

THE People of PORT

SUMMER 2022: ISSUE 9

News for Donors and Friends



SUMMER FUN AT THE PORT WASHINGTON CHILDREN'S CENTER'S PORT DAY CAMP



“ Summer means fun outdoor activities and a break from school schedules. Thanks to scholarship money from the Community Chest, the Children’s Center continues to deliver high-quality, engaging year-round programming for Port’s youth *and* provides a safe place for kids to go while their parents are at work.

Lisa Bridge
Children’s Center Executive Director

VOLUNTEER PROFILES

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER SERVICE



Mark Mogul

“Local nonprofits like the Community Chest often do not have sophisticated information technology

capabilities. In talking with Shelly in the office, I learned that she was spending a lot of time trying to identify and import Thanksgiving Day runners/donors and their information into the donor management database. By writing custom software, working with Shelly to test it, and shaking out a few glitches, I reduced this effort from weeks to hours. Community Chest had the tools they needed for fundraising; I just worked with Shelly to make it more efficient. I’m happy that I was able to give back to an organization that gives so much to Port Washington and its residents.”



Patricia Carbo & Rachel Fox

“We volunteer for the Community Chest whenever we can because we believe in their vision: The People of Port Helping the People of Port. The grants they give to nonprofit organizations build strength into our social services safety net and so

are making our entire community stronger. We’ve always believed that to be members of a community, living here is not enough; it is our responsibility to give a helping hand. With every hour we donate – stuffing envelopes, posting flyers, adhering labels to medals, staffing a race packet pick up station or joining the Winter Run and Thanksgiving Day Run committees, we feel we are taking a small step in helping to build a more cohesive, safer and inclusive community.”

Winter Run makes its Post COVID return



Race Participants TONH Supervisor Jennifer DeSena & Community Chest President Drew Hershkowitz are joined by Christine Patti of North Shore University Hospital | Northwell Health (left)

After a COVID-imposed hiatus of more than two years, the Port Washington Winter Run returned on Saturday 4/9/22. Running to raise money for Community Chest funded charities, the 5k run's overall winner was Shawn Garbien who posted a time of 18:55 and there was a dramatic tied finish for the top female runners, Sarah Kutzma and Karen at 21:26. The race course stretches along West Shore Road so runners enjoyed beautiful harbor views as they started and finished the race in North Hempstead Beach Park. After crossing the finish line, participants were treated to a tented post-race celebration featuring an awards ceremony, live music from "Off Peak", and craft beer from the Greenport Harbor Brewing Company. With funds generated from runner entry fees and sponsorships including event sponsor the Peter & Jeri Dejana Foundation,

Bib Sponsor Wildwood & Soundview Gardens and Orthopedic Sponsor North Shore University Hospital|Northwell Health, the Community Chest raised nearly \$30,000.

Community Chest President Drew Hershkowitz said, "The Community Chest's motto is 'The People of Port Helping the People of Port' and the residents of our town who participated in today's race, demonstrate why our town is so special." Hershkowitz went on to "thank race Chairman Noal Goldfarb and all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the race a success, as well as all the sponsors whose funding will benefit Port Charities."

Executive Director Bobby Keller noted that the race was a community effort reflecting the contributions of town residents and local business like DiMaggios Trattoria, Hincks Deli and R Best Produce who donated food, and silver sponsors: Baker Air, Orange Theory Fitness and O'Reilly, Marsh & Corteselli P.C. Bronze Sponsors were: Arena Graphics, Chief Graphix, Harding Real Estate, Integrity Abstract Corporation, Law Offices of Joshua D. Kirshner, PLLC, National Financial Network and Sands Point Center for Health & Rehabilitation.

For a complete list of runners, sponsors, and event photos, visit bit.ly/2022PW5kWinterRun

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Hi, I hope you and all those in our extended Community Chest family are well. Though I started in January it feels as if it was last week. As I continue my journey as the new ED, I want to thank our Board, volunteers, grantee organizations and so many others in the Port community who have been generous with their time and patience in helping me acclimate. As of this writing we've had 3 great events: the Winter Run, Golf Outing, and the Port Washington- Manhasset Bay Kayak Run. Each event has introduced me to another group of Port residents who are committed to this community and the traditions that make Port Washington so special. In this issue of our newsletter, we are presenting 2 new continuing features. **(cont'd on next page)**

WHY WE SERVE; BOARD MEMBER PROFILES

Nikos Andreadis, Ross Baltic and Paul Oliveri, all Community Chest volunteers, joined the Community Chest board this July. Read their stories here...

