful vistas, make 360 Degrees a well rounded alternative to our other local eateries -- all within a budget that doesn't feel like a steak house. --MS

**360 Degrees great food and beautiful views of Mill Pond and Manhasset Bay.**

# Port Washington North Summary Budget

## GENERAL FUND

### VILLAGE OF PORT WASHINGTON NORTH

#### SUMMARY OF BUDGET / TAX LEVY

Period June 1, 2005 to May 31, 2006	2005	2006
Administration	141,400	151,934
Legal	130,432	126,750
Elections	2,500	3,050
Village Hall / Operations	77,337	64,441
Insurance, Judgements, Taxes	189,600	192,219
Contingency	100,000	200,000
Fire Department Expenditures	268,177	239,136
Building Department	37,250	45,450
Engineers & Consultants	41,650	30,000
Public Works / Highways	266,300	377,000
Snow Removal, Sand & Salt	83,000	123,000
Street Lighting	28,550	31,550
Village Club / Village Hall (Capital Project)	50,000	550,000
Trees, Parks & Beautification	20,000	20,000
Planning, Zoning, Community Services	20,300	20,300
Employee Benefits	90,828	80,917
Debt Maintenance	48,938	47,625
<b>Total Use of Funds</b>	<b>1,596,262</b>	<b>2,303,371</b>

Real Estate Taxes	1,061,257	1,105,555
Non-Tax Revenue	267,455	670,800
State Aid	123,542	117,016
Appropriated Fund Balance	144,008	410,000

<b>Total Source of Funds</b>	<b>1,596,262</b>	<b>2,303,371</b>
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Taxable Assessment (Net)	10,046,594	10,193,384
<b>Tax Rate (Tax Levy / Net Value)</b>	<b>10.5634%</b>	<b>10.8458%</b>



**George Stack takes the oath again as Port North Treasurer.**

## A New Board, A New Budget

Port North has a new balanced budget, which meets all of the Village's needs, with less than a 3% increase over the previous year thanks to the efforts of Treasurer George Stack and the new Board of Trustees.

This carefully crafted financial plan provides for Village operations, new street, sidewalk and tree work, all likely contingencies and includes from one-time, non-tax revenues, the initial phase of planning and construction costs of the new Village Hall/Village Club.

The Board has also budgeted \$8,000 to continue the Village's practice of supporting community programs. In the past, these funds went to the Port Washington Senior Center (\$6,000) and Port Counselling Center (\$2,000) for youth programs.

Written proposals from residents are encouraged to help identify worthy "Community Development Programs." If you have any suggestions, you may email us at [news@PortWashingtonNorth.org](mailto:news@PortWashingtonNorth.org) or mail us at Village Hall.

Waterfront Park funds in the amount of \$550,000 and Shore Road Traffic Calming funds of \$280,000 are not reflected in the budget since they are from State Grants.

## Manhasset Bay Protection Committee



**Bob Keane is sworn in as Commissioner of Environmental Affairs**

*Commissioner of Environmental Affairs Bob Keane, reports on a recent Manhasset Bay Protection Committee meeting:*

The Town of North Hempstead was awarded three grants: \$100,000 for a shoreline trail planning from Town Dock to Manhasset Park; \$25,000 for wetlands restoration on Hempstead Harbor; and \$75,000 to plan a blue trail (kayaks, canoes, etc).

Port North led the way with \$550,000 in Waterfront Park grants.

The Town is planning a kayak regatta for mid- August and is hoping to have a Town Dock kayak launch by this summer. Port has a new kayak organization.

Water quality testing has been approved for a second year -- volunteers are needed.

Harborfest is June 5th -- hope for sun as the last few years have been wet ones.

Storm drain marking is to begin soon, contact me at Village Hall for more information on how children's organizations may help to do the work.

Nassau County will be conducting a storm water logo contest for kids between the ages of 5-13. Information is presented on [www.manhassetbayprotectioncommittee.org](http://www.manhassetbayprotectioncommittee.org).

## Port North Wins 3 Grants

You'll see the work begin shortly.

Port Washington North is on the move. Under the leadership of Mayor Bob Weitzner, the Village has submitted and won three State Grants bringing the Village a total of \$700,000-plus to build for our waterfront park and make Shore Road a safer, more beautiful thoroughfare for the peninsula.

