



# The PORTERREPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Incorporated Village of Port Jefferson



## A MESSAGE from MAYOR MARGOT GARANT

Spring is almost here, and we're excited about the work that lies ahead. Projects like our uptown revitalization and code initiatives are in full gear. We remain committed to making things better – for all residents and excited to share our progress on some exciting initiatives!

The building and planning department issued Conifer its site plan approval and building permit for their development on the East side of Rt.112 in upper Port. This will clear the way for construction to commence on a mixed-use residential/retail structure at the southern gateway of our Village. The buildings on the Eastside, north of the train tracks, are expected to be taken down in April. It's a big step forward. Conifer has also been pursuing a number of development opportunities in upper Port and the Board of Trustees has been holding workshops with other interested property owners and stakeholders about development opportunities. We will keep our residents up to date with the progress and details of these major projects.

Thanks to our new code initiative, buildings in our village will be getting an attractive upgrade. Workshops are in progress for a new code that requires building owners to display artwork in their windows if their building is vacant. A public hearing on this code is scheduled for March 15th at 3:30 pm via zoom – there will be a link on our website [Port Jeff Virtual Meetings](#) or you can watch on our dedicated YouTube Channel "[Port Jefferson Official](#)".

Outdoor dining is coming back! We are getting everything in place for open-air dining. The permits are being emailed to local restaurants. We are actively engaged with owners and working to ensure that your dining experience is convenient, memorable, and comfortable. Breathe in that fresh air and enjoy your al fresco dining experiences.

Our LED lighting initiative is coming to completion. The next steps include finishing the street light replacement, upgrading our building lights as well as our sports lighting. The big news is the control we have with our lighting dashboard. We can control our street lighting down to a single pole making our neighborhoods safer and greener.

The New York State Department of Transportation is back up and at it now that the snow is GONE! Please be patient as work continues on the repaving of 25A from Setauket into lower Port Jefferson. We are looking forward to the completion of the long awaited new sidewalk on West Broadway.

Many thanks to our DPW, Parks, and Code teams who were able to get the snow cleared out of our village so quickly and efficiently during the heavy storms in the month of February! Steve Gallagher, Dave Melious, and Fred Leute and their teams were able to keep the community moving making it possible for our first responders to get to work and our schools open safely. They are true professionals.

Finally, if you are involved with a local not-for-profit organization, let us get your dates for any upcoming and long-delayed events into our village global calendar to help promote your events. Send your information to Barbara Sakovich at [bsakovich@portjeff.com](mailto:bsakovich@portjeff.com). We're a little village with a big heart! We have an active and engaged village board that is making it our mission to maintain the quality of life that sets Port Jefferson Village apart. Together, we're building something great and I am looking forward to all of our next steps.



## UPTOWN

### *Another Step Closer...*

The Village Building and Planning board issued a permit this week to Conifer LLC bringing us another step closer to rebuilding the uptown landscape. Conifer has received the green light from the Village of Port Jefferson to move forward with a mixed-use development in the Village's uptown district. Early spring will include building demolition followed by shovels in the ground ushering in the new development.

The building and planning department issued Conifer its site plan approval and is working on the building permit for their development on the East side of Rt. 112 in upper Port. The Board of Trustees is actively working on our village codes and incentives in order to make that development possible.

*But please stay tuned - meetings are in the works for new development uptown on the west side of Rte. 112.*

## BIDS AWARDED

### *We are working hard to improve and renovate our Village...*

The Village of Port Jefferson has completed the bidding process for the rebuilding of both East Beach and Highland Blvd retaining walls. The project was awarded to Galvin Brothers Inc./Madue Contracting Inc as a joint venture for a total of \$474,830.00. The expenses for the structural repairs are included in the budget and were part of the Bond Anticipation Note. The BAN issued last year by the board of trustees is on schedule with our various ongoing capital projects.

Our retaining wall renovations at East Beach will help to revitalize our waterfront. This is the next step in our beach renovation project, which will bring a safer, more accessible waterfront to the community. The project will be completed this spring so grab your beach towel, sunscreen, and Swimming Trunks, and let's get our summer on!

The second retaining wall is along Highland Boulevard. It will be rebuilt as soon as the railroad gives authorization to the Village for work along the train lines. We are moving forward towards our goals!

