"Don’t Just Talk About It. Do Something About It."

Residents Forward’s 2019 Rallying Cry

Drinking water, Main Street, Port’s waterfront, litter, parking and climate change were the key topics of discussion during Residents Forward’s annual meeting on November 1. Through a series of presentations from the many faces of Residents Forward, the hope in 2019 is to empower more residents to get involved in work centered around Advocacy, Beautification and Education.

As advocates, residents were invited to get involved to protect our drinking water, create a more vibrant Main Street, help advance new solutions to parking and furthering a community vision and master plan for our waterfront.

For Beautification, a highlight of the evening was the introduction of the next mural. HEARTS is issuing Residents Forward a $10,000 grant for the project, funded largely by Damon and Rachelle Gersh. Community sponsors include the Brodsky and Krieger families. The HEARTS grant includes a $500 prize for winning artist Diane Luger.

Another beautification highlight was the unveiling of plans for a new Mural Garden sponsored by The Rimmer Family on upper Main Street. “I am so glad to continue the exciting momentum,” stated Jennifer Rimmer, Board Member and donor.

Stamping out litter was another key initiative, with a focus on containment, street sweeping, cigarette butts and more bins. Board member Alexandra Trinkoff walked residents through the causal patterns behind litter on Main Street, stating “We need to all work together to address these systemic issues.”

Groundbreaking education progress was announced by Residents Forward VP of Environmental Education Doug Marshall. Residents continues to expand beyond Green Team programs to Middle School and High School Climate Action Projects.

The board paid tribute to Rick Krainin and David Sigman, two long-standing outgoing board members and welcomed Margaret Galbraith and Jack Mandel as their newest board members.

Residents are encouraged to get involved by signing up to volunteer, be a sponsor of a beautification project, become a member and let their voice be heard through important surveys at www.pwresidents.org.

From Our Executive Director

Dear Port Washington Community,

Can you imagine an incinerator where Harbor Links Championship Golf Course is today? Or condominiums where Blumenfeld Family Park is today? Residents Forward acted to make sure those things didn’t happen. And today, we continue to act on important initiatives to protect the place we all call home.

Your support in 2018 moved us forward, but our “to do” list in 2019 is bigger than ever. That’s why there has never been a more important time to donate to Residents. Become a member! We need YOUR support to keep the momentum going.

Mindy Germain
“Fabric of Our Community” 2019 Gala

Save the date! Residents Forward 2019 Gala will be on March 22 at 7:00 p.m. at Leonard’s Palazzo of Great Neck. The theme is the “Fabric of our Community” to celebrate the resiliency and culture of giving that is woven throughout our entire neighborhood.

Residents is honored to have selected and congratulates three gala honorees who all exemplify Port Washington’s resiliency, philanthropy and leadership.

Judith Heller has spent more than 15 years in the healthcare field with experience in public policy implementation, managed care strategies, revenue enhancements, process improvements and capital development. She currently serves as the Assistant Vice President for Physician Recruitment at Northwell Health.

Judith was recently recognized as one of the Long Island Business News 40 Under 40, largely due to her commitment to the community. Initiatives closest to her heart include: Twin Pines Thrift Store, Port Washington Parent Resource Center, Sands Point Preserve, Make-A-Wish, Step by Step Charitable Foundation, whose motto is “we run for those who can’t,” raising awareness and funding for cancer research and Eleni’s Pop Of Color, which annually provides 1,200+ scarves for patients undergoing chemotherapy. Judith inspired and oversaw the renovation of Twin Pines Charitable Thrift Shop, showing how amazing things can be accomplished when a community comes together.

She holds an MBA in Healthcare Administration from Baruch’s Zicklin School of Business and an MPA from the University at Albany. Judith has lived in Port Washington for the past eight years with her husband, Brad and their two girls, Shayna, 7, and Maya, 5.

Rick Krainin is a partner at Arent Fox, LLP, a 400-attorney law firm with offices in New York, Washington, D.C. and California. He heads the firm’s New York Nonprofit Finance Group, helping to structure financings for hospital, school, cultural institutions, social welfare and other non-profit organizations, as well as providing general corporate advice. A significant portion of Rick’s practice involves the representation of a government-sponsored enterprise relative to multifamily affordable housing programs.

He works closely with construction, finance and real estate professionals in the structuring, financing and implementation of development projects. Rick led an interdisciplinary national project finance program that was recognized by The Financial Times with an Innovative Law Firms award.

