Celebrating The Village of Port Jefferson’s 60th Year of Incorporation

60 YEARS OF INCORPORATION

PORT JEFFERSON

60 YEARS INCORPORATED
This journal is dedicated to those who in 1963 had a vision of a Village that is the extraordinary place we call home.

Incorporation Facts

2 - November 9, 1962

WHY INCORPORATE?

1. Q. WHY INCORPORATE?
   A. TO PRESERVE, PROTECT AND IMPROVE OUR VILLAGE IN ORDER TO MAKE IT A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK.

2. Q. WHAT GOVERNMENTAL CHANGES OCCUR UNDER INCORPORATION?
   A. DUTIES NOW PERFORMED BY THE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES OF THE TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE SUPERVISOR AND TOWN BOARD WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE VILLAGE AND ADMINISTRATED BY A MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE VILLAGE.

3. Q. WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?
   A. THE TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN IN RELINQUISHING DUTIES ALSO RELINQUISHES CERTAIN TAXES ASSOCIATED WITH THESE DUTIES.

4. Q. DOES PORT JEFFERSON HAVE LEADERS CAPABLE OF MANAGING THE VILLAGE?
   A. PORT JEFFERSON HAS ALWAYS HAD EMINENTLY CAPABLE AND QUALIFIED LEADERS TO CARRY ON THE CIVIC ACTIVITIES OF THE VILLAGE. WITNESS THE FINE SUCCESS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD, FIRE COMMISSIONER, FIRE DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF MATHER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, LIBRARY TRUSTEES, AS WELL AS THE VARIOUS SERVICE, FRATERNAL AND RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS IN THE VILLAGE.

DANIEL PERRY
Executive Director
1213 Main Street
Port Jefferson, N.Y.

ROBERT E. LINK
Executive Secretary
Emerson Street
Port Jefferson, N.Y.

R. L. ROBERTSON
Personal Statement Chairman
208 Williams Street
Port Jefferson, N.Y.

WILLIAM McEWING
Membership Chairman
Pine Hill Road
Port Jefferson Station, N.Y.

L. N. CLARKE
Financial Chairman
Main Street
Port Jefferson, N.Y.

LEONARD QUIBELL, Jr.
Block Organization Chairman
228 East Broadway
Port Jefferson, N.Y.

CLIFTON H. LEE
Speakers Bureau Chairman
606 Main Street
Port Jefferson, N.Y.

C. ALAN LAWRENCE
Headquarters Chairman
26 Reeves Road
Port Jefferson Station, N.Y.
History brings recollections... varying in degree ... always important perspectives

Why is recognizing a milestone anniversary of Port Jefferson’s Incorporation so important?

Simple: it reminds us of how this Village came to be and of the people who lived here and made it happen; who demanded a voice because they believed they didn’t have one. They wanted a say in what happened to the waterfront and the development of the land around it, and it began with Incorporation - an uphill battle that raged through the courts before it finally landed in the favor of the residents.

The people of Port Jefferson prevailed in 1963 and their voice remains; it’s powerful and important to acknowledge their voice and to give them the opportunity to help shape the future of this beautiful Village.

Not many Port Jeffersonians who voted to incorporate are still alive; several past mayors who voted for incorporation are – my father, Mayor Harold Sheprow, and his predecessor Mayor Sandra Swenk are among them, and we are grateful for their service and dedication to the Village.

Sandra and her late husband John played an integral role in the move to incorporate and we are so grateful to welcome her at this anniversary event to hear her talk about it.

There were a few other major decisions that have truly shaped Port Jefferson Village and made it what it is today thanks to the leadership and resilience of the Mayors, the Boards and the staff that worked on behalf of the Village:

- Acquisition of the Port Jefferson Country Club (Mayor Harold Sheprow)
- Acquisition of the Mobile property for the creation of HarborFront Park (Mayor Bob Strong)
- Annexation of the eastern side of Port Jefferson including Hillcrest Avenue, Corie Court, Hill Drive, Ellen Drive, Pine Hill Road east Ellen Drive (Mayor Harold Sheprow)

As a new Mayor, I hope to leave a legacy as many before me have - a legacy that represents the vision and dreams of our residents, and I am grateful to those who put their faith in me to do that.

