



Inside Our Community

Community News – October 2023

Commack Road Elementary PTA: The CRES PTA has started the year strong, welcoming the building's new interim principal and staff back to school with a special breakfast. The group also hosted a successful book fair last week, with both in-school and night-time shopping opportunities for families, while the Meadowfarms fundraiser is scheduled to end this month.

Upcoming events include:

- October 27th - Halloween-Themed Fall Family Fun Night, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
- November 4th – Color Run community event (9:00 a.m. registration; 10:00 a.m. run)
- November 6th – Blue Jeans Ball Virtual Planning Meeting (*Contact Kelly Horner or Angella Cox through commackroadpta@gmail.com to join*)
- November 15th – Night of Giving (5:00 – 7:00 p.m.) & PTA Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

SAVE THE DATE! The annual CRES PTA Blue Jeans Ball has been revamped as an exciting event right on Main Street, Islip. This adult-only cocktail party will be a PRIVATE EVENT at The Harp & Hound on Thursday, April 4th from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. More details will follow.

Historical Society of Islip Hamlet: On September 13th, over 135 people joined the Historical Society of Islip Hamlet as they hosted a panel of lifelong Bay men and women who have worked and lived on the Great South Bay. Society member Leslie Schwan, a third generation Bay family member served as moderator of the panel, which included clammer Ken Tooker; commercial fisherman Frank Slope; fisherman, clammer, and duck hunter Pete Johnston; Emmett O'Hara, who spoke about raising oysters for sale at local

restaurants; and Lesley Clock, whose family has owned a home on Captree Island for several generations.

More recently, the Society participated in the Islip Street Fair on Sunday, October 15th. Visitors to the booth had the opportunity to view a display of maps, dress up and be photographed in historical period costumes, and peruse a variety of merchandise for sale.

Looking ahead, the Historical Society will play host to author Bill Bleyer at the Islip Public Library on Tuesday, November 14th as he discusses his book, “The Sinking Steamboat Lexington on Long Island Sound” This luxurious steamboat caught fire in January 1840, with only four of the 150 people on board surviving, but went largely unknown until a team of divers discovered the wreckage in 1983. Mr. Bleyer’s book details the story of the steamboat from its construction to its demise. The program, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be preceded by the Society’s Board of Directors election for the 2024 calendar year. For more information, please visit the Society’s website (www.isliphamlethistory.org).

Islip Chamber of Commerce: The Islip Chamber of Commerce will once again host the Holiday Parade down Main Street on Sunday, December 2nd. Marchers may start lining up at Town Hall West (401 Main Street) at 3:30 p.m., with the parade to Town Hall (655 Main Street) stepping off at 4:30 p.m. Once everyone has gathered at Town Hall, the holiday season will officially begin with the tree lighting at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to march, or just watch, as this community-favorite event jump starts the holidays!

Islip Food For Hope: On Sunday, October 29th Islip Food for Hope will host a Football Sunday Fundraiser at Harp & Hound (528 Main Street, Islip) from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The event will feature raffle baskets, lottery boards, a 50-50 raffle, live music with Tradewinds Trio Band, and, of course, football! Food and drink specials will also be available for purchase. Admission is free, so stop in to enjoy the afternoon with friends and help support local families in need this Thanksgiving.

Islip Post Prom: The Islip Post Prom Committee has started planning for the 2024 event in June. The senior class already voted to select this year’s theme, which will once again

be “Casino.” The committee believes last year's event must have been more of a success than thought!

The Post Prom Committee attended the Islip Street Fair on Sunday, October 15th, where they held a 50/50 fundraiser. This resulted in \$364 being raised for the event, helped by the winner donating their take back to the group. Thank you!

The committee will meet in early November, with a parent meeting to follow before Winter Recess. Build nights will begin at the end of January. Even though this is the same theme as last year, new ideas are welcome, so the event is uniquely for the Class of 2024! If you would like to help out or would like more information, please email the Post Prom Committee at islipspostprom@gmail.com.

Islip SEPTA: Islip’s Special Education Parent-Teacher Association (SEPTA) has hit the ground running hosting the “Let’s Talk About Children with Neurodevelopment Conditions” workshop with Dr. Caryl Oris on October 16th, as well as their first Sensory-Friendly Pumpkin Decorating event on October 17th.

Looking ahead, SEPTA will host joint meetings with SES PTA (November 14th), HS PTSA (November 28th), MS PTA (January 8th), Wing PTA (March 11th), and CRES PTA (April 10th). The group also has several other events planned, including a Mindfulness Workshop at 7:00 p.m. on December 5th in the MS Library, a Super Siblings Workshop on January 9th, and, of course, the annual SEPTA Sweetheart Dance on February 2nd. As always, donations for raffle baskets for the Sweetheart Dance are gratefully appreciated. For more information about this, or any of the other upcoming events, please email IslipSEPTA@gmail.com.

Keep Islip Clean (KIC): Have old sneakers you no longer need? During October and November, you can drop off your unneeded new, gently worn, and used sneakers at the Keep Islip Clean offices located at 660 Main Street. With National Recycling Day on November 15th, this is a great way to “kick” off this event. Plus, not only will KIC earn funds based on the total quantity of athletic shoes collected through GotSneakers, but by donating your old shoes for recycling, you keep the non-biodegradable materials out of landfills or prevent them from being incinerated. That definitely sounds like a win-win!



Please join KIC at their next General Meeting, which will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 16, 2023 in the Ballroom at Brookwood Hall (50 Irish Lane, East Islip). The meeting will include updates on recycling efforts (like the aforementioned sneaker drive) and the Fall Cleanup programming. For more information, contact Keep Islip Clean at 631-224-2627 or keepislipclean@optonline.net.

Trinity Lutheran Church: If you are looking for that special and unique holiday gift, do not miss Trinity Lutheran's Annual Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday, November 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Be sure not to miss the famous "cookie walk" as you browse the wares on offer from a variety of vendors, or enjoy other refreshments throughout the day. New vendors are still welcome for \$45 a table. Contact Liz at 631-277-1555 or trinityislip@optonline.net for more information.

Wing Elementary PTA: Members of the Wing Elementary School PTA approved updated by-laws at their first meeting in September. The Miss Chocolate fundraiser is currently underway, with all orders due by October 30th. The PTA will also be bringing back the annual Wing Pumpkin Patch during school hours on Thursday, October 26th. Looking ahead, Wing PTA will sponsor a holiday food drive beginning in November, and the group's next meeting will be held on December 4th.