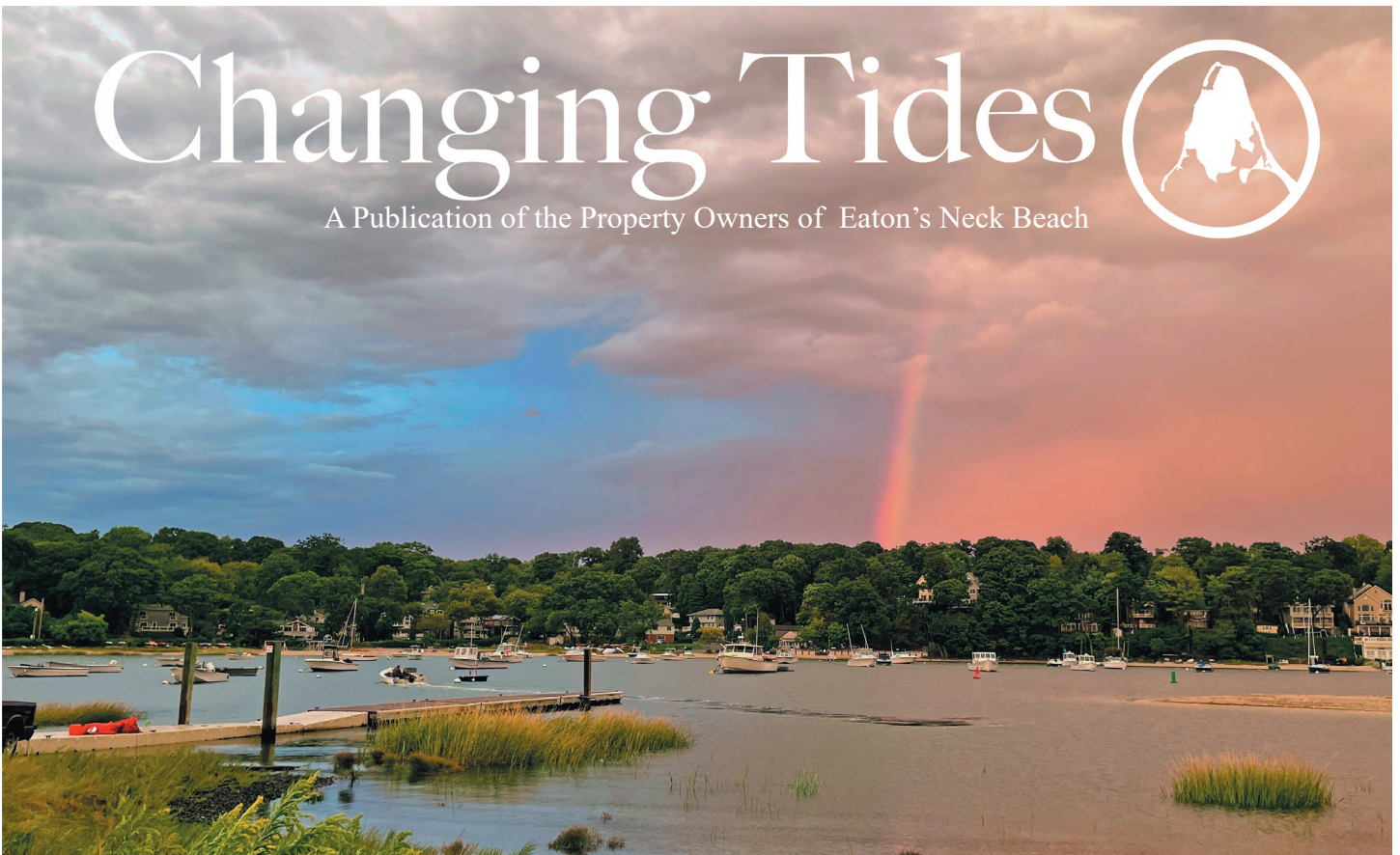


Changing Tides

A Publication of the Property Owners of Eaton's Neck Beach



President's Message



This rainbow has gone viral on Eaton's Neck social media, so we thought we'd jump on the bandwagon.

There are many rainbow expressions out there, but the one I like best is no rain, no rainbow. This past month personified that. It quite literally rained on the day of the Endless Summer 70's Concert. After a season of perfect weather events, Mother Nature finally showed us who's boss and we had to make the decision to move it to the firehouse.

