

The President's Message

Dear Neighbor,

Happy New Year! I trust that this letter finds you well and ready to enjoy the fruits of your labors here in the lovely hamlet of Fort Salonga. There is much that we have planned for the community throughout the coming year.

Before stepping off in this direction I must comment on the state of our Association. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Frank Konop we remain a viable and responsive civic group. Frank has held the office of President since 1994. His commitment to service and this community is unparalleled. He accepted responsibility for every aspect of our work. In addition to his advocacy on issues ranging from development to the power plant he remained well focused on the work of local planning and zoning boards. In this way the interests of Fort Salonga were registered. In addition, he took great care to present you with insightful anecdotes concerning numerous historic homes in the area. I hold him in great esteem and on behalf of the Board of Directors wish him and his wife Marie much joy as they enjoy their retirement. I look forward to his future contributions as Past President and thank him in advance for continuing to coordinate this publication.

During our last meeting there was much discussion of the changing role of this organization. The last of the fields and estates are for the most part spoken for. While there will always be a developer somewhere with a dream to add more houses to less property it is through our mutual vigilance and advocacy that we will provide counsel to the local zoning boards.

One concern that we have is our outreach to the community. In planning future issues of our newsletter look for a series of "man on the street" interviews featuring your neighbors. We also will seek your email address during this year's membership drive so as to promote communication on current issues and inform you of events and town meetings of interest to our residents.

However, of paramount concern is our ability to be responsive to the interests of our changing resident base. In the weeks to come I will be setting some Saturday morning "office hours" in the Shopping Center. Through this meet and greet I hope to get closer to the thinking of our residents. Should you wish to contact me I am available by phone at 544-0406 or you can send an email to ancientrkr@aol.com.

I look forward to another fine year in Fort Salonga.

Stay well,

**Paul Graf
President**

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT WWW.FORTSALONGA.ORG

OLD BRIDGE EYESORE (CONTINUED)

For the past five years our community has been subjected to the gradual deterioration of the two homes on Old Bridge Road, which inexplicably were never completed. The ravages of time and weather reduced them to glaring eyesores and when in September one burned to the ground the eyesore became also a safety hazard. Our efforts to have this situation corrected have produced no results and letters and meetings with town officials have been unsuccessful in clearing up this insult to our community. When the same builder began work on a new home around the corner on Middleville we felt the town might be able to apply leverage to have the builder complete the original homes but legally they were prohibited from denying a building permit. After all these years we may now be close to a resolution.

Public Safety, the town agency responsible for code enforcement, has met with the builder and informed him that if he does not remove the debris and provide a fence around the burned out home by February 11, the town will move at their February board meeting to undertake the work by town employees and then add the cost to the builder's tax bill. The builder plans on using the original foundation for the rebuild but this is dependent on structural soundness and conformity to building codes. Since town employee work is a much more expensive alternative it is expected the builder will finally act responsibly to remove this debris with his own crew.

Meanwhile, a building permit was just obtained by the builder to permit completion of the remaining home (the original permit had expired). He is expected to shortly begin restoration work prior to selling. We continue to monitor the site and work with Huntington Public Safety to insure these commitments are kept. Five years of this insult is five years too long.



COMMUNITY
INTERESTS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Townline
Association Inc.

Huntington/Smithtown

*Protecting Our Quality Of Life
For Generations To Come*

November 12, 2002

Mr. Frank Konop, President
Fort Salonga Association
P.O. Box 247
Northport, NY 11768

Dear Mr. Konop:

Once again, on behalf of Townline Association, I would like to express my gratitude for the generous donation and the continued support of the Fort Salonga Association. Your assistance in helping to prevent PPL/KPE from siting a power plant in our midst is very important and appreciated.

Thanks again for all your help.

Sincerely,


Allen Lepore, President
Townline Association

Thank you to all of the residents for taking the time to express your views and concerns about the community. Your pride in Fort Salonga benefits everyone.

Thanks again and keep those letters coming.

