

WE HOPE YOU
WILL ENJOY
READING OUR
VILLAGE
NEWSLETTER!

Board of Trustees

Nora Haagenon
Mayor

Charles Comer
Deputy Mayor

Doug Baldwin

Chris Ficalora

Alice M. Peckelis
Trustees

Elizabeth S. Kase
Village Justice

Gale D. Berg
Associate Village Justice

Linda Kropacek
Court Clerk

Administration

Chrissy Kiernan
Village Clerk-Treasurer

Elisabeth Roberts
Deputy Village Clerk

Joseph Saladino
Building Inspector

Contact Us!

By Email:
staff@baxterestates.org
Phone: 516-767-0096
Fax: 516-767-0058
or Visit us on the Web at:
www.baxterestates.org

Inside this issue:

Strategic Planning 2
for Baxter Estates

Water 2
Conservation

Hollywood 2
Comes to Baxter

New Businesses 2
In the Village

Winging It At 3
Baxter's Pond

Citations and 3
Recognitions

Personnel News 3

Steve Howley 4
Appointed Village
Historian

The Baxter Post

The Official Newsletter of the Village of Baxter Estates

September 2016

Greetings From Mayor Nora Haagenon

Dear Residents:

As I write this second newsletter, the leaves are changing to reds and golds, the days are getting shorter, the air is turning crisp, and fall activities are underway. Exciting new changes and activities are underway in Baxter Estates too.

Our new Village Clerk-Treasurer, Chrissy Kiernan, and Deputy Village Clerk, Elisabeth Roberts, have been busily working to modernize Village administrative procedures in an effort to improve how Baxter Estates does business. Antiquated financial practices and cumbersome filing processes have been replaced with new and innovative technology and systems designed to allow easier access to records previously hard to retrieve. Village funds have been moved to a bank which charges no fees. Resident tax bills, citations presented by the Village, resident reminder cards and other Village documents whose printing had been previously outsourced, are now produced in house, saving the Village time and money. I am proud to say that we continue to improve the stewardship of our Village and the careful monitoring of our finances and resources. Baxter Estates is operating well.

In addition to our Building Inspector, we now have an Assistant to the Building Inspector, Josh Speisman, who will be phased into the role of Village Code Enforcer upon completion of his course study. Our website has been updated to give residents current information regarding permit applications, office hours, meeting dates and times, contact information, and our Village Code. Please check these regularly. Our social media presence through Facebook and Twitter enables us to post great photos taken in the Village, send meeting reminders, and gives us the ability to reach residents with important information.

I continue to reach out to local and State officials for their ideas and expertise. Their response to me has been overwhelmingly positive. Through networking with fellow elected officials at all levels of government, I have gained information on how to save money by using State Contracts for Village purchases, utilizing Inter-Municipal Agreements for Village public works projects, and ways to reduce utility expenses. I am continuing to pursue grants for the Village as well. Right now I am focusing on a long-term Strategic Plan for Capital Improvements. All of these initiatives will be ex-



Mayor Nora Haagenon

plained further in the newsletter.

This year, 2016, is the 85th anniversary of the incorporation of the Village of Baxter Estates. A celebration is being planned for Wednesday, December 7th, to mark this significant milestone. Information will be sent to residents.

It is my goal and that of the Board of Trustees, the Board of Zoning Appeals, and the Village Landmarks Preservation Commission to serve the residents of Baxter Estates in the best possible way so that we may all enjoy a special quality of life in our charming village. It continues to be a privilege and my pleasure to serve as your mayor.

With warmest wishes to all!

Nora Haagenon

Mayor
Village of Baxter Estates



Mayor Haagenon with NCVOA Executive Director Warren Tackenberg at the June 2016 NCVOA Installation

Mayor Haagenon Appointed to the Executive Board of the Nassau County Village Officials Association (NCVOA)

Mayor Haagenon has been appointed to the Executive Board of the Nassau County Village Officials Association (NCVOA). Nassau County is comprised of sixty-four villages. The NCVOA works diligently to preserve the sustainability of villages so that we may continue to provide a better quality of life for residents through local government. Along with the New York Conference of Mayors (NYCOM), the NCVOA fights for autonomy for villages and against unfair laws directed at villages. The Mayor is trying to have Governor Andrew Cuomo visit our wonderful Village of Baxter Estates in an effort to impress upon him the importance of villages.



