

Historic World War II Monument Rededicated

Today, December 7, 2011 marks the 70th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the fateful day that America was brought into WWII. In honor and memory of all soldiers who fought in WWII, Operation Democracy will be sponsoring a brief ceremony to rededicate Locust Valley's WWII Monument at 4pm. In attendance will be a few surviving WWII Veterans from Locust Valley, where we will honor those who served by laying a wreath and rededicating the Locust Valley WWII Honor Roll Monument.

In the early days following America's entry into WWII, communities nationwide were encouraged to establish and maintain "honor rolls" of the local men and women who answered the nation's call to duty and entered into military service. The committees were composed of residents from local organizations that included the fire department, The American Legion, The Boy Scouts and local church groups. Locust Valley's committee was formed in 1942 and was chaired by George Shaddock. Others included William Britton of Britton's Hardware, who was head of LV Civil Defense; Dudley Merritt, LV Post Master, Reverend Alber Deyo of the Reform Church and Edith Hay, who would eventually establish the *Locust Valley Leader*, all part of a group numbering twenty-two.

Locust Valley's original "Honor Roll" was made of painted wood and was placed in the field that separated the LV Fire Department and the Neighborhood House, which today is the LV Library. After the war, the committee sought to establish a permanent honor roll and funds were raised for its construction. By

July of 1948 the planning subcommittee, which was headed by James Robertson, conceived a design and it was decided to erect the monument on a plot on the LV Water District Property on the left side of the LV Fire Department. Local contractors Frank Marmorale and Sons built the permanent monument that November using field stones from Westchester County.

The Monument design would be a large bronze tablet scrolled with the 511 names of those who fought in WWII. This would be Locust Valley's Honor Roll. Bordering this roster on each side were smaller tablets depicting the war's progression through campaigns in both the Pacific and the European theaters of the war. The top of the rooster was a bronze relief design, showing the arsenals of the air, land and sea of our military forces. The casting of this detailed plaque came from a foundry in Garden City.

Through time the monument stood proud and tall. A controversy over a plan to move the monument to a new location



Working on Locust Valley's WWII Monument.

as part of the Normandy Remembered Observances in 1994 had generated much opposition and the planned move was dropped. A committee was formed then to raise funds to restore the WWII monument where it is currently situated would eventually fall prey as many opposed to the restoration plans and fund raising fell short. A generous matching grant had been received in 1997 from the George Baker Foundation but the restoration committee had disbanded in part and the money had been held in escrow until the once sea of controversy regarding the WWII monument had diminished over time. Then a good citizen and local patriot named Kaye Weninger came about to help orchestrate and energize the forces necessary to seek harmony and finally bring this long overdue project to completion.

As a special tribute to honor the soldiers of WWII, Operation Democracy, a local rekindled organization that was started post (1947) WWII, decided to take on this project for their mission was to "Never Forget". They felt this monu-

ment is an important part of our history and these 511 names of the serve personnel from Locust Valley are a part of our history. We need to preserve and educate the next generation to never forget.

Thanks to the help of the funds from the Locust Valley War Memorial Fund and Operation Democracy the project was completed on Tuesday. Thanks to local citizens like Kaye, Randy Carr, George Coskiano, Mario Gallo, Tony Bliss, Jeff Converse, Anker Johansen and Pat Eliseo who all worked together to complete this project for the community. The monument has been restored with all the stones replaced, the split bronze plaque refurbished, new flag poles stand tall, new shrubs, new steps, benches and a walkway. The citizens of the original committee would be proud as nothing was changed or taken away only enhanced so the next generation can come and take a moment to reflect upon what their grandfathers did and remember Freedom is never free. The monument can stand tall and proud for another 63 years.

On this 70th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, take a moment to pause and reflect on the significance of this day. Today at 4pm the Locust Valley community is invited to join and remember the sacrifices of those who fought in WWII. And let us never forget what we owe those who have borne the cost of battle throughout America's history and pledge to uphold and never take for granted- OUR FREEDOM and our way