Fort Salonga Association
PO Box 247

Fort Salonga, NY 11768-0247

Attention: Board Members

Or e-mail us at: fkonop@juno.com



**We ask you to patronize our local
merchants whose ads appear in this
newsletter.**

**Their support helps offset our
expenses.**



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Pam Zaid, L.S.A.
Resident of Ft. Salonga

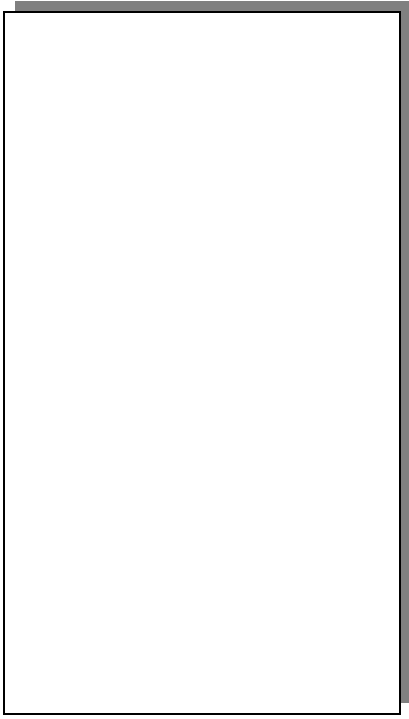
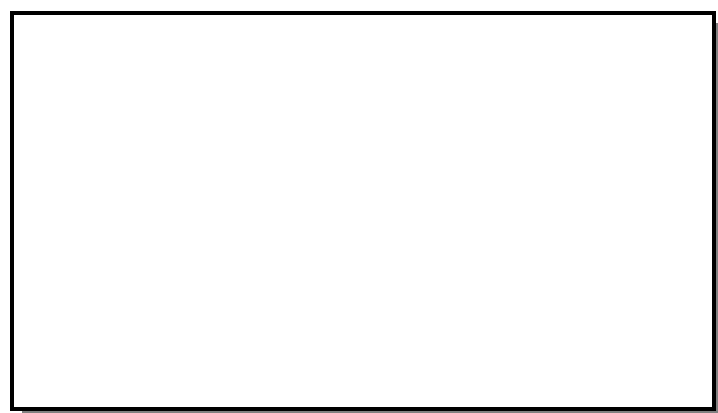
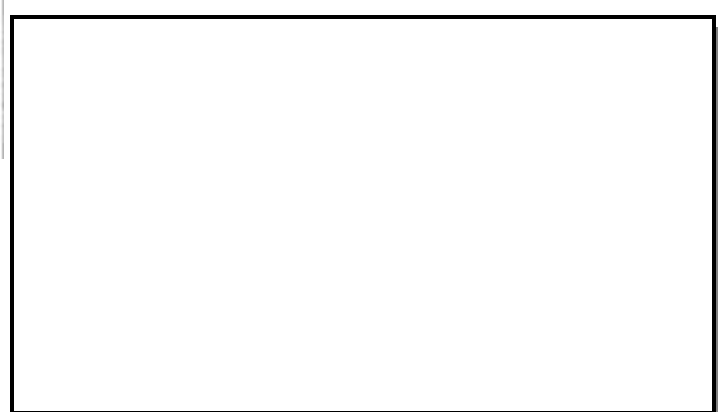
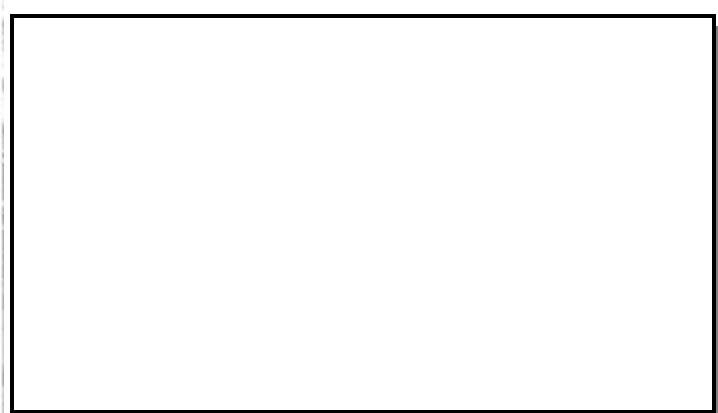
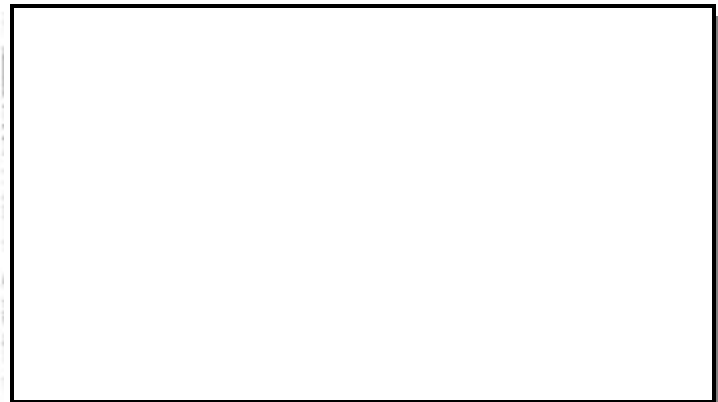
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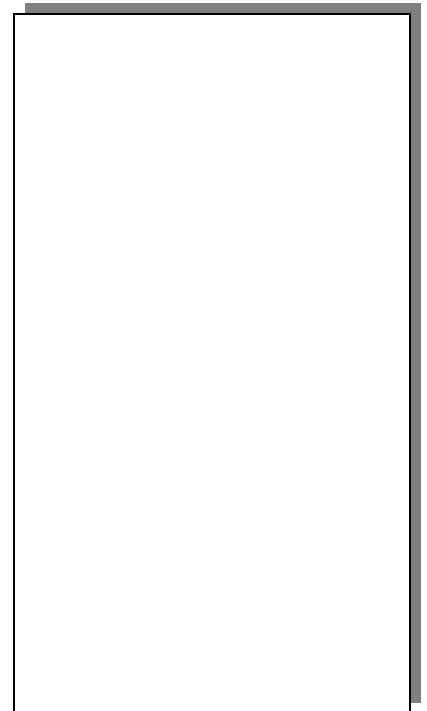
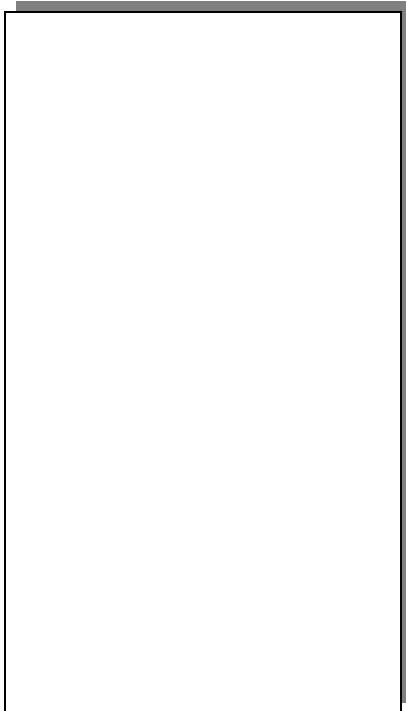


