



Lincroft Village Green Association

~ Celebrating 25 Years as the Voice for Lincroft ~

Lincroft.org | DirectorLVGA@gmail.com

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER | 2023 YEAR-IN-REVIEW

ANNUAL EGG HUNT: The ever-popular Egg Hunt at The Green was a huge success with many families from Lincroft, Middletown and out-of-town coming to enjoy the springtime festivities. This family-friendly event offered a variety of activities for the kids: farm animals, an ice cream truck, a free raffle for science-themed baskets, the 4-H Club's beloved bunnies, and face-painting. Of course the egg hunt was the most exciting part of the day, with Bun-Bun the Bunny posing for photos as well as dancing and hopping with the kiddoes after the egg hunt ended. Thank you to our members for making this event happen—it's because of your support we can bring fun for the whole family to The Green!



CLEAN THE GREEN AND BEYOND: We had a beautiful day in May for our annual "Clean the Green" event. Local scouting troops came out to weed, mulch and plant flowers to beautify our park. Thanks to all who participated! Later in summer Jerry Johnson and his

crew from Middletown DPW helped us with numerous projects such as: removing overgrown shrubbery from our parking area, power washing our pavers, fertilizing and maintaining the grass surrounding our park and very recently installing our new Menorah. Thanks for all of your hard work Jerry and crew! Thanks also to volunteer Tim Staunton, who has recently helped us with some larger landscape projects. We are looking forward to utilizing his services more next year. Finally, thank you to Scott Lisowski from Green Horizon Landscaping, who cleans up our area on Route 520 at the Navy Road Overpass each Fall. It's a big project and we appreciate the help!

SPRING FUNDRAISER AT JUGHANDLE BREWING: Another successful brewery fundraising event that had our highest attendance yet. Everyone enjoyed flights of beer, good conversation, and lots of food in a private room at the venue.

YARD SALE 2023 BROUGHT APRIL SHOWERS FOR SHOPPERS: For the first time in recent history, Mother Nature did not cooperate with the 50+ participants of the 18th Annual Lincroft Community Yard Sale scheduled on April 29. But a few members braved the storm and opened their garage doors for the bargain-hunters. Check our website in February for the 2024 yard sale date!



Former directors Kate Compton and Abbie Marra with neighbors who did a multi-family sale.



Long-time resident Cindy Hubeny and friend braving the weather to shop for bargains.

FALL FUNDRAISER AT RED TANK BREWERY:

Our fall fundraiser was held at Red Tank Brewery in October. We raised money for our Park Fund, which supports park beautification and events at The Green. We had a friendly crowd of directors and members who enjoyed a night of light fare, craft beer, and a chance to win some fabulous baskets in the free basket raffle. We couldn't have had such a successful event without the donations of our local businesses. Thank you to everyone who supported Kegs for a Cause!



Directors Marguerite Portagallo, Mary Grant & Brittany Tarabour enjoying the evening with friends & neighbors.

LOOKING AHEAD

CALLING ALL GARDENERS! We will be starting a Garden Club this spring, and it will be open to all members! LVGA is responsible for maintaining our park and the flagpole area across from Jersey Mike's on Route 520. Extra hands are always needed and appreciated! Keep an eye out for our spring newsletter with more details.

25TH ANNIVERSARY BEING PLANNED: 2024 marks 25 years since the founding of the LVGA and efforts to establish and preserve the Green as a public space for the enjoyment of our community. The Board will be planning a special event to commemorate this special occasion. Email directorLVGA@gmail.com if you would like to join our planning committee!

VETERAN'S DAY: For the second year in a row we collaborated with Sunrise Assisted Living to honor their resident Veterans. The event was held at Sunrise and was well attended by all residents including 14 who fought in various wars. Each was honored with a pin, a gift bag and letters from local students and scouts thanking them for their service.

TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE NEWS

LINCROFT ROAD IMPROVEMENTS: Since 1999, vehicle circulation on Rt 520/Newman Springs Road has been studied several times by Monmouth County. Improvements to Lincroft's downtown traffic issues and safety concerns were not implemented because the studies determined that a 2- way Acme Road was essential to any plan. This year, the Middletown Township Committee purchased a permanent roadway easement to expand the current one-way road. Monmouth County will be hiring an engineering firm to design the 2-way road with rear driveway access to the businesses. The LVGA has advocated for this since our formation, and we look forward to collaborating with Monmouth County on the project. Monmouth County has completed the design for a second roundabout at Brookdale College, located at the rear entrance to the college at Phalanx Road and Campus Drive. The utilities must be moved and final DEP permits must be received before the construction timeline can be finalized. With your donations, the LVGA paid roundabout expert Michael Wallwork to analyze the design and suggest changes to the plan for vehicle speed reduction and pedestrian comfort. New lighting, crosswalks, and a sidewalk to High Tech High School were added to the plan through our advocacy.

RIVER CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AT EXIT 109: In 2022, the Middletown Planning Board recommended that River Centre South at Exit 109 be designated as an area in need of redevelopment. To address the township's affordable housing obligations, Middletown amended the Housing Plan Element of their Master Plan to permit apartments at the site. The Conceptual Site Plan includes 340 units: 306 market rate and 34 affordable. When completed, the plan will require NJDEP and the Middletown and Monmouth County Planning Boards' approvals. A group of neighbors named Save Our Swimming River have petitioned to protect the sensitive ecosystem and endangered species of the Swimming River that borders the property. The LVGA will continue to share information about meetings related to the application. To learn more, contact SaveOurSwimmingRiver@gmail.com or go to www.facebook.com/save.our.swimming.river.



ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting was held on November 15, 2023
The 2024 Board of Directors Officers are:

- Lori Littenberg and Brittany Tarabour - Co-Presidents
- Marguerite Portagallo - Vice President
- Meagan Magrini - Treasurer
- Mary Grant - Secretary

Three-year term renewing Directors include Roger Foss, Mary Grant, Lori Littenberg, and Holly Rohlf. We are pleased to have two new Directors for 2024: Isabel Kilian and Seth Mayersohn, pictured here. Go to lincroft.org to see our full Board listing.



MENORAH & TREE LIGHTING: A new menorah was installed at the Green this holiday season, with the help of generous donations from our Directors and the Middletown Parks Maintenance team who helped with assembly and installation. Rabbi Galperin from the Chabad Jewish Center of Holmdel performed a blessing and did the honors of lighting the menorah during our Menorah & Tree Lighting event on December 12th. Mayor Perry and Assemblyman Scharfenberger also attended the event to greet the crowd and help our village welcome the holiday season. Those in attendance were treated to delicious donuts, latkes and hot cider. Thank you to all who attended and helped make this event possible. We had a great turnout and everyone left full of good will and holiday cheer.

Thank you to the following local businesses & organizations for your support of the LVGA this year!

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| • 4-H Club | • Lincroft School Scouts BSA |
| • Attilio's Villagio | • Luigi's Famous Pizza & Catering |
| • Brookdale Community College | • Middletown Park Maintenance |
| • Charlie's of Lincroft | • Middletown Public Works and Engineering |
| • Goldy's Ice Cream | • Mike's Barber & Styling Shop |
| • Green Horizon Landscaping | • Minuteman Press of Red Bank |
| • Happy Trails Pony Rides & Petting Farm | • Molzon Landscape Nursery |
| • Jersey Mike's Subs | • Monmouth County Engineers |
| • Jughandle Brewery | • Reaction Lab |
| • Lincroft Dunkin' Donuts | • Red Tank Brewing Company |
| • Lincroft Fire Department | • Salon Nesci |
| • Lincroft School Girl Scouts | • Sickles Market |

Love Lincroft? Join the LVGA!

Annual membership is \$25 per family and helps support our community events & beautification of The Green.
Join today at www.lincroft.org or mail a check with the form below. Questions? Contact directorlvga@gmail.com

Thank you for your generous support of the Lincroft Village Green Association.



Lincroft Village Green Association Membership Dues: \$ 25.00

25th Anniversary Celebration Fund: \$ _____

Park Fund: \$ _____

TOTAL PAYMENT (One check payable to LVGA):

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

COMPLETE FORM and SEND with a check to: LVGA, PO BOX 101, LINCROFT, NJ 07738