

PORT RICHMOND
STRONG

Port Richmond/North Shore Alliance, Inc.

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2021

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PORT RICHMOND'S FIRST EVER HOLIDAY EVENT INSIDE VETERANS PARK



HAPPY NEW YEAR

CELEBRATIONS

THE REBIRTH OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING IN PORT RICHMOND

Hosted by The Reformed Protestant Dutch Church

*Many to thank for this Wonderful Event
& for supporting this Event & Civic Group.*





PORT RICHMOND'S LIGHTING OF THE MENORAH
at Temple Emanu-El by Rabbi Sussman



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA
at The 1696 Burial Ground



ELECTEDS GRADED 2021

Public Officials cannot know everything. We hold public officials accountable only after they are made aware of an issue and nothing was done to address or correct it.

Congresswoman Malliotakis: B-
NYS Senator Diane Savino A
NYS Assemblyman Charles Fall: D+
SI BP James Oddo: D
CM Debi Rose: F- - - -

Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis:

Her Office continues to work with this civic group and is preparing to streamline US Citizenship status for men/women serving this Country while NOT being a US Citizen. If you are good enough to serve you should be granted upon completion of your service and honorably discharged, immediate US Citizenship.

State Senator Diane Savino:

Has constantly kept an open line of communication with this Civic group and the Port Richmond Community. She has heard many of our concerns although some were at city levels. Regardless, she spearheaded the issues, most notable "**The Trantor Place Sidewalk**". She whipped the agencies in line to get this sidewalk installed and Port Richmond received a Christmas gift of a completed sidewalk.



Borough President James Oddo:

Unfortunately, This Politician has Checked out long ago. We sent out numerous, if not dozens of emails to his office requesting to join in our many efforts and speak at our meetings to no avail. His actions although minimal, one most notable was his communication to many of his councilmembers in NYC Council to push for Brothers Pizzeria Street renaming.

ELECTEDS GRADED cont. 2021

These two patted themselves on the back for helping us with specific issues
-- when, in fact, they ignored us, and the community, on those very issues.

Debi Rose: *She doesn't deserve to be called by the title for the position she disgraced for 12 disastrous years.*

If there were a grade lower than an F-, we would give it. She has single handedly destroyed the North Shore, promoted special interests, represented only a certain few and certain areas of the North Shore, contributed in making this Island and this City less safe, failed to listen to Constituents, AND failed to take appropriate action in terminating or requesting a letter of resignation of a racist office staffer. Her lack of action in this regard, means **she supports Racism!** Her attempt to circumvent the voting process for the North Shore City Council seat with her small, very small circle of unsavory loyalists who ran under **Rank-Choice Voting** has **FAILED!** Her anointed one got 8.8%, the rest got even less. **WE SAY: GOOD RIDDANCE!!!!!!!!!!**

And, if any attempt to run for another elect seat... WE WILL BE IN THE FRONT ROW HIGHLIGHTING YOUR RECORD!

*For her final and possibly biggest betrayal of the North Shore and all of Staten Island:
The First Ever R-7 REZONING (allows unrestricted high-rise development)
Only HER support got it through. SI Councilmen Matteo and Borelli voted NO.
CB-1, the BP, all Civic Groups and Kamillah Hanks opposed it.*

New York State Assemblyman Charles Falls:

Although last year, His office received a failing grade, We can thank his Aide, Rebecca Delvecchio for her persistence and constant contact with this Civic group in bridging the gap with Port Richmond and his Office. Assemblyman Falls office has been instrumental in gathering information, forming communications with state and federal agencies, and holding an intake for the Port Richmond Community and the North Shore at his Office and College of Staten Island.

CITY AGENCIES GRADED 2021

DSNY: A+

NYPD: A

FDNY: A

NYC DOT: A

NYC DOB: B-

NYC DEP: C+

NYC PARKS: C

NYC Health Dept: D+

NYC Dept of Consumer Affairs: D

DSNY: Continues to partner with Port Richmond Strong in keeping our community clean. They responded swiftly post Hurricane IDA.

NYPD: They continue to keep us safe and address our many issues. We are so fortunate to have two NCOs who continue to work closely with this Civic Group and our community.

FDNY: What can we say about our Port Richmond Firemen; THEY ARE THE BEST!

