

## September 2023

Dear Residents of Port Washington North,

I hope that you have enjoyed a wonderful summer in our beautiful village. As the days grow shorter and the hint of fall is in the air, I wanted to take a moment to connect with you all and extend my warmest wishes for the upcoming season.

I hope you've had the chance to relish the beaches, parks, and community events that make our village so special during these summer months. It's been heartwarming to witness the sense of togetherness and unity that define Port Washington North. Our village's spirit truly shines brightest when we come together to celebrate, support one another, and create lasting memories.

As September approaches, a new chapter begins for many of our families as students eagerly prepare to head back to school. The start of a new school year brings excitement and the promise of new opportunities for our children. To the students, teachers, and parents alike, I wish you a successful and rewarding academic year ahead. May this year's journey of learning and growth be filled with accomplishments, friendships, and enriching experiences.

While we embrace the transitions that this time of year brings, I also want to emphasize the importance of safety, particularly on our roads. As we adjust to new routines and schedules, it's essential that we remain vigilant and cautious while driving. Please remember to adhere to speed limits, stop signs, and traffic signals. Let's work together to ensure the safety of pedestrians, cyclists, and fellow motorists. Our collective efforts can make a significant difference in maintaining the security and well-being of our community.

Our village thrives because of the active engagement of our residents and the bonds we share. Let's continue to foster a sense of belonging and look out for one another as we head into the fall season.

Wishing you all a safe and fruitful transition back to school and a wonderful autumn ahead.

Warmest regards,

Mayor Bob Weitzner <u>mayor@portwashingtonnorth.org</u>



## **Spotted Lanternfly Concern**

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets has confirmed that the Spotted Lanternfly, an invasive insect, has been found in 19 counties in New York State as of August 2021. A few residents in the Village have spotted these pests. DEC is working with the Department of Agriculture and Markets and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) to address the Spotted Lanternfly issue.

IF YOU SEE A SPOTTED LANTERNFLY:

- Take a picture.
- Note the location, such as the address or GPS coordinates.
- Send this information to the email <u>spottedlanternfly@agriculture.ny.gov</u>.
- If you see any infestation contact Village Hall at 1-516-883-5900.



## September 2023

## Dayton Park and Pellegrino Park Shoreline Restoration Project



The Village of Port Washington North is pleased to announce that the long awaited FEMA funded project to stabilize the shoreline of both Dayton and Pellegrino Parks is moving forward. Through a joint submission with the Town of North Hempstead, documents have been flowing to the DEC and Army Corps of Engineers to seek final approval.

Robert Dayton Park is owned and maintained by the Village of Port Washington North. The Park provides passive access to the waterfront along Manhasset Bay and includes an asphalt walkway and commemorative plaques. The proposed project extends north from Robert Dayton Park towards across a pre-existing culvert drainage easement running underneath Shore Road from Mill Pond to Manhasset Bay. From there, the project borders Bay Walk Park and Nautical Museum.

The plan will not only stabilize the existing deteriorating shoreline, but will recapture much of the land lost since Superstorm Sandy in 2012. In addition, the plans call for mitigating measures to prevent future tidal activity from destroying our shoreline.

The Town proposes to replace the concrete retaining wall, remove the existing timber bulkhead and boat slip, and construct a living shoreline consisting of six breakwaters with habitat restoration/enhancement, biological components, and low marsh wetland plantings.

Much of the success of this project is credited to Councilwoman Mariann Dalimonte and the Town staff who spearheaded this project along.

We are forever grateful for their efforts.



## Angler Lane Emergency Drainage Project

The Village has been made aware of excessive flooding at the Angler Lane and Sandy Court intersection. After the pumping out and cleaning of debris of the existing storm drains didn't alleviate the problem, the Village has decided to install one additional storm drain on each end of the road and also swap a closed manhole cover with an open slot cover in the middle of the road at the location. This should improve capacity significantly and hopefully resolve the drainage issue. Work is scheduled to begin after Labor Day. The Village asks that no cars be parked anywhere near the current drains so work can commence on time.

# **Safety Reminders**

### Back to School Safety

As we approach the back-to-school season, I urge all residents to be extra vigilant when driving through our neighborhoods. With children returning to school, there will be an increase in foot traffic around crosswalks and intersections. Let's prioritize the safety of our young pedestrians by slowing down, eliminating distractions, and always stopping for school crossing guards. Your cautious and watchful driving can make a world of difference in ensuring a secure journey for our students.

#### **Reminder to Stop for School Buses**

There are far too many cars who do not adhere to stopping for school buses, which could put our children in danger. Please remember to be alert and stop in all directions when school bus red flashing lights are on. All traffic must stop while the red lights are on. Patrols are out and many buses are being equipped with cameras to give heavy fines and punishments to those irresponsible negligent drivers who will be caught. The safety of our community and especially our children are always a priority for the Village.

### **Fire Safety**

With the weather cooling down, some might start using heaters or fireplaces. Review fire safety procedures with your family, including escape routes and how to safely use heating appliances.

Take a moment to check your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors, ensuring they are functioning properly. Remember, simple precautions like keeping flammable materials away from heat sources and using candles responsibly can go a long way in preventing fire hazards.

#### Reminder to Pull Over for Emergency Vehicles

Please do not forget to pull over for emergency vehicles in both directions with lights and sirens on. Following this procedure is vital to assure that patients receive the help they need within a timely manner especially during emergencies. Remember, it could be your loved ones who are delayed when every seconds count from getting emergency response to save lives.



## September 2023

# New Accessible Playground Proposal Featured in Newsday



Port Washington North Mayor Robert S. Weitzner, left, Stella Spanakos, a member of the playground project advisory committee, and Lauren Summa, Port Washington North Communications Commissioner, on Aug. 3, at the site of a planned accessible playground. Credit: Danielle Silverman

The plans for our new accessible playground are moving along and we have even received pledges for funding. I would like to thank Assemblywoman Gina Sillitti for her \$125,000 pledge and County Legislator Delia Deriggi Whitton for pledging \$75,000 towards the project.

In addition, we received coverage from Newsday about this undertaking.

Here's an excerpt from the article written by Darwin Yanes:

"Port Washington North officials are in the first phase of developing an accessible playground for people with disabilities along with a recreational area.

The Port North Accessible Playground and Recreational Facility Project will build a playground, a quarter-mile walking trail and other amenities on 4.75 acres near Channel Drive.

"The Village of Port North has always been inclusive," said Mayor Robert S. Weitzner. "The entire North Shore is underserved by the playgrounds that we've seen."

The village has created a master plan for the parcel, which was acquired in May 2022, and plans to add a village hall and a public works facility, he said. Weitzner said they are also considering adding shaded areas with benches and tables at the park."

Thank you for reading our newsletter! If you know any neighbors who are not yet signed up, please have them visit our website to sign up for updates!