I hope you all enjoy this “Event to Remember” and look forward to many more celebrations that recognize our history, as it is a most interesting and impactful story.

Lauren M. Sheprow
Mayor
I want to personally Congratulate Port Jefferson Mayor Lauren Sheprow, the Village Board and all of the residents on it’s 60th year of incorporation. The Village is home to so many wonderful restaurants, businesses, natural attractions and rich history, that it attracts countless visitors every year.

As a child I remember fondly going to Rocket Ship Park with my parents. Now, as an adult resident, I cherish taking my children there regularly.

The Village puts on spectacular parades every year and makes every season festive. It is truly a remarkable place to live and visit.

Wishing the Village, its residents and all visitors many more great years!

Sincerely,

Edward A. Flood
4th NYS Assembly District
Celebrating 60

Congratulations to the Village of Port Jefferson on the 60th anniversary of the Village’s incorporation. It has been our honor representing the Village of Port Jefferson and the surrounding communities in the New York State Senate.

The Village’s history, much like that of the surrounding region, is rich and diverse and reflective of the growth and transformation that Long Island has undergone in the post-World War II era. From its celebrated shipbuilding legacy to today’s thriving Village, Port Jefferson has gone to great lengths to maintain its strong ties to the past while building a vibrant future.

Today, the Village provides residents with an abundance of recreational opportunities, including pristine beaches, a Country Club and marinas and waterfront parks that pay tribute and celebrate the area’s storied maritime legacy.

Throughout its history, tourism has always been an important part of the Village’s economy and remains so today. Port Jefferson’s downtown is a destination with shops, restaurants and entertainment venues for residents and visitors to enjoy.

By working together, and with local officials, our focus is to ensure that the Village of Port Jefferson has the resources and policies in place to thrive and remain a premiere community in which to live in and destination for local tourism.

Congratulations to the Village, its residents, and the dedicated men and women who work tirelessly at making Port Jefferson a safe, fun, and flourishing community.

Congratulations,

Anthony H. Palumbo
NYS Senator, 1st District

Mario R. Mattera
NYS Senator, 2nd District
Congratulations to the residents of Port Jefferson Village on completing 60 years as an incorporated village. Our model of local government reflects residents’ strong preference for local control, and an incorporated village structure provides that. This model has given residents the ability to elect their own mayor and trustees to address the specific concerns of their community in ways they believe are best. It has also helped the Village evolve a unique sense of place which reflects the values of its residents and its history.

There is an old adage which holds that “Geography is Destiny.” These words are as true in Port Jefferson Village as anywhere. Named in honor of President Thomas Jefferson, who incidentally helped supply federal funds to help flood mitigation in the area, the Village’s “Downport” area was built on reclaimed marshland and has lived in an uneasy truce with Port Jefferson Harbor ever since. This dynamic will continue to be one of the most serious challenges the Village faces.

Luckily, the benefit of local control has the advantage of making sure residents can choose leadership that can answer their challenges. Mayor Sheprow is committed to transparency and community input in future development, and Deputy Mayor Rebecca Kassay is a trained expert in environmental studies and climate resilience.

Geography may, in fact, be destiny, but thanks to their bold experiment in self-governance, the Village of Port Jefferson is well positioned to face the challenges the next 60 years will bring. I wish them the best of luck!

Sincerely,

Jonathan Kornreich
Councilmember, Council District 1

November 28, 2023
To the Residents of Port Jefferson Village,

Overlooking its busy harbor, Port Jefferson Village is a remarkable center of culture and commerce that enables a wonderful quality of life for its residents who are rightly proud of their local history.

Important to that history was the creation here sixty years ago of an incorporated village. That milestone marked a positive turning point for this community, the importance of which cannot be overstated.

Previous to the creation of the Village of Port Jefferson, most of the big decisions that affected the community were made in Patchogue. A pattern of remote decision making had, over many years, severely compromised the local air, water, and land. The result was one of the most intense concentrations of heavy industrial use anywhere on Long Island.

Oil storage tanks, dredging operations and equipment, gravel barges, one of the dirtiest electrical power generating stations in New York State, a primitive sewer plant that discharged poorly treated effluent directly into the harbor, and ship construction sites on fill that had been dumped upon the formerly living tidal and freshwater wetlands of the original “Drowned Meadow” dominated.

