

THE VILLAGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF EAST HAMPTON

SPRING NEWSLETTER
2025



• The Board of Trustees of the Village Preservation Society of East Hampton •

Invites you to a Welcome to Summer Party!

Saturday, May 31, 2025 • 6 pm – 8 pm • Hoie Hall, 18 James Ln, East Hampton

Get tickets from: Kathy@VillagePreservationSociety.org

EAST HAMPTON HAS AN EMERGENCY FACILITY

By Kathleen Cunningham

Over a quarter of a century ago, the Village Preservation Society of East Hampton surveyed its membership on quality-of-life issues here in the Village. Surprisingly, availability and quality of medical care in East Hampton turned out to be the greatest quality of life concern for VPSEH members. Even more concerning than parking. This led to a remarkable meeting at the home of the late Donald and Polly Bruckmann, where the VPSEH Board determined to solve this problem. At that time, VPSEH Trustees Dr. Jerome DeCosse, Jack Kennedy, Larry Munson, and Henry L. Murray among others, banded together to spearhead the movement to create the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation, which would go on to establish the East Hampton Healthcare Center. For more, please see this link: www.easthamptonhealthcare.org/our-story.



Eastern entrance of the beautiful, new Southampton Stony Brook Hospital Emergency Department.

Photo Credit: Kathy Cunningham

And, now, with the support of many generous community members, Southampton-Stony Brook Hospital has developed an Emergency Department (ED), on property the Town of East Hampton made available to house the new facility, complete with 24-hour, year-round services, laboratory, MRI capabilities among other important patient services. The new ED is on adjoining land, right behind the Healthcare Center, completing a circle of critical healthcare begun by VPSEH all these years ago around the Bruckmann's dining table on Lily Pond Ln. This will offer critical emergency care services previously only available in Southampton Village at the hospital emergency room.

The Emergency Department is expected to open late this spring. A

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EAST HAMPTON HAS AN EMERGENCY FACILITY *continued from p. 1*

ribbon cutting ceremony, thanking donors whose financial support made it possible, took place on April 5th. The building is handsomely designed and endured a painstaking licensing process through the County Health Department, including more readily accessed approvals from the Town's local agencies. The building's exterior is beautifully fashioned with natural colored paneling, well-placed fenestration and roof top solar panels helping to power the facility. The interior is said to be equally elegant.



A full view of the Southampton Stony Brook Hospital Emergency Department.

As with the EHHF and Healthcare Center, many local donors made this achievement possible through their extraordinary generosity. We thank all who participated in making this facility possible with their donations of time and treasure. Life here in East Hampton will be much safer for all.



VPSEH Chair David H. Brown with former VPSEH Board Chair, Henry L. Murray, who also piloted the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation for over two decades leading to this great day, celebrating at the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Emergency Department on April 5, 2025.

VPSEH Chair David H. Brown, with the Honorable Fred Thiele and John Bouvier at the Emergency Department ribbon cutting ceremony.



HISTORIC HOME PRESERVATION IN EAST HAMPTON

By Kathleen Cunningham

VPSEH partnered with the Peconic Land Trust on Saturday, April 5, 2025 at Hoie Hall, to host an informational session on ways homeowners can preserve their historic homes and what benefits and supports are available for them when such an effort is undertaken.

Representing PLT were Vice President, Melanie Tebbins, and Senior Planner, Holly Sanford. Their PowerPoint presentation informed the group of PLT's history, mission and projects. Most people associate the Trust with preservation of farm land, which has been a main focus for the group. But, lesser known are their efforts to preserve historic structures and the role they play as legal trusts to receive easement gifts from motivated homeowners. This is a critical piece of the regulatory infrastructure with respect to preserved land of any kind in that PLT becomes the custodian of the preserved portion of the property or home and makes annual inspections to confirm that the initial agreement made by the donor is being met. It is a long-term responsibility and a great one.

Also presenting were Janet Fink and Arthur Platt of Fink & Platt Architects,



Peconic Land Trust Senior Planner, Holly Sanford, presents the Trust's work.



Janet Fink and Arthur Platt of Fink & Platt Architects detail their historic restoration work on "Wayside", the Dr. George E. Munroe house, c. 1888.

