



The Voice of the Village

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VILLAGE OF BROOKVILLE

Winter 2012 Volume 1

Continued from page 1

Hello Again (Cont'd)

Director of Community Relations and Director of Village Emergency Management (both critical in recent times)... building cohesive teams to work on special projects... introducing technology that would make running the Village more efficient... and stepping up communications to our residents through frequent website postings, SwiftReach 911 calls, emails, letters and a newsletter filled with a lot more essential information.

Serving the residents of this community gave me a first-hand opportunity to witness the importance of letting others have a chance. After all, new leadership generates new ideas, new perspectives, new ways of doing things, and new energy. Dick Goodwin, our former Mayor, gave me that chance. I think it's healthy for our Village.

At our last Board of Trustees meeting in December, I put into action that last part of my plan: I retired as mayor. Our Board then appointed our Deputy Mayor, Dan Serota, as our new Acting Mayor until elections in March.

As many of you already know, Dan has put his heart and soul into working on behalf of Brookville. I have no doubt that Dan will make an exceptional Mayor. He has already proven himself over and over. Quite frankly, I couldn't have been as effective as I was without Dan.

There was really no suitable title for me, so Dan asked if he could appoint me as a Trustee and Deputy Mayor. I was very pleased to accept this position.

I think this combination gives our Village the very best — two people with two different lifestyles but one common denominator — we both love Brookville and want to ensure its well being and ongoing health in every way possible.

Our community now has a fabulous,

smooth-running team in place — from Village staff to unpaid elected officials to appointed volunteers. Each and every one is an unsung hero and I thank them for the work they do on behalf of our community.

So with this newsletter, I officially say “goodbye” as your Mayor, and “hello again” in a new working capacity. Dan and I look forward to continuing to serve you well.

Caroline Z. Bazzini

Village Roster

MAYOR
Caroline Z. Bazzini

DEPUTY MAYOR
Daniel H. Serota

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Robert C. Antonucci
Edward Chesnik
Scott J. Roth
Daniel H. Serota

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VILLAGE HISTORIAN
Laura K.V. Dougherty

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
Robert Spina, *Director*

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
Robert Spina, *Chairperson*
Fred Bazzini, *Michael Carter, Jr.*
Scott E. Spector, *Jeffrey Pliskin*
Thomas Cain, *Alternate*

COMMISSIONERS

Lighting - Scott J. Roth
Police - Caroline Z. Bazzini
Deputy Police - Daniel H. Serota
Roads - Robert C. Antonucci
Safety & Traffic - Edward Chesnik
Fire - Edward Chesnik
Sanitation/Recycling - Scott J. Roth

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Edward Halem, *Chairperson*
Susan Katz, Richard Richman,
Evan Bower,
Benny Leung, *Alternate*

VILLAGE COURT

Helen Benzie, *Justice*
Harriette Zelman, *Assoc. Justice*
Tip Henderson, *Village Prosecutor*
Richard Prisco, *Assoc. Village Prosc.*
Susan Egan, *Court Clerk*
Phone & Fax (516) 922-8198

BOARD OF ETHICS

Edward Chesnik, *Chairperson*
Donald Huber, *Genevieve Johanas*

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Old Brookville Police Dept.
911 or (516) 626-1300
East Norwich Fire Company
(516) 742-3300
Roslyn Fire Company
(516) 742-3300
Jericho Fire District
(516) 931-0898



The Voice of the Village

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VILLAGE OF BROOKVILLE

Winter 2012 Volume 1

HELLO AGAIN



A special message from Mayor Caroline Z. Bazzini

Nearly 23 years ago, I ran and was voted in as a Trustee for our Village Board of Trustees. I have been on that Board ever since – nearly half that time as the Deputy Mayor and then the Mayor.

When I first became the elected Mayor, I had a plan: To make as many improvements as possible and practical within a four year term; to build a team of strong players to support our Village infrastructure; at the end of my term to give another qualified person a chance to lead the Village; and hopefully to stay on in some other elected capacity where I could keep my years of experience working on behalf of the Village.

I'm proud to say that I have pretty much done just that.

My record for the past four years includes saving money by renovating our existing Village Hall instead of building new... chopping at our annual budget to keep taxes flat in spite of rising costs... reorganizing our staff to allow for changing work loads and to better utilize our people power... adding new volunteer positions such as

Sandy & The Nor'easter: The Weather Event From Hell! WHAT ABOUT OUR TREES?

By Caroline Bazzini

I'll never forget driving down Hemlock with Tim Dougherty. It was just daybreak after the storm and we were out assessing the roads. I looked up from my notes to a



This beautiful 100-year-old Linden had a canopy that stretched 150 feet across. The Nor'easter tore it from limb to limb so that it had to be taken down.

wall of evergreens and oaks tossed every which way. For a moment, I had absolutely no idea of where I was – the landscape had changed that much overnight. It seemed like every tree and wire had been pulled to the road. When Tim and I drove across some electric lines, we crossed our fingers and hoped it was really true that rubber tires protected you from electrocution!!

When we were finally able to make the left onto Quaker Ridge, it was even worse – with every house having at least one tree sticking out of it – branches like daggers through roofs and windows. This scenario continued as we drove the Village until I was

Dear Mayor...

Continued on page 11

In spite of the fact that we were without power, cable and phone, I literally received hundreds of emails from residents during the storm. Following is a sampling. See Page 15 to sign up for email updates.

