

Lynbrook USA

NEWSLETTER



Winter
2019

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Mayor's Message

Dear Residents:

As we enjoy the holiday season, I wanted to take a moment to recall the great fall season we had here in Lynbrook. Our Village once again reminded its residents that Lynbrook is the greatest place to live and grow up. We held our inaugural Oktoberfest that was attended by over a thousand Lynbrook residents. Fall in Lynbrook wouldn't be the same without the Halloween Havoc for our kids.

In addition to all the fall fun events, Lynbrook rightfully took the time to honor our military personnel on Veterans Day. Our Veterans Day ceremony at the Doughboy Monument was well attended and represented a great show of gratitude by Lynbrook to all our veterans for their service and dedication to our great country. Additionally, the Lynbrook Village Board co-sponsored a Veteran's Hall of Honor Event with St. Mary's Council-Knights of Columbus where we honored nine local veterans, including three Lynbrook heroes.

The fall was also a busy time at Village Hall with important issues being discussed. One such issue is possible future development projects at the property of the Capri Motel. After the Village Board was successful in having the Capri's motel permit revoked because of years of resident complaints regarding the business. Several developers have expressed interest in the property. Following an extensive review including input from residents, we are happy to report that the Capri will be razed this spring and will be replaced by a Tudor-style complex.

I hope that everyone is enjoying the holidays with friends and family. We look forward to seeing you around the village!



MAYOR ALAN C. BEACH

To everyone: Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, and Happy New Year!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature of Alan C. Beach in black ink.

Lynbrook Mayor Alan Beach

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NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of the Incorporated Village of Lynbrook is published four times a year by the Incorporated Village of Lynbrook.

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Ann Marie Reardon

Village Administrator
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Deputy Treasurer
Darlene DiCaro
Deputy Clerk
Valerie Onorato
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Lynbrook News

Deputy Mayor Hawxhurst and Village Board Speaks Out Against Water Rate Hike

For the past three years, the residents of Lynbrook have been hit with huge increases in their water bills by American Water and Deputy Michael Hawxhurst has had enough. Hawxhurst has repeatedly been critical of American Water and New York State government for unjustly raising the water bill of village residents. Now, American Water Works Co. has agreed to sell New York American Water operations in a deal that is expected to close late next year, pending approval from the Public Service Commission, among other considerations. Deputy Mayor Hawxhurst has been strongly advocating for a change to be made, stating, "In the past, if there was one bill that you didn't worry about opening that was your water bill but that is no longer the case. Lynbrook residents are being hit with water bills that are double, triple, and five times the amount of their old water bills. Enough is enough!" According to Hawxhurst,



the higher water bills are due to a combination of governmental failures of New York State and the greed of American Water. Pointing to unrealistic water conservation goals imposed by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation on American Water as the initial cause of higher bills, Hawxhurst says

American Water met those newly imposed conservation limits by implementing new water rates on consumers which were excessive but ultimately approved by the NYS Public Service Commission (NYS PSC) despite widespread local opposition. The Deputy Mayor states, "Everyone has mistakenly blamed only American Water for these outrageous water rate increases but the fact is that New York State government is just as culpable in seeking to impose water conservation levels that resulted in American Water seeking excessive rates on the consumer to financially cover the costs of those new conservation levels. To make it worse, the NYS PSC approved American Water's greedy request to increase in the rates." The water conservation rate hike has been in effect since 2017, when the New York State Public Service Commission approved New York American Water's request for a four year phase-in of increases. Rates most re-

cently increased in April 2019, representing the third year of the utility's conservation rate hikes. Under this latest rate increase, customers in the Lynbrook service district who use 8,000 gallons of water a month will see their monthly water bills increase by an average of 7.96 percent, or \$4.47. "I, along with the Mayor and the majority of the Village Board, have called on our local state representatives in the State Senate and Assembly to stop paying lip service to the problem and demand whatever action is required to lower Lynbrook residents' water bills. Water conservation is a worthwhile goal that we should strive for, but it should not come at the expense of bankrupting Lynbrook residents and making Long Island just that much more costly to live. While the sale of the company is a start, there is still work to be done. "We must hold our elected officials accountable for the rate hikes," stated the Deputy Mayor.

