

HEAD OF THE HARBOR
RESIDENT
HANDBOOK

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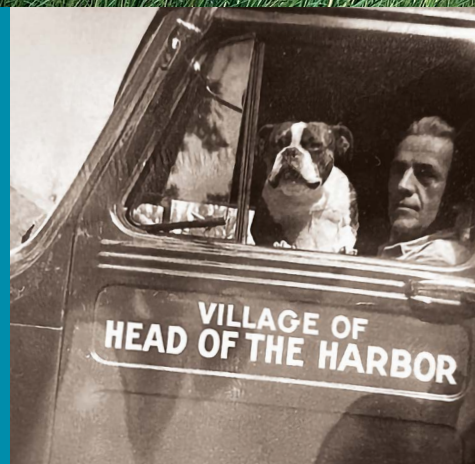
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PHOTOS, COVER: LISA BLAKE DAVIDSON. THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: LISA BLAKE DAVIDSON, COURTESY MARCIAL L. L'HOMMEDIEU; ALEXANDRA LEIGHTON

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND BOARD

New residents in the Village are warmly welcomed. Longstanding residents, we appreciate you. This handbook is intended to serve as a concise guide to the geography, history, government, laws and public services of Head of the Harbor.

Villagers old and new will have questions that this guidebook may not answer. For more detailed information we encourage residents to visit the Village office or to refer to the Village website WWW.HEADOFTHEHARBOR.NY.GOV

We also strongly encourage all villagers to attend Trustee meetings. Trustee meetings are currently held the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in Village Hall. Please confirm days and time with the Village website.

The Village is governed by a Mayor and four Trustees all of whom are residents, elected by residents. They are advised and assisted by many other residents who serve on Village boards and committees. If you are interested in becoming actively involved in Village government, let us know by leaving a message at Village Hall.

Head of the Harbor is our Village and we urge all residents to participate fully in the preservation and stewardship of this historic and beautiful community.

THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES

On the cover: Stony Brook Harbor. This page, clockwise from top left: fishermen in the harbor; Henry Marcial L'Hommedieu, Highway Superintendent, in the Head of the Harbor highway department truck, 1950s; wild turkeys, a common sight throughout the Village.



PHOTOS, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: LEN HOLSBURG / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO; LISA BLAKE; ROB CUNI; LISA BLAKE DAVIDSON; ROB CUNI; ROBERT HARTMAN

The Village of Head of the Harbor incorporated in 1928, is primarily residential and agricultural, encompassing approximately three square miles. It is bordered to the north by Stony Brook Harbor, to the west by the Village of Nissequogue, to the south by the hamlet of St. James, and to the east by Stony Brook Village. The 2020 Census reflected a population of 1,520 residents with 537 housing units. The Village of Head of the Harbor is noted for its scenic vistas and beautiful landscapes, its winding country roads, and waterfront on pristine Stony Brook Harbor. We take great pride in and go to great lengths to preserve our sense of history, our trees and historic homes.

GOVERNMENT OVERVIEW

Head of the Harbor is in Suffolk County, within the Town of Smithtown. The eastern part of the Village uses the Stony Brook Post Office. The western part of the Village is folded into the neighboring hamlet of St. James, hence the St. James mailing address.

Head of the Harbor is governed by a **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** composed of a Mayor and four Trustees, each of whom is elected for a two-year term and serves without compensation. Their terms are staggered. Every adult resident who is registered to vote at an address in the Village can vote in the annual Village elections.

Facing page, clockwise from top left: Deepwells, built in 1845, now owned by Suffolk County and open to the public; Harbor Road; Harbor Day fishing demonstration; Tree City USA, a program that recognizes communities for growing and maintaining their urban forests; Arbor Day at Avalon Nature Preserve.

The Board of Trustees meets in a recorded, public session at the Village Hall at 500 North Country Road (Route 25A) Occasionally, work sessions are held on the third Wednesday of the month. All residents are welcome.

The Trustees enact Village laws and code, establish the budget, authorize the expenditure of Village funds and approve the Mayor's appointments of residents as members of Village boards and committees. These boards and committee members also serve without compensation.