NYC DOT: Our new Borough Commissioner provided swift action on one of our most crucial issues in Port Richmond, TRANTOR PLACE. Within a year, her actions and persistence made a sidewalk for Port Richmond HAPPEN - unprecedented!

NYC DOB: Buildings continues to work with us and the community. However, we need the agency to step up enforcement to correct dangerous building violations and illegal conversions.

NYC DEP: DEP continues to work with this community in keeping catch basins and sewer lines clean. They have responded to over 42 catch basin cleaning requests and immediately fixed a collapsed drain on Trantor Place. Improvement is needed within the agency regarding transparency and issues involving the treatment plant located in our area, since there was massive flooding of unprecedented levels in Port Richmond.

NYC PARKS: We continue to watch Parks and monitor their actions. We should not be a Civic group which has to Babysit a City Agency. PARKS really needs to get a handle on the parks without this Civic group constantly reminding them to clean/maintain a Park. We remind the agency that public consumption of Alcohol by employees is NOT permitted during working.

NYC Health Dept: Agency needs to learn Multi-tasking. There are more than just COVID related issues. They must take action on dirty establishments, and lots which promote rodent activity and can become dangerous for the community. We need more forceful action by this agency.

NYC Dept. of Consumer Affairs: Agency needs improvement on enforcement in establishments which continue to hold licenses while conducting illegal sales of cigarettes and other merchandise in their stores. Many convenience stores continue to sell illegal and unstamped cigarette; while one establishment sells Marijuana behind the counter.

WINS



Many have shared our frustration and disappointment, and many have partnered with this Civic Group to get this TERRIBLE Decision reversed including many Small Business in Port Richmond and Staten Island. We thank the following for joining in this effort: NYS Senator [Diane J. Savino](#) & Andrew Lanza
Congresswoman [Nicole Malliotakis](#) Assemblyman [Michael Tannousis](#)
Councilmember [Joe Borelli](#) Councilmember Steve Matteo
Neighboring councilmembers in Southern Brooklyn and in Queens (**Howard Beach & Ozone Park**)

We Hope this news will bring Joy to the *Giove Family* on this coming Christmas the most joyous present under the tree this year!!!!!!

**This Civic group Worked relentlessly to get this done.
Bartolomeo Giove Way is Coming to Brothers Pizzeria Corner..!**

Trantor Place Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



After nearly 50 years of NO sidewalk, the residents of Trantor Place and Port Richmond's seniors, people with disabilities, and the students of IS-51 & Port Richmond High School NOW have safe passage to/from home, work, and school.

**This huge task was done in under a year!
Unprecedented!!**

We Thank the Following:

NYS Senator Diane J. Savino

*NYC DOT: SI Borough Commissioner
Roseann Caruama*

NYC DOB: Mr. Frank Fontana.

*NYC Sanitation: Chief John Gabriele /
Dist. Supv. Joe Albanese.*

NYC DEP: Mr. Robert Olivari

*NYPD 121Pct: Detectives Guglielmo
& Babiak (NCO)*

Mr. Paul Liotta SI Advance Investigative Reporter.