Rick has shown true leadership serving on the board of Residents Forward for the past 25 years, including as its Co-President. He has helped guide our mission to secure Port’s future as both vibrant and sustainable.

Rick and his wife, Lisa Rafosky, have two children, founded his second company, Conformer Products, Inc.

Marvin Makofsky has received more than 120 national and international awards for his work creating and selling business forms designs and systems. He owns 15 patents and, with his two children, founded his second company, Conformer Products, Inc. He is past president of Port Jewish Center, where he helped originate the temple’s choir. Marv also helped publish two volumes celebrating the 100-year history of the Main Street School and Port Washington.

A love of gardening and a concern for others led Marv to create Plant a Row For the Hungry, (“Plant a Row”) in 2010. Today, approximately 80 painted planters grace our community and provide fresh food to those in need. Over 20,000 pounds of fresh produce has been donated over the past eight years.

Marvin and his wife Ellen have resided in Port Washington for over 30 years. Together, they enjoyed raising their two children, Sari and Bob, and now enjoy five grandchildren. When he is not working or gardening, Marv enjoys his family, friends and touring the world with his camera.
Port Holiday Magic Returns

A favorite Port Washington holiday tradition is back. On November 24th, retailers will have special offers planned for Small Business Saturday. The Port Holiday Magic committee, made up of the Business Improvement District, the Chamber of Commerce, Residents Forward and the Town of North Hempstead, agreed that it was the perfect day to bring back this beloved event.

From 1:00–5:00 p.m., Main Street and Port Commons (on Port Blvd) will have costumed characters, popcorn and cotton candy, and local carolers singing holiday tunes. Plus, Santa will be riding the trolley all afternoon! Come spend a great afternoon with family and support our local merchants. We hope to see you there!

Clean Green Manorhaven Boulevard

We all love Manorhaven! The park, shops, restaurants, waterfront, glorious views and more! On November 7, we rallied so many volunteers to plant mums and 600 bulbs, plus picked up bags of litter. Thanks to the Village of Manorhaven and Mayor Jim Avena for leading this with Residents Forward. Thanks also to Kiwanis, Assemblyman Tony D’Urso, scouts, Key Club, Schreiber students and our volunteers for coming out so strong!

Party in the Park Celebrates Community

A perfect fall day in a perfect family park helped make this year’s Party the best in the nearly 30 years it has taken place. Hundreds of young families joined Residents Forward staff, board and friends on September 30. The afternoon featured six experiential zones: Family Fun, Healthy Bodies, Building Young Minds, Healthy Planet, Family Safety and, Music & Art.

The event had extra special meaning because of where it is held. Beautiful Blumenfeld Park was named for Residents Forward’s founder Mike (Myron) Blumenfeld. In honor of Myron, who passed earlier this year, a special tree planting ceremony was held during the day’s event.

Residents Forward is grateful to Presenting Sponsors The Peter & Jeri Dejana Family Foundation, Stuart Johnson, National Grid, Precision Work, Inc., The Town of North Hempstead and Village Dental, as well as its Community Partners and Zone Sponsors for their support for Party in the Park and throughout the year.

Residents Forward board member Thomas Havens, 58, of Port Washington, passed away suddenly on Monday, August 27, 2018. Tom was an incredibly warm, caring, sensitive and intelligent person who used his skills and foresight to make our community and the world a better place. Tom was a highly respected attorney in the renewable energy sector and was actively engaged in the development of solar, wind and other clean energy projects across the United States. In his role as a Residents Forward board member, Tom inspired and challenged us all to find ways to make our town more sustainable, especially in the long term.

Board Member Erin Storch
Waterfront Moratorium

Residents Forward applauds the Town of North Hempstead for adopting a moratorium on all waterfront development in the Manhasset Bay PW District. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to set goals and envision our future waterfront as a community.

Residents has important questions to ask such as:
- How will we deal with sea level rise and extreme weather?
- How can we ensure private development never blocks public access?

Stay tuned for more information about community meetings and draft proposals. We all need to get involved! Please take our waterfront survey at www.pwresidents.org.

Pride in Port Grand Marshals

Residents Forward was honored to have been selected as the 2018 Pride in Port Parade Grand Marshal. In the front passenger seat is our Chairman Curt Trinko. Seated with Grand Marshal ribbons are our Co-Presidents Rick Krainin and Laurie Courage.

About Residents Forward (formerly Residents For a More Beautiful Port Washington)

Rooted in the principle that our environment, health and well being are interdependent, Residents Forward imagines and advances the critical projects that make the Port Washington peninsula beautiful, sustainable and resilient.

Current Resident or