



BELLE TERRE NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE

Volume 11 - Issue 3

Village Website: www.belleterre.us

September 2011

AWAITING IRENE



(Primitive, but brilliant!)



WELCOME HOME TO OUR EAGLE

After being knocked off its perch on our right-hand gate post by a truck, the damaged cap of the gate-post has been replaced, the eagle has been restored and returned to its home.

Belle Terre Community Association Fall Session 2011 Ballroom Dance Lessons



Fridays, September 9, 16, 23, 30, October 7, & 14.

7:30 to 9:00 PM

at the

Vincent Bove Belle Terre Community Center

55 Cliff Road, Belle Terre

\$95 per couple (BTCA members \$70 per couple)

Join Stephanie and Lucio Costanzo, award winning dancers/performers/choreographers & discover the exciting world of ballroom dancing. At the first session, students vote on which three dances they prefer to explore as a

class. Choose from waltz, fox-trot, swing, cha-cha, tango, & others.

Their unique, relaxed approach builds strong creative dance partners. Flavor your life & laugh while you learn.

Couples only, please.

Yappy Hour

The Belle Terre Community Association would like to introduce you to our very first "Yappy Hour" at the Belle Terre Park on September 25th from 3:00 - 5:00.



Bring your four legged family members, a donation for Save-A-Pet and we'll provide the rest!

Wine and cheese will be provided for adults, juice and snacks for the kids and doggie treats (as well as doodie bags) for our canine friends.

Save-A-Pet is a local no kill shelter that provides a safe and loving environment for cats and dogs who aren't fortunate enough to have a home. They are 100% non-profit and could use the help and support from our community.

Cash donations are always

appreciated but supplies are also needed. The volunteers from Save-A-Pet have provided a wish list and are so grateful that the BTCA and our residents want to help.

Wish List

Purina Kitten Chow Cat Chow
Purina Dog Chow Dog Treats
Dog & Cat Toys Paper Towels
Bleach, Laundry Detergent & Dish Soap

If you are unable to attend Yappy Hour and would like to make a donation Save-A-Pet is located at 608 Route 112, Port Jefferson Station. It will be a barking good time!!!



For more information please contact Linda Poirier (631) 655-5531.

Linda Poirier

CharismaLinda@optonline.net

Thank You Ladies

We would like to say thank you to the ladies in the Village office for their help in discovering all the errors that we miss during assembly of the News Letter. Pat & Roy Stockdale



Car Fire

These dramatic before-and-after photographs were taken on Cliff road, by the Village Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Louise Smit.

Thank you Louise.



Environmental Project at the End of Cliff Road

Work is progressing on this project with plantings and nets to retain new vegetation.



Letter sent by the Mayor:

August 26,2011

Dear Senator LaValle,

On behalf of the residents of Belle Terre, I would like to thank you for your generous support of our environmental project at the end of Cliff Road. The end of Cliff Road is turning into a beautiful area that is environmentally improved as well. Without your support and initial seed money, we would not have been able to proceed. We appreciate your vision and remain your loyal supporters.

Sincerely,

Ted Lucki

Mayor

Before, During and After Irene

by Bob Sandak

Few of us remember the great, unnamed storm of 1938 that became known as the *Yankee Clipper* or the *Long Island Express*. That storm, which started in the Cape Verde Islands, came ashore at Bayport, Long Island at 3:00PM on September 21, 1938. Before it finished its sweep through New England, 682 people would be killed, 57,000 homes would be damaged or destroyed, Dune Road would be obliterated, Montauk would temporarily become an island, the Shinnecock Inlet would be created and 2 billion trees would be destroyed.

More of us remember Hurricane *Gloria*, which made landfall in September 1985 and followed a course between Long Beach and Bridgeport. The National Hurricane Center had dubbed Gloria “the Storm of the Century” due to its high winds (115mph) and trajectory through New England. It was the first major storm to hit Long Island since *Donna* in 1960 and was responsible for 683,000 homes to be without power for up to 11 days.