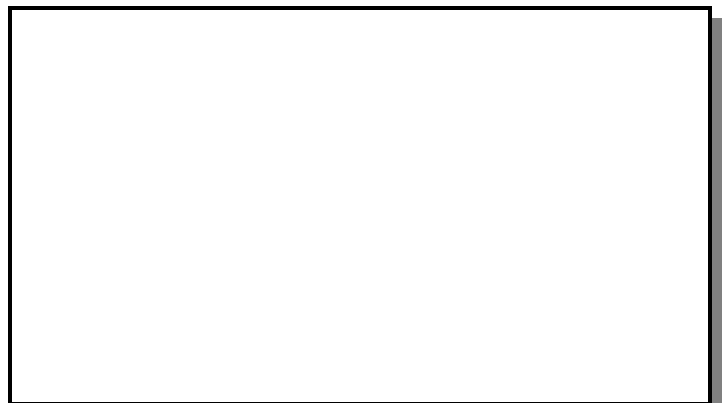
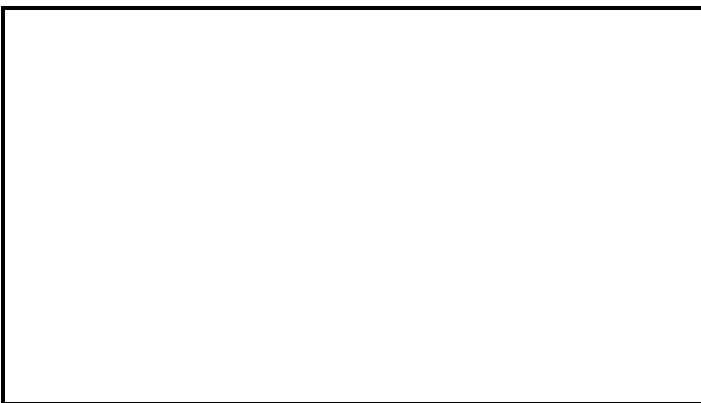
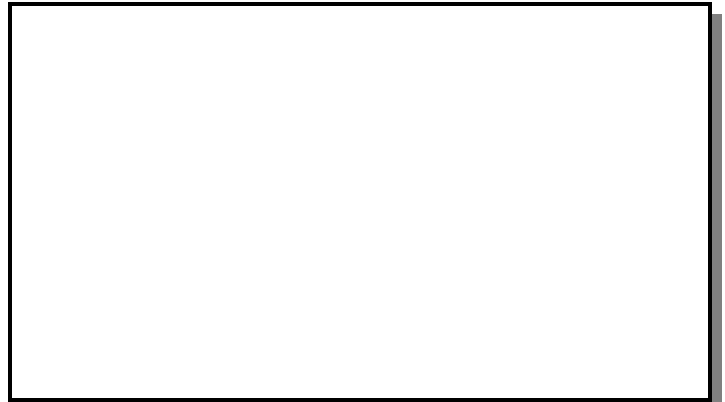
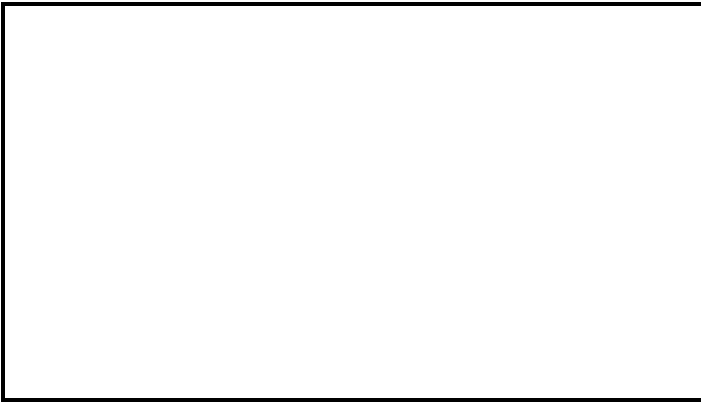
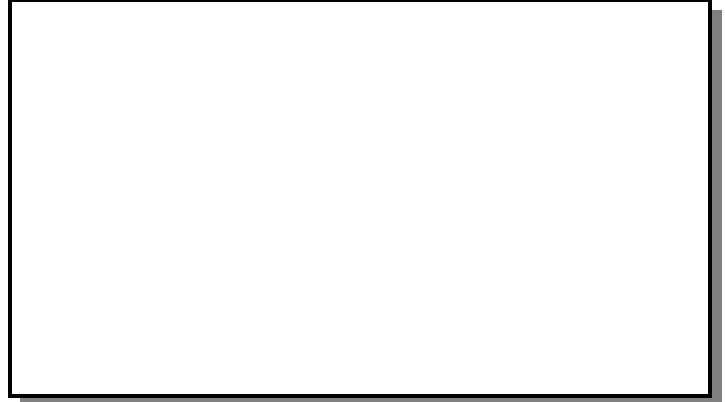
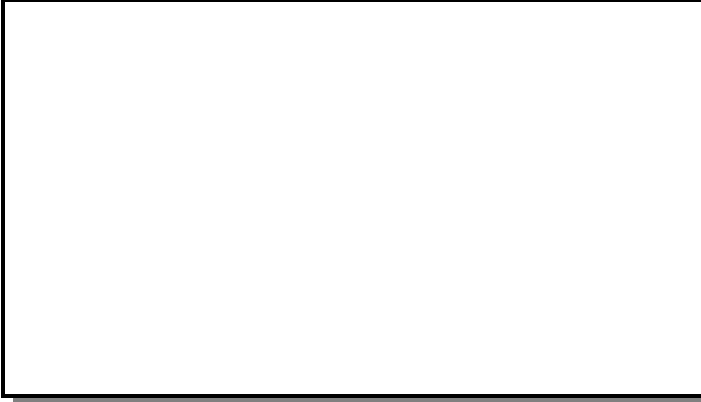
INDIAN HILLS ISSUES ESCALATE