Veterans Honored for Service and Sacrifice

On November 16, 2019, St. Mary's - Maris Stella Council of Lynbrook and Mayor Alan Beach hosted a Veteran's Hall of Honor Ceremony to celebrate nine local veterans from Lynbrook and surrounding communities. This year St. Mary's Council and Mayor Beach honored Lynbrook veterans Sean Keefe, Herbert J. Krapf, and Silvia Trott. Sean Keefe joined the Army in May of 2002, and went to basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. After completing his training, he was assigned to the 84th Engineers Combat Battalion in Schofield Barracks. While there, he

completed two one-year tours as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Upon his discharge, he joined the Lynbrook VFW. Sean is a member of Nassau County Police Department. Herbert J. Krapf has spent most of his life in Lynbrook in a house built by his great grandfather-inlaw in 1819. At the age of 17, Herb enlisted in the United States Navy. Following bootcamp, Herb was stationed aboard the USS Washington BB-56 battleship where he worked as an engineer and electrician. While serving on the battleship he was transferred to the light cruiser USS Daytona C1 105 for service in

the Mediterranean, which was operated out of Naples, Italy. Upon returning to the States, Herb was stationed on the USS Missouri "Big Mo" before being discharged and receiving a victory medal for his service. On May 14th 1950 (Mother's Day), Herb married his beloved late wife Margaret. They have five children, three boys and two girls, nine grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Herb has been a member of the American Legion located in Lynbrook Post 335 for many years. Silvia Trott was born in Ecuador and came to America. After high school, in 1973 she enlisted in the Army. Her basic training started in Alabama where she learned to read maps, as well as other skills. From 1974-1975 she was sent to Korea. Her group was known as the Women's American Corps, representing the first women's group to go overseas. She then came back to the USA and was sent to Fort Meade in Maryland until she was discharged in 1976. After being discharged, she served in the reserves for the next three years, working each summer in different parts of the country. She enrolled in college and majored in business. Currently, she works at the Rosemary Kennedy Center, a school for children/adults with special needs. Silvia is a member of the American Legion #335 and VFW in Lynbrook. "Co-hosting this event with St. Mary's Council is a special honor for me. My father was a veteran and I believe we can never do enough for our service personnel. Our Veterans have secured our way of life and the freedoms we enjoy. God Bless them and this great country," stated Mayor Beach.



LEFT TO RIGHT: MAYOR BEACH, DEPUTY MAYOR HAWXHURST, TRUSTEES REARDON AND BOCCIO WITH HONOREES

Photo by: Bill Marinaccio

Lynbrook News

Lynbrook Volunteer Spotlight: Laura Ryder!

Our Village is made up of hundreds of volunteers that donate their time and talents to make Lynbrook the great place it is to live and raise a family. Each newsletter will feature a Village volunteer to highlight their contribution to Lynbrook. This newsletter puts the spotlight on Laura Ryder and her efforts as Chairperson of the Lynbrook Community Chest.

As a lifelong Lynbrook resident, Laura (Ledwith) Ryder epitomizes a dedicated community volunteer. Laura has been a volunteer member of Lynbrook Beautification Committee, Lynbrook Winter Celebration Committee, Lynbrook Cares Committee, Lynbrook Oktoberfest Committee, Lynbrook 9-11 Memorial Committee and the Lynbrook Community Chest. Her volunteerism began about twenty years ago and has spanned four Lynbrook mayors.

Appointed by former Mayor Brian Curran, Laura has served as the Chairperson of the Lynbrook Community Chest since 2010. The Community Chest is a Not-for-Profit 501C (3) charity whose singular mission is to provide financial assistance to Lynbrook residents and families in need. According to Laura, the Community Chest has helped over 100 Lynbrook families since 2010 in all different types of situations. For example, the Community Chest has helped aid with dialysis treatments for an ill resident, equipment for a resident with severe asthma, and support toward the funeral expenses of a resident who passed away due to cancer. In addition to providing help to specific Lynbrook individuals and families, the Community Chest also donates funds to local food pantries, Our Lady of Peace Medic Rides Program and community groups.

"My involvement with the Lynbrook Community Chest has been one of my greatest gifts. I have come to realize that helping



THE RYDER FAMILY: LAURA (SECOND FROM LEFT) WITH HUSBAND MIKE AND CHILDREN AIDEN AND SHANNON.

Photo by: Ryder Family

others has made me more grateful for what I have, with less focus on what I don't have. I have been inspired to be more kind," said Ryder.

Finding the time to volunteer is sometimes difficult. Laura has been married to her husband Mike Ryder for the past 25 years and has two children, Shannon and Aidan. Laura is also a Paralegal at Ledwith & Atkinson. Despite the time constraints of daily life, Laura has always found the time to give back to the Lynbrook community. Her efforts have not gone unnoticed with Laura being named 2014 Lynbrook Woman of

the Year by Mayor Hendrick and 2018 Lynbrook Humanitarian of the Year by Mayor Beach.

