FIPAP

Dear Friends & Neighbors,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of FIPAP (Fire Island Pines Arts Project), I want to extend our sincere thanks for making FIPAP's 2024 summer season so successful. The generous support of our patrons and underwriters allows us to bring arts and music performances to the Pines.

FIPAP expanded on its many years of success in the community with exciting programing this season, including:

- Our third annual writers' residency program/performance, *Barn on Fire* in association with Dalip Girdhar + Paul Austin (The P. Austin Foundation) and New York Theatre Barn
- Seth Sikes & Nicolas King opening our season
- Our continued Unplugged Series featured Comedian *Marga Gomez* and a collaboration with Book Passage for an intimate interview with author, Andrew Sean Greer
- The amazing Julie James from SiriusXM bringing her radio program, *Broadway Names With Julie James* live to the Whyte Hall Stage with Tony Award Winners Alice Ripley & Matt Doyle
- Our continued collaboration with the Fire Island Dance Festival (DRA)
- The Labor Day Weekend Musical, *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*.
- Our end of season Oktoberfest Party

FIPAP loves volunteers! There are many behind-the-scenes tasks like ticket selling, helping out at Whyte Hall with the show, or even just tidying up after one of our events. If you would like to get involved, please visit our website at fipap.org for more information.

FIPAP is proud to be a supporter of Whyte Hall and the Pines Care Center! Besides our annual cash donation to Whyte Hall, FIPAP helps maintain all the lighting and sound equipment at Whyte Hall.

Hats off to Karen McCutcheon, Faye Lawlor, and Joe Micheels at Whyte Hall for all their help and support of FIPAP.

Enjoy your winter. Stay safe, and we will see you for our 2025 season!!

Best wishes,
Steven Alan Black, President

2024 FIPAP BOARD

Steven Alan Black, President
Mark Ricigliano, Vice President
Rob Innes, Secretary
Nicole LaFountaine, Treasurer

Andre Almeida
David Kneuss
Teresa Lovito
Denise Lucy
Vinnie Petrarca

Bradford Price
Jim Vandernoth
Lenny Vanella
Luis Villabon
JD Winston

PINES CARE CENTER

Dear Fire Island Pines Residents,

Fire Island Pines is one of only two communities in New York State, along with Davis Park, without a local Emergency Medical Service (EMS) presence. Unlike other Fire Island communities, which have EMS services integrated with their fire departments and access to ambulance services via the Robert Moses Causeway. Fire Island Pines, Davis Park, and Cherry Grove rely on the Suffolk County Marine Police for transportation to the mainland, either by boat or helicopter.

The Pines Care Center stands out in its response to this unique challenge. Our facility is staffed exclusively by experienced physicians, similar to those found in walk-in clinics or emergency departments. This is in contrast to other Fire Island communities, where healthcare services are typically staffed by nurses, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants.

We do not process medical insurance or charge fees, allowing us to focus solely on delivering high-quality care to prevent unnecessary hospital visits to the mainland, which can be time-consuming and costly. Our community-driven model ensures that the Pines Care Center remains accountable to residents, with significant community input and financial support rather than a corporate structure.

Additionally, we operate the longest season on the whole of Fire Island, from mid-May until Columbus Day. Of the approximately 700 annual visits, a number that consistently grows due to our community calendar events, our transfer rate to the mainland remains remarkably low, with only ten transfers from Whyte Hall and 20 facilitated by the marine police.

We hope you'll be able to find reassurance in knowing that a qualified doctor is available on this side of the bay.

Sincerely,

Pines Care Center Board of Directors

577 Coast Guard Walk, Fire Island Pines, NY 11782
(631) 597-6160
www.pinescarecenter.com

Catholic Mass in the Pines

A warm hearted thank you to the Fire Island Communities
for attending and supporting the religious organizations
and their services in the Pines over the many years

The community Catholic Mass parish would like to share
our deep gratitude to the wonderful and caring priests
that traveled to the Pines to celebrate Mass with
our communities this 2024 summer season;

~ Fr. Brian Ingram
~ Fr. Richard Long
~ Fr. Seth Awo Doku
~ Fr. Patrick Flanagan
~ Fr. Benignus Nwankwo

With their dedication to our ministry, we were able to
celebrate a full summer season of Catholic Masses
serving; Cherry Grove, the Pines & Water Island

We are starting to plan & organize another community
Tag Sale next Spring in 2025, in the Pines Harbor,
with more treasures to find, fun activities
and a larger raffle with great prizes!