Since I took the time to complain bitterly about not having power, I need to take the time to thank you for all your help. I am now one of the lucky ones on Dogwood Hill. My side of the street got its power back on Friday night. I can't tell you how wonderful it is to have heat and hot water. I am ecstatic. I do feel for my neighbors. Please remember when this ordeal is over to approach LIPA about burying all the lines in Brookville...

— **Elaine Pantofel**

You guys have been incredible during this extremely difficult and trying time. Words cannot express our gratitude for your hard work and dedication... and for helping us to get our power back on, getting our streets cleared so quickly after both storms. We applaud you. We appreciate you.

— **The Levy Family**

After 12 days, Ormond Park, Emerson and Mayflower are still without all utilities. In addition, there have been no LIPA trucks here yet. We have had men working on the trees for two days. It was really disturbing the other afternoon to see all of them standing in the street talking. Most workers are reporting to the people who question them that they have never seen such poor wiring and infrastructure any place else. They compare what we have to putting bandaids on major wounds. Even after all is up and running, we will be very vulnerable to outages until there is a total, albeit expensive revamping of LIPA from technology

to wiring to office management. Beyond that, you and Dan have done a magnificent job of taking care of us.

— **Susan Katz**

This is Holly Warman from Quaker Ridge Drive and ARKANSAS ROCKS OUR WORLD!!! They worked their hearts out to get us powered up and were absolutely awesome! LIPA couldn't even find their way down our streets. Let's give credit where credit is due: Thank you for all your updates and support.

— **Holly Warman**

I really cannot believe that only 50% of Brookville has power. I recall reading an email stating that we have everything in place for a quick resolve. No one has even come down my street to assess the damage. It is an absolute disgrace. Day 10 and no power, no heat, no nothing. During Hurricane Irene it took eight days for the crews to get to us. We were almost dead last on Long Island, never mind Brookville. It's an absolute disgrace. I'm sure all the elected officials have their power back. We will remember this when it comes time to vote again. ABSOLUTE DISGRACE.

— **Name Withheld**

NOTE: My street did not get its power back until 13 days after the storm and the Village Office (which is supposed to be a priority) did not get its power back for 15 days.

Just to let you know neighbors have power but after six days, we do not. Thanks for all you have done and continue to do.

— **Jim Robbins**

Your reach out to our family is a beacon of sanity. Thanks to you and your staff.

— **Stuart Levine**

I've been driving home from work every night and not a single wire line or pole has been touched. We were the last ones with Irene and looks like last again with Sandy. Since being civil and nice isn't working, tell Mr. Hervey that if we don't see an army of LIPA trucks working on our roads now, we are all going to write a letter to Governor Cuomo that if he doesn't terminate Hervey, we'll hold him responsible.

— **Song Yong Yu**

I have just driven through Brookville. There are zero repair trucks along Route 107. I see no evidence of the influx of additional repair crews. I appreciate your hard work, but I have

had to leave my house on Woodedge because it is 44 degrees...my wife and four small children simply can't stay there. Is there any update on when we will see more repair crews?

— **Michael Kasper**

First and foremost I want to thank you, Tim and the whole Brookville team for doing a fantastic job on keeping us posted and trying to expedite the restoration of power in our Village.

— **Danny Bindra**

I suggest when this is over a serious look be taken at the poor infrastructure we have in Brookville. Not only are we at huge risk because of our trees, nothing has been done with our lack of cell service. Wires need to be placed underground. A cell tower needs to go up. We need leadership not people who insist on maintaining the status quo.

— **David Schwartz**

Our gratitude to you, Tim and everyone working on our behalf to restore power to Brookville.

— **Polly Leighton**

Thank you so much for your reply and all of your good efforts on our behalf. The house is very cold but the good news is my in-laws at 38 Farmstead who are 83 years old are in a warm safe place. Again many thanks for working so tirelessly.

— **Elisa Muran**

I know you are all doing so much during these trying times, we still don't have power like many, and are just staying positive and thankful it wasn't worse. I understand there is a priority list for LIPA for the elderly or those with babies. I have two very young children and wanted to be added to that "list" if there is one.

— **Michele Lee Fine**

NOTE: Sorry, we could find no evidence of that LIPA list.

I would like to thank everyone on the Brookville Board of Trustees, police and other staff who have worked so hard and tirelessly to restore service to our fellow neighbors in Brookville. I understand my street is one of the worst affected and I completely understand the difficult circumstances you are working under. Kudos to everyone. I surely hope that the Nor'easter will take some pity on us and lessen the projected further difficulties.

— **Deborah Brody**

Generators: A Luxury Or An Essential?

by *Tim Dougherty, Building Inspector*



We all thought Tropical Storm Irene was unbearable. But it was just a warm up for the main event: Hurricane Sandy. Every home in Brookville (and most of Long Island and Queens for that matter) went dark. As we all know, losing power for an extended period of time is untenable. The single biggest complaint I heard from residents as I drove the Village was that their houses were so cold they couldn't stay there. The Nor'easter we had didn't help.

LIPA puts us at the bottom of the list because they restore power by the numbers. No matter how loud we yell about how much we pay in taxes, LIPA doesn't care. So after 16 days of darkness, many residents were seeing generators for what they really are: AN ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT FOR A STRESS FREE HOME LIFE.