"While we all face challenges in our lives, there is always someone whose challenge is more difficult than our own. Sometimes the simplest act of kindness will make all the difference in a person's life. Each of us has the ability within us to change a life and I have always found that help is always appreciated, and kindness is never forgotten," concluded Ryder.

As the holidays approach, please consider donating to the

Lynbrook Community Chest. All donations are tax deductible. As Laura has said thousands of times over the pass ten years, "one hundred percent of all funds received by the Community Chest is given back to Lynbrook families in need." Contact Village Hall about donating.

Under the leadership of Laura Ryder, the Lynbrook Community Chest has assisted 100 Lynbrook families with donations over \$50,000



Village Justice	William J. McLaughlin
Associate Justice	Brendan Hughes
Court Clerk	Jacqueline Dubon
Village Administrator	John Giordano
Village Assessor	Lisa Kenny
Village Attorney	Thomas D. Atkinson, Esq.
Building Superintendent	Brian Stanton
Parks Supervisor	Keith Bonomo
Public Works Superintendent	Philip Healey
Recreation Supervisor	Andrea Genna

In Brief

Inaugural Lynbrook Oktoberfest a Huge Success

In October, Lynbrook held its first Oktoberfest at Greis Park with thousands of residents in attendance. The event featured traditional German food, beer and music. In addition, the festival featured vendors, children activities and games.

"The Oktoberfest was a really

fun time for Lynbrook families and I hope it becomes a staple event for years to come. I would like to thank the event committee for all their hard work because without them the Oktoberfest would not have been such a huge success," stated Mayor Beach.



FROM L-R: INGRID RESLMAIER, WALTER FITZER, JENNIFER MATTERA, TERRI OSTROFF, SABRINA OSTROFF, GARY OSTROFF



Village Board Honors Lynbrook's Bravest



DEPUTY MAYOR MIKE HAWXHURST AND MAYOR ALAN ON OCTOBER 18, THE LYNBROOK VILLAGE BOARD HONORED THE HEROIC ACTION BY ASSISTANT CHIEF BROOKS, ASSISTANT CHIEF KELLY, EX. CAPTAIN PATRICK CURRAN, EX. CAPTAIN ASHLEY MAXWELL, EMT KATIE DUBOSE, EMT AMANDA WALSH, AND FIREFIGHTER/EMT RYAN KENNY THE LIFE SAVING MEASURES TAKEN, SAVED THE LIFE OF A 39-YEAR-OLD MALE WHO HAD A SEIZURE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION AND SERVICE!

Photo by: Bill Marinaccio

Lynbrook Police Department Donates Found Bikes for a Good Cause

At a recent Veteran's Day commemoration dinner, Mayor Beach, had the great fortune of meeting Carol Hassett, President of The American Legion of Malverne's, Lady's Auxiliary. While discussing veteran's affairs with Ms. Hassett, Mayor Beach learned that The Nassau County, American Legion, Ladies Auxiliary was in need of bicycle donations for Beacon House, a charity which houses disabled American Veterans. The goal of the program is to donate at least two bikes, to each of the 47 homes, for

use by the veterans being housed, as a transportation option for doctor's appointments and to run errands. Upon hearing of this need, Mayor Beach contacted Lynbrook Police Chief Brian Paladino and authorized the release of bicycles being held in storage at LPD. With the help of The Lynbrook DPW, 11 bicycles were restored to working order and were donated to the veteran's cause. If anyone would like to donate a bicycle to this worthy cause, please contact Carol Hassett at drchassett12@gmail.com.



CHIEF OF POLICE BRIAN PALADINO, AMERICAN LEGION COMMANDERS FRANK COLON AND PETE KAISER, POLICE OFFICER ROBERT MEIER.

Photo by: LPD

Upcoming Events

Village of Lynbrook Board Meeting Schedule:

All meetings are held at 7PM and are televised live on Lynbrook TV

- Monday, December 16
 - Monday, January 13
 - Monday, February 3
 - Monday, March 2, 16, & 30
- Grievance Night:
- Tuesday, February 18 (5-9pm)

Be a part of the Lynbrook Library's strategic planning!

Attend a short focus group session with Assistant Director, Kathy Buchsbaum.

Library Strategic Plan Talk Sessions will be held on the following dates:

- Monday, December 16 at 5:00 pm
- Wednesday, December 18 at 3:30 pm
- Saturday, December 28 at 2:30pm
- Monday, December 30 at 1:00 pm
- Tuesday, January 7 at 2:00 pm
- Friday, January 10 at 3:00 pm