All meetings of the Trustees, Boards and Committees are open to the public. A calendar of all meetings can be found on the Village website, and agendas are often published in advance.

Public notice of hearings before the Board of Trustees and other Village government bodies and of other matters of which public notice is required by law are posted on the three Village bulletin boards, on the Village website and are published in the *Smithtown News*.

The **VILLAGE JUSTICE** is elected by the residents and presides at the Village justice court in sessions that are typically held monthly at the Village Hall. Please see the calendar posted on the Village website for specific dates. The Village court has jurisdiction of all criminal violations and misdemeanors, (including especially violations of motor vehicle laws) but not of felonies that occur within the boundaries of the Village. It adjudicates violations of Village law and of state law and small claims (less than \$3,000). A Prosecuting Attorney will represent the Village as needed.

The Village has its own **POLICE DEPARTMENT**, supervised by the Village Chief of Police which provides 24-hour protection, seven days a week. Head of the Harbor police interface and collaborate with Suffolk County Police as needed. The majority of our officers are trained EMTs and can assist in a medical emergency.

The Village is within the St. James Fire District for **FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**. Fire hydrants are serviced by Suffolk County Water Authority and St. James Water District.

The Village also has its own **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**, supervised by a highway commissioner. A mayoral appointment, the **VILLAGE HISTORIAN** is responsible for matters relating to the history of Head of the Harbor and the surrounding community.

No land in the Village may be developed, nor can new structures be built or substantially modified without a building permit. Plans must be approved by the **PLANNING BOARD**. The board is composed of a chairman, four members and two alternate members.

No structure may be erected, altered or demolished within the Village except in accordance with the approved building permit. Application forms for building permit are available in the office of the Village clerk at the Village Hall and online and must be submitted to the Village building inspector. Applications are reviewed by the **ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**, which consists of a chairman and four other members. The board may approve or disapprove an application or suggest modifications to bring the application into compliance with Village code. The **VILLAGE BUILDING INSPECTOR** issues approved building permits, inspects work in progress, and issues certificates of occupancy for structures completed in accordance with Village code.

The **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS** is comprised of a chairman and four other members, who hear appeals for variances from the Village zoning code, such as regulations of lot size, building area and height, setbacks and other aspects of real estate development. Appeal from the decisions of this board may be made to the Board of Trustees.

The **VILLAGE TREE COMMITTEE** works in coordination with the Board of Trustees and Building Inspector to make recommendations regarding: the preservation and replenishment of trees and woods to minimize undesirable environmental impacts and to beautify the Village in furtherance of the health, safety and welfare of present and future Village residents. This is done by helping propose tree planting projects, maintain the Tree City USA certification, provide education and public awareness about tree preservation and tree stewardship. They also assist the Board of Trustees in applying for grants related to tree inventory management, community educational outreach, and other related activities. The Tree Committee coordinates Arbor Day activities and other public forestry programs benefiting the community.

The Village participates with the Village of Nissequogue in a **JOINT VILLAGE COASTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION (JCMC)**. Created in 1988 under federal and state law, it was enacted to protect the quality of the coastal environment. Head of the Harbor is represented on the commission by a co-chairman and five other members. The commission reviews actions (such as residential construction, landscaping and the building of retaining walls, bluff revetment, dock proposals, and highway construction for example) by the town of Smithtown, the Village of Nissequogue and the Village of Head of the Harbor for consistency with the **LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PROGRAM (LWRP)** adopted by the three municipalities.

REGULATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW REQUEST (FOIL) The basic function of the Freedom of Information Act is to ensure citizens are informed. Under FOIL rules, government agencies are required to disclose any information requested unless it falls under nine specific exemptions such as personal privacy and law enforcement. FOIL forms can be obtained at Village Hall or on the village website.

ADDRESS MARKERS In order for Emergency Service Vehicles to be able to quickly locate a house or property in the event of an emergency, it is essential that the property be clearly marked with the street number at the driveway entrance.

TEMPORARY STORAGE, PODS AND DUMPSTERS A permit is required for a temporary storage unit, POD or dumpster. Permits are granted for a period of up to 30 consecutive days. Please see Village Code 165-34.5 or contact Village Hall for more information.