We can now add Hurricane *Irene* to our memory banks as she came ashore at 9:00AM in Coney Island, Brooklyn with tropical force winds of 65mph. Before losing much of her force, through two landfalls in Virginia and New Jersey, she was a Category 3 storm, which could have devastated our region. With this in mind, on August 26th and 27th Governor Andrew Cuomo, Suffolk County Executive Steve Levy, Brookhaven Supervisor Mark Lesko and Village of Belle Terre Mayor Ted Lucki declared official “States of Emergency” and set up Offices of Emergency Management (OEM).

Wait a minute! What was that last one?

That’s right, the Mayor declared a legal “State of Emergency”, in order to give the Village additional powers to work directly with First Responders, to set up a communications center, and to be eligible to receive FEMA reimbursement for storm related activities such as tree and road clearing. After the declaration the Mayor and Trustees joined with their counterparts from Port Jefferson in 6 telephone conference calls prior to the actual storm. These calls linked together all of the Villages and Erosion Districts (Fire Island Communities) in the Town of Brookhaven. Systems for communication were shared and “Emergency Plans” were activated for before, during and after the actual storm.

In the case of Belle Terre we worked with the Fire Department to move two fire engines, with full crews, to the community center for the duration of the storm. The firemen rested, cooked, ate and slept in the Community center for over 24 hours, while responding to several fires within the community during that time. We also increased the Constabulary presence in the Village during the storm, having Chief Wolosin, two Constables and the Commissioner patrolling and clearing roads wherever possible, and coning off danger zones, which could not be immediately cleared. We had Aronica Tree Service in the Village to remove road hazards as quickly as possible and to cut down trees after LIPA crews cut power to their entangled lines. We also set up a command center at the Port Jefferson Volunteer Ambulance Corps headquarters to coordinate the efforts of the Ambulance Corps, the Fire Department, the Highway Department, the Constabulary Offices of Port Jefferson and Belle Terre, the Building Department, etc. In addition, we were prepared to enhance communications within and among departments utilizing emergency frequency 800mhz radios and satellite telephones if landline and cell service failed.

Luckily, with the storm turning west, at the last moment, and diminishing in wind speed, the worst problems we faced were flooding, small fires, downed trees and power lines, power outages, blocked roads, and broken telephone and cable connections. No injuries were directly attributable to the storm. The clean-up was started immediately and will continue for some time to come. Meetings with FEMA representatives are already scheduled and the direct cost to the Village is being calculated. A secondary State of Emergency remains in place to help the Village with the clean-up effort.

As always, in our community, it was heart warming to see how we all tried to help our neighbors when possible. Those with portable generators invited their neighbors to stay with them or to move food into their refrigerators. Those with chain saws helped with tree branches too large to be moved while in one piece. Younger residents made sure to check in on their older neighbors periodically. As power was restored to parts of the community, emergency equipment was lent to those who still had no power. Emails were checked at neighbors’ homes and cell phones were charged wherever possible. Early morning hair “blowing” was carried out wherever a dryer could be plugged in. Food was barbecued en masse and eaten community family style before it spoiled.

All in all, the worst was avoided. The new Knapp Beach seawall held with no damage. We all learned about how to better prepare for the next storm. Some new friends were made along the way. But we also have to remember that with recent climate change comes the real possibility that these storms may be more frequent and more violent than in the past. The Village will continue to plan for the future but ...Only time will tell.

Trees



This fire was snapped by Brendon Ivory early on Sunday morning. He called LIPA and the power was shut off, stopping the electrical fire that had started after trees brought down the

power lines at the top of Beach Road

The following day, this is what we saw.

There were many power lines damaged and impassable roads keeping crews busy for many days.



The following photo' was taken along Cliff road.



The Beach

After all the work that has been done to the new parking lot at the beach it seems to have mostly withstood the battering of the storm.

A small portion of the fence was knocked down at the side of the ramp down to the beach and some of the fill was washed away in the same area.

As we can see, looking at the picnic table, a lot of extra



sand has been acquired by the beach (up to the top of the table).

Ruth Sandak sent in the beach storm photograph and this one showing the flooding that took place on our parking



lot at Anchorage beach.

Information

Coming back into Belle Terre at 6:30pm Tuesday August 30th, we were stopped in front of the Community Center, by Mayor Lucki and Trustee Bob Sandak. They were giving updates on the power situation to all returning residents.