The rainbow? The EN Fire Department had a tent still set up from their picnic which they kindly allowed us to use. They helped us get set up and all those who bought tickets came out, sat under wet tents and came together for a good cause and a fun day. The band was so good that one could only imagine a field of people listening on blankets down at Valley Grove. I think a new event was born, but the real rainbow was the community who came out to support it and make it a success.

Two nights later the real rain came, a 5 am thunderstorm that dumped a ton of rain on the Neck that caused more flooding and bad beach erosion. It's very hard to find a rainbow here, but by Friday we had a contingent of TOH highway and construction personnel out touring and talking. You'll find a drainage report inside this issue. No concrete solutions yet, but we're trying. The rain is the repeated weather stresses overcoming the newly installed system. The rainbow, I hope, will be a system that is modified to work better, because we knew its weaknesses early.

I'm writing this on the first full day of fall and its beautiful outside. Please keep chasing rainbows everyone.

Ryan Cote
POENB President

August / September 2022

POENB Meeting Minutes of September 2nd, 2022

Due to the excellent weather and the fact that this would be the final opportunity to enjoy an outdoor meeting in 2022, the board opted to switch the September meeting location to Valley Grove. The meeting began at approximately 7:40 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call of Officers:

Ryan Cote, President
Frank Pasquale, Vice President
Nora Beck, Treasurer
Steven Neuf, Assistant Vice President
Anthony Fusaro(absent), Assistant Vice President
Yvonne Lambertson(absent), Recording Secretary
Ryan Schaefer-Walker(absent), Corresponding Secretary.

Ryan kicked off a relaxed, pre-Labor Day meeting noting that because August is prime vacation time on the Neck, there was not a lot to report. He noted also that it was a holiday weekend as evidenced by a few missing board members. He thanked all for coming.

Correspondence:

A few emails were received about our endless 70's summer concert requesting clarification on the time and Ryan noted that the event is scheduled for 2-6PM.

Ryan then read an email from a member who wished to express their feeling that a party scheduled for 9/11 was disrespectful. The board completely understands and had much discussion about this. Our response to the member was as follows: The goal from the board's standpoint was to bring a live music event to Valley Grove so that we're utilizing both beach properties for membership enjoyment. The only date we could make it happen, due to band logistics, was September 11th. We discussed and felt (hoped) that the passage of time has made that date viable again. But of course, we completely appreciate the sensitivity of it. We will also be donating a portion of the proceeds to Eaton's Neck Fire Dept in honor of 9/11. Thank you for weighing in and providing us with very valuable insight.

Presidents Report:

Welcome to Fall! Ryan provided a brief update on open items the Board is working on:

Ryan indicated his intent to write a letter to the Town of Huntington regarding the water runoff / catch basin project; specifically, about the issues encountered during last month's rain event and also about concerns about the drainage pipe at Valley Grove. That pipe, he indicated had initially been disconnected from the storm water system during the summer drainage work - with the goal of reducing storm water runoff into Long Island Sound.

The pipe was still disconnected at the time of the July storms but has since been re-connected given the flooding that occurred. Ryan indicated he has heard rumors that, to avoid sand clogging down at beach level, some in Laser Construction were recommending raising the level of the pipe off the beach and either running it over the wall or pushing it through the wall above ground. This would result in all water just pouring onto the beach, creating a huge trench and eroding an already badly eroded beach even further.

2022 POENB Treasurer's Report January 1 - September 2, 2022

Income	
Beach Usage Fee	\$ 2,300.00
Watercraft Fee	1,250.00
Changing Tides Ads	480.00
Membership Dues	
Senior	19,462.72
Standard	32,362.19
Total Membership Dues	\$ 51,824.91
Merchandise Rebate & Sales	607.00
Parade Income	1,255.00
Interest Income	1.48
50/50 proceeds	345.00
Social Income	
Endless Summer	2,150.00
Parti Gras	5,593.49
Total Social Income	7,743.49
Total Income	<u>\$ 65,806.88</u>