Ironically, it was partially the allure of capturing the tax base of the power and sewer plants to help lower local property taxes that inspired many residents to approve incorporation. However, it was local decision making within the Village coupled with the good fortune of having often visionary elected leaders that helped reverse the trend of excessive exploitation of the community’s natural resources.

Port Jefferson Village government has over time advocated for and helped create a beautiful harborfront park that has replaced a tank farm. Similarly, a magnificent community center now occupies a repurposed steel-framed ship construction building at the harbor’s edge. Village government made these and other improvements possible.

An enhanced sense of place and civic empowerment has over these past sixty years also enabled the residents of Port Jefferson Village to grow flowers of culture, education, and commerce. Theatre Three, the Dickens Festival, the Port Jefferson Historical Society, a vibrant Arts Council, a superb library, school district, and institutions of healing have all grown by utilizing Port Jefferson Village government as a forum for ideas within the American tradition of local self-determination.

Congratulations to all the residents of Port Jefferson on this 60th birthday of the wonderful Village of Port Jefferson.

Sincerely,

Steven Englebright

Suffolk County Legislator Elect, 5th District, Setauket
THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PORT JEFFERSON
MAYORS 1963 -2023

ROBERT L. ROBERTSON
1963-1965

CLIFTON LEE
1965-1972

SANDRA SWENK
1971-1977

HAL SHEPROW

LOU KASH
1985-1987

FRANK FRASCA
1991-1995

BOB STRONG
1995-1999

JEANNE GARANT
1999-2005

MIKE LEE
2005-2007

BRIAN HARTY
2007-2009

MARGOT GARANT
2009-2023

LAUREN SHEPROW
ELECTED JUNE 20TH, 2023
Congratulations on reaching the significant milestone of 60 years of incorporation!

The Gitto Group is thrilled to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the entire community on this momentous occasion.

Here’s to 60 years of accomplishments and to the promising future that awaits.

Warm regards,

The Gitto Group
It Takes A Village!
Congratulations
Port Jefferson Village
On Your 60th Anniversary

Garrett Taylor, CRPC®
Founder & Managing Partner

David J. Mammina, CFP®, MBA, CRPC®
Partner & Financial Advisor

Shiraz Zaidi
Partner & Financial Advisor

1303 Main Street, Port Jefferson NY 11777
631-473-1188
www.coastlinewealth.com

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St. Charles Hospital Congratulates Port Jefferson Village’s 60th Anniversary!

Thank you for all you do in the community we serve!

(631) 474-6000
200 Belle Terre Road, Port Jefferson, NY
chsli.org
Join us as we celebrate Port Jefferson Village’s 60th Anniversary!

December 12, 2023

Pasta Pasta Celebrates Port Jefferson Village’s 60th Anniversary

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Congratulations Port Jeff Village On Your 60th Anniversary

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Andrew N. Polan, F.N.A.O.
Celebrating 60 Years of Incorporation in Port Jefferson!

In a milestone marking six decades of growth and unity, Port Jefferson Village shines brighter than ever! TBR News Media extends heartfelt congratulations on this remarkable journey of incorporation.

Amidst this celebration, we honor the pioneers, leaders, and every individual whose dedication shaped this vibrant community. Here’s to the memories created, friendships formed, and milestones surpassed!

May the next chapter be filled with continued prosperity, togetherness, and boundless achievements. Congratulations, Port Jefferson Village, on 60 remarkable years of incorporation! Here’s to many more years of success and shared accomplishments.

Best wishes,
Leah Dunaief and the TBR News Media Team
For more photos, video and coverage of the 60th anniversary live event, please go to: www.portjeff.com/60th
WHAT IS LISEC

In keeping with its Mission Statement, the Long Island Seaport and Eco Center (LISEC) is focused on the preservation of Long Island’s maritime heritage and the conservation of Long Island Sound. It supports and sponsors projects and activities to raise awareness of the area’s rich nautical history and surrounding environment, while educating our youth and keeping alive the spirit of community involvement. Currently, LISEC is almost exclusively involved with its ever expanding wooden boat building and restoration projects housed in the Bayles Boat Shop, located in Port Jefferson Harborfront Park. The recent addition of its Student/Youth Boat Building Program, its history of involvement with Adopt-A-Beach, Shellfish Restoration, Go Green Events, and utilization of the Sound and Harbor as a Learning Laboratory are part of its dedicated commitment to community outreach.