Personally, I found this very comforting. It was not the news that we wanted. There was to be no power for another day, our fourth, but it was information. Someone was taking the trouble to let us know. The "what if's" were answered and the stress went away. A big THANK YOU to our Mayor and Bob.

Nostalgia

I have lived the nostalgia of my early marriage in the four days of our power outage.

No TV; it was in it's infancy.

No fridge; we shopped every day.

Dishwashers were unheard of.

No clothes washer or dryer, I did the washing in the sink, from shirts to sheets, then hung it all outside to dry.

Fridges and vacuums were very scarce.

No! I was not living in the dark ages; but post war England.

In 1952 there was still food rationing and we thought ourselves lucky to have a roof over our heads.

Nostalgia is all very well, but only for four days.

Pat Stockdale

JULY 4th at the Beach.



Lobster Bake

Once again good food, good weather, excellent music and a whole bunch of friends and neighbors made a wonderful evening.



“Did I forget something?”



BTBBBG

Belle Terre's Best Band: Bishops Gate.



“Please Sir - can I have some more?”



BELLE TERRE BROADWAY

Welcome to the Sixties

As usual the youth program's, Belle Terre on Broadway, was a blast. Welcome to the Sixties was the theme. If we could have bottled the energy, that was on stage, there would be no power shortage. I was mesmerized by the two little girls on microphones, just off stage right; they sang every song and knew every word.

Well done everyone, CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!



THE FIRE GONG

by Nancy Orth

His name was Walter Hunt. One day in New York City he saw a little girl run over by a carriage. The year was 1826. The driver couldn't blow his horn because he needed to keep both hands on the reins. Walter returned home to upstate New York, disturbed by what he had witnessed. He devised a metal gong with a hammer that could be operated by foot: carriages then became much safer. The idea of a metal gong struck by a hammer was eventually applied to what became the fire gong.

In our times, these rare relics of the past are usually seen at fire stations as memorials to volunteers. Fire gongs were often made of discarded locomotive wheels. Along with other early methods of warning people of fires (ringing church bells, shooting guns into the air, roving watchmen using hand bell ringers, blowing factory whistles), fire gongs didn't tell the location of the fire. After Samuel F. B. Morse invented the telegraph (1835), numbered fire alarm boxes were installed throughout a town; the location of a telegraphed message was indicated by the number of the box sending the signal. Eventually telegraph systems were replaced by siren systems.



The amazing Mr. Hunt is credited with numerous inventions: the fountain pen, the inkstand, an ice boat, a nail making machine, a machine to make rope, a castor globe to move furniture, the streetcar bell, the hard-coal burning stove, street sweeping machinery, the restaurant steam table, a flax spinner, the forerunner of the Winchester repeating rifle, a home knife sharpener, bottle stoppers, hob nails for boots and shoes, paper shirt collars, the sewing machine (1833), and last but not least, the safety pin (1849)! The patent for the latter he sold for \$100 to enable him to pay off a \$15 debt. For financial reasons he failed to apply for a patent for the sewing machine. In 1846 Elias Howe was granted a patent for an improved version of Hunt's machine. Ten years of lawsuits followed. The U.S. Patent Office in 1854 recognized that Hunt's machine preceded Howe's, but it did not grant a patent because Hunt had not applied for one prior to Howe's application. To end the controversy and settle a myriad of complex lawsuits, in 1858 Isaac Singer agreed to pay Hunt \$50,000, but Hunt died before Singer had made any payments. Hunt's reward was respect. The New York Tribune wrote that he had tried more experiments than any other inventor.

In Port Jefferson the first fire department, called the Hook and Ladder Company #1, was established in 1887. Although we have no record of the date the fire gong was installed, nor of how many times it served Belle Terre, we're pleased to possess this odd remnant of the past. We're also grateful to the ladies of the Beautification Committee who have honored our bit of history by enhancing the area around the gong. They are just one more example of the many residents who quietly devote their time, money, and hard work to improving the place we love.

*Kane, Joseph Nathan, *Necessity's Child: The Story of Walter Hunt, America's Forgotten Inventor*, 1997.