BOATS, TRAILERS AND STORAGE OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

The temporary storage of a boat, boat trailer, horse trailer, auto trailer or camping vehicle is permitted if they are stored in a building or are completely sheltered from view by evergreen plants. Outdoor storage of such items on private land is deemed unsightly and constitutes an attractive nuisance to neighbors. For more detail see village code 153-13.

PARKING No parking is allowed on village roads at any time unless expressly posted. Residents may obtain special permission for party guests by calling the village police at 631.584.7891.

EXTERIOR LIGHTS It is the aim of the village that all residents adhere to a Dark Sky policy. Nighttime light pollution is strictly prohibited. In support of the right to privacy, there is a village ordinance regulating the height, placement and intensity of exterior lighting. For more detail see village code 111-4.

NOISE Noises from the following are permitted: Domestic power tools, lawn mowers and agricultural equipment when operated with a muffler between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm on weekdays and from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on weekends and holidays. Sunday activity shall be limited to between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm. Construction activity between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm

on weekdays and 9:00 am and 8:00 pm on weekends and holidays is also permitted. For more detail see village code 116-1.

SIGNS AND REALTOR SIGNS There is no posting of unauthorized signs. “For Sale” signs shall only include a telephone number for inquiry purposes. “No Hunting”, “private property” and “no trespassing” signs are permitted. New construction signs for lot identification and permit status may not have advertising content. For more information please see village code 165-23C (7).

WALLS AND FENCES Walls and fences—except those that enclose swimming pools—are limited to four feet in height in the front yard and 6 feet in other yards. These fences shall be constructed of wood or other natural materials unless a specific exemption is made by the Architectural Review Board. Building code 165-28

TREE CUTTING AND LANDSCAPING Erosion protection is part of the responsibility of living in a coastal community. No trees or other flora can be damaged or cleared within one hundred feet of the ridge of the line of a barrier bluff. To maintain privacy and preserve the natural landscape of the village, the entire 25-foot border of a parcel is regulated by village law. Trees are generally protected by village law since they protect against erosion and provide shade and privacy. **PLEASE CONSULT WITH THE VILLAGE HALL OR BUILDING INSPECTOR BEFORE CUTTING, CLEARING OR REMOVING ANY TREES OR OTHER FLORA.**

COLLECTION OF REFUSE AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

Please see the Village website or the Smithtown Refuse/Recycling calendar for contact information for the current provider.

- Collects ordinary refuse on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Newspapers, magazines, corrugated cardboard and brown paper, are collected on alternate Wednesdays.
- Glass bottles, #1 and #2 plastics only (no plastic bags), and aluminum, which are also collected on alternate Wednesdays.
- Collection of bulk items such as furniture or household appliances must be arranged in advance by contacting the current provider.

For a downloadable PDF Refuse/Recycling Calendar please visit WWW.SMITHTOWNNY.GOV/418/REFUSERECYCLING-CALENDAR



From left: Timothy House; clams from the harbor

REAL PROPERTY (REAL ESTATE) PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

The origins of the village are rooted in **PRESERVATION**. The earliest village ordinances emphasized the conservation of both the natural environment and the historical attributes of the area. Additionally, village rules protect and enforce our rights and our neighbors' rights to privacy and serenity. Finally, the character of the village is an important factor in supporting property values.

Therefore, before making any alterations to either property or structure, please contact the Village Clerk at Village Hall as well as the Building Inspector and consult village code to ensure compliance with village ordinances. The Village code is accessible through the Village website.

No interior or exterior construction or demolition may be carried out within the village unless it is authorized by a formal permit issued by the village building inspector.

A PARTIAL LIST OF THE ITEMS FOR WHICH A PERMIT IS REQUIRED IS AS FOLLOWS:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| ■ Addition to a structure | ■ Disturbance of wetland | ■ New house build |
| ■ Alteration of a structure | ■ Dock | ■ Paddock |
| ■ Basketball court | ■ Dormer | ■ Pond Restoration |
| ■ Carport | ■ Driveway | ■ Roof alteration |
| ■ Clearing of landscape | ■ Façade alteration | ■ Shed |
| ■ Deck | ■ Fence | ■ Sports court |
| ■ Demolition of any structure | ■ Garage | ■ Swimming pool |
| | ■ Kitchen remodel | ■ Tennis court |
| | | ■ TREE REMOVAL |
| | | ■ Window alteration |

PHOTOS ABOVE, FROM LEFT: LISA BLAKE DAVIDSON, SHUTTERSTOCK

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT NUMBER DO I CALL IN AN EMERGENCY?