## BICYCLE TASK FORCE

### *If you see something, say something...*

Trustee Snaden has put together a Bicycle Task Force with all of the right minds in the room. The task force is comprised of SCPD, the Chief of our Code Department - Fred Leute, and Deputy Village Attorney, Richard Harris and Trustee Snaden. They are pro-actively working to be ready for the bicycle season. To review NYS Department of

## LED LIGHTS

### *Smaller Footprint. Bigger Living.*

As you may be aware, the Village has partnered with the New York State Power Authority to upgrade every single light bulb and fixture in the Village. This includes all of our street lighting, improving our buildings to utilize "smart" lighting controls as well as enhancing our sports lighting. Our street lights will be connected to a MAIN "smart" dashboard system

Transportation bicycle laws click [here](#).

*Remember if you see dangerous behavior, call code (631) 774-0066 and SCPD. Participate and be a part of the solution.*

## **PARKING:**

*Parking Pilot Program for better parking management...*

The Port Jefferson Village Board approved a pilot program with the goal of improving your ability to find parking. The Parking Logix counting system will be installed at the Barnum parking lot to assist residents and visitors, and we will soon have access to a real-time management system. Logix's success has been proven nationwide.

allowing us to control the brightness of the fixtures so we can dim neighborhoods during sleeping hours or light up others for security reasons. The dashboard gives us complete control and flexibility. This advanced technology will also provide notice when a light fixture is out or is in need of servicing.



## **2021 Resident Parking Stickers**

Getting a new sticker just got easier. Fill out our online form and a new sticker will be mailed to you. As a reminder, 2021 parking stickers must be displayed in your vehicle to park in all municipal lots.

[Click Here to Apply Online](#)

[Click Here to Download a PDF](#)



## **BEACH CLEAN UP**

*When we all do a little bit, a lot gets done!*

We are ALL stakeholders in our environment and with YOUR help we can continue to sustain our local ecosystems for future generations. Three DIY beach cleanup stations will be installed at East Beach, West Beach, and Centennial Park. Each of the stations will have a simple sign that encourages beach-goers to pick up trash with the provided hand-baskets, and then throw the rubbish out at the adjacent trash can. (Bonus points if you take a selfie and show

## **COMMUNITY GARDEN**

*Life's Better When We Grow Together...*

The Village Board is getting ready to vote on Port Jefferson Village's pilot Community Garden program. This program would give residents an opportunity to grow local organic food, enjoy outdoor recreation, and create learning opportunities. Trustee Kassay is working with the 11 dedicated members of the Community Garden Committee to launch this pilot program on Village parkland located at the intersection of Beach Street and Sheldrake Avenue. The garden will initially consist of 16 raised beds, with some being double-high beds for residents with different abilities. The garden will be accessible, comfortable, and organic. But here is the best news: the Community Garden Committee expects that planting can start early this summer! The pilot program will launch with a modest budget, seeking to raise funds and attract material donations for the project. Throughout the year, the Committee plans to invite local experts and enthusiasts to host programs offering gardening how-to's, cooking lessons, nutrition/wellness tips, and more. If the pilot garden project is successful, the Committee expects to expand at the Beach Street site in 2022, and in subsequent years, create a second garden site at the Highlands parkland uptown. Our pilot program will be voted on at

off your work!) These baskets are being embraced across Long Island: locally based clothing brand *Relic* started this initiative and has proven the baskets' success at other Long Island beaches in South Hampton and Riverhead townships. All costs of installation and maintenance will be covered by Relic Sustainability and local sponsors. We encourage you to be stewards of our beaches and these convenient baskets are a great prompt. Together, we'll have our beaches looking cleaner and healthier than ever for all to enjoy. Beach and nature lovers, rejoice!

the March 15th Village meeting. Any residents interested in updates about this project can email [trustee-kassay@portjeff.com](mailto:trustee-kassay@portjeff.com) to be added to a garden-specific email list.



## WEST BROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

After a long winter, we can see progress happening in our streets! The New York State Department of Transportation has resumed roadwork along 25A from Setauket into lower Port Jefferson now that the snow is GONE! Be patient, as work will now continue on the repaving of 25A and the completion of the long-awaited new sidewalk on West Broadway. These improvements will contribute to a more vibrant downtown.