August 2011

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF BELLE TERRE



BTCA Breast Cancer Benefit

Party in Pink, To Benefit Breast Cancer Research
Sunday, September 25th at 1:00pm
1 ½ hour Zumba Class
Sponsored and held at the Belle Terre Community Center
There will be several awesome instructors for this

Zumba class
All monies from ticket sales get donated to the cause.
\$20 per ticket
Tickets can be purchased at the Belle Terre office or online at
<http://partyinpinkatbelleterre.eventbrite.com/>
Any Questions call: Mary Buono 516-376-5001



Belle Terre Village Youth Program

Francoise Schachner, Youth Program Commissioner is ably assisted by the Youth Program Director, Samantha Abelson to look after our youngsters on the beach.

They organize and help with various constructive and artistic projects through the summer months.



The second Belle Terre Community Association “Garden Tour”

This went off without a hitch on July 9, 2011. The weather was perfect, the gardens were spectacular and those who attended were wonderful.

All the families who participated in the garden tour were enthusiastic and worked so hard preparing their gardens for the tour. We truly appreciate their efforts, for without them, we wouldn't be able to have the tour. Thanks to the residents for their support and participation in purchasing tickets as well as raffles. Put it all together and it made for a successful event which was enjoyable for all.

The winners of the raffle were:



Mary Samios 1st prize \$500 gift certificate to Kunz Nurseries donated by a Belle Terre Resident
The Corcella's 2nd Place 4 tickets to the BTCA Lobster Bake

Mike Devine 3rd place \$200 gift certificate to Max & Millies

A Special Thank You to the Cangemi boys, 7 and 9, who sold lemonade at their garden and unselfishly donated the proceeds, six dollars, to the BTCA.

For the benefit of the community, we hope this event continues to grow and gain even greater support from our residents.

Have a wonderful summer,

Judy Zaino & Loraine Serabian, Co-Chairs

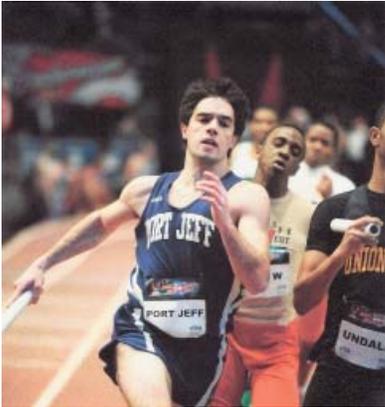
INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF BELLE TERRE



High School Athletes

2011 graduates, Colin and Ryan Flanagan have been competing in track and field for Port Jefferson High School for over four years. During that time, they have participated in state and national competitions placing and winning various awards and medals.

Colin’s favorite race, the 400 meter, has been his foremost

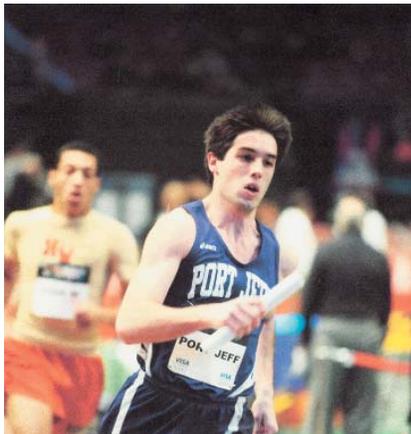


challenge in track. He has trained with the 400 in mind, and in his senior year was able to complete the distance in 49.4 seconds. When asked how he strategizes for this race, he replied, “Over time I just kept bringing the point where I would start to sprint all out to the finish sooner and sooner in the race,

until I was sprinting as hard as I could more than halfway through the race.” He runs a mile in under five minutes.

Ryan, his twin brother, has a favorite race as well. The 800 meter, considered a

middle distance race, requires a unique but simple strategy to run efficiently. When asked how he runs the 800 he replied. “Run the first lap as fast as you can while continuing to run the second lap with all the energy you have left.” He runs a mile in 4.45 seconds. Their competitors know them as the “Flanagan Twins”.



Together, they have participated in the Millrose Games, held at Madison Square Garden. They competed at Cornell University for state competition and recently visited North Carolina where they ran against the best runners in the country. They were thrilled to place in the 4x4 relay.

During Cross Country season they run between 50 and 60 miles per week. Many Belle Terre residents have seen these boys running at sunrise before they start their school day. There are frequent “Flanagan” sightings throughout the hills of Port Jefferson.