Catholic Mass will resume Sunday June 1st, 2025

Fall 2024

Dear Fire Island Pines Neighbors:

The Greater Fire Island Pines Chamber of Commerce was incorporated in 2002. It currently consists of over 50 local businesses, all duly licensed and insured at time of membership if applicable. All members of the Greater Fire Island Pines Chamber of Commerce are dedicated to serving the needs of the community by providing essential professional services and supporting the community's infrastructure.

In addition to each individual member so serving the community through their vocations, the Greater Fire Island Pines Chamber of Commerce seeks to provide the community with advocacy and a liaison with local officials, to help the community realize important goals and to enhance the environment within which we work.

In 2024, we have hosted a community meet and greet Kentucky Derby party.

The Greater Fire Island Pines Chamber is a group of select business's supporting the growth of the Pines Community.

Sincerely,
PJ McAteer
President

PINES CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Serving the Fire Island Pines Community Since 1966

INFO@PINESCONSERVATIONSOCIETY.ORG

It's been another exciting year for the Pines Conservation Society celebrating 58 years of service in Fire Island Pines.

It's been a challenging year for our barrier reef Island so many of us call home. Fortunately, with Tenacity and undying loyalty this falls beach replenishment should let us all breathe a sigh of relief.

PCS completed our annual Right of Way dead pine tree removal in March with FIPPOA's partnership in having, Bartlett Tree Service Remove some 36 plus trees after surveying every walk in the Pines.

Our annual spring tree delivery resulted in over 155 Pine trees , 4 Oak trees and 25 Native Pallets of pollinators being delivered to the Freight Dock here in the Pines. Thanks for your continued support of keeping Pines in The Pines. We've seen success with our Sunny Honey and Shady Lady Native pallets during the growing season . Check out our web site for more detail on how you too can expand your gardening efforts sustainably.

A new endeavor for PCS this year found us Partnering with FIPPOA to reexamine the best way To control mosquitoes in the Pines. Working with Suffolk County Vector Control we have concluded that discontinuing spraying and instead implementing a ground larvicide application which will control the larvae before they can develop into biting adults is the best solution. Spraying also kills beneficial insects like Bee.s Dragon Flys, Butterflys and Lightning Bugs ... all of which have been more plentiful this season, Be mindful that Cherry Grove adopetd the same program a couple of years ago.

PCS test "Project Blush" regarding the planting of Rosa Virginiana at four test homes in 2022, On Ocean Walk. This project was put on hold considering the damage to the beach ... however One of our test sites at Ward Auerbach's and Andy Bakers dune is thriving. Stay tuned to this Being revitalized ....

Our Labor Day Sunday Brunch 2024 honored Elinor Gum from Pines Care Center and was a sold-out event. Thank you all who helped us celebrate, bought Art, and enjoyed Brunch. This is our big fundraiser 'and your support is appreciated.

Our GO NATIVE Series continues with a Celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Founding of The Fire Island National Seashore with a stellar panel assembled be sure not to miss this event .

Enjoy a happy and healthy winter and we'll see you next Spring!

P.O. Box 5339
Fire Island Pines, NY 11782

PINES CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Serving the Fire Island Pines Community Since 1966

INFO@PINESCONSERVATIONSOCIETY.ORG

Scott Ahlborn, President & the PCS Board

P.O. Box 5339
Fire Island Pines, NY 11782

www.pinesconservationsociety.org

Fire Island Pines Fire District
P.O. Box 193
Sayville, New York 11782

Fall 2024

Dear FIPPOA Membership:

The Fire District has been planning for over the last 10 years for the purchase of a replacement of 5-28-1. This is a vehicle that the District has had since 1995. The vehicle is 29 years old. The District has been building a reserve fund, so that the truck can be paid for in full rather than financing the vehicle.

A payment for the chassis will be going out shortly, and then the building of the new truck will begin. We hope to have the new vehicle in late spring of 2025.

We had our Commissioner elections in July and we wish to welcome Robert (Bob) McGarity as our newest Commissioner. He will be serving the remainder of a 3-year term. Also, Holly Rhodes-Teague was elected to a 5-year term of office. Both will be sworn in at the January 2025 Commissioner meeting.

As always, the District would like to thank the members and officers of the Department for their continued dedication and hard work in service to our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Boss, Chairman
Holly Rhodes-Teague, Vice Chair
Rosemary Coluccio, Commissioner
Eugene Cook, Commissioner
Joe Geiman, Commissioner

Fire Island Pines Volunteer Fire Department
Phone: 631-597-6860 www.fipfd.org Insta @fipfiredept
34 Fire Island Blvd • P.O. Box 193, Sayville, NY 11782

TO: The FIPPOA Membership

FROM: Chief Kyle Merker

DATE: September 21, 2024

RE: FIPFD REPORT SEASON 2024

It's hard to believe we have another season in the books. It all sped by so quickly—as it always does.