NIKOS ANDREADIS

My family moved to Port Washington in 1999 and over the last couple of decades we have been involved in some of the really great non-profit organizations in Port Washington including the Parent Resource Center, Port Summer Show, PiT Theatrical (a program of the Teen Center at the Landmark on Main Street), PYA (Port Youth Activities), the Science Museum of Long Island and PAL (Police Athletic League). These organizations have something in common; they are Community Chest grantees. I find that incredible; that there is one organization that helps them all. I run my family's business, and I have limited time to "give back," so it's important to me that the community is getting the absolute maximum out of my volunteer efforts. I know of no organization in Port Washington that delivers more "bang for the buck" to our town than the Community Chest. Each year my family and I also enjoy participating in all or some of the community events that the Community Chest produces: the Port Washington Thanksgiving Day 5-Mile Run, Winter Run, Citizen of the Year Ceremony, Golf Outing and the Port Washington-Manhasset Bay Kayak Run. These are fun events that showcase the best of Port Washington and have the added benefit of being fundraisers for the People of Port. I am honored to be paying it forward through such a relevant organization whose assistance touches the lives of so many Port Washington residents.



ROSS BALTIC



I've participated in the Port Washington Thanksgiving Day Run (AKA the Turkey Trot) for many years. I love this event; in fact, I am passionate about it. It's so much more than a race; it's the best of Port Washington: generations of Port Washington families coming together to raise money for their neighbors. The day of the race 7 years ago, I reached out to Julie Meer, who was then the Executive Director of the Community Chest and told her I wanted to help make it better. I was half expecting to get the brush off. But that's one of the unusual things about the Community Chest; it welcomes volunteers to do hands-on work. The following year I got a call to join the Thanksgiving Day Run committee and my involvement as a volunteer has only grown. Before I joined the board, I was working on the Winter Run, the Kayak Run and of course, the Thanksgiving Day Run. As these are fundraisers, one of my goals is always going to be to make the events stronger and to raise more money. But for me a very close second goal is to help raise awareness for the charities we help. I want every resident to say "I live here and so I give here," and mean it. It's so important for us to care for our neighbors; *this* is what makes our town so special. My wife and children got first-hand experience with this during the COVID-19 "shut-down." When seniors were told to isolate and not leave their homes, the Community Chest initiated a program called "Helping Hands for Seniors,"

a no contact FREE shopping service, organized by them and staffed with volunteers. It gives me chills to remember that time and recognize how needed we all were. And the Community Chest made that happen. I am thrilled and honored to be a part of the board and looking forward to making this great organization better; perhaps with a new event, recruiting new board members and/or expanding our reach.

PAUL OLIVERI

The Community Chest is both a reliable and flexible organization in existence for over seven decades; with one goal--aligning their grant support and other programming with what best serves the residents of Port Washington. The flexibility of the Community Chest to adjust its funding as needs change is extraordinarily appealing to me. The charities the Community Chest funds help people in ways that align with my values on a deeply personal level as issues surrounding youth education and development, mental health services, post-secondary school scholarship funding, Alzheimer's & dementia programming as well as the response to COVID-19 all hit home for me in some way. I look forward to my part in supporting these and other life-changing programs, and I am grateful for the opportunity to do my part in raising additional dollars so as to improve the capacity of our grantees to deliver meaningful results for Port Washington residents.



OUR GRANTEES: MEET THEM AGAIN...FOR THE FIRST TIME

Offering meaningful work, independence & hope at the Nicholas Center

The Beginning

The Nicholas Center’s mission is to "support individuals with Autism to lead full and productive lives in the community." The Nicholas Center story begins in 2011 when colleagues and co-founders, Stella Spanakos, Nicole Sugrue and Patrick Bardsley noted the absence of meaningful opportunities for young adults after high school graduation who are on the autism spectrum. The community propelled program model that they developed, serves as an alternative to traditional day programs. The goals for the organization are to make a significant impact on the lives of people on the autism spectrum and to become a self-sustaining and replicable model for the future.

The Nicholas Center, located in the Community Chest building at 382 Main Street in Port Washington, takes advantage of its community resources for service delivery; establishing partnerships with local nonprofits and businesses ensuring that participants get job training, learn life skills, and start on a road towards independence.

Partnership with Spectrum Designs Foundation

To achieve the goal of being self-sustaining, the co-founders formed a separate nonprofit--Spectrum Designs Foundation, which functions as a **social enterprise*** (see red box). Spectrum Designs Foundation has its own mission of developing community-based businesses and offering employment to those with autism. Working in partnership, The Nicholas Center offers coaching supports to Spectrum employees, as well as a transitional work training program for participants who are not "employment ready."

Programming

Nicholas Center has a multitude of programming for its 120 participants including: Vocational Support, Community Inclusion, Virtual Programming, Home & Community Services and School District Programs.

Through its Community Inclusion program, the Nicholas Center team helps companies with stocking, cleaning and organizing, deliveries and set-ups, decorating, assembling, companionship and socializing, stuffing envelopes, folding, shredding and alphabetizing,



Planting, harvesting and distributing fresh produce as part of the Plant-a-Row for the Hungry, Port Washington partnership

** Sustainable revenue (usually from selling goods or services) differentiates a social enterprise from a traditional nonprofit that relies on donations or grants to fulfill its social mission. In contrast to a for-profit company, excess dollars are reinvested back into its social mission rather than funding shareholder dividends.*

assembling giveaway bags, letter writing and more. For the Community Chest and other nonprofits in town, their team has provided countless hours of assistance. Another Community Inclusion program is the Nicholas Center Concierge Service which works in collaboration with

nonprofit organizations to support Long Island seniors--running errands or providing companionship. The Nicholas Center Neighbor program also works with nonprofits, including the Community Chest COVID-19 Community Response Fund, to feed and supply residents in-need with shelf-stable food, fresh produce, meat and paper and personal pantry supplies. Workers help by assembling packages and delivering goods to pantries.