Expense	
Beach Expenses	
Beach Clean-Up	\$ 765.39
Prices Bend	11,393.63
Valley Grove	238.94
Total Beach Expenses	\$ 12,397.96
Beach Improvements	5,702.27
Changing Tides	2,096.20
Loan Repayments - VG (through June)	1,657.44
Membership Expenses	392.68
Merchandise Expenses	1,914.74
Monthly Bank Fees	228.00
PO Box	182.00
Office	58.00
Paypal Fees	520.22
Sales Tax	4.40
Social Expenses	
4th of July Parade	\$ 1,500.00
Egg Hunt	192.62
Parti Gras	3,653.30
Thanksgiving Turkey Trot	200.00
Total Social Expenses	\$ 5,545.92
Utilities	
Prices Bend	452.76
Valley Grove	136.91
Total Utilities	\$ 589.67
Website	21.17
Total Expense	<u>\$ 31,310.67</u>
Net Surplus	<u>\$ 34,496.21</u>

Valley Grove Note Payoff	
VG Bulkhead Project Excess	\$ 10,050.56
Outstanding VG Note Balance	(11,999.23)
Additional Payoff Expense	<u>\$ (1,948.67)</u>

Operating checking account balance as of 9/2/22 is \$43,449.45
VG Note checking account balance as of 9/2/22 is \$0
50/50 Proceeds savings account balance as of 9/2/22 is \$345.02

(addendum: in on-site visit on Friday September, 16th involving Mr. Sorrentino, Reps from Laser Construction, Maritime Services, A Town Deputy supervisor, and an independent drainage consultant, Ryan Cote and Frank Pasquale had the opportunity to actually tour trouble spots on the Neck including Valley Grove, Drake Place and the Worcester/Birmingham area by Prices Bend. At Valley Grove we had the opportunity to physically show the Town reps the beach and explain, in person, why shooting water onto the beach is a bad idea. A follow-up summary of the visit and some of the things discussed will be sent to Mr. Sorrentino.)

Ryan remarked that he doubted those newly elected to the TOH Government would be aware of the long history of erosion on Eaton's Neck's West Beach and plans to educate all parties to our (POENB's) concerns that any fixes of the outfall pipe on the beach must be done with sensitivity and in consideration of the existing environmental conditions more.

A member at the meeting also reminded the board of several depressions and at least one small hole which had appeared in the newly paved area outside entrance to Valley Grove. As it was explained to Ryan by an independent party, Laser had decided to quickly pave the area but had not given the asphalt proper time to set or compact. The result of doing it quickly is what is now resulting in these depressions and small holes. Ryan indicated that photos of all were sent to the Town the day they were discovered. Both the Town and Laser are now aware of their existence as is Laser.

(addendum: Ryan C. had an opportunity to speak to a rep from Laser after our board meeting and bring up this problem. The person acknowledged that the decision to do this quickly was a mistake. It was done quickly because of a pending holiday weekend as well as awareness that this was the main entrance to the park, so the thought was to get in and out quickly so folks could access the park. The rep acknowledged it as "his mistake" and indicated he needs to come out and punch through some of the depressions and holes and re-fill them. We don't yet know if this involves a full repave or just spot work but we are told the issue will be addressed. The depressions/small holes are a result of water undermining the pavement from underground.)

A member asked if, prior to doing the work this past summer, the TOH had performed test bores of the soil in the areas where they planned to install the new catch basins? We were told that TOH engineering had had test holes bored to confirm the existence of sand before they

**** In Memory ****

The POENB honors the memory of former POENB President, Eaton's Light Commodore and Eaton's Neck Volunteer Fireman Charlie Puls who passed on August 31st at the age of 93.

Charlie was a caring father, grandfather and great-grandfather, avid sailor and former US Marine.

A Memorial Service and a Celebration of Life Reception will be held at the Northport Yacht Club Bluff Point Road, Northport, NY on Saturday, Oct. 8. From noon to 4 pm. If you'd like to attend, please RSVP Charlie's wife, Linda Puls, at seapulse@optonline.net.



EATON'S NECK FIRE DEPARTMENT

911 is the number to have on speed dial in the event of a fire or medical emergency. Calling 911 will result in the quickest response to your situation.

The chief and members of the department thank the community members who celebrated the fourth of July with them at the parade and picnic. The parade was held on a beautiful day and was a success because of all the participants.

During the summer the department participated in a number of training sessions at the Suffolk County Fire Training Academy in Yaphank. Those sessions include victim location in a fire building, forcible entry into a burning building, and extinguishment of a fire in a residential home. The model for that session is a colonial house just like many of the homes in Eaton's Neck.

The hurricane season will be with us until the end of November. Please prepare for storms by having a supply of medications, food and water. It is also advised to have a supply of cash in the event that banks and ATMs are closed. For those with emergency generators, do not run them in a garage! The CO² fumes can cause illness and death very quickly.

