



Belle Terre Times

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE

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NEW & NOTEWORTHY

VILLAGE SAFETY

HEALTH & SAFETY CHECKS



Mayor Bob Sandak

One of the most important functions of our Village government is to ensure, within our ability, the health and safety of our residents. Toward that end, I would like to introduce a new Village program and also update you on three others.



The Community Notification Program, “CodeRed”, is designed to alert you to any situations that have developed in the Village that might have immediate effect on you or your family.

Examples might be notifications of: closed roads, downed power lines, dangerous flooding, police or fire department activity, etc.

We currently have email addresses for over 90% of our residents and often send emergency email updates to your phones or computers. (If you are new to the community, please make sure that the office has your email address.)

In a true emergency we don’t want to wait for you to check your email. If you choose to register your phone, or other device, with CodeRed you will receive an immediate text or voice message if an emergency occurs. In order to register, go to the Village web site (BelleTerre.us) and click on the Code Red logo. This will take you to a page that will let you register as many devices as you would like. Only residents of the Village will be allowed to register (checked by geo-location) for our

Belle Terre CodeRed Service.



CodeRED

Mobile Alert app

1 The Constabulary maintains a list of Village residents that live alone or may have medical conditions. During power outages or storm conditions (snow, rain or winds) the Constables on duty will stop by and make sure that these residents are not in need of any kind of assistance. You may add your name to this list by calling the Village Office.

BELLE TERRE HOUSE WATCH

2 Whenever you are going to be away from your home, for more than a day, you can arrange for the Constabulary to check your property by filling out a “House Watch” form. The forms are available at the Constabulary, Village office, or online. The form asks when you will be away and if anyone will be in the house or on the property. Each house is checked twice a day for as long as you are away. The Constables will make sure that all the doors and windows are closed and that no weather-related damage has occurred. In addition, by placing your house on “watch”, the Constables, while on patrol, will also be looking for anyone that might be trespassing on your property.



SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

3 In order to assist our Constables on patrol, the Village has installed a CCTV system that enables them to see several areas of the Village on their handheld devices. The latest update to this system added two cameras at the entrance of Knapp Beach. These special high definition cameras will make it easier to identify illegally parked cars in the parking lot. The existing systems at the entrance to the Village, on Cliff Road, at McAllister Park, at the Circle, on Sts. Orchard and at the Community Center are reevaluated and upgraded for quality each year as is the recording devices that keep a 30 day record of all activity.



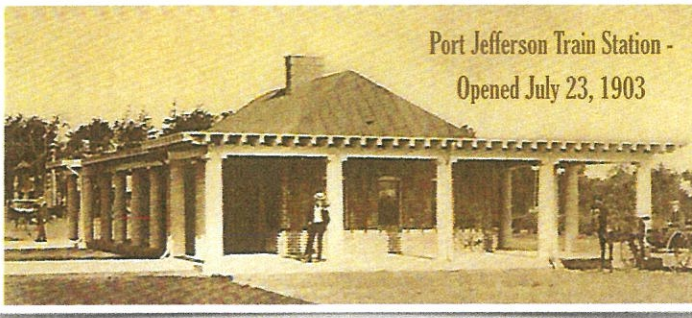
PERGOLAS

In 1903, Dean Alvord, the designer of Prospect Park South, in Brooklyn and Roslyn Heights in Nassau County, set his eyes on a virgin piece of property which would eventually become "Belle Terre Estates". Mr. Alvord was one of five directors of the "Port Jefferson Company" that purchased "Oakwood" from the Strong family for purposes of development.

Mr. Alvord was part of the "City Beautiful" movement that saw homes as both beautiful and utilitarian. He envisioned a mixture of luxury homes set back from the street with large lawns and medians filled with greenery. (Think Upper and Lower Devon.)

The focal point of his enterprise was the Belle Terre Club, a members-only organization designed to attract well-heeled New Yorkers. Alvord sat on various boards with the Whitneys, the Vanderbilts, the Astors and the Belmonts, all of whom were charter members of his club.

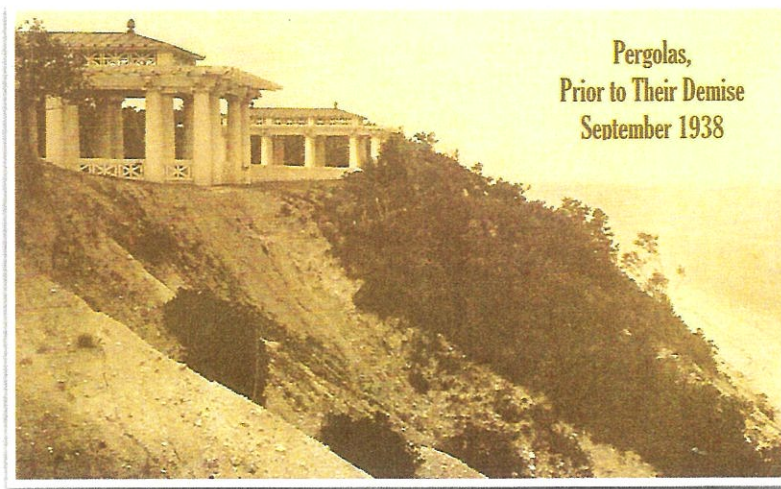
With his friend Ralph Peters, President of the Long Island Railroad, Alvord arranged for a railroad car to be reserved exclusively for guests of the Club. The neoclassical railroad station at Port Jefferson, where guests were met and driven to the Club, was designed by architects Kirby, Petit & Green.



They were also the designers of the Gatehouse (sometimes erroneously attributed to Stanford White), and were likewise the architects of two white neoclassical pergolas erected on the cliff overlooking Long Island Sound.



The pergolas were erected to attract the attention of his wealthy friends as they sailed from New York City to their Gilded Age mansions in Newport Rhode Island. They stood at the end of Cliff Road until extensive erosion of the cliffs caused them to fall apart. The last remnants were lost in a hurricane that swept the foundations away.



Today a new pergola has been erected and takes the place of its storied predecessors through the generous donation of one of our Village residents.

On the 4th of July 1976, the birthday of our country, a young man from Buffalo knelt on one knee. On the spot where the new pergola stands, he asked a lovely young woman from Belle Terre to marry him. She said, "I'll think about it..."and then immediately said "Yes!."



It is their wish, that in the future, others might take advantage of this beautiful setting for memorable moments such as theirs. The formal dedication of our new Pergola will take place this Spring.

CELLULAR NETWORK UPGRADES

As you drive around the village you may notice that work is being done to our cell tower at the north end of Cliff Road. The 3 service providers are all upgrading their antennas, which currently supply 3G and 4G service, to the newer 4G and 5G.

Two decades ago when most phones just made calls, the first 3G networks ushered in the era of wireless data. They made it possible to use apps on our phones, integrate GPS systems with our cars and do lots of other tasks on the go. But as carriers transitioned to 4G networks and now to 5G, they're shutting down 3G for good this year. As a result, some devices and services will no longer work.

AT&T went first by shutting down its 3G service on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022. T-Mobile will follow on March 31, and Verizon will wrap it up on Dec. 31.

Not only will 3G telephones no longer function, but other devices which relied on 3G will no longer work as well. These may include home alarm systems, medical alert systems, automobile GPS and emergency notification systems.

You will have to check with your providers of service to see which of your devices may no longer work.