The Nicholas Center provides daily support to over 120 neurodiverse individuals each day and offers a pathway for them to have fulfilling futures.



Nicholas Center Navigators holding the Navigator News; a free publication that is written & produced by participants and distributed to businesses in Port Washington

Note from the Executive Director (cont'd from pg. 2)

First, we'll be shining a light on volunteers who are the life blood of the Community Chest. In this issue, you'll meet IT "genius" Mark Mogul who has been instrumental in upgrading our database management systems. Also, I know you'll enjoy reading about Patricia Carbo and Rachel Fox's motivations for volunteering.

Another feature that we're introducing is called **Meet Them Again for the First Time**. Port Washington is fortunate to have many nonprofit organizations that provide essential programs and services for residents. Because we live in such a dynamic community, we want to make sure that people who are new to Port understand what these nonprofits do and why the Community Chest uses your donations to provide funding for these organizations. So, beginning with The Nicholas Center, we'll reintroduce our grantees and explain how they add to the rich tapestry of community life here in Port.

Bobby Keller

NEWS IN BRIEF

TWEEZERMAN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHES GRANT PROGRAM

Tweezerman International (*The Beauty Tool Experts*) has established the **Tweezerman Environmental Heroes Annual Grant Award**. This year's Tweezerman donation is being used to increase support to Community Chest grantees Plant- A-Row for the Hungry, Port Washington, Residents Forward and ReWild LI, whose programs and projects help address environmental challenges impacting Port Washington and ultimately

our planet. Port Washington resident and Tweezerman President + CEO, Juergen Bosse said, "Our company has a long-standing commitment to improving the environment and investing in the welfare of the communities in which we do business." Bosse went on to say, "The Community Chest has an incredible track record of support and community stewardship here in Port Washington and with their help, we

intend to support environmental organizations who make significant contributions to this community and the environment."

Community Chest President Drew Hershkowitz stated: "Tweezerman International sets a very high bar for how corporations should operate as members of a community."

TWEEZERMAN
The Beauty Tool Experts

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE OUR 2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS WHO ARE RECEIVING \$ 362,640 IN FUNDING. WE APPLAUD THEIR EFFORTS TO HELP THE PEOPLE OF PORT!

GENERAL OPERATING

Littig House Community Center
LIAD (Long Island Alzheimer's & Dementia Center)
Nicholas Center for Autism
North Shore Child & Family Guidance Center
Plant A Row for the Hungry, Port Washington
Port Counseling Center;
A Division of Long Island Reach
Port Washington Adult Activities Center
Port Washington Youth Council
The Safe Center & CAPS at the Safe Center

SCHOLARSHIPS

Community Scholarship Fund of Port Washington
Girl Scouts of Nassau County
Landmark on Main Street
PAL (Police Athletic League)
Port Rowing
Port Summer Show
Port Washington Boy Scouts - Local Troop 7
Port Washington Children's Center
Port Washington Soccer Club
PYA (Port Youth Activities)

SPECIFIC PROGRAM GRANTS

Helen Keller National Center/*Destiny Home*
Parent Resource Center/*Outreach*
Port Washington Community Action Council (CAC)/*College Tour*
Residents Forward/*Youth Climate Action Network Summit*
ReWild Long Island/*Summer Program to Fight Hunger and Climate Change*
Science Museum of Long Island/*Outreach*

2023 Tweezerman Environmental Heroes Annual Grants of \$12,000 have been awarded to 3 Port based organizations: Plant- A-Row for the Hungry, Residents Forward and ReWild Long Island. *(See separate article on Page 3)*

The following nonprofit organizations receive assistance through below market rate rent as tenants in the Community Chest building at 382 Main Street:

Art Loft of Port Washington • Lauri Strauss Leukemia Foundation • Long Island Traditions
Nicholas Center for Autism • Port Washington Community Action Council • Residents Forward
Twin Pines Community Thrift Shop

**WAYS
TO
GIVE**

**INCREASE THE IMPACT
OF YOUR GIVING...
Make it MONTHLY**

Support
Community Chest when you
shop via



<https://amzn.to/3J5G36a>

MAKE AN **EVEN MORE
SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. HOW?**

**CREATE A COMMUNITY CHEST LEGACY
Help your Port Neighbors for Many Generations**

- Name the Community Chest as a beneficiary of your estate plan, life insurance policy or retirement plan
- Double your contribution by asking your employer about its Matching Gift Program
- Donate appreciated stock to avoid paying tax on the unrealized capital gain and get a charitable deduction equal to the fair market value of the stock
- Donate your IRA's required minimum distribution (if you are 70 ½ or older)

Contact Bobby Keller at (516) 767-2121 or email RKeller@portchest.org for securities transfer instructions or additional information.