Over the past year Indian Hills CC has dramatically altered the existing terrain at the course as part of a \$2.5 Million bluff erosion project, the construction of which improperly restricted public access across the beach. Most recently they cut down a number of large trees in violation of town ordinances as well as in violation of restrictions imposed by DEC on land within the Coastal Erosion Zone. This is a line established by DEC which designates a boundary for environmentally fragile land beyond which ground altering activities are severely curtailed. Indian Hills is also proposing major alterations to the course to include a new catering facility near the fragile bluffs with a new access road, as well as 30 cluster homes and the probable demolition of the existing clubhouse. We oppose this subdivision and development as well as the new catering facility. The increased noise, traffic and environmental impact will be harmful to our entire community.

Continued violations resulted in a meeting with community residents, the FSA and Huntington Supervisor Petrone as well as Councilman Cuthbertson and Mr. Mazzola of Engineering.. At this meeting, held at Town Hall on November 4th, area residents provided photographs and survey maps to support their charges and town officials agreed that a number of inappropriate activities have occurred. A stop work order was issued to the country club and a DEC audit was scheduled to review what additional violations may have occurred. In a letter dated October 17 by the club owner this removal of trees was officially admitted and, as stated by a number of town officials, represents a clear admission of guilt for violation of the town's Tree Preservation Law. In addition there was unauthorized excavating and grading work.

Town members were highly critical at this action by Indian Hills and at the December 10 Board meeting unanimously voted to take legal action against Indian Hills for "construction, building and maintenance projects in violation of and/or without permits and/or interference with beach access". Stay tuned...





IS YOUR ADDRESS LABEL CORRECT ?

If your address is incorrect, please let us know by using the membership tear-off on the back page. On it you will find a place for address corrections. If you prefer to write a note, it helps us if you also include the information from the mailing label that is to be changed or canceled.

Correct labels may not appear immediately as batches of labels are usually printed up to cover a few issues. Your patience is appreciated by the volunteers on your Fort Salonga Association.

PULASKI ROAD EYESORE

A number of residents have contacted us regarding the unsightly sand mining and truck storage operation on the southeast corner of Pulaski and Townline Road. There is also a large gate onto Pulaski which when left open provides an undesirable view into a heavy industrial operation. Early last year several residents visited the Smithtown Planning Department to express their concerns and share their research indicating the entire operation is in violation of the current zoning for this property. In February 2002 the FSA contacted both Public Safety and the Town Planning Department. Site visits were conducted and the owners advised that several clear violations must be immediately corrected and an application submitted for an existing use permit for sand mining and cement manufacture.

While several small improvements were made, the owner's overall response has been unsatisfactory and so the town issued a summons late last year with a court appearance on January 9, 2003 in Fourth District Court. The FSA attended this hearing at which the judgment was deferred based on the owner taking immediate action to file a site plan and an application for a public hearing.