## WHO'S BACK? WE'RE BACK

*And we are in this together!*

If you are a member of a local not-for-profit organization who is looking to spring back into action - and schedule that fundraiser or event that got away from you last year - please email

Barbara [bsakovich@portjeff.com](mailto:bsakovich@portjeff.com) to be included in our global calendar. Your event can be placed on the calendar on our website. We appreciate our partners in this community! Let us help you get back on your feet!



## PORT JEFFERSON COUNTRY CLUB

*Ready for an Escape?*

Find lush landscapes and camaraderie at our golf and tennis courses at Port Jefferson Country Club. We are a waterfront private country club offering tennis and golf, set on a 170 acre property overlooking the Long Island Sound. Come join one of the North Shore's premier country clubs. Our Club features:

- **A Championship Length 18 Hole Golf Course**
- **8 Lighted Har-Tru Tennis Courts**
- **A Magnificent Clubhouse with a Full-Service Restaurant, Extensive Catering and Locker Room Facilities.**

You'll feel at home in our club. The service is incomparable and the golf course is

gorgeous - so come on out for a round of fun and a drink with friends. And the best news... We give our residents a discount! For a full-time Golf Membership, residents pay close to half of what non-residents pay. Returning members can get signed up at a discounted rate until March 14th.

**The Country Club reopens for golf on April 1st and for tennis on April 15th.**

Sales: Call **516-695-6951** or email [JenniferPJCC@gmail.com](mailto:JenniferPJCC@gmail.com)

**Visit us at: The Port Jefferson Country Club**



**INDOOR FARMER'S MARKET**  
Every Sunday  
10am-2pm  
Village Center

Our Farmer's Market is just the place to pick up fresh and prepared foods. Enjoy this unique experience topped with hearty dose of local hospitality. Free to the public.

For more info or to become a vendor, Visit: **FARMERS MARKET**



**"A POTPOURRI of ART"**  
**Smithtown Artist Group**  
**Port Jefferson Gallery**  
*at the Village Center*  
March 1 - April 30, 2021

View a variety of mediums by these talented artists. Many of whom have exhibited widely on LI.  
Building Hours: 9am - 8pm  
631-802-2160

For our complete Gallery Listing Visit: **Port Jefferson Gallery**



## SUMMER CAMP

*Get Ready for Summer...*

Summer Camp for children grades K-6 starts at the end of June. Our camps will bring new adventure and discovery, and your child will enjoy a summer to remember!

**Get your happy camper in on the fun.**  
**Applications are now available online. Apply today!**

### Full Day Summer Camp

June 28 - Aug 13, 2021  
Monday - Friday, 9am-4pm  
Age: 5 - 11, Grade: K - 6

### Full Day Beach Camp /East Beach

June 29 - Aug 12, 2021  
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9am-4pm  
Age: 5 - 11, Grade: K - 6

### Half Day Sports Camp

June 28 - Aug 13, 2021  
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 1-4pm  
Age: 5 - 11, Grade: K - 6

### Half Day Beach Camp /East Beach

June 29 - Aug 12, 2021  
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9am-12noon  
Age: 5 - 11, Grade: K - 6

### Half Day PJ Village Center Camp

June 28 - Aug 13, 2021

**Visit: Port Jefferson Summer Camp**

## SUMMER JOBS

*Want to gain valuable skills working as a summer camp counselor?  
Keep reading...*

Camp counselor and lifeguard positions are hiring for the 2021 summer season. Call the Village Center Recreation Department (631) 473-4778 and get an application emailed to you. Qualified applicants must be 16 years or older etc. Join our staff and be a part of this enriching experience.

## KAYAK RACKS

*Kayaks, canoes, and paddleboards - Oh my!*



Get ready to spend your summer on the beach! The Recreation Department is expanding our water-sport rack system to a total of 140 spaces for kayaks, canoes and paddleboards. We have built 18 additional racks at Crystal Brook Hollow road. We will rebuild the 32 racks that are presently at Centennial Park, and refurbish the 24 racks that are on East Beach.

There's no better way to spend your time than enjoying the sunshine and getting some exercise! Put your name in the lottery to get a spot before they're all gone. Applications will be available online starting March 1st. The lottery will be drawn on the first week of April.