Mayor Haagenson and Clerk-Treasurer Kiernan outside village hall

Strategic Planning for Baxter Estates

A Capital Improvement Plan will be implemented alongside this year's budget as part of our long term strategic planning. One important item will be road improvements. We have engaged an engineer to perform a road condition survey to assess road conditions in the Village and to estimate costs of suggested repairs. This valuable data will enable us to plan a re-paving project. The Village has applied for a Capital Improvement Grant through State Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel to cover these costs and other capital improvements throughout the village such as retaining walls in need of replacement. The grant would reimburse the Village for money expended on capital projects. We are waiting for approval from the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. We are also awaiting a final contract for the State and Municipal Facilities Program (SAM) Grant secured through Senator Jack Martins before we can begin our improvements and renovations of Village Hall.

Additionally, we plan to use Inter-Municipal Agreements on public works projects for the Village. Collaborating with the Town of North Hempstead and other villages for shared services enables us to save money on materials and labor costs. We are exploring every avenue available to us to keep operating expenses down.

*"What you are will show in what you do."
-Thomas A. Edison*



Beautiful Manhasset Bay Marina in the summertime

Water Conservation Campaign

A campaign was launched in July, 2016, by the Port Washington Water District to protect our natural water resources and to improve water quality. All levels of government are participating to ensure that our water supply is not compromised. A press conference was held to promote this effort. Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington, Town Supervisor Judi Bosworth, State Senator Jack Martins, Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel, Councilwoman Dina DiGeorgio, and other local officials were present. The Mayor made the following statement at the event:



July 2016 Water Conservation Campaign

"Long Island is made up of a series of sand and gravel aquifers and for us here, it is important to note that all of Long Island's drinking water comes from these underground aquifers. Unfortunately, ground water contamination threatens the quality of our drinking water. One of the biggest culprits is nitrogen from sewage and from fertilizers. The State is addressing this problem through programs intended to educate the public so that we may protect our water sources.

Manhasset Bay is an integral part of our village. Baxter Estates, in cooperation with the Port Washington Water District and Manhasset Bay Protection Committee, is working to encourage residents to adhere to water use restrictions so that these threats to our water supply and eco systems might be diminished. Residents need to follow guidelines for proper water use and be aware that using improper fertilizers and pesticides could find their way into our water supply. Also, remember to turn off faucets while shaving or brushing one's teeth as this is another way to conserve water. There are many things we all can do to protect and sustain this precious resource."

Hollywood Comes to Baxter!

The Village enacted a new law covering filming fees for film companies' use of our Village for their productions. This spring and summer, we saw two productions being filmed in the Village. Publisher's Clearing House shot a sweepstakes commercial on Shoreview Road, and the TV Land Series *Younger* filmed a segment using Main Street and The Dolphin Bookstore. Passersby were invited to be "extras" during the filming. The film crews were courteous and observers enjoyed watching the performers. We thank the Port Washington Police Department for assisting with our traffic flow and for keeping our roads and sidewalks safe.



Younger Filming Photo Courtesy of the Port Washington News



Alek's Barber Shop Ribbon Cutting Photo Courtesy of the Port Washington News

New Businesses in the Village

All-Shore Appliance and **Alek's Barber Shop** have both opened on Main Street. We wish them well!

Winging It At Baxter's Pond

By: Nancy Comer, President, Baxter's Pond Foundation



Baxter's Pond in fall
Photo By:
Nancy Comer

Now that the days are turning cooler (sort of), and the leaves are bursting into color, migrating birds have started dropping by for a snack on our very enticing shrubbery. You, too, can enjoy fall's bounty and beauty with a stroll or picnic by Baxter's Pond.

If you're new to the neighborhood, you may not know about us: The Baxter's Pond Foundation's mission is to beautify and maintain the landscape surrounding Baxter's Pond in the Barbara Johnson Park & Preserve. Every year we are hosts to hundreds of ducks, birdwatchers, picture takers and flowers, as well as the spring Model Boat Regatta. We meet our goal to help keep Manhasset Bay's watershed clean through the support of generous donations and volunteer efforts by our whole community.

The Foundation spent this past summer watering and hoping for rain, but this fall we're beginning the next stage of planting for our fern garden on the south side of the pond, which will be greatly expanded, and initiating repairs on parts of the interior and exterior of the cottage.