After the hearing we met with the town attorney, Craig Smith, to express the community's long-standing concerns with this eyesore. We also met with the defendant's attorney who offered to meet with us to review their proposed plans. He indicated the owners very much want to arrive at a solution acceptable to the community that does not shut their business down. As we go to press we are attempting to schedule this meeting. However, it is you the residents of Fort Salonga who need to be present at the public hearing (probably in March) to provide your input to the town. Their decision will be heavily influenced by the turnout and your input. Immediate neighbors will receive official notification and we will attempt to notify the surrounding area through flyers and also post the date on our bulletin board at IGA.

PPL POWERS OFF

As reported in Newsday PPL or KPE as they preferred to be called has dropped plans to build a 300-mw power plant on Townline Road. Citing low energy costs and the unavailability of a power contract with LIPA, they will instead attempt to sell the land to another power provider. The FSA has joined with Townline Association in opposition to this plant and we feel that PPL is being overly optimistic in their expectation that another supplier wants to take on 2000 opposed families as well as opposition from Huntington and Smithtown town officials. Stay tuned



PAUL GRAF ELECTED PRESIDENT

Each December the FSA holds its annual meeting as prescribed by our 1946 charter. It is at this meeting we review the past year's issues and accomplishments and elect the officers who will serve the following year. This past December our annual meeting was held at the Fort Salonga School. The approximately 60 area residents in attendance were first treated to entertainment provided by area resident Tim McAuley who provided mellow renditions of the Beatles and some of our favorite holiday tunes. Next on the agenda was the voting for our 2003 slate of officers. Frank Konop has retired as president after seven years and Paul Graf, a former director, has agreed to assume the presidency for 2003.

Paul has been a Long Island resident his entire life and has lived in Fort Salonga since 1986 with his wife Kathy and their two children Caitlin and Daniel. Paul is currently principal of Smithtown Elementary School where his musical talent and daily interaction with children uniquely qualify him to lead our annual egg hunt (a.k.a. Big Bunny) and our holiday caroling. Paul also served previously as President of the FSA and has been an active director since 2000. He enjoys music, gardening, travel, long walks in the woods with his friend (and first dog of Fort Salonga) Daisy the Wonderdog. He also enjoys working to keep our community special.



With the voting completed and the directors introduced, we updated the community on a number of issues we are working, many of which are covered in this issue. Paul shared his perspectives on how he would like to work with the community and strengthen our association. Rudy Lichtman then updated us on the zoning violations at the Indian Hills CC. We wish to thank all our residents who took time out during a busy time of year to support their association and special thanks to Charlie Reichert and the IGA staff who donated refreshments.

We welcome community participation at our monthly board meetings, normally held the second Wednesday of each month in the second floor library of the Fort Salonga School at 7:30 PM. We are also in need of a new director since Lisa Marino will be stepping down. Lisa has contributed much in her active role as our activities director and we will miss her. Please contact Paul or any director if you wish to become actively involved.

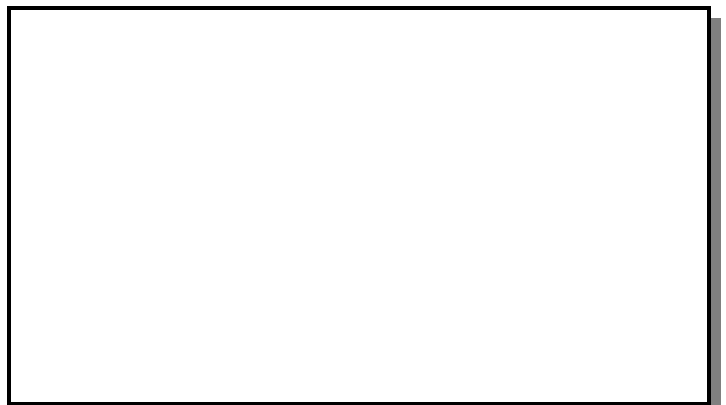
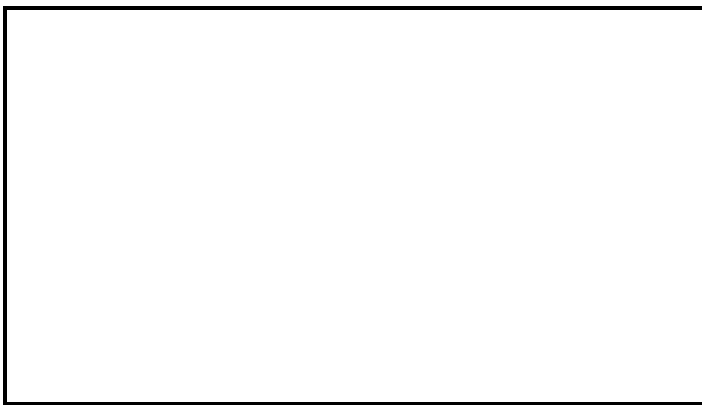