The fire department is seeking new members to replace retiring and moving members. Stop at the fire house or talk with neighbors who are already members. The requirements are minimal and the rewards are immeasurable.

Yours for fire safety, Rich Baer

put in the wells. Some of this work was begun (we believe) during the last months of Kevin Orelli's term as Highway Superintendent. We were told it was done. We don't know if soil boring continued when Mr. Sorrentino took office or if that work was concluded at that point (late 2021 into 2022). Mr. Sorrentino opted to move forward with the drainage project.

Minutes (Readings and Update):

Ryan noted that he had neglected to make a notion of accept the minutes at the top of the meeting and did so here. Ryan's motion was made to accept both the July minutes as published in the Changing Tides the month prior as well as the August minutes which were e-blasted to the membership in late August. The motion was seconded and passed.

Committee Reports:

Beaches:

Ryan thanked the group of folks who have been working tirelessly to improve Valley Grove. Paramount among these is Frank Pasquale who is seen daily, cutting back scrub, repairing stairs, having wood chips delivered and spreading wood chips to provide some genuine and long overdue cover to counteract weed growth. One of Frank's objectives as a board member was to re-claim Valley Grove as the jewel it is and re incorporate it more into the social fabric of Eaton's Neck. Frank's singular efforts have saved the POENB thousands of dollars as he has done the work himself and worked extensively with donated materials. Ryan thanked Frank and noted that he is owed a huge debt of gratitude by all members.

Ryan also recognized Valley Grove Beach Chair Tom Bishop who has been working alongside Frank, cutting scrub, carting wood chips and interfacing with our landscapers.

The meeting also recognized the volunteerism of The Beamers Family for their help during the season. Ryan concluded with a special mention of the unsung hero at Valley Grove, Nelly Schmidt, who has, for decades, quietly worked to beautify and preserve this park -- cutting, pruning, weeding, planting around the rock and the benches and making a small space one of the most tranquil and loved places on the Neck. Nelly's efforts require a great many selfless hours of donated time. Nelly was present at the meeting and attendees were able to recognize her efforts with applause.

Our beach report concluded with Frank P thanking Janet Corcoran for offering to allow POENB to use her electricity

for the upcoming Endless summer party at Valley Grove.

Membership:

Gene provided a quick membership update. As of the September meeting we had 250 paid memberships; the highest ever! Gene was recognized for his outstanding work by the audience and Ryan C thanked all POENB members for their participation; which allows us to protect and preserve the beaches that bring beauty to the community and to our lives.

Treasurers Report:

Nora delivered our Treasurer's Report, stating that: as of the September meeting we had a year-to-date total operating income of \$65,806.88 and year-to-date total operating expenses of \$31,310.67. As of 9/2/22 this left an operating surplus of \$34,496.21. We are on track for a successful year and will end with a moderate surplus. Membership receipts were \$19,462.72 for seniors and \$32,362.19 for standard totaling \$51,824.91 and 4th of July Parade donations made in conjunction with membership total \$1,255. Beach rental reservations raised \$2,300 in income so far this year.

As of the Sept. meeting date we had collected \$2,150 in admissions for the Endless Summer event. We have spent \$5,702.27 in beach improvements (\$1,298 left in budget) and normal beach expenses of \$12,397.96.

Year to date, we have paid \$1,657.44 in note repayments through June 30, 2022 and the total outstanding VG Note balance was \$11,999.23. The outstanding VG Notes were paid in full using the excess proceeds of \$10,050.56 from the Valley Grove Bulkhead Project along with \$1,948.67 coming from the current year budget.

Social:

Community Garage Sale

Ryan thanked Heather Kennedy and Ryan Schaefer Walker for running another successful Community Garage Sale in late August. He noted that it was a learning curve for him as the "professional garage sale customers" began arriving much earlier than the posted start time. That said, POENB members got a beautiful, cool day to move their stuff and lots was sold. A success all around. Thanks to all who participated and organized it with a special shout out to Peter Cartwright who put together the posters that drew folks out here for the sale.

Endless Summer 70s Concert

Frank expanded on the summer concert event, indicating that a block party permit has been issued, catered food and servers have all been secured and the band is ready to go. He acknowledged again, the sensitivity of the 9/11 date but hopes, as all the board does, that enough time has elapsed to allow us all to come together. A portion of the proceeds from the event will be donated back to the Eaton's Neck Fire Department in honor of 9/11.