- For Police Ambulance and all non-emergency issues dial 911. *Be sure to say you are calling from the Village of Head of the Harbor.*
- To leave a message for the Village Police Department dial 631.584.7891.

WHAT NUMBER DO I CALL FOR SNOW REMOVAL, POTHOLE, CLOGGED STORM DRAINS AND OTHER RELATED ISSUES?

- To reach the Head of the Harbor Highway Dept call: 631.584.3701.
- You can also reach out to the Village Clerk: 631.584.2239.

WHAT NUMBER DO I CALL IF THERE IS A DEAD OR INJURED DEER ON MY PROPERTY?

- Head of the Harbor Highway Dept DOES NOT remove deer from private property. For assistance removing a dead deer from private property call: 631.479.3914. For a dead deer in the street please call our non-emergency police line: 631.584.7891.

WHEN ARE VILLAGE TAXES DUE? WHAT ABOUT SMITHTOWN TAXES?

- The Treasurer also functions as the Receiver of Taxes for the Village. Village taxes are billed annually on or about March 1st and are due by April 1st, without penalty. During this tax collection window, payments may be received in person from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, except weekends and holidays. Outside of tax season, the Treasurer's regular office hours are Monday and Wednesday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please call Village Hall for further clarification.
- The Smithtown tax year begins on December 1 and ends on November 30 of the following year. Property tax bills are distributed once a year around mid-December. Smithtown taxes are collected by the Receiver of Taxes at Town Hall, 99 W. Main Street, Smithtown.

WHAT ARE THE VILLAGE CAR DECALS FOR?

- Village decals are for identification purposes only. They do not provide parking, train or beach privileges. Decals may be acquired from the Village Clerk during normal business hours.

WHEN ARE VILLAGE ELECTIONS AND HOW DO I VOTE?

- All residents who are registered to vote in New York State with Head of the Harbor as their primary residence may vote in Village elections. Trustees and the mayor serve two-year terms. The justice serves a 4-year term. Village elections are held in

March. Elections are held on other dates for the School Board, the Library Board, and the St. James Fire District, in addition to general elections.

WHAT IS A “BUFFER ZONE”? WHY DOES IT MATTER?

■ All residents in Head of the Harbor are required to maintain a 25-foot buffer around their property. **THIS BUFFER IS TO REMAIN NATURAL AND UNCLEARED.** This is the best way to preserve the rural character of the area. Natural vegetation and trees are imperative in order to reduce erosion.

HOW CAN I LOCATE VILLAGE CODE?

■ Our village code can be accessed by visiting the village website, [HTTPS://ECODE360.COM/10997643](https://ecode360.com/10997643). (Or follow QR link below)

WHEN IS A TREE REMOVAL PERMIT NEEDED?

HOW DO I GET ONE?

■ Removal of any tree from a property in Head of the Harbor requires a tree removal permit depending on several factors. Please consult with the Building Inspector before removing any trees. Permits and a fee schedule can be obtained through the office of the Building Inspector. For more detailed information, please see the village building code section 149.

WHAT DO THE TREE CITY SIGNS MEAN?

■ The Village of Head of the Harbor takes great pride in being a Tree City. Tree City USA is an Arbor Day Foundation Program in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. To become a Tree City USA, a community must have a tree board, a community tree ordinance, a comprehensive forestry program and an Arbor Day observance.



#HOHVillageCode

PLACES OF INTEREST

AVALON NATURE PRESERVE The preserve encompasses 216 acres, has 5 miles of hiking trails with 5 diverse habitats. It can be accessed via Shep Jones Lane off of 25A. It is free and open to the public. Dogs on leash are welcome. | 631.689.0619

WWW.AVALONNATUREPRESERVE.ORG

HARBOR ACCESS Residents can access the harbor at Cordwood Park (Cordwood Path and Harbor Road) or by one of the three public access points: Hitherbrook Lane extension, Shep Jones Lane extension or from Thompson Lane. Hitherbrook Lane and Thompson Lane are currently under renovation and are therefore restricted.