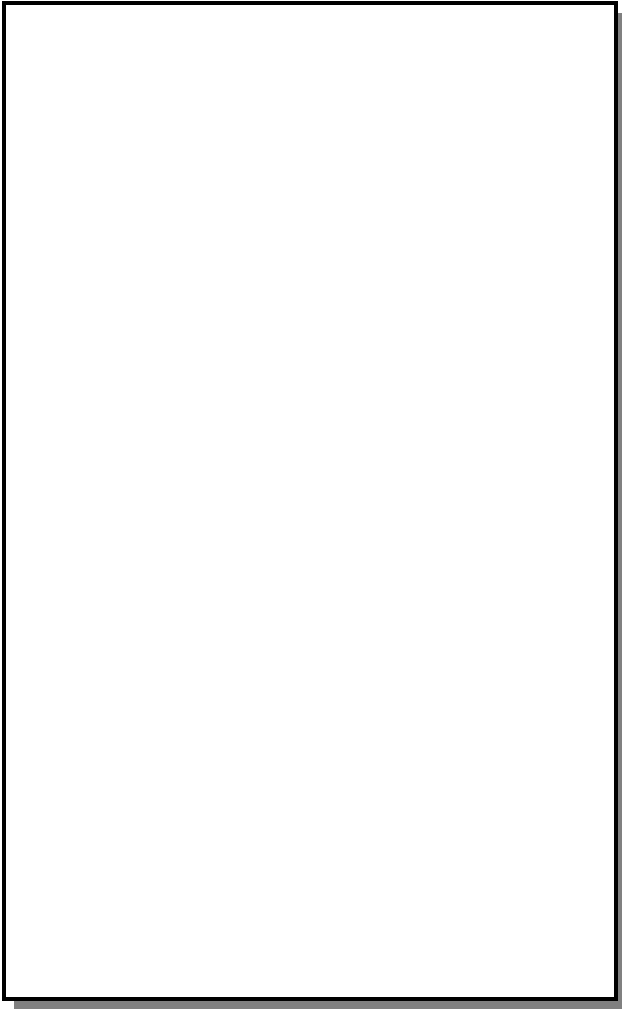
HOLIDAY CAROLING

Our holiday caroling tradition continued this past December with all elements falling in place for a very enjoyable evening. Mother Nature was very accommodating with a crisp, clear evening. Given the way this winter is developing we were fortunate that the temperature was comfortable and everyone was able to give it their all with no frozen hands or toes.

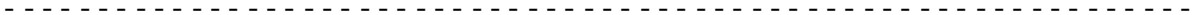
As the 80 or more residents in attendance can confirm, we made a good accounting of ourselves as we stepped through our well-worn songbooks. Our new president Paul Graf arranged for an early fly in by Santa and, along with Kevin Byrne, led us in song with experienced musical accompaniment. The Abiding Presence Church hosted our event, providing use of their spacious facility where cookies and hot chocolate were served, the hot chocolate generously donated by John at the Village Deli. Each of the children met with Santa and as you can see from the accompanying photos enjoyed it immensely.

Dick Costello again did a great job coordinating the event with Marian Drost of the Church, even setting up his own halogen lights to supplement our lighting and Sheila and Tony Geraci joined with Frank Konop to handle the food and beverage service. We look forward to continuing this thirty-five year Association tradition. Thanks to all.





Please cut here and return



COME JOIN US!