We adjourned at 8:05 PM. The next POENB meeting will be held on Friday, October 7th at 7:30 pm in the Firehouse.



As the beach sun recedes behind branches rapidly turning red and gold, I'm happy to share a few favorite summer reads, which also happen to be a perfect complement to fall.

The first is *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger, a coming-of-age novel set in 1961's small town Minnesota. The story, told through the eyes of 13-year-old Frank Drum, is a tale of family, tragedy, community, and forgiveness. *Ordinary Grace* is an engaging mystery and excellent piece of literary fiction.

Another recommended read is *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. This novel features a brilliant, quirky single mom who's conquering the 1960's era, male-dominated world of Academia and Science. It's a fun book that also manages to address serious issues. You won't be able to put it down, especially if you happen to row crew!

Go grab a cup of tea, pick up one of these page-turners and enjoy your fall. Happy Reading.

-Kelly Gifford





On September 13th Eaton's Neck experienced its third severe weather event in 8 weeks. In a torrential downpour between 4-6 am, the newly-installed drainage system again proved unable to handle the sudden quantity of rain. Water pooled up, overtopped curbs and carved new paths toward LI Sound, eroding large sections of Prices Bend and Valley Grove as well as damaging our stairs at VG yet again.



(Price's Bend washout - 9/13/22)

After the previous storm back in July, the POENB Board sent the Highway Department & TOH Engineer video and photos of the rushing water in action so they could review it in real time and consider ways to improve the new system. After this most recent washout, Highway Superintendent Andre Sorrentino and a group of TOH officials, highway personnel, a drainage consultant and two reps from Laser Construction (who installed the system), came out to toured some of the problem flood areas. The first stop was Drake Place, followed by Valley Grove Beach, followed by Birmingham Dr. and Worcester Ct.

The visit provided no definitive actions or next steps. It was a fact-finding visit where lots of conversations were occurring at once. The following report, however, represents information we've aggregated from assorted conversations in recent months, outlining problems with the work and, in some cases, detailing solutions that have been mentioned.

In theory, more drainage "should" be a good thing. POENB feels the Town's investment in our infrastructure to be a net positive. However, in undoing some of the older systems, new problems have clearly arisen. Our goal is not to point fingers, but constructively point out the weaknesses and encourage the experts to put their heads together, and try to make the necessary adjustments. This weather is the new normal. Our system must be designed to handle it.

More catch basins



(Worcester Dr. erosion - 9/13/22)

Although the new system is supposed to localize water collection in upland (up street) areas so less comes racing downhill, it has proven it cannot handle the furious high-volume storms that are the new normal. Further, only a small portion of Eaton's Neck has received new catch basins. We need them on all the hilly streets leading down to Price's Bend as well. What was installed is insufficient to what we need. A proposed solution: more catch basins, more depressed grates so water drops in versus skimming over top (what's happening now), road grading to channel the racing water into the catch basins.

Slow leaching

This is a huge problem. We were told test bores were taken so the catch basins will drain into sand, however it is clear they are draining far too slowly. This is likely because there is clay below the sand. One solution is to dig deeper wells but the concern is hitting groundwater which could foul our drinking water. No easy solution here except to make sure any new catch basins really drain into good sand.

Leaves

They collect on the grates and block the flow of water into the wells and when they coat the bottom of the drywell they reduce absorption into the ground. If you have a grate in front of your home, please keep it clear of leaves. The Town must also commit to cleaning out the catch basins on a regular basis.

Continued



Regular cleaning of catch basins by the Town

Especially the old wide mouth catch basins in the sections of Eaton’s Neck that have not received new drainage. Following the Sept 13th washouts at Prices Bend and the end of Worcester, a few trucks (contracted by the TOH) were spotted cleaning some of the catch basins along Tudor and on Eaton’s Neck road, where the hills run down to the beach. This is a very good first step. Most of these catch basins have not been cleaned for over 7 years but they should be cleaned every 2-3 years. When the Town waits too long, there is an accumulation of muck and leaves that rises so high, it actually occludes the storm water pipe inside that’s supposed to carry water away (through pipes). If the pipe inside is blocked with crud, the basin fills up during a heavy rain then pushes the water back out onto the street where it all rushes downhill to the beaches, pools up at the low points along Birmingham and Worcester and eventually, jumps the curb and cuts a channel of erosion we have to deal (currently at our expense) several times a year. Regular cleaning of catch basins all over Eaton’s neck would a long way toward alleviating pressure on our system.