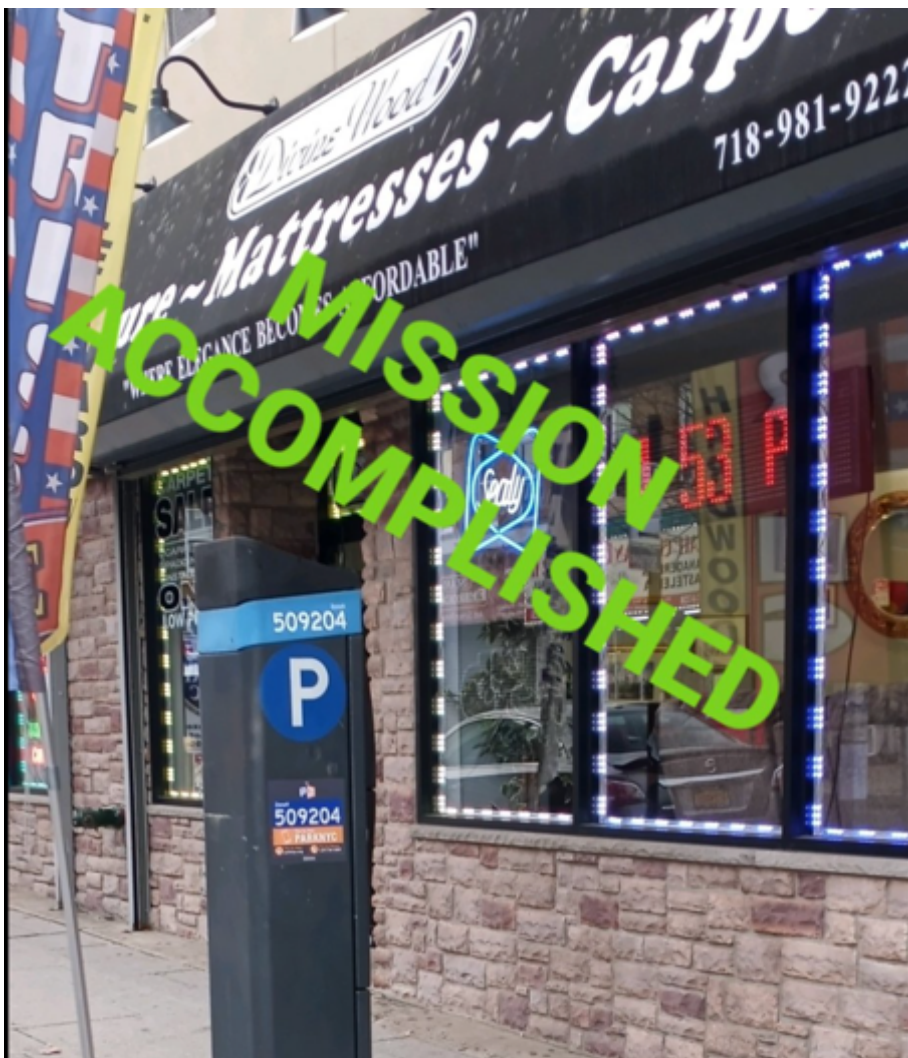
Mr. Mike Schnall

Giove Family; Brothers Pizzeria

*Mr. Everett Wattley: The resident who (rightfully)
pleaded for a Sidewalk.*



**Ceremony was followed by a celebratory
Pizza Party at legendary Brothers Pizzeria.**



A Small Business owner in Port Richmond of 37 years, went to their Local Elected Official TWICE, and spoke at TWO Community Full Board Meetings (Public Session) in 2019, requesting a Parking Kiosk be re-installed in front of their store because the next machine was 2 blocks away.

NOTHING WAS DONE!

**This Business owner approached this Civic group;
3 1/2 weeks later.....**

THE PARKING KIOSK HAS RETURNED.....!

**We are excited that as of January 1, 2022, we will have
Local Representation with a pulse, positive energy
& who will actually answer the phone.....!**



WEST BRIGHTON RESIDENTS..! WE HEARD YOUR CONCERNS..!

*When the residents of Delafield Avenue reached out to Debi Rose's Office regarding this unsafe and illegal Business **NO ONE ANSWERED** (Office Closed).

*When they reached out to **Community Board #1**; No response.

***When, West Brighton found this Civic Group
four weeks of continuous communication began with;
NYC DOB, NYC DOT, NYC Dept of Consumer Affairs, FDNY,**

This Establishment is SHUT DOWN!

When you operate an illegal business non-conforming to zoning; stack flammable materials way above the fence line adjacent to residential homes; place Electrical Conduit throughout the property; Place a large steel container on the property; alter the Electrical Circuit Breaker Panel; install/utilize an illegal driveway; ****ALL without permits.**** ****AND**
****when you act inappropriately towards people asking you to fix the issues, and become aggressive with the adjacent homeowners.. this is what happens!**

You receive a ****VACATE ORDER ****from ****NYC DOB..!****

IN PROCESS

Continuing campaign for Speed Reducers



The New DOT Boro Commissioner has requested a new study. The previous study would have not been accurate since during the Pandemic. schools were closed, people were not working and the world shut down! During the year this process will take, we will be in constant communication.

We have requested updates on four streets for Speed Reducers.

I understand the frustration, but this stuff takes time.