DEEPWELLS MANSION Built in 1845 by Joel Smith, a descendant of Smithtown's Richard "Bull" Smith, it is named for its two 125 foot wells. Among the other notable residents of Deepwells was William J. Gaynor, Mayor of New York City from 1910 until his death in 1913. This 19th century Greek Revival style agricultural estate is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

STONY BROOK GRIST MILL AND POND The Stony Brook Grist Mill is Long Island's most fully operational mill and is featured on both the National and New York State Registers of Historic Places. The pond's construction dates from 1699. The mill structure itself dates back to 1751.

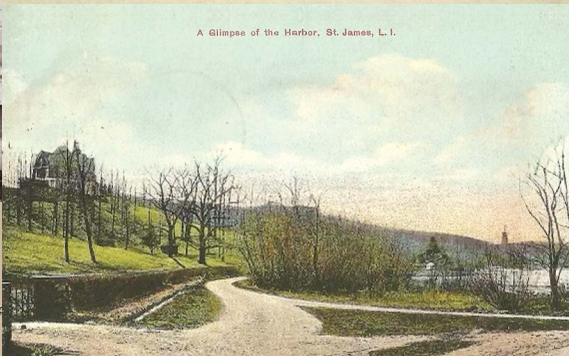
***BOX HILL ESTATE** Built in 1885 by architect Stanford White (McKim, Mead and White), the estate was the White family's summer home. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

MILLS POND HOUSE Built in 1838 by New York City architect, Calvin Pollard, in the Greek Revival style. It now serves as a gallery for the Smithtown Arts Council.

***TIMOTHY HOUSE** Situated on North Country Road in Head of the Harbor, the Federal Style house dates back to 1750 and is named for one of its former owners, Timothy Smith. The home was later occupied by noted preservationist and Head of the Harbor historian, Barbara Van Liew.

***THE WETHERILL ESTATE** Built in 1895 by architect Stanford White for his sister-in-law Kate Smith Wetherill, the house has an unusual octagon shape with Colonial Revival touches.

**Box Hill, Timothy House and the Wetherill Estate are private residences and are not open to the public.*



PHOTOS, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ROBERT HARTMAN; LEIGHTON H. COLEMAN III; ZACH L. / OLD LONG ISLAND; NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, ATLAS OF SUFFOLK COUNTY, VOLUME TWO, PLATE 3. E. BELCHER HYDE; PHOTOGRAPH RESEARCH. COM

HISTORY

Before the first English settlers came here in the early seventeenth century the land within the present Incorporated Village of Head of the Harbor was inhabited by the native American Nesaquakes. Their territory ran from the Nissequogue River to Stony Brook, and from Long Island Sound to the central part of Long Island. It was in Nissequogue that the founder of the Town of Smithtown, Richard “Bull” Smith (1613–1692) had his residence. His son, Adam (1649–1726), built his house at Sherrewogue, making him the first recorded European resident in what is today our village. Descendants of Richard Smith have lived in the area ever since.

In 1845, Joel Smith (1819–1876), a great-great-great grandson of Richard “Bull” Smith, built a federal style mansion, Deepwells, that stands at the northwest corner of Route 25A and Moriches Road and is now a property of the Suffolk County Parks Department. The present Head of the Harbor Village Hall was originally a farmhouse within the Deepwells estate. In 1905 Deepwells was purchased by William J. Gaynor, who a few years later was elected Mayor of New York City.

Deepwells was built in emulation of the Mills Pond House, now occupied by the Smithtown Arts Council, a similar but slightly older mansion built by William Wickham Mills, a descendant of Timothy Mills (1667–1751) on the southwest corner of Route 25A and Mills Pond Road.

A short distance from Deepwells is Box Hill, the home of architect, Stanford White (1853–1906), who had been introduced to the locale in 1880 by his partner, Charles McKim, of McKim, Meade & White, whose house By-the-Harbor, is in neighboring Nissequogue.