For Bay Walk Waterfront Park, a total of \$550,000 in Land Water Conservation Fund Grants were awarded to the Village by the NYS Department of State (\$300,000) and the NYS Parks Department (\$250,000).

The NYS Dept. of Transportation award of \$280,000 under the Local Safe Streets and Traffic Calming Program is for a Port North grant entitled: A Safer Shore Road For The Residents Of The Port Washington Peninsula.

As the planning and engineering of the Shore Road grant enters its final stage, anticipate work to begin by summer's end.

Planning for the Bay Walk Park was done under a previous grant and first phase construction should begin this fall.

In both cases, the Village has worked closely with the Town and neighboring municipalities, but Port North took the lead and won the competitive grants for the improvements that will get underway shortly.

Smile as you go by!



**A new friendlier bank has joined the Village in Stop & Shop Plaza. The Bank of Smithtown, offering coffee and a user-friendly style, can be found just to the right of the lighthouse.**



**Watch for the opening of the new Hallmark store in the corner of the Soundview Marketplace facing King Kullen. Also, a new Ace Hardware is coming to the Pergament site and a new Cooking School and Party Place has joined the Soundview shopping center.**

**You're invited to a party:  
The dedication of  
Tom Pellegrino Waterront Park  
June 12, 2-5pm the tent in Stop & Shop Plaza**

Mayor: Robert Weitzner  
Trustees: Steve Cohen  
Daria Hoffman  
Michael Schenkler  
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Port North News Editor:  
Michael Schenkler  
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NEWSLETTER JUNE 2005  
Incorporated Village of  
Port Washington North  
71 Old Shore Road  
Port Washington, NY 11050

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**Port North Bulletin Board**

**Farrell Jones  
1926 - 2005**

Nassau County lost a hero and many Soundview old-timers lost a friend, with the passing of Farrell Jones, 79.

Jones, a 30-plus year resident of Driftwood Dr., champion of Civil Rights, Nassau's first black Deputy County Exec and the first Chairman of the Nassau County Commission of Human Rights, broke the color barrier here in Soundview in 1961.

To his neighbors, Farrell was an annual fixture walking with Democratic petitions in hand, always ready to stop and share his warmth and sense of humor.

He is survived by his twin daughters Jacqueline and Joanne and four grandchildren. A memorial service is scheduled for 2 pm June 4 at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock.

**Port Washington Calendar**

- June 6: Harborfest, Town Dock
- June 12: Dedication Pellegrino Park, 2-5pm tent, Stop&Shop lot.
- June 27: Port North Bd. of Trustees Mtg, 7:30pm Village Hall
- July 25: Port North Bd. of Trustees Mtg, 7:30pm Village Hall
- Aug 4-7: Port Summer Show, Schreiber H.S. Auditorium
- Aug 22: Port North Bd. of Trustees Mtg, 7:30pm Village Hall

**Street Sweeping Schedule:**

June 9, 23; July 7, 21; Aug 4, 18; Sept. 1, 15, 29; Oct 13

**Board of Trustees Meetings**

The Board of Trustees will be meeting at 7:30 PM at Village Hall, 71 Old Shore Rd. on the following dates:  
2005: Jun. 27, Jul. 25, Aug. 22, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 28, Dec. 19.  
2006: Jan. 23, Feb. 1, Feb. 27, Mar. 27, Apr. 3, Apr. 24.

Note: Most meetings are on the last Monday of each month

**www.portwashingtonnorth.org**

Our Village's website is presently still being perfected but is certainly worth a visit. Kudos to the work of Commissioner of Internet Services, our neighbor Darin Langone.

The site now includes Village meeting agendas and minutes, the new fee schedule, and a link to the complete Village Code. You can reach Darin at: [webmaster@portwashingtonnorth.org](mailto:webmaster@portwashingtonnorth.org)

**Port North  
Newsletter**

The Port North Newsletter is published by the Village of Port Washington North to keep our residents informed. If you have any ideas, suggestions, contests or submissions, you can reach us at:

[news@portwashingtonnorth.org](mailto:news@portwashingtonnorth.org)  
-Mike Schenkler, editor

**Writers  
ideas and contests  
Wanted**

**email:**  
[news@portwashingtonnorth.org](mailto:news@portwashingtonnorth.org)  
or call: 883-5900