If you all want speed reducers on ALL the streets.. NOT HAPPENING!

I can assure you of that!



Public School 68

The Port Richmond School for Visionary Learning

We had less than an enthusiastic conversation with the Principal about school buses using the driveways between Port Richmond and Decker Avenues, as they are supposed to, rather than backing up traffic all along Forest Avenue.

Nicole Malliotakis' office is working with the USPS to replace the mailbox that used to be in this location.



LAW & ORDER



Congratulations on a well deserved Promotion!!!!!!!
to one of our "Finest" who helps Protect and Serve
NYPD Detective Michael Guglielmo.

We speak almost **DAILY** about issues throughout Port Richmond.
Detective Guglielmo was specifically assigned to take back Veterans Park for the
families in the community.

He initiated the first ever **PARK CLEAN UP AND BOOK FAIR.**

He worked with this Civic Group to implement
a **FIRST EVER FOOD TRUCK AND FAIR FESTIVAL** and also
the **FIRST EVER HOLIDAY BANNER LIGHTING,**
both events inside Veterans Park.



90
Park
Avenue

*On the bottom of the hour
of the year 2021.....!!!!*

This dangerous, unsafe, crime ridden, stain in our Community is finally **SHUT DOWN!** It harbored Drugs, Criminals, Felons, Gangs, Sex Trafficking and Emotionally Unstable people -- even a resident with an extensive violent criminal record & over **35 ARRESTS.**



**We tirelessly brought these issues to all city agencies.
We are hoping The New Owner; An Island Resident, South Shore
will come to the table and except our invitation to utilize this property
in a way that will actually better the community.**

THE AMERICAN DREAM



The Rebirth of The Christmas Tree Lighting in Port Richmond

To light the Neighborhood Christmas Tree
we were Honored to have a Port Richmond Community
Member, Small Business Owner, a Port Richmond Homeowner,
and after years of effort -- a proud US Citizen

Mr. Miguel Lopez

(far right)

The American Dream
is alive and well in Port Richmond

Residents of Eldridge Avenue, Clark Place and St. Anthony Place in Port Richmond and Westerleigh threw their mailman John Byers a surprise retirement celebration.

“He’s the quintessential character in any American Dream neighborhood.”



Five-year-old Jack Carroll has been waiting for mailman John Byers at the front door of his home since he was old enough to walk. “The first year he could pick out his own Halloween costume in 2018 he dressed up as ‘John the Mailman,’” his mother recalled. (Photo courtesy of Miranda McAuliffe)

The American Dream
is alive and well in Port Richmond

IN MEMORIAM

MEMBER OF FDNY E-163 Jewett Ave SINY

There is** NEVER-EVER** a good time to hear such news, especially during Holiday Season.

We regret to inform the Port Richmond Community on the Passing of **FDNY Lt. Joe Maiello of E163**. Lt. Maiello passed suddenly while in his Quarters.

On Behalf of the Port Richmond Community, we extend our heartfelt condolences to his entire Maiello family and to all the Members of FDNY. This is a great loss to FDNY & Port Richmond.

FDNY E163 were responsible in responding to areas of Port Richmond and Westerleigh areas during Hurricane IDA to aid in rescue and removal of water from basements and stores.

We are a Neighborhood, let us all extend our condolences to the family, friends, and Co-workers of Lt. Joe Maiello.



A portrait of a woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a white turtleneck sweater. The text "Joy, Thanksgiving 2021" is overlaid at the bottom in blue.

We send her family and friends our deepest sympathy.

Joy, Thanksgiving 2021

***In Remembrance of ALL who served on this Day
December 7th, 1941. We will Never Forget!***

Vincent Kechner grew up in Port Richmond on Rainbow Ave and was a graduate of Curtis High School. Vincent lost his life by enemy gunfire while attending wounded at Hickam Field. He was 24 years old and is interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii. The picture below appeared in the Staten Island Advance after his death along with a photo of his mother receiving his Purple Heart.



Mrs. John Kechner of 18 Rainbow avenue, Port Richmond, gazes fondly at the purple heart, awarded posthumously to her hero son, Sergeant Vincent Kechner, who was among the nation's first war casualties, dying Dec. 7, 1941 a few hours after being wounded in the