All photos except where noted: Kathy Cunningham

the firm that shepherded the restoration and renovation of "Wayside", the Dr. George E. Munroe house, c. 1888, home of Kristen and Robert DeLaMater, who were honored with the VPSEH 2024 Historic Preservation Award for this important contribution to historic preservation in East Hampton Village. Their presentation demonstrated their dedication to preserving original elements, materials and structures to the greatest extent possible during their restoration and renovation of "Wayside". Construction photos and plans from the project gave interesting perspective to the historical discoveries made and the intensely detailed craftsmanship applied to restoring original components of the home.

The program was filmed by LTV and can be seen at this link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ffyTaWyo0HP7sRzh2JrcFOkmhOPh4yPb/view?usp=sharing>

For more about Peconic Land Trust and their many fine programs, please see this link: peconiclandtrust.org. For more about Fink & Platt Architects, please see this link. www.finkandplatt.com.

EAST HAMPTON VILLAGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

• OPEN SPACE GOALS •

By Sara Davison, Friends of Georgica Pond Foundation, Inc.

It is easy to understand why some people think there is no more land in the Village to purchase for open space. A careful examination of the landscape tells a slightly different story. There are quite a few important parcels, but they are small. Although we can't buy our way out of thorny challenges such as parking and traffic, purchasing open space will help alleviate over development, protect village character and the village's natural resources.

The new East Hampton Village Comprehensive Plan must prioritize the protection of the remaining open space in the village. Of most importance are vacant parcels of land adjacent to our precious ponds, streams, and wetlands. Preserving these lands will accomplish several objectives including water quality, open space, vistas, and wildlife habitat.



Alfred F. Ross

***“Hook Pond Sunrise”** Photo by Alfred Ross*

Second priority should be parcels that are adjacent to existing public or conservation land. Any opportunity to enlarge an existing park, public square or green should be seized. A great example of this was the Dayton land additions to Herrick Park.

Lastly, in some cases when a parcel of land could be restored to provide some important ecological function, purchasing land where there is an existing structure should be considered. This was accomplished at Hook Pond with the 1-acre purchase of a former house lot. The undistinguished house was removed and the land and shoreline were restored.

The CPF fund is the most immediate source of funds to meet these goals, but there are also NY State Funds for open space and water quality purchases and private funding can also be raised. Working in a public-private partnership is the way to go in the Village of East Hampton. The bottom line is that the new comprehensive plan should identify all open space opportunities and support the aggressive pursuit of these goals.

more info ► FriendsOfGeorgicaPond.org

ANTHONY WOOD TO SPEAK AT PRESERVATION AWARD CEREMONY

Call For Historic Preservation Award Candidates

By Georgia de Havenon

Pop artist Andy Warhol may have expressed our feelings best when he said: “having land and not ruining it is the most beautiful art that anybody could ever want to own.” Preservation is our art and our tool for not ruining the historic and scenic place in which we live. With that in mind, the Village Preservation Society established annual preservation awards to not only honor those individuals that have recognized the importance of preservation and acted upon it by restoring their property and the public institutions that have likewise acted to restore and preserve their buildings and surroundings. It was also the hope that the awards would raise consciousness among the population regarding the essential nature of preservation and its importance to the community.

To facilitate our awards, we are asking any members of the VPS that would like to recommend a property that they feel is worthy of our Historic Preservation Award to please contact us at the email below. The criteria for nomination include architectural integrity, accuracy, quality of construction, craftsmanship and/or technical excellence. The winners will be decided by the

Village Preservation Society’s Historic Preservation Committee and the awards will be presented at our annual meeting in September 20, 2025 at the Tennis House on Maidstone Ln.. At that time plaques that can be displayed will be presented and our distinguished speaker, Anthony C. Wood will be discussing his new book, *Servant of Beauty: Landmarks, Secret Love, and the Unimagined Life of an Unsung New York Hero*. Mr. Wood is a nationally recognized preservationist, who has held leadership roles in the Historic Districts Council, the Preservation League of New York State, Partners for Sacred Places and the Drayton Hall Trust, earning the 2020 New York Landmarks Conservancy Lucy G. Moses Award for Preservation Leadership.. A reception will follow. Recipients of the awards will be publicly acknowledged and they will become part of our circle of preservation honorees.