In 1928, in response to a petition from a group of residents, Head of the Harbor became an incorporated village under the laws of New York State, governed by a Mayor and Trustees. The impetus for incorporation was to give residents more control over land use, restrict development and to preserve the charm and aesthetics of the countryside as well as the harbor. The name of the village was selected for historic reasons having been the name of the waterfront

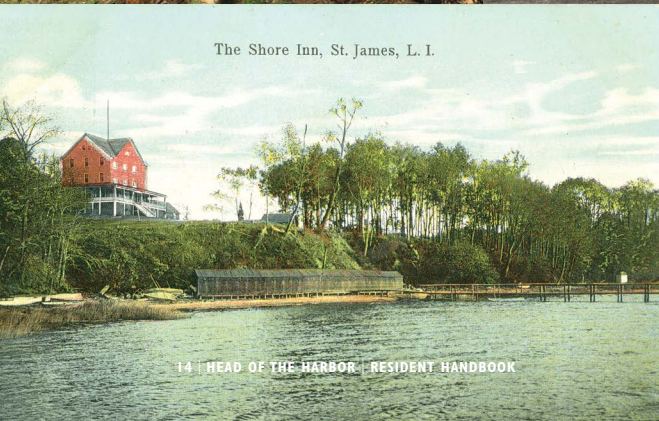
Clockwise from top left: recreational boating on the harbor circa 1900; Harbor Road, circa 1925; Wetherill Estate at Harbor and Harbor Hill Roads; Sherrewogue, Devereaux Emmet estate, circa 1895; map of the harbor, 1902; NYC Mayor W. J. Gaynor on the porch at Deepwells Mansion.

hamlet that existed here before 1853. The Trustees' first meeting was held at Deepwells. The Village seal was drawn by Lawrence Grant White, the son of Stanford White.

The Village established its own highway department, police department and justice court and enacted zoning laws to exclude commercial development.

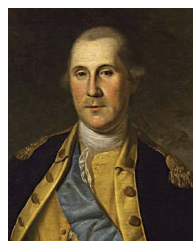
Throughout its history, the Village government and residents have repeatedly made special efforts to maintain the natural charm of Head of the Harbor. **ONE OF THE FIRST VILLAGE ORDINANCES WAS ENACTED TO PREVENT THE INJURY OR DESTRUCTION OF TREES.** In 1940, the Trustees and concerned residents, formed the Stony Brook Harbor Association to stop gravel companies from dredging the harbor, most of which lies within the village boundaries. Other high-priority concerns have been preventing the widening of Route 25A, maintaining a historic corridor, and preservation of the shipmast locust trees that grow along the harbor's margins.

Clockwise from top left: traditional fencing along Harbor Road, William Colliers house at the corner of Three Sisters and Harbor Hill Roads; Pan, cast from the original statue by sculptor Louis St. Gaudens; Shore Inn on the harbor.



PHOTOS, FACING PAGE: ROBERT HARTMAN. THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: DICK S. RAMSAY FUND, BROOKLYN MUSEUM; MATTHEW B. BRADY; LIBRARY OF CONGRESS; THE MOVIE DATABASE

NOTED HISTORICAL FIGURES



GEORGE WASHINGTON | 1732-1799 | During the Revolutionary War, General George Washington ran a clandestine operation called the Culper Spy Ring, which was based in neighboring Setauket but operated along our entire stretch of coastline. The spy ring's task was to provide Washington with information on the activity of the British on Long Island and in New York City. Using whaling boats, his spies would get secret messages to him across the Sound in Connecticut. After the war, Washington took what is now Route 25A, passing through our village, on his way to Setauket to thank his spies.

WILLIAM SIDNEY MOUNT | 1807-1868 | William Sidney Mount was a 19th-century American genre painter. Born in Setauket, Mount spent much of his life in his hometown and the adjacent village of Stony Brook, where he painted portraits, landscapes, and scenes inspired by daily life. One of his most famous paintings, "Music is Contagious," was painted in our village.