We certainly had some fun this summer:

- Bingo was a shorter season this year—we only played six nights yet it was very popular. One night we had 74 players! We raised money for both the FIPFD and St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Thank you to our Auxiliary members who made Bingo work!
- The Annual Community BBQ was a hit. We served over 900 burgers, 450 hot dogs, and—not surprising—3 kegs of beer while dancing to DJ Mike Borowski and winning some sweet raffle prizes.
- To celebrate our 65th year, we upped our social media game and our Instagram grew ten-fold, from about 40 followers to over 400. Follow us @fipfiredept or scan the QR code at the bottom of this letter.

Of course we also worked very hard:

- Your Fire Department has had a very productive season, answering 38 Alarms between January 1st and September 5th. These Included 1 Structure Fire, 8 Mutual Aid Calls to other Fire Departments, 1 Hazardous Condition, 17 Automatic Fire / CO Alarms, 3 Service Calls / Assist SCPD, 5 Electrical Hazards and 3 Propane/Gas Alarms.
- Training is our top priority—because you can't train *too* much for a job that can kill you. Not only will we have held 20 drills by the end of the year, but we also participated in 5 drills at the Suffolk County Fire Academy Training Center where our members encountered live-burn scenarios in a safe, controlled environment.
- Once the beach finally came back in the late spring, we rebuilt all of our rescue boxes and placed them along the beach. Each box contains a rescue throw-bag with clear instructions on the lid. These will remain in place until October 6th. Thank you to Assistant Chief Jordan Cohen for leading the charge in building these units.

(Continued)

Our recruiting efforts are starting to pay off--we had two new members join last year who will soon be off probation. *And* we have two more "Probies" who joined this year and will be completing Firefighter 1 at the Suffolk County Fire Academy over the coming year.

Do you think there is a fire in you? Are you curious as to what it takes to be a Volunteer Firefighter? Even if you are even vaguely interested we would like to meet you. We are holding a Happy Hour and Information Session on October 5th from 4 to 6 pm at the Firehouse Annex. It will be mainly be a social event so we can get to know each other, provide some information and answer whatever questions you may have. Please Email us at recruitment@fipfd.org for more details. We'd love to hear from you.

In closing I'd like to thank everyone who helped me during my first year as Chief. This year has been a challenge, and so many people offered their advice, assistance, guidance and hard work. A huge thank you to FIPPOA, in particular Henry Robin, Karen McCutcheon, Joe Micheels, Michael Greenberg and Leland Rechis.

Thank you to the Board of Fire Commissioners whose knowledge, guidance and patience helped more than they realize.

But most of all I'd like to thank my fellow officers and the men and women of the Fire Island Pines Volunteer Fire Department. Sir Isaac Newton famously said "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants". I stood on the shoulders of these giants all season--these impressive men and women who give their all everyday and, often, in the middle of the night. From that viewpoint I can see what is possible. I am humbled by their abilities, dedication and commitment.

Again, thank you for a great season in the Pines. Be careful, stay healthy, stay safe and change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

Kyle Merker
Chief of Department

@FIPFIREDEPT

Harbor Report Fall 2024

PinesMarina

Another wonderful season over, where does the time go? Hope everyone had a wonderful summer and looking forward to the fall.

The 2024 boating season was able to get off to a great start which continued throughout the summer because Mother Nature was fairly kind to us. The weather was ideal for boating with no real strong winds and most weekends however rainy on some, our Transient slips were booked most weekends.

Captain Dennis and his team will prepare the harbor for winter with the wrappings of all the electrical stanchions and the deployment of ice-eaters thru out the harbor to help prevent ice buildup around the poles. Karen McCutcheon and Joe will oversee the harbor during the Winter months as weather permits.

For all our boaters whether seasonal or transient who come to visit the Pines, our wonderful staff (Capt. Dennis, Annie, Alex, Kate & Sean) were available to provide to our boaters all possible services in an effort to make the boater's stay a great experience. We will as usual send out a thank you to all the boaters, both seasonal and transient boaters that visited us this season with a note thanking them for their visit, and hope their experience here in the Pines was all they expected. If found, we did not meet their expectations we ask "why" so we may improve and make their future stay a pleasure.

If all our seasonal boaters return for the 2025 season, we will have again 5 transient slips available. Our waiting list continues to grow.