(damaged stairs at Valley Grove - 9/13/22)

Storm water overflow tanks under streets in 2-3 key flood areas

At this point we know precisely the low flood areas where the water will collect before it overtops the curbs and does serious damage. Putting some drains directly into the street (hardscape) at chronic flood points and connecting those drains to a large underground storm water collection tank would provide an essential added safety valve during perfect storm conditions—a high volume rain event occurring at high tide where the water can’t push out to sea. The collected water could then be diffused slowly after the storm event. Options include a deep diffuser well or a physical tank, but a tank might eliminate the need to dig too deep and possibly breach groundwater. Again, this is an emergency overflow to avoid repeated flooding. The long-term solution remains catching more water, higher up, with more drainage.

Houses need to contain their own water

Too many Eaton’s Neck houses still shed their storm water onto lawns and into driveways versus a drywell, which then connects to the street and adds to the burden on the storm water system.

Beach pipes



(broken pipe & VG erosion - 9/13/22)

We have a problem in that Eaton’s Neck’s eroded beaches brings high tide right up to our bulkheads. This means if a heavy rain or sustained storm event occurs during high tide, seawater and sand is pushing up into the pipe at the same time storm water is trying to get out. The competing pressures leave the water nowhere to go but up, often result in blown manhole covers behind bulkheads - or water backing up to street level and flooding. Our pipes are old and decrepit. We do need new ones that will be routinely scoped and kept clear of sand. However, outfall pipes are a last resort safety valve, not the solution. We heard construction personnel advocating for the snaking of the storm water pipe over the bulkhead at Valley Grove so water can just pour out onto the beach--thus eliminating the sand clogging and tide issue. This short-sighted “quick fix” would result in massive trenching of our already eroded beaches, be a terrible eyesore and cut a river right through our property. We must avoid such damaging quick fix suggestions by those who do not live here.

We must avoid such damaging quick fix suggestions by those who do not live here.

community

Bulletin Board


Thanks Frank!!

If anyone has walked down to Valley Grove lately, you'll see a park that has been transformed due largely to the tireless efforts of VP Frank Pasquale

Frank has personally rented brush cutters to cut back the overgrowth, saving the POENB thousands in landscaping. He has had piles of (free) wood chips delivered and wheel barrowed them in, one by one, to create decorative fringe areas that control weeds and reclaim unused space

At every step Frank's right hand has been VG Beach Chair Tom Bishop, who gets home, takes off his suit, and comes down to cut scrub. The third member of the team is Nelly Schmidt who, for decades, has quietly been planting flowers, weeding and making Valley Grove the jewel it is.

There are many others who have pitched in as well and we extend our gratitude to all. But we wanted to recognize these folks in particular. Valley Grove would have looked immaculate for the Endless Summer 70's Concert—but Mother Nature intervened. There's always next year for that, but don't wait that long. Come on down and enjoy your park now. And if you happen to see Frank or Tom or Nelly working, be sure to say thanks.



Night Fishing Facts!

Night Fishing is allowed **ONLY** at Crab Meadow Beach btw 8 pm and 8 am.

Fishermen must be TOH residents, 18 yrs. or older and have a Town Permit.

Only 40 permits are issued each year on a first-come, first-served basis.

Night Fishing Season runs from April 1 to December 31, 2022.

The fee is \$30. Contact Nancy O'Brien at (631) 351-3103 for more information.



Solid 70s rocked the house at the Endless Summer Concert. Thanks to all who helped make it a great day.

Next POENB Meeting. Oct 7th

After a few months outdoors, POENB heads back inside for our October 7th meeting. Please join us at the Eaton's Neck Firehouse at 7:30.

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As Summer Comes To An End,
 I want to wish everyone an amazing
 and fulfilling school year ahead!

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PARTIES **ACTIVITIES**

Friendship

Our program provides a caring, supervised environment for the impaired, mature adult residing in Suffolk County. It promotes social interaction with peers, emotional support, intellectual stimulation and physical activity. We welcome people with Dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

Edmund J. Smyth Supervisor	Eugene Cook Councilman	Joan Cergol Councilwoman	Dr. Dave Bannardo Councilman	Salvatore Ferro Councilman
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