To make a nomination, please contact Kathy Cunningham, VPS Executive Director, at kathy@villagepreservationsociety.org.

Please visit our website to download the application form: villagepreservationsociety.org/preservation-award

WELCOME OUR NEW TRUSTEES

By Missy Egbert Sheehan



Charlotte Miller

Charlotte has deep ties to the East Hampton community, with her family’s roots dating back as early as the 1700’s. Growing up, she split her time between the North Shore and East Hampton. From a young age, she was in awe of East Hampton’s natural beauty and rich history. She is a graduate of The Pennsylvania State University, where she received her Bachelor of Arts in Advertising, and a minor in Art History. Since graduating, she has worked in publishing in New York City for Departures, FOOD & WINE, and ELLE magazines. She owns her own marketing firm that focuses on event planning and social media for businesses on the East End. She currently is the Executive Director of Events for Travel + Leisure magazine. In addition to the VPS, she is a

proud supporter of the Central Park Conservancy and the New York City Ballet. She is honored to serve as a Trustee and to join this illustrious organization.

Frank Morgan



Originally from Vermont, Frank has had a home in East Hampton for 42 years. He is a graduate of Brown, UVA and Cambridge. He practiced law for 25 years as a partner in firms headquartered in Boston, Chicago and New York. His second career was in private equity for a London based firm. As an Anglophile he has been involved with a number of British charities and was awarded an MBE in 2022 by Queen Elizabeth II. He and his spouse, Brent Feigenbaum restored the Deacon David Huntting house on Main Street which won the preservation award in 2023.



Beverly Kazickas

Beverly Kazickas has been actively involved in conservation since her late 20’s when she joined the Board of Trustees of a local nature preserve in New Jersey. Now, years later, Beverly holds positions with the Nature Conservancy (both Long Island and New York State Boards), The Garden Club of America and The National Garden Club where she continues to champion the environment. These national positions along with local advocacy have encompassed service for many non-profits, especially in leadership roles. Beverly serves on mayoral appointed position in NY and NJ and established and finances the Kazickas Botany Environmental

Intern with scholarship award for high school students. A graduate from Columbia University with a degree in Anthropology, her interests include photography, gardening and horseback riding. She lives in East Hampton with her husband Michael and they have two children, expecting their first grandchild soon.

AIRCRAFT NOISE UPDATE *By Peter M. Wolf*

There is extremely disappointing news to report with respect to aircraft noise and pollution control.

As a result of failed legal attempts to maintain our locally owned airport as a private, prior permission required (PPR) facility, the Town of East Hampton formally filed with the FAA to convert to a public use airport and all that brings. The courts rejected the Town's strategy to convert our airport from public to a private, prior-permission-required facility, in order to control aircraft operations, impose a reasonable curfew, limit numbers and concentrations of flights and regulate the noisiest aircraft. In an attempt to avoid another contempt of court order from a noticeably biased bench, with no real support from the Federal Aviation Administration, with which the Town partnered to legally and properly make this necessary transition for the sake of the entire East End, the Town determined this the safest protocol.

As a practical matter, filing Form 7480-1, has no real impact on the day-to-day operations, except that the airport will now be listed on the Notice to Airmen or NOTAMS as a public use airport, where before it was PPR. The NOTAMS serves as a guide to pilots nationwide about what kind of flight activity is available or acceptable at which airports.

A press release issued by the Town in February indicates they are trying to settle litigation with aviation interests that has been ongoing for nearly a decade in several arenas. While defending this litigation is

funded by lucrative revenue streams from airport users themselves in the form of landing fees, tenant leasing for hangars and fuel flowage surcharge – not by the taxpayers, as is often wrongly claimed by airport supporters often in full-page ads in the East Hampton Star – the recent court decisions have made going forward with some of these lawsuits impractical, in the opinion of the current East Hampton Town Board.