We are also on a maintenance plan to replace all the electrical stanchions over the next year or so with many already replaced. Prior to the beginning of season 25, we will start to replace all the decking where needed. Dredging of the harbor will now take place in November under the new Army Core regulations.

I would like again that each of us extend to our Harbormaster Capt. Dennis Murphy for 24 years of dedicated service and his wonderful staff, for their dedication and hard work to make our harbor the best.

A wonderful and safe winter to our wonderful community

Jim Vandernoth	Karen McCutcheon	Capt. Dennis Murphy
Harbor Chair	Community Manager	Harbormaster

FIRE ISLAND PINES
Historical Preservation Society

As we move into a historic year in our world and the Pines we remain grateful for your support. The Pines has changed, and so must we. We will be changing our name soon to a shortened version “Fire Island Pines Historical Society” soon with a new logo. Thank you to all who have walked with us this season. After knee surgery this past winter I could not lead any tours which I really missed. Thank you to our guides board member John Dempsey and volunteer Gianfranco Lentini for stepping up and reinventing our original tour into two, again giving our history to the new generation of arrivals to the Pines, and others. Sold out again! We are so proud! Our goal has always been to spread the history of Fire Island to others so it was an honor to collaborate with the Long Island Museum on their exhibit of Fire Island Artists “Fire Island The Art of Liberation.” We are excited about the future, and look forward to working with new owner Tristan Schukraft and his team to bring authenticity to future plans for the Pines. As we end our 14th year we too will have more changes for 2025 season and will share then.

Thank you,

Bobby Bonanno

FIPHPS President

The Pines Foundation

Fire Island Pines SEASHORE DEFENSE FUND

September 21, 2024

We Take Care of the Beach So the Beach Can Take Care of You

For those of you who are new to The Pines, Mother Nature fired a very powerful warning shot on August 26, 2011 - Hurricane Irene. Very soon thereafter, FIPPOA relaunched the Seashore Defense Fund (SDF) in recognition that our dunes and beaches were at serious risk and in need of immediate, rapid support. And then the unimaginable happened, in October 2012, just one year later, Super Storm Sandy's wrath devastated our community.

Twelve years later, the SDF remains the emergency funding mechanism that allows immediate action when catastrophe faces Fire Island Pines' most valuable asset – its incomparable beaches. It took eight years for the Feds to restore our beach and dune. As part of The Pines Foundation, the SDF uses funds when needed to support preservation and maintenance measures and augment the larger beach reclamation work. Maintaining a healthy reserve that ensures the community can respond promptly to any threat to our magnificent natural asset is critically important.

There were devasting storms in 2023 and early 2024. They wreaked havoc. As you have likely heard and seen incredible efforts were made by FIPPOA to sure up our damaged beach until the next emergency replenishment comes this fall. Tons of sand will restore the shoreline to its post-FIMI outline.

While all this was happening the SDF continued to play its part. Another row of serpentine fencing was added to the eastern end of the community maintaining our “good fencing practices.”



Installing sand fencing 06/25/24



Sand successfully aggregated 08/20/24

At times it seems like an endless battle, but our efforts are paying off. Serpentine fencing works! Once the new beach is restored, we will aggressively resume with more fencing.

The SDF also replaced all the damaged Beach Bin trash receptacles. They do an enormous job keeping our beach clean. We experimented with Lane Posts to help remind vehicular traffic and pedestrians to keep away from the TrapBags installed in the west end. We also added 50% more KEEP OFF DUNE Signs.





The community's recording breaking 2023 donations exceeded a $100,000 which enabled us to fund our projects. Thank you! We even helped fund emergency droning efforts required for the TrapBag installation.

We are grateful to the Pines Party for making the SDF a key beneficiary. This partnership increases the visibility of the SDF. We are proud and supportive of the party's eco-conscious commitment to taking care of the beach. The Beach Defenders who, partnered with the Pines Liquor Shop, did a great job in completing the final sweep post-party to ensure no trace was left behind.



Our 2024 Beach Defenders. Thank you!

Support the SDF with your dollars and by pledging your personal responsibility for keeping the dune healthy—now and in the future. Check out our website and consider a donation, too. http://seashoredefensefund.org. You can continue to purchase SDF tote bags (over 1,000 purchased so far) at The Pines Pantry or wines and spirits at The Pines Liquor Shop until the end of the season.

Every time you think about this remarkable sandbar that we call home, remember the Seashore Defense Fund takes care of the beach so the beach can take care of you.

Let's play, explore and enjoy!

Russell Saray, SDF Chair