FORT SALONGA ASSOCIATION 2003 MEMBERSHIP

I wish to join the Fort Salonga Association in preserving the quality of life in our community.
Enclosed is my check for \$10 for 2003 dues.

PLEASE GIVE US YOUR OPINION

**Please mail to:
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
Fort Salonga Association
P.O. Box 247
Fort Salonga, NY 11768-0247**

Name/Address correction

New resident

I wish to volunteer

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

2003

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

SPRING EGG HUNT

**SATURDAY APRIL 12th
CALLAHAN'S BEACH**

SPRING BRUNCH

SUNDAY APRIL 27th

2003 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT.....Paul Graf
VICE PRESIDENT.....Richard Costello
SECRETARY.....Jason Zwibel
TREASURER.....Paul Naumann

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Paul Langer. Both are Fort Salonga residents.

2003 DIRECTORS

Tom Archer	Mountainview Dr.
Carlton Copp	Timber Lane
Bob Desmond	Susan Drive
Paul Fichtner	Hayes Hill Drive
Jim Ford	Wayne Court
Tony Geraci	Fort Salonga Road
Frank Konop	Chestnut Stump
Paul Mandelik	Gull Hill Drive
Bob Marketta	Callahan's Road
Paul Naumann	Ridgewood Lane
Stelanie Poalillo	Fort Salonga Rd.
Phil Suriano	Fresh Pond Road
Art Tubertini	Timberpoint Drive
Jason Zwibel	Gun Club Road

2003 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ACTIVITIES	Carlton Copp	262-8780
NEWSLETTER ADS.....	Jim Ford	757-5937
SMITHTOWN AFFAIRS.....	Frank Konop	261-8976
HUNTINGTON AFFAIRS.....	Phil Suriano	261-2557
ENVIRONMENT.....	Paul Mandelik	754-2078

MEMBERSHIP

For membership information, contact Stelanie Poalillo at 261-2409
or Paul Mandelik at 754-2078

If you wish to advertise in the newsletter please call Jim Ford at 757-5937 or e-mail jjford@suffolk.lib.ny.us
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To Preserve Fort Salonga

*Important
Open Immediately*

**TO: CURRENT RESIDENT
OR**

2003 OFFICERS

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**TO: CURRENT RESIDENT
OR**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS / COMMENTS
OR
CONCERNS REGARDING A COMMUNITY ISSUE
PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR FEELINGS.
WRITE OR CALL THE ASSOCIATION**

COMMUNITY INTERESTS

FORT SALONGA MARKET GRAND OPENING

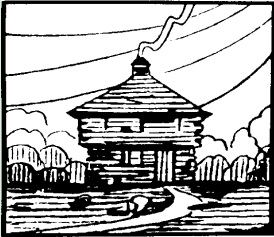
On July 21st the new Fort Salonga Market held its grand opening celebration. The storeowner, Fort Salonga's own Charlie Reichert, his family and management staff performed the ribbon cutting ceremony and festivities. Also present was the official IGA racing car. Free hot dogs and soda were served and each youngster received an official racing flag.



Long denied a supermarket we can really call our own, it has been a well needed addition to our community and has lived up to our hopes for a clean, well managed store with a wide variety of food, both the bread and butter items as well a full line of quality brands and gourmet foods. The employees are extremely friendly and are more than happy to show you exactly where a particular item is located, always helpful in a new store. The store is also home to our new Fort Salonga bulletin board where the FSA will try to keep you informed of community issues. We ask your cooperation in not using this to post flyers, ads, etc. since it is reserved for your association.

The coupon below is again being offered to area residents as an incentive to patronize our new store. Before year end a fitness center will also open adjacent to IGA, occupying the 10,000 square feet remaining from the prior Waldbaum.

10 FORT SALONGA MARKET 10
FORT SALONGA DOLLARS

TEN  **TEN**

10 GOOD TOWARD PURCHASE OF \$75 OR MORE 10



HISTORIC HOMES OF FORT SALONGA

Please contact Frank Konop on 261-8976 if you have a story to share with us.