SHIPPAN POINT ASSOCIATION * SPRING NEWSLETTER



2020-2021

President

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What Did The SPA Do In The Last 12 Months?

- Proactively lobbied the city for increased Stamford Police Department patrols of Shippan and worked with our elected representatives David Watkins and Bradley Michelson to improve the parking situation in residential areas around city beaches and parks.
- Revised and organized community events to provide fun for the Shippan community while remaining socially distanced and covid safe: e.g. the Independence Day Parade, Music in the Park, Halloween Parade.
- Managed several Facebook pages that allowed Shippan residents to receive important information (e.g. Covid testing/vaccination details, revised recycling center hours), share concerns (lost pets), ask questions (best ...) and promote local businesses and sell items (Shippan Tag Sale & Services). Also provided members with email updates regarding important information relevant to Shippan, and a welcome letter to new residents.
- Developed a number of new community events, e.g. Easter Parade, Birthday Trains, Graduation Parade, and Santa Parade to help the community celebrate together while remaining socially distanced.
- Organized a Meet and Greet at Woodway Beach Club for new residents to Shippan.
- Scheduled 550 extra duty police patrol hours during the most critical periods of the year sponsored by the SPA and other neighborhood patrol funds.
- Upgraded Shippan's entrance by illuminating the flag pole, purchasing new flags for along Shippan Avenue, and arranging for the electrical box near the soccer fields to be painted.

Upcoming SPA Sponsored Events

- May 15th SPA Community Tag Sale.
- July TBD Independence Day Children's Parade.

Photo Credit: John Moore

Easter Bunny Parade

With a Stay-At-Home order in effect, The SPA decided to throw an Easter Bunny parade. We borrowed a costume from Stamford Yacht Club and quickly outlined a parade route. Children and adults cheered from their driveways and front steps as the Easter Bunny drove through the streets of Shippan. Thank you to Linda & Jay Keeshan for being our driver and Easter Bunny.





Shippan Avenue Entrance

Have you noticed the Flag Pole at the entrance to Shippan is now lit at night? The SPA worked with the Stamford Parks and Recreation Department and Fairview Landscaping to install a solar light on the top of the flagpole. Additionally, there are new flags along Shippan Avenue at the entrance to Shippan Point. The SPA also arranged for Shippan resident Pam Abear to paint the traffic light box at the entry to Shippan. Pam painted a beautiful sea scene to brighten the Shippan Point entry.







Birthday Trains

A Shippan resident proposed the idea of Birthday Trains and the SPA ran with it. The SPA would announce kids' birthdays and details for the "train" on Facebook. Shippan

residents would show up in their cars decorated, get in a convoy, and drive by the birthday celebrant's home and honk. Neighbors brought such joy to other neighbors on their special day. Thank you to Saira Hopper, our Birthday Train Organizer and to all who participated.











Graduation Parade



Since so many schools cancelled or postponed graduations, the SPA organized a parade for graduates from elementary, middle, high school, and college. Smiles were huge as the graduates waved to the cheering crowds lining the streets. Some graduates even wore caps and gowns.



SPA Wine Sale & Fundraiser

Instead of the annual SPA Wine Tasting, (a wonderful event where neighbors can catch up with each other, meet new friends, enjoy delicious appetizers, and learn about wine) a wine sale was held online. Wines were selected by BevMax's wine expert, Ty Taiani, who provided details on each wine's characteristics and provenance. There was something for everyone, from big bold cabernets to perfectly sweet bubblies. This is a great way for members to plan ahead for their holiday wine needs by ordering wines at a discount, with a percentage of the proceeds going to the SPA Police Patrol Fund, which provides additional safety protection for Shippan.



<u>Children's Independence</u> Day Parade



A more socially distanced event was held this year. The crowd paraded down the street in patriotic attire and was rewarded at route's end with treats from the ice cream truck.









Music in the Park

The 6th annual Music in the Park event was held at the gazebo at Czescik Marina Park in October. The afternoon of music was supported by the SPA, Felicia Zhang's All Talent Academy, the City of Stamford Neighborhood Grant Program, and the Czescik Park and Marina Conservancy. A large gathering of neighbors came out to enjoy world class musicians such as Hanna Golodinskii, the Ukranian-American Soprano. The crowd remained socially distanced while they enjoyed the music on a gorgeous Fall day.





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Oh, what a strange and challenging year it has been! The past 12 months have been like no other in our lives. While we wouldn't want to relive it, I hope we can all find something positive about the experience. If we learned something new, met or reconnected with someone important to us, or just got to slow down a bit and really live in the moment, then we have scored a victory.

As with so many other organizations, the **Shippan Point Association (SPA)** had to do things differently this year. Activities such as the Tag Sale, Annual Meeting, and Celebrate Shippan were cancelled, while the Wine Tasting event and Independence Day and Halloween kids' parades underwent changes to become Covid safe. And new events such as the Easter Bunny, Graduation, and Santa Parades were created to fill voids. We hope the SPA brought much needed smiles and laughter to your lives this year.

If you are wondering what the SPA is all about.....it was formed in 1902 as a voluntary, non-political, non-profit corporation organized to safeguard the mutual interest and welfare of its residents. Today, the SPA continues to protect and beautify the area while building a community through neighborhood events, regular information meetings, police patrol and more. Becoming a member of the SPA is an important part of becoming involved in the community and maintaining the strength and integrity of our neighborhood. Our dues are just \$30 per household or \$15 per senior household per year. Suggested patrol donation is \$70. Register and pay online at www.shippan.com/membership or use the enclosed insert.





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The Shippan Point Association P.O. Box 111381 Stamford, CT 06911

John Doe

Or Current Resident

XXXXXXX

Stamford, CT 06902

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook @Shippanpoint, on the web at www.shippan.com or join our Closed Facebook Group for residents @ShippanPointCommunity. New to the area, want to lend a hand or interested in purchasing SPA T-shirts, hats, aprons or tote bags? Email us at info@shippan.com

Children's Halloween Parade

The SPA sponsored and organized a ghoulish, socially distanced parade. The kids were rewarded with individual treat bags that were laid out along the sides of the road at the end of the route.

























Santa Parade

With the Easter Parade being such a wonderful success, the SPA arranged for Santa to come to Shippan. Families lined the parade route to see Santa in his sleigh and catch candy canes. Thank you to everyone who helped get Santa to Shippan, and escorted him along his parade route, including Erik Findeisen, Chris Malloy, the Angelov Family, Jay Keeshan, and Charlie Dill.











Shippan Meet and Greet Information Session

In October, in lieu of our signature event, Celebrate Shippan, the SPA held a Shippan Meet and Greet for those new to our community. State Senator Carlo Leone, State Representative David Michel, and District Representatives David Watkins and Bradley Michelson were there, as well as representatives from the Shippan Point Garden Club and the Shippan Point Gourmet Club. It was a beautiful day to meet new neighbors and share with them the activities available in our wonderful community.

May 2021

Tom Kuczynski Michelle Morck Valerie Rickens Ian Schindelman



May 2022
Tom Brennan, Sr.
Charlie Dill
Shelley Gibson
Jay Keeshan
Andrew Krill
Jill Luciani Bouchard

SPA Directors - Term Expiring:

May 2023

Sarah Black
Panthea Carter
Saira Hopper
David Lasnick
Steve Lincoln
Toni Mills
Richard Recker
Vito Sileo
Bob Unnold