HISTORY OF LISEC

LISEC was founded in 1995 when a group of citizens banded together to bring community attention to the last available property on Port Jefferson’s harbor suitable for community use. This desirable site, steeped in ship building history and sporting majestic views and deep-water access, was slated to be sold for commercial development, perhaps for a parking garage. Though a prime waterfront location, the property had become a polluted brown-field site following 100 years of ship building, and another fifty years of use as a Mobil Oil Tank Farm. Nonetheless, LISEC’s efforts were successful and the Incorporated Village of Port Jefferson purchased the 5.1 acre property in 1997.

For the next ten years, LISEC members worked on every committee that was formed to create a master plan for a new community park. Dedicated to keeping the ship building history of this park alive, LISEC also sponsored Tall Ship Sails during these development years, and initiated small wooden boat restoration and building projects inside the drafty and rusted-out Machine Shop and Mould Loft building, which was once part of the historic Bayles Shipyard.
As history has recorded, Caleb Brewster, a native of Setauket, Long Island, played a significant role in helping win America's War of Independence. Commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Continental Army in 1776, Brewster carried out many different missions during the Revolutionary War; intelligence gatherer, artillery officer, spy letter courier, and whaleboats conducting raids and skirmishes. Letter written directly to General George Washington on August 7, 1778 - a day that could be considered the start of the Culper Spy Ring, Long Island. It then followed shortly after, that General Washington, organized and then managed operated between Long Island, New York City and under direction of Tallmadge, Brewster began using his whaleboats to ferry critical spy messages back to General Washington.

In preparation of America's 250th Anniversary in 2026, the Incorporated Village of Port Jefferson and the LISEC Bayles Boat Shop have initiated a project to build a replica of the armed whaleboat type that was used by Caleb Brewster on the Long Island Sound during the Revolutionary War.

Your welcomed contribution will help build this historic craft, provide a permanent, period correct, post & beam shed to house it, mooring cover to protect it at harbor and a trailer to transport it. The Whaleboat Project, once completed, will help tell the story of our very own local patriot, Caleb Brewster, and weave together Port Jefferson's historically unique contributions to America's War of Independence with our areas rich maritime history.

Contributions of any size are welcome and are fully tax deductible.

100% of all proceeds collected will go directly to the Whaleboat – 1776 Fund

**Contribution Levels**

| Whaleboat Project “Commodore” | $5,000 |
| Whalesboat Project “Captain” | $2,500 - $4,999 |
| Whaleboat Project “Lieutenant” | $1,000 - $2,499 |

**Sponsorship Levels**

| Swivel Gun | “Cannon Master” | $4,500 |
| Mooring Cover | “Boatswain” | $5,000 |
| Trailer – “Boatswain” | $16,000/$4,000 ea |

| Whaleboat project “Ships Master” | $500 - $999 |
| Whaleboat Project “Midshipman” | $100 - $499 |
| Whaleboat Project “Privateer” | $_________ |
| Sprit Sail – “Sail Master” | $4,000 |
| Bronze Hardware | “Boatswain” | $5,000 |
| Exhibit Shed – “Master Carpenter” | 35,000/$5,000 ea |

Name: ______________________

Address: ______________________

e-Mail: ______________________

☐ Please do not acknowledge my contribution publicly

☐ Please provide a tax-deductible contribution receipt

Please make your check payable to **LISEC** and insert **Whaleboat – 1776 Fund** in the check memo field.

If you prefer to mail in your contribution, please address it to: **LISEC, 101A East Broadway, Port Jefferson, NY 11777** or you may drop it off at the Boat Shop on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday mornings from 9:00 AM to noon.

The Long Island Seaport & Eco Center (LISEC)/Bayles Boat Shop is Not-for-Profit 501(c)(3) Organization. dedicated to promoting appreciation, awareness, and understanding of the maritime history and marine environment of Long Island. Your contribution is fully tax deductible as allowable per IRS guidelines.
HAPPY 60TH ANNIVERSARY PORT JEFFERSON VILLAGE!

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