We are also looking forward to a potential mid-October kids' event at the pond (weather permitting), as well as a late winter gala, and an upgraded website. Stay tuned.

To learn more or to support the work of the Baxter's Pond Foundation, like us on Facebook or visit www.baxterspond.org.

The Baxter's Pond Foundation



Baxter's Pond
Photo By:
Village Resident
Paul Mauriello



VBE Village Hall

Citations and Recognitions

The Mayor presented citations to three long term members of the Port Washington Fire Department at Protection Engine Company #1's Annual Dinner held on April 2nd, 2016. Donald Reese was recognized for his 25 years of service and Thomas Tobin and Ronald Henderson were each recognized for their 50 years of service to the Port Washington community.

The Mayor also presented citations to twenty-four police officers of the Port Washington Police Department at their Awards Ceremony, for the officers' exceptional service and dedication to the Port Washington community and to the Village of Baxter Estates.

These public servants protect our community and the Village is pleased to recognize them.



Welcome sign to our Village Hall

Personnel News



Clerk-Treasurer Kiernan Accepts Award

Village Clerk-Treasurer, Chrissy Kiernan, received a scholarship from the New York State Association of City and Village Clerks and the Long Island Village Clerks & Treasurers Association to attend the Municipal Clerks Institute at Cornell University. Chrissy is pursuing her Certified Municipal Clerk certification through a 120-hour course study over a three-year period offered through the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC). Chrissy was chosen Treasurer of her class this year. This certification has enabled Chrissy to improve her professional skills and enhance the services she provides to the Village of Baxter Estates. In addition, she was recognized this summer by County Executive Ed Mangano for her volunteer work with children. Kudos to Chrissy!



Josh Speisman joins the Village Building Department

The Board of Trustees has appointed Josh Speisman as the Assistant to the Building Inspector. Josh will phase into the role of Village Code Enforcer upon completion of the state required course study. Josh is now under the jurisdiction of our Building Inspector, Joe Saladino. Josh has been inspecting pools in the Village as we are mandated to do by state law, and is ensuring that all commercial properties are compliant with new laws regarding the installation of carbon monoxide detectors. We are pleased to have him!



This year is the 85th Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Village of Baxter Estates.

We are planning a celebration in Village Hall during the holiday season to honor this very special occasion.

We hope you will join us!

Mark your calendar:

WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 7TH
FROM 6:30 to 9:30pm

More information will be forthcoming.

Steve Howley Appointed Village Historian

The Board of Trustees has appointed Steve Howley as Historian of the Village. Steve has been busy collecting photographs and conducting interviews with current and former residents to learn as much about the history of the Village as he can. We are pleased to welcome our new residents to Baxter Estates and let them know about our community.

A Letter From Village Historian Steve Howley:

Greetings! I am very excited to be appointed the new Historian for the Village. We have new projects to announce and I hope that many of you will be willing to help us out, so dust off those old scrapbooks!

1. The Oral History Project - We are recording the personal histories of our residents to create a unique historical record for our village. Through these recordings, listeners will come to better understand and experience the feeling of what life has been like in Baxter Estates over the years. Every resident, past and present, is invited to bend our ear and give us your story. It's a relaxing conversation in your home for a few hours and I am looking forward to learning more about my neighbors.

2. Building and Property Catalogue - Through this project, we will create a file for each and every property in the Village. These files will house photos and other pertinent records of the properties for research by future generations. We hope to include photos and histories of the families that have lived and worked in the Village as well. If you see someone snapping a photo of your house, come out and say hello. Furthermore, if you have photos of your house and yard from years past, we would love to have copies of them for these files.

3. Holidays in Baxter Estates - In conjunction with our other projects, we are collecting photos of families who live, or have lived, in the Village, celebrating the holidays in Baxter Estates. The photos will be displayed in a slide show at the Village office during the Holiday Seasons. We hope to begin this tradition by Thanksgiving if we get enough submissions.

Please consider participating and being part of our history. And pass the word along to friends and relatives who may have lived here, but since moved away. Photos and inquiries may be submitted to historian@baxterestates.org. If you have printed photos or paper materials to submit, please contact the Village office, most items can be scanned by us while you wait.



Steve Howley
Village Historian

Warm Regards,
Steve Howley

Return Service Requested

315 Main Street,
Port Washington, NY 11050
Inc. Village of Baxter Estates