Supervisor, Kathee Burke-Gonzalez commented in the February press release: "The town continues to assess all available options with respect to the airport and is exploring options for a settlement agreement to resolve the ongoing litigation in a manner that provides reasonable access for aviation users while also providing relief to East Hampton residents."

Alarmed by this disclosure, local aircraft noise reduction advocates and environmentalists concerned about jet fuel leaking into our sole source aquifer, directly beneath the airport grounds, are deeply concerned that the Town is abandoning its most important leverage – closing the airport. This could have been legally done at any time. This community of advocates for a regulated airport is concerned that the Town is voluntarily weakening its bargaining position.

In reaction to this adverse development, the noise affected should make their feelings known directly to members of the East Hampton Town Board. In addition, those affected by aircraft noise and gas emissions are reminded to continue to log their complaints at: ehamptonny.gov/311/Airport and planenoise.com/khto/ or ehamptonny.gov/604/New-Mobile-App-to-File-Complaints or call: 1-800-376-4817.



**Please fill out, cut along the line and mail to THE VILLAGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY
P.O. Box 2015, East Hampton, NY 11937 • 631-324-3524 • www.villagepreservationsociety.org**

Please enroll me as a member of The Village Preservation Society of East Hampton
for the Membership Year from January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email address _____

Number of Members in this Membership _____

For year round Newsletters and information, please print winter address

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Contributors of:

\$ 25,000.00 will be listed as **Chairman's Circle**

\$ 10,000.00 be listed as **Visionary**

\$ 2,500.00 will be listed as **Advocate**

\$ 500.00 will be listed as **Patron**

\$ 100.00 will be listed as **Friend**

\$ 15,000.00 will be listed as **President's Circle**

\$ 5,000.00 will be listed as **Champion**

\$ 1,000.00 will be listed as **Benefactor**

\$ 250.00 will be listed as **Supporting Member**

Regular Membership (\$50) _____

The Membership Year runs from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

I would like to be active. My special interests are: _____

I (We) support VPS principles but do not wish to be listed as a member. Enclosed is a contribution of \$ _____

VPS PARTICIPATES IN THE VILLAGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

By Gene E. Cross, Jr.

To ensure Village Preservation Society of East Hampton member participation, before the first public work shop conducted by the consultants retained by the Village to update the Comprehensive Plan, the VPSEH held a member meeting on Saturday, November 30, 2024, to solicit concerns and encourage member participation. Over 50 members attended offering important concerns about the future of Village life they wish to see the Comprehensive Plan Update include. The primary concern that emerged from those present was to keep the historic qualities that manifest the maritime and agrarian characteristics anchoring the heritage of East Hampton. Other serious concerns were pedestrian safety, traffic congestion, the lack of access to basic goods and services in the commercial district and the hollowing out of residential neighborhoods by frequent seasonal rentals facilitated by social media.

VPSEH Trustees and Members attended and participated in the public work session held on December 6th. The Consultants from BFJ Planning prepared a Summary of that work session that can be found here: 36592b6a-fa8a-4c94-8fd3-40dcb7694292.usrfiles.com/ugd/36592b_06734cc964ff442aae8545691de1720c.pdf. The good news is that term 'historic' ranked highest among

the characteristics identifying the Village of East Hampton. The VPSEH Board of Trustees then established a committee to monitor the process.

In February, representatives from VPSEH met with the consultants and other representatives of local not-for-profit organizations for two Focus Group discussions. Along with VPSEH, representatives from the East Hampton Library, Ladies Village Improvement Society, Garden Club, Maidstone Club, and Guild Hall were also present, sharing their concerns, most of them mutually held.

The next Public Workshop is scheduled via Zoom for the evening of May 1, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. We encourage all members to register and participate. To get the Zoom link, please go to: ehvplan.wixsite.com/home/events-1.

We encourage all to continue to visit the Village Website to review available documents and submit comments: ehvplan.wixsite.com/home Public participation is critical for the success of this Comprehensive Plan Update.



VPSEH Members discuss their concerns about the future of the Village at Hoie Hall.

*Photo Credit:
Kathy Cunningham*

PUBLIC WORKSHOP 2
Virtual on Zoom

Thursday
May 1
6:30-8PM