Sandy's wrath has caused many more residents to get a lot more serious about having a generator in place before another weather event leaves us without power. So I'd like to provide an overview of what can be a very important purchase. There are two basic types of generators available:

1. Standby Generator (the most powerful and also the most expensive)
2. Portable Generator (provides limited electricity but at a very affordable price)

Standby Generators are permanently installed outside your home and wired directly into your electrical system to provide power to some or all of your home circuits during utility failure. They automatically start when the power goes out and stop when the power returns. Standby generators are fueled by liquid propane, diesel oil or natural gas and require a professional to install. A standby model can cost as little as \$2,000 or as much as \$30,000 – even more – depending on the power capacity. Propane or diesel tank installations would be an additional line item. All standby generators require several Village permits and both a licensed electrician and plumber to install. It's also important to remember that a standby generator can be noisy and unsightly and you should take this into consideration when selecting a site location. Permitted generator location on your property varies as per the zone you live in and should be screened if visible to others.

Portable generators are just that; small enough to be picked up and moved. Usually fueled by gasoline, they have power outlets like the ones in the walls of your home. When the generator is running you can plug a limited number of appliances directly into these outlets. Because portable generators create carbon monoxide, they must run outside of the home. Portable generators range in cost from several hundred dollars to several thousand dollars depending on the capacity and features.

The size of a generator (measured in kilowatts) depends upon what is important to you to have operating during the outage. Your electrician could help you with this prior to your selection. There are many brands to choose from, though Kohler and Generac seem to be two of the more popular ones for home use.

I'd like to close by saying that if you were without electricity for an extended period of time, and if you were stressed by the lack of power, heat and other amenities, I suggest you not let the affects of this storm fade from your mind. Get a generator.

Please contact the Village Building Department at 516-626-0973 for more information about permit requirements for a Standby Generator.

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Laura K. V. Dougherty

LIU Post “The First Step To Freedom”

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of its inception, LIU Post hosted “The First Step to Freedom” a rare public exhibit of Abraham Lincoln’s preliminary Emancipation Proclamation. Held at the Brookville campus on October 15 and 16, 2012, visitors to the exhibit were able to view the draft copy of this early document written in Lincoln’s own handwriting.

Harold Holzer, chairman of the Lincoln Bicentennial Foundation, wrote about the significance of the Proclamation: “By a stroke of his pen, Lincoln had managed by executive order to launch a second American Revolution. He not only ended the national shame of human bondage in America, but helped guarantee the survival of American democracy itself.”

The United States of America was founded on the idea that “all men are created equal,” however, those of African descent did not enjoy the equality privilege and were mostly kept as slaves during the first hundred years of this new nation. Starting in 1860, the Civil War was fought between the North and South due to ideological differences on slavery.

On September 22, 1862, following the Union victory at Antietam, President Lincoln issued this document, the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, ordering that slaves be freed in all states still at conflict with the Union. Lincoln’s fingerprint is visible on the first page of the document as well as many corrections and crossed out sections. In 1864, the document was donated to the U.S. Sanitary Commission and raffled off at the Albany Relief

Bazaar to raise money for the Union war effort. Abolitionist Gerrit Smith won it and sold it to the New York State Legislature that, in turn, deposited the document in the New York State Library, where it is housed today.

At the end of the Civil War, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution officially ended slavery in all of America,

but it took another 100 years before full equality would become reality.

Also on view was a copy of the draft speech of the Centennial address by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered on September 12, 1962. Dr. King was invited by then N.Y. Governor Nelson Rockefeller to deliver his speech on the 100th anniversary of the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.

On October 15, 2012, a procession, led by the honor guard of the 67th New York Volunteer Infantry (Civil War Historical Association) escorted local dignitaries into Hillwood Commons Lecture Hall for the opening ceremony. Participants included Dr. Paul Forestell, Provost, LIU Post, Dr. David Steinberg, President, LIU, Dr. John B. King, Jr., Commissioner of Education of the State of New York, Andrew P. Jackson, Executive Director – Queens Library Langston Hughes Cultural Center and Roger Tilles, Member New York State Board of Regents. As Appointed Public Historian for the Village of Brookville, I was honored to be in the procession.

The exhibit was on view for two days only and will long be remembered by those who had the privilege of viewing it. Many thanks to LIU Post for making this outstanding event possible.



From left to right, Officers of the Brookville Park Foundation Jay Johanas, Treasurer, Gen Johanas, President and Laura Dougherty, Recording Secretary visit the Abraham Lincoln exhibit at LIU Post

Sandy’s “Arkansas Boys”

In one of my email updates during our “lights out” period, I told the story of a woman I met who said that her town had been saved by the crews from Nebraska. I was quick to respond that Arkansas had saved us. In actuality, it was dedicated crews from all over this country who packed up, left their families and the comforts of home to head to Long Island. But many men from Arkansas wound up helping to put the lights back on in Brookville.

At its height, LIPA had 16,000 workers here – many of them with no place to stay. LIU Post housed over 300 men in their gymnasium, giving them two squares a day. (See separate story.) The Greek Church also housed workers. The fire houses were



The one thing that the Arkansas Boys wanted to do was to visit the World Trade Center Memorial

filled with people sleeping on the floor with no pillows or blankets. (I witnessed this first hand.) But many others simply slept in their trucks.