STANFORD WHITE | 1853-1906 | Stanford White was an American architect and a partner in the architectural firm McKim, Mead & White, one of the most significant Beaux-Arts firms at the turn of the 20th century. White designed many houses for wealthy clients, in addition to numerous civic, institutional, and religious buildings. His home, Box Hill, remains one of the village's crown jewels. White was married to Bessie Smith from the Smith family who established Smithtown and St. James. She was raised in a house of historic significance that was later saved by Head of the Harbor historian, Barbara Van Liew.



VAUDEVILLE ENTERTAINERS | 1880's-1920's | For forty years, vaudeville was the most popular form of live entertainment in the United States. During that time and due to the ease of train travel from New York City, many top vaudeville performers maintained weekend or summer homes in St. James. William Collier, Thomas Garrick, and Rose Leland are but a few of the



dozens of vaudevillians who made Head of the Harbor their second home. The St. James Calderone Theatre, built in the early 1900s and now home to Celebrate St. James, is a reminder of this auspicious history.

BARBARA FERRIS VAN LIEW | 1911-2005 | A noted architectural historian, preservationist, author and official historian of Head of the Harbor, Barbara Van Liew was also a founding member of the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities.

Due to her efforts, many early 18th and 19th century houses on Long Island were saved. She also persuaded then New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller to have a proposition to widen 25A dropped. She was integral in establishing our historic corridor. Her extensive writing on the preservation of open space as it relates to historic architecture is housed at Stony Brook University's Special Collections and University Archives.



TONI FRISSELL | 1907-1988 | An American photographer, she was known for her fashion photography and World War II photographs as well as portraits of famous Americans. Ms. Frissell owned and resided in the historic property known as 'Sherrewogue' for 50 years.

A CALENDAR OF VILLAGE EVENTS

ELECTION DAY | Annually on the third Tuesday in March at Village Hall from noon to 9:00 pm. When Village elections fall on St. Patrick's Day, they are to be held on the next proceeding day.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS | Monthly on the first Wednesday of the month at Village Hall at 7:00 pm. Occasionally, work sessions are held on the third Wednesday of the month.

ARBOR DAY | In compliance with our Tree City USA status, the Village Tree Committee hosts an annual Arbor Day event. Dates vary. Please see the village website for details.

HARBOR DAY | A joint celebration with the Village of Nissequogue in honor of the harbor and our wetlands. The event is geared to educating little ones and their grown ups about the benefits of respecting the environment. There are games, awards, live music and food vendors.

PHOTOS, THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: JEFFERE VAN LIEW; WIKIPEDIA. BACK COVER: ROBERT HARTMAN. BROCHURE DESIGN: ROBERT HARTMAN. PRINTING: MINUTEMAN PRESS / HUNTINGTON

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES—FOR MEDICAL, POLICE, AND FIRE CALL 911

When giving your address you must specify that you are in Head of the Harbor.

POLICE NON-EMERGENCY RESPONSE, CALL 911

To leave a message for the Village Police Department dial 631.584.7891

VILLAGE CLERK | 631.584.2239

TRAFFIC COURT | 631.584.2034

BUILDING DEPARTMENT | 631.584.5602

VILLAGE TREASURER | 631.584.5596

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT | 631.584.3701

FIRE & EMS INFORMATION | 631.584.5760

NEW YORK REGIONAL POISON CONTROL | 800.222.1222

SMITHTOWN ANIMAL CONTROL | 631.360.7575

DEC REGIONAL WILDLIFE OFFICE | 631.444.0310

FOR HELP WITH A WILDLIFE NUISANCE OR DEAD ANIMAL, CALL | 631.479.3914

SUFFOLK COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY | 631.698.9500

PSEG LONG ISLAND—TO REPORT DOWNED LINES, CALL 911 or 800.490.0075

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION: Published in 2025, the information presented here is not legal advice, is not to be acted on as such, may not be current and is subject to change without notice. Please consult the most up-to-date version of the Village Code for more information.

HEAD OF THE HARBOR VILLAGE HALL

500 North Country Road, St. James, NY 11780

T: 631.584.5550 | E: info@headoftheharborny.gov
www.headoftheharborny.gov | The village office is open
from Monday—Thursday, 9:00 AM—2:00 PM



#HOHVillageHall