This fall they will be attending Bryant University in Rhode Island as Biology majors and will join their Division One Track Team.

Photos - Left: Colin and Right: Ryan.

All-American Decathlete

Thomas Bove went to the National High School Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Greensboro, N.C., June 16 and 17. He placed fourth in the decathlon, a 10-event competition spread over two days.

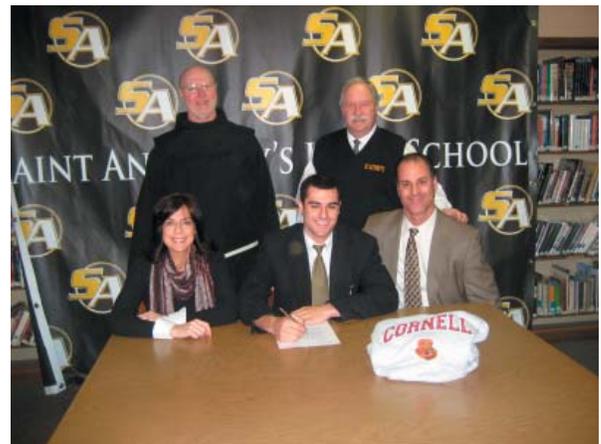


His personal best, pole vaulting 12 feet 11 inches helped rally his score, making him the first All-American decathlete to have come from Port Jefferson High School.

The photograph shows Thomas wearing his medal at the National Championships.

Soccer Athlete

Matthew Altebrando will be attending Cornell University this fall and will be playing on the mens soccer team. He is a 2011 graduate of St Anthony’s HS in Huntington.



Matthew Altebrando’s Cornell Signing at St Anthony’s HS
Seated is Cyndi, Matthew and Jim Altebrando
Standing is L to R St Anthony’s Brother Gary and St Anthony’s AD Don Buckley

VILLAGE DIRECTORY

PLEASE RETAIN THIS DIRECTORY NEAR YOUR TELEPHONE

MAYOR.....	Ted Lucki	331-4907	Zoning Board of Appeals	Dave McAnaney	928-0020
Deputy Mayor.....	Sheila Knapp	473-0212	Assessor.....	Ronald Matuza	928-0020
Trustee.....	Grant Geelan	473-6245	Beach Comm.....	Sheila Knapp	473-0212
Trustee.....	Bob Sandak	474-8686	Building Comm.....	Grant Geelan	473-6245
Trustee.....	Michael Sampogna	928-0020	Conservation Comm....	Dave McAnaney	928-0020
Clerk-Treasurer.....	Joanne Raso	928-0020	Constable Comm.....	Bob Sandak	474-8686
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer	Louise Smit	928-0020	Constable's Office.....	928-5785
Village Attorney.....	Eileen A. Powers	727-8250	Fire Marshall	James Makarius Jr.	774-3706
Village Justice.....	Charles Russo	265-7200	Historians.....	Nancy Orth	473-1078
Court Clerk.....	Elaine Freda	473-5105		Dr. Wolf Schafer	331-0543
Planning Board.....	Vincent DeStefano	928-0020	Parks Commissioner....	Joanne Cornell-May	473-3028
Building Inspector.....	Christopher Harding	928-0020	Road Commissioner...	William Raso	928-0020
Technology Advisor.....	Ken Weiss	928-0020	Youth Program Comm ...	Francoise Schachner	928-0020
			Newsletter.....	Pat & Roy Stockdale	473-4801

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETINGS: First Tuesday of every month; work meeting.

Third Tuesday of each month, regular public meeting, unless otherwise posted.

VILLAGE CLERK: 928-0020 * FAX 928-7971. VILLAGE WEBSITE: www.belleterre.us

VILLAGE E-MAIL: btvillageoffice@gmail.com

JUSTICE COURT CLERK: Call 473-5105 to leave message for call-back appt. NOTARY PUBLIC: Call office

RECYCLABLES REFUSE PICK-UP: Alternate Wednesdays.

1. CURBY: Glass, Metal, Plastics (1) & (2). 2. Newspapers, Cardboard (flattened and tied).



INCORPORATED

VILLAGE OF BELLE TERRE

1 Cliff Road

Belle Terre, NY 11777