Those who knew about this lack of accommodations were shocked. But there was at least one family in our Village who did something about it. Rich and Diane Frisenda of Norgate Drive took in four men from an Arkansas cooperative and housed them until their jobs were done. Reproduced here is a letter that Rich Frisenda wrote to the North Arkansas Electric Cooperative and also a letter from one of the wives of a crew member:

TO: Steven Hall – North Arkansas Electric Cooperative

FR: Rich & Diane Frisenda

I wrote to you and gave you a quick idea of my gratitude. Here is a clearer picture of the men you employ.

On the day the nor'easter arrived, a crew of linemen from your company arrived on our street, and in absolutely horrendous and dangerous conditions, spent the entire day and evening working to replace a pole and transformer that had come down in front of our home. In spite of the wind and driving snow, they remained out there working until it simply became too unsafe for them to continue.

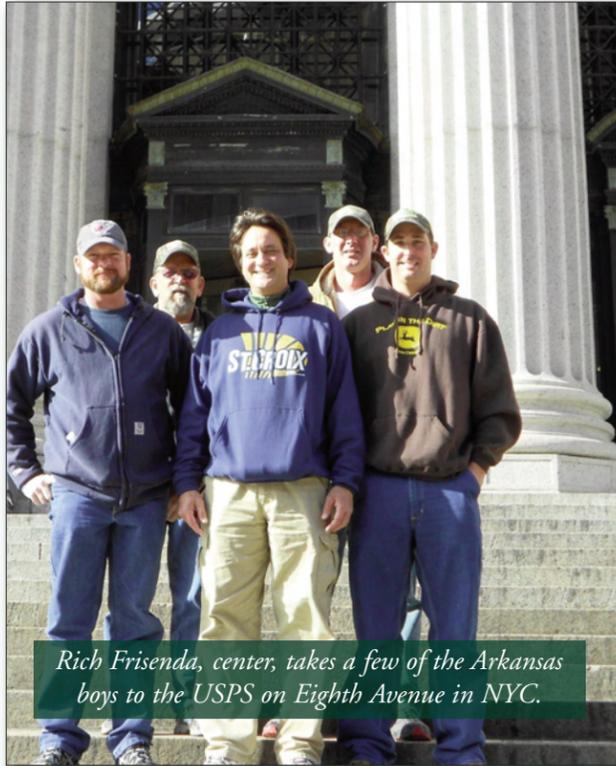
They returned the next morning and told me that were going to do everything they could to get our power restored by the end of the day. In the course of my conversation with the crew later that evening, after they had restored power, I learned that for the past four nights they had been sleeping on the floor of the old Jericho Fire Department - no cots, no blankets, and no showers. The new fire house across the street already had 70 utility workers camping out on the floor, where all those men shared only two showers. This particular crew had just been told that they should drive to Brookhaven that evening, where they could sleep at a National Guard facility. They asked me how far that was. When I told them it was an hours drive from here, they were not too happy.

I was appalled. These men were working outside on electrical lines for 16 hours a day, dangerous work in the best of circumstances, and at the end of the day they did not even have the comfort of a hot shower and a decent night's rest. I felt ashamed that they had driven 1,300 miles to help Long Islanders, and this was how they were being treated – told to now drive an additional hour after their 16-hour work day, to sleep on yet another hard floor. I told these four men that they were welcome to spend the night at my house. My wife and I opened up our home to them because we felt it was the right and decent thing to do. It is because of the work they did restoring our power that we were able to offer them a place to enjoy a hot shower and a warm, comfortable place to sleep. They ended up staying with us for three nights, and it was one of the best experiences we ever had. These men were incredibly respectful to me, my wife and daughter, and we enjoyed getting to know them. They shared stories and photos of their families and children, and by the end of their stay we had become friends. My son and I have every intention of accepting their invitation to visit them this summer in Arkansas

They were finally able to locate an available hotel room at the Viana Hotel in nearby Westbury, but I told them they were welcome to return to

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Sandy's "Arkansas Boys"



Rich Frisenda, center, takes a few of the Arkansas boys to the USPS on Eighth Avenue in NYC.

my home if they were unable to keep that room for the length of time they were here in NY.

I eventually had the opportunity to meet all 25 men who came here from Arkansas, and I will never forget each of these men.

One night one of the men from NAEC that had been staying at my home said they would love to see New York City before they returned to Arkansas. All the men were hoping they would be able to find the time prior to going home, and I told them I would love to be their personal tour guide if they were able to have a day to do so.

On Wednesday, November 14th at 9:00 a.m., I received a phone call that they were being released and were able to go to the city. One of them asked me to meet them at 10:00 a.m. at the Viana Hotel. We then drove to the Fox Hollow Inn and met up with the 21 other men from Arkansas. We boarded shuttles buses to the Syosset train station and caught the 11:15 a.m. train to Penn Station. I was told that none of the men had ever ridden on a train before.

They all said they wanted to see and pay their respects to the World Trade Center victims, and they wanted to see the Statue of Liberty.

They prayed and cried at St. Pauls Church in lower Manhattan, where there is a memorial located directly across from the World Trade Center. They wanted to see the reflecting pools at the Freedom Tower, which normally requires passes that are issued before you arrive. After speaking to a policeman on duty at the site, and explaining the situation, I was able to get them into the memorial where they viewed the water falls where each of the victims names are etched into the granite.

This was the first time I personally had been in that area since September 15th, 2001, and I had no intention of ever going back there. As a Police Lieutenant I had been assigned to the Trade Center disaster for several days. Having these men with me helped me overcome some images I have had locked up in the back of my head.

To watch these men tour New York City was something that will stay with me forever. Most amazing was the way every single New Yorker we encountered was so gracious and generous to these men. From the conductor on the LIRR who let them ride for free, the subway booth attendant who also let them ride for free, the Staten Island Ferry employees who held the ferry for them so they wouldn't miss it, etc., I could go on and on with all the random acts of kindness they were shown. They made me laugh all day long, and they made me realize that by extending my welcome to them I had made some friends for life. On the evening of the day they left to return home, I received a call from one of them just to thank me again. I told him I couldn't talk to him at the moment because I was at the emergency room with my daughter, who was having a medical problem. He told me that if my family needed them, they would turn right around and return if they could help us in any way. They were 12 hours away at that point, but they absolutely meant it.

Since then, I have received too many phone calls and text messages to count, from all these men as well as their family members, thanking me and my family for bringing them into our home.

What they don't realize is that I had the greatest time in my life.

A letter to Rich Frisenda from the wife of an Arkansas Utility crew member:

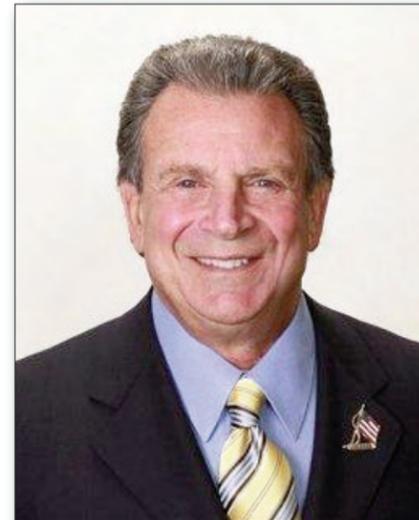
Dear Mr. Frisenda,

I am writing to say thank you to you and your family for being so kind to my husband and his fellow crew members. It is extremely hard as the wife of a lineman not to worry about them every day they are out working. However, it is harder not to worry when they are hundreds of miles from home working a disaster. From the first night Chris and the others stayed at your house, you could hear the relief in their voices. He was so thankful to you and your family for letting them stay in your home where they could shower, be warm and most importantly feel safe. My children and I are forever grateful, and can not wait for you and your family to come visit all of us in Arkansas. I know Chris and all of his fellow crew members would love to show you around our small town. It has been very comforting knowing that the kindness of strangers...whom has now become friends...can make such a huge difference. I hope to meet you and your family soon and return the generous hospitality. Praying that you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday season. The Frisenda's will be at the top of our Thankful List this year, and for many years to follow.

Thank you, Michele Tomlinson

Meet Bob Spina, Our New Director For Village Emergency Management

After Hurricane Irene tore through our Village last year, we all agreed we needed to find a responsible volunteer who could help assist us with the myriad of tasks that need handling before, during and after a major "event" in our community. We are very pleased to announce that Bob Spina has agreed to help us.



If you want the job done right, ask a busy person. And that's just what we did. Meet Bob Spina, our new Director for Village Emergency Management. He continues in his other volunteer job with the Village as Chairperson of the Zoning Board.

For the past 18 years, Bob has been doing an outstanding job as the Chairman of our Zoning Board. He retains that title and adds to it in a newly created position: Village Emergency Management Director.

Bob's qualifications include serving with the U.S. Army Reserve National Guard for six years and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary for five years. In 1993, after the World Trade Center bombing, he also became involved in emergency planning with his firm which included practice evacuations, clearing floors, emergency testing and preparedness. This background gives him knowledge and experience in mobilizing for an emergency.

When St. Edward the Confessor RC Church in Syosset burned down in 2000 he was asked to co-chair the Finance and Building Committee. He was instrumental in rebuilding St. Edward's Church as well as the gymnasium following the devastating fire.

Bob's new position was barely in existence long enough for him to establish a committee when there began rumblings of Hurricane Sandy.

"Bob was "baptized by fire," said Mayor Bazzini. "He did an extraordinary job. I can truly say that he was an integral part of helping our Village get back onto its collective feet."

Through Hurricane Sandy, Bob worked with New York State and Nassau County Office of Emergency Management.

Starting in January, Bob will begin a two month Nassau County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program.

All this and Bob still works full time! He is a Senior Vice President and Financial Advisor with Morgan Stanley for over 40 years and is the founding member of The Spina Group.

A graduate of Iowa Wesleyan College and former member of the Board of Trustees, Bob earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics, including additional business studies in

London, England.

An avid sportsman, Bob is a member of the Brookville Country Club, a CYO coach, and a former Pop Warner football coach. He is a past recipient of the President's Volunteer Gold Service Award, having received this national honor from the President of the United States to recognize his valuable contributions as a volunteer during 2005, 2006 and 2007.

Bob and his wife, Mariellen, have resided in Brookville for 22 years. They have two sons, Robbie, age 21, who attends Fairfield University and Joseph, age 19, who attends the University of Delaware. 

SIGN UP NOW FOR EMAIL UPDATES

AND SWIFTREACH 911 CALLS

During the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, the Village sent out daily email updates to all residents who were registered in our Email Blasts for Residents.

It's easy to register, or to update your phone and email. Just visit us online at:

www.villageofbrookville.com

Then go to General Contacts Tab. Fill out form and submit.

WHAT ABOUT OUR TREES?

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finally numb to the devastation. There's no telling how many thousands of trees came down in Brookville. We do know that LIPA posted us as #1 in Nassau County for the most damage to their electric infrastructure. But, of course, it didn't end there. Next came the Nor'easter with its heavy wet snow that broke up thousands more trees like so many pieces of kindling.

Several days after the Nor'easter, Tim and I drove by a house and were shocked to see that the owner, without permission, had cut down every tree within 75 yards of his house. Besides being illegal, it was sad to see a landscape so completely denuded. Another resident called to say that she loved her trees, and built her home in a way to showcase their beauty, but she was done. She wanted to cut down any tree that could possibly fall on her home.



Trees down on Glenby Lane.

Brookville, which has always been known for its beautiful, mature, canopied trees, is a changed Village. And so, it seems, are our residents. Fear from falling trees has taken a big toll on all of us and that is evidenced by the calls we get at Village Hall asking for permits to cut down perfectly healthy trees. In short, folks throughout Brookville are waging a mini-war against our biggest asset...wanting to pre-emptively cut down trees, even when they show no sign of weakness or disease.

Over the past three years, Brookville has had a tree program in place to clean up and/or remove hazardous trees. This has been an enormous success. Our plans are to more aggressively continue with that program in the years ahead – pruning and caring for healthy trees and removing those that are a hazard. But even with our continued work, it's impossible to safeguard against every option, unless we cut down every tree in our Village.

So what about our trees? Trees have been a hallmark of Brookville – that's why a tree has been our logo since 1931. With all the building and re-building that takes place in our Village, they have been a real asset to protecting properties from excessive mud and erosion. (Many of us have learned this lesson the hard way.) Mature trees add character and beauty to our property. And they improve the property's value. Beyond that, trees also benefit our environment, trapping carbon dioxide, one of the major contributing greenhouse gases, and releasing oxygen.

So I'd like to suggest that instead of looking at every beautiful old shade tree near your home as a potential assault weapon on your house, have a professional determine what trees could benefit from pruning and care, and what is in need of coming down.

The big trees here in Brookville have been here a lot longer than most of us have and they have withstood a lot of storms. There is no doubt that Hurricane Sandy had incredible consequences. As I drive around the Village roads, I see how much work still needs to be done to return us to the "new normal."

My wish for all of us is that as we clean up from Sandy's aftermath, we will look for the silver lining in this storm's cloud. For me, that is an opportunity to assess and improve the longevity of the healthy trees on our property, to get rid of that ones that are truly a hazard and to plant more trees for generations to come.

Meet Our Newest Trustee, Robert (Rob) Antonucci



Rob Antonucci was recently appointed Village Trustee and Road Commissioner

Robert (Rob) Antonucci is no stranger to volunteer work. He's been working on behalf of our Village since nearly the day that he, his wife, Ellen, and their daughter, Alex, moved into Brookville. First he helped out as a Zoning Board member and more recently as a member of our Architectural Review and Planning Boards.

Now he's our newest Trustee (replacing Mitchell Rechler who moved from Brookville earlier this year) and our new Road Commissioner.

"Like Bob Spina (see story page 13), Rob has also been "baptized by fire" in his new role of Trustee and Road Commissioner," said Caroline the Mayor. "Hurricane Sandy came and Rob didn't miss a beat. Day one he cut his way out of his road and came to the rescue of our community. And he hasn't stopped since."

Rob grew up in Topsfield, MA. It's easy to tell by his Bostonian accent that he's not from the area. So it's only natural to ask how he got here.

"I fell head over heels in love with Brookville when I came here to work on a construction assignment," said Rob. "Then I met Timmy and Harold (Dougherty) through the Broadhollow job. Between their "charm" and the natural beauty of Brookville, I was smitten," he said. Apparently Ellen needed no convincing as her family lived over on

Hegemans Lane in Old Brookville. Rob and Ellen found the perfect house on the perfect street and in short order they were Brookville residents.

Rob has been a Principal with The Ranches Management Corporation since the early 1990's. Prior to that, he was the project manager for Beacon Construction of Boston, one of the 10 largest owner/ developers in the country. Since moving to Long Island, he has been involved in construction as the project manager for numerous ventures including Oceanside Cove, Baldwin Estates, Broadhollow Estates of Brookville, Prat Oval Estates of Glen Cove, Stonington, The Ranches at Long Lake Estates, The Ranches at Mt. Sinai and the Marriott Hotel in Uniondale. Rob is a current member of LIBI (Long Island Builders Institute).

Rob and Ellen both graduated from Union College in Schenectady, NY. And now they're proud to say that their daughter, Alex, has just done the same. Welcome to the Board of Trustees. 🌳



Sandy makes a mess on Route 107.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS & WEBSITES

FEMA Disaster Assistance For Hurricane Sandy

If you sustained losses or damage, you may be eligible for Disaster Aid.

For more information or to apply: www.disasterassistance.gov

1-800-621-FEMA (3362)

You will need to have personal information available.

Village Of Brookville Main Number

516-626-0973

For Emergency Updates Go To:

www.villageofbrookville.com

Town Of Oyster Bay

Emergency Operations Center

516-677-5757*

*Activated 24-36 before the potential arrival of gale force winds for residents who need further information such as evacuation warnings, emergency shelter locations and to get assistance in evacuating.

To Report LIPA Outage

1-800-490-0075 or 631-755-6900

National Grid Phone Numbers

1-800-490-0045 (Gas Leaks)

1-800-930-5003 (Service)

To Report A Cablevision Outage

www.optimum.net

1-800-305-2340

To Report Phone Problems

www2.verizon.com/

Verizon: 1-800-837-4966

County Executive: Edward Mangano

www.nassaucountyny.gov/

1550 Franklin Ave.

Mineola, NY 11501

516-571-3131, Fax 516-571-4000

emangano@nassaucountyny.gov

Chief Deputy County Executive:

Rob Walker

1550 Franklin Ave.

Mineola, NY 11501

516-571-3131, Fax 516-571-4000

rwalker@nassaucountyny.gov

State Senator Carl Marcellino

250 Townsend Square

Oyster Bay, NY 11771

516-922-1811, fax 516-922-1154

marcelli@senate.state.ny.us

Assembly District 15

Assemblyman Michael Montesano

111 Levittown Parkway

Hicksville, NY 11801

516-937-3571

montesm@assembly.state.ny.us

DEAR MAYOR (CONT'D)

Continued from page 2

Why don't we do a capital assessment and bury lines in the Village?

— **Roger Fisher**

NOTE: We got a number of inquiries from residents concerning underground wiring for our Village.

Last night our bedroom was at 50 degrees even with fire logs going. Hoping that LIPA gets us up and running soon on Hemlock and Quaker Ridge because pipes freezing will be the next issue. Again, we appreciate all that you guys do.

— **Rob & Maria Greenfeld**

A heartfelt thanks to you and everyone else in the Village office who have worked so tirelessly on behalf of residents since the arrival of Hurricane Sandy. While the massive power outages continue to be unacceptable, I worry just as much about the huge lines at the few service stations that are open. Is it time to reach out to the Governor.

— **Helen Pilkington**

NOTE: During this weather event, we reached out to every elected official we could think of.

Nice of you to acknowledge my comments. I really feel for you and Danny. This is a no win situation for any elected official. The lack of communication from LIPA to their customers is beyond deplorable. You and the other mayors are powerless. The governor must step in and do something about how this utility is run. Can the Village remove trees that are leaning on or have pulled down the wires so as to expedite the repair work before LIPA comes into the area? It would seem to make sense to perform as much clean up as possible prior to LIPA commencing their work.

— **Clifford Feibus**

Thanks for updates. Hope for power soon.

— **Eric Kutner**

Just wanted to say thanks for all the hard work and keeping us informed.

— **Rob Santarpia**

Linda and I want to thank you for all the effort and time expended by the Brookville Team, support contractors and yourself. Any assistance from us, please advise.

— **Linda and John McCusker**

Having seen the devastation firsthand and the tremendous effort, through all the elements, that the line crews are making, my greatest compliment goes to you for your constant

communication on the status of the restoration. I might not like the news, but at least I feel informed and have the knowledge that you are doing all possible for the Village.

— **Don Hendler**

To the leaders of the Incorporated Village of Brookville – especially Caroline, Tim, Dan, Bob, Carlos, Winnie, Chief of Police Smith and the entire OBPD, we owe each of you an enormous “Thank You” for devoting the last few weeks of your lives to ensuring that our community returned to its collective feet, following a devastating blow from one of the most powerful storms to ever hit Long Island, not to mention last Wednesday’s Nor’easter thrown in by Mother Nature just for “good measure.” Each of you, in your own way, pitched in to impart the necessary comfort that we would all get through this together, thereby making a very difficult situation a little easier for all of us to bear. This most certainly did not happen by osmosis, but only through your diligent and tireless efforts... Without wishing to incur the ire of any of our residents who have incessantly used their collective influence to preclude the installation of even a single tower in our community... I would ask only that you seriously balance your objections against the potential harm that can befall our residents during “weather events.”

— **Rory Judd Albert**

In response to your email dated 11/5, you probably know that I am going to say that having a conference call with LIPA is a waste of your time. Either meet with them personally or don't waste your time... To accept that 90% will be back by the end of this weekend is totally unacceptable. You have to put more pressure on them. You are letting them control you instead of you controlling them and remember you are the mayor of one of the richest villages in America ... I know many people are not receiving emails so how can I tell them about receiving them if they don't have power. Your suggestion is not helpful.

— **Norman Goldstein**

We have power at 1 Old Wheatley. Thank you for your tremendous efforts. Please pass along my gratitude to Tim, Dan, Angela and everyone else involved.

— **Michael L. Shanker, Esq.**

I heard on the radio today that the head of LIPA and the governor said that although burying all lines might be cost prohibitive they

would consider locations that have continued power outages because of the concentration of trees including "Brookville."

— **Kenny Weisen**

We spoke to the LIPA guys last night. They have a crew of 21 guys and they are still saying it is going to be a long time before Emerson and Ormond Park are back up. There is a cable vision truck parked on Wheatley with a guy sleeping in it all day. He told us his job is to make sure the generator does not get stolen for the 20 people in that development so they can have cable and internet.

— **Jerry Wood**

I cannot tell you how much Paul, I and Brookville Farms appreciate the work you, Tim and the ENTIRE staff are doing for our Village. Your communications are so appreciated by keeping us abreast of the progress. Most of all the time, effort and dedication being shown is something we are so grateful for and want the entire staff of our Village to know how much we appreciate what they are doing for all of us.

— **Edith Rae Brown**

Caroline—you are the greatest. Thanks for all your hard work, and communication skills. We are blessed to have you as our Mayor.

— **Rich Lubasch**

Thank you, Caroline for your unparalleled effort to bring our Village up and running again. We just got out power back last night. It's amazing how we tend to forget the importance of things as simple as electricity. This ordeal we faced makes us appreciate even the tiniest things in life we often take for granted.

— **Hannah Kim**

NOTE FROM THE MAYOR: I, or someone from the Village, tried to answer each and every email we received. If you did not get an answer, I apologize. If you still would like to hear from someone at the Village, please re-send your email. Thank you.

We got a number of inquiries from residents concerning underground wiring for our Village...

The LIU Post Turns Pratt Recreational Center Into A Motel For “Foreign” LIPA Workers



Like most of us Brookville residents, LIU Post endured a lot. Close to two weeks of classes were cancelled in the aftermath of super storm Sandy and the nor'easter that followed days later. The campus lost power Monday, October 29 but despite back-up generators, was not fully operational until the campus re-opened on Monday, November 12.

For over a decade, LIU Post has served as one of only three Red Cross disaster relief centers at a college campus in the New York metropolitan area. Shortly before

the storm, officials from the Red Cross, LIU and National Grid decided the Center would better serve the public as a staging area for what LIPA calls “foreign” power line repair crews: anyone from off the island. These folks came from upstate NY, Connecticut, Louisiana, Nebraska, Arkansas, Tennessee, Texas and as far away as Canada.



LIU Post contributed to the storm recovery effort by providing lodging for more than 300 utility workers in the Pratt Recreation Center from November 3 – 14. The crews were provided breakfast, snacks and dinner. They departed campus by 6 a.m. and returned as late as 11 p.m. In addition to lodging, the campus designated a parking lot as a staging area for utility worker vehicles, accommodating close to 400 trucks at the height of recovery efforts. So even though the campus was closed, personnel were working around the clock.

While spared major property damage, there were a number of fallen trees, downed poles and wires. Various campus departments worked together to ensure that students and staff residing on campus were safe and secure. Approximately 600 of LIU Post's 1,600 residential students remained in the residence halls. 🌳

LIU Post Radio Station WCWP 88.1 FM Ran Village Updates During The Storm



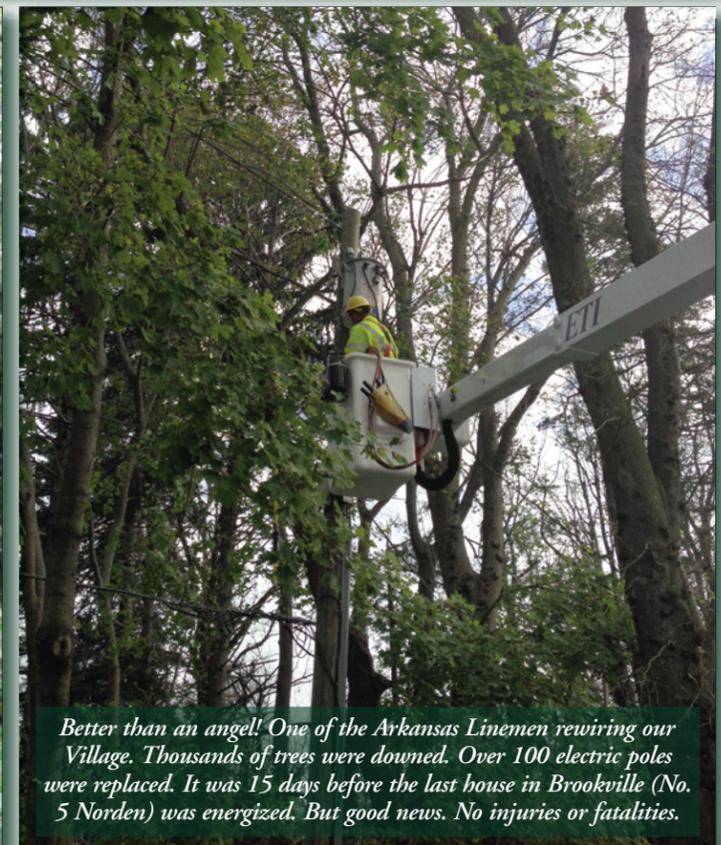
If you had a radio and tuned into WCWP 88.1 on your dial, you probably heard Dan Cox, the Director of Broadcasting at WCWP 88.1FM and WCWP.org at LIU Post interviewing our Mayor.

“Even before we were able to get out our daily email Blasts to residents, Dan broadcast information specifically geared for our Brookville residents. We are very grateful for his willingness to help out the Village,” said Caroline Bazzini, Mayor.

During the storm and the aftermath, the LIU Post campus radio broadcast news and announcements at the top of the hour. Dan provided information for Brookville residents as well as information about local clean up efforts.

Most residents don't know it, but, Dan's professional experience spans 25 years. He began his career as an independent video director and producer of industrial and corporate films. He has served as production manager of the Glen Cove Schools TV Facility, was an editor at WNBC News4 and a media operations specialist for NBC Network Television.

AROUND THE VILLAGE: Hurricane Sandy Devastates Brookville



Better than an angel! One of the Arkansas Linemen rewiring our Village. Thousands of trees were downed. Over 100 electric poles were replaced. It was 15 days before the last house in Brookville (No. 5 Norden) was energized. But good news. No injuries or fatalities.

LIPA LOST POWER TO NEARLY ALL OF LONG ISLAND