[Visit: Kayak](#)

## MEET THE TEAM...

*Meet our team. Their stories are inspiring, and they provide excellent service to all who live here and visit. We will highlight a new professional every month and introduce you to the most amazing and talented individuals that make Port Jefferson Village so special. These are people who bring their experience and dedication every single day. When they say it takes a village, they're talking about the people of Port Jefferson Village!*

Let's get to know **Code Officer Ciara Little**. She was named Code Officer of the Year for 2020. She is a professional that takes pride in her work and has a strong commitment to the village. We asked her some questions and we think you will like her wise answers.

**Something you'd like the residents to know about you:**  
I graduated from St. Joseph's college with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a minor in psychology. Aside from working for the village, I'm a full-time Crime Analyst for Suffolk County Police Department. Other than professional criteria, I'm a passionate advocate for Mental Health. I find empathy and validation to be vital components when dealing with others, and I favor rehabilitative approaches that aim to assist individuals on their journey. I also enjoy building relations with the public, so please feel free to say hello if you see me out in uniform!



### **Any tips or advice to people that live in the Village?**

Trust your intuition. If you feel uncomfortable about someone or something, call the PJV Sergeants phone at 631-774-0066. Officers in the Code Department are always here to help, but an extra set of eyes can go a long way. Practice being aware of your

surroundings by decreasing screen time on your phone. Most importantly, be open to educating yourself about crime prevention tactics concerning your residence and automobiles.

### **What are the best things about Port Jeff?**

My colleagues, the amount of love and concern residents have for the village, and the scenery Harborfront park provides locals and visitors.

***Thank you, Ciara, for your dedication and advice.  
We are proud to call you one of our own!***



### **ICE SKATING**

*Ice ice baby...*

*Come enjoy the ice before it melts for another season.*

The Rinx will be open until until **March 15th** for you to enjoy the magic of Ice Skating underneath the stars.

[Schedule your session online at The Rinx](#)



### **Dragon Boat Festival**

*Great to get back to some normalcy....*

Port Jefferson Village approved The Dragon Boat Festival permit. The Port Jefferson Chamber of Commerce is to hold the Dragon Boat Festival on September 18, 2021 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. *We are looking forward to this family fun event.*

### *from Deputy Mayor Stan Loucks*

*Lace-up your shoes, grab your golf clubs or tennis racquets, and get ready for an awesome Spring season. We have what you need to make the most of every weekend this Spring and summer. Check it out...*

The Parks department will have 140 kayak rack spaces available to rent this year. We are refurbishing existing racks and building new ones. The lottery for the spaces will be drawn in the first week of April. Downloadable applications are now accessible at [portjefferson.com/kayak](http://portjefferson.com/kayak)

We have created an exciting and safe assortment of recreation programs for youth and adults. Register online and you'll be on your way to a healthier, more active lifestyle. <https://recreation.portjeff.com/default.aspx>

Memberships for the country club are available now! Please visit [portjeffcc.com/membership/](http://portjeffcc.com/membership/) to sign up today. Get out on the links for some golf starting April 1. Hit the courts for some tennis starting April 15th.

But, don't forget to join us for the remaining ice skating sessions until March 14th. Reserve your time at [The RINX](#).

### *from Trustee Kathianne Snaden*

*It is a time of great progress and advancement for Port Jefferson Village and I am excited to be updating you about the School District, Parking Committee, Zoning Board of Appeals, Architectural Review Committee, Bicycle Task Force, and the Courts. Here*

*are some highlights...*

Businesses are requesting permanent short-term parking spots to accommodate their customers. I'm working with the parking committee and the businesses to find the best solution.

I am pleased to announce the formation of the Bicycle Task Force. We are working with the Business Improvement District, Chamber of Commerce, and residents as we head into the bicycle season. Meetings are ongoing.

The Architectural Review Committee is reviewing the plans to update the Ferry Building on East Broadway. The architect is now working on the final submissions.

Currently, our courts will resume in person sessions beginning March 16th. Please see our website for in-session dates.

Great news from our school district. All three schools will be returning to full-time, in-person schedules on March 8th. Also, I am working with our school district to give students community service hours for snow removal. Contact Barbara Sakovich ([bsakovich@portjeff.com](mailto:bsakovich@portjeff.com)) at Village Hall for more information and to get your high school community service credit.

### *from* **Trustee Bruce Miller**

*Port Jefferson is an exceptional village. We choose to live here because it is a great place to bring up a family, a good spot for outdoor recreation, and a place for building friendships and community. I have some long-term projects that I am following so let's dive in...*

I am a member of the Long Island Chapter of the U. S. Green Building Council. We are working alongside the Sierra Club to electrify our train line, which can mean no more diesel trains, more frequent service, and quicker travel times to New York City. This can also mean opportunities for increased economic development in our village. The Sierra Club is engaging with local legislator, Steve Englebright. They are getting closer to resolving some logistics but a lot of formalities need to be addressed. I will keep you updated on developments at the Village's public meetings.

Another project I am tracking is the Town of Babylon's Bicycle Locker Program. It is a way to encourage residents to use greener forms of transportation for their commute. Ideally, a commuter would ride their bike to the train station, secure their bicycle in the rented locker, and take the train to their destination. TOB Trustee Robyn Silvestri has been a great resource. There are many logistics that I will research to see if we can bring this program to our village.

I will keep you in the loop as I work with these green initiatives to make sure that when it comes to environmental care, Port Jefferson Village is doing their part.

### *from* **Trustee Rebecca Kassay**

*We got a taste of spring last week and now it's all I can think about! I am excited to tell you about the outdoor initiatives that I have worked on this winter alongside some incredible residents. These projects should launch just in time for the warm weather! I can also share a few thoughts from my roles as the liaison to the Planning Board and Conservation Advisory Council.*

Most every resident cherishes Port Jefferson's shoreline: whether we're taking a stroll, sunbathing, or going for a swim, we want those beaches to be pristinely clean for ourselves and for all the critters who call those beaches home! As a Community Organizer, I knew there must be a simple way to empower residents of any age to help with the removal of rubbish from the beaches every day of the year. We have partnered with Relic- a Long Island clothing company with a focus on sustainability- to adopt their beach pick-up initiative. Beginning early summer 2021, stations containing beach cleanup baskets will be available at three of our beaches. These stations will prompt residents to go on a treasure hunt for items washed ashore that day: bring the bounty back at the end of the walk to be deposited in the garbage, and call it a deed well done!

With warmth and sunshine comes the opportunity to grow in our village. Pending approval



by the Board of Trustees, a raised bed Community Garden is coming to Village parkland on Beach Street. This 16-bed garden aims to bring together residents of all ages, backgrounds, and skill-levels as the community strengthens through its shared passions for gardening, fresh food, and outdoor recreation. If you're interested in renting a bed, attending/providing programming, or just want to know more, send me an email to be added to our garden list: [trustee-kassay@portjeff.com](mailto:trustee-kassay@portjeff.com) .

The Conservation Advisory Council is reviewing the tree removal code and application with a focus on making the process better for our residents and for the environment.

The Planning Board is reviewing plans for 116 Broadway (the Ferry Building), and 1 North Country Road (the former Lobster House). If you're curious about new buildings coming to town or changes being proposed to the existing ones, you can view the Planning Board meetings online on our [Youtube channel](#).

Looking forward to seeing you out and about- be sure to say hello!

## *Good to Know*

### **Contact Us**

Village Hall Main Number (631) 473-4724

Building/Planning (631) 473-4744

Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals (631) 473-4744

Constable/Code Enforcement Dispatcher (631) 774-0066

PJ Village Center/Recreation Department (631) 802-2160

PJ Parks Department (631) 403-4227

Port Jefferson Country Club/Membership Services (631) 828-5029

Public Works/Highway (631) 473-4733

Justice Court (631) 473-8287

PJ Fire Department Emergency (631) 473-3232

PJ Fire Department Information (631) 473-8910

Village Chandlery Building (631) 474-4725

Harbormaster (631) 473-3052

Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) (631) 744-2507

Port Jeff Library (631) 473-0022

Animal Control (631) 286-4940

Strong Island Animal Rescue (631) 403-0598



**Photo of the Month by Steven Archedecon**

*Share with us...*

Submit your photo to [sorifici@PortJeff.com](mailto:sorifici@PortJeff.com)

**PARTING THOUGHT**

*Knowledge is Power. Knowledge shared is power multiplied. - Robert Boyce*

Visit [PortJeff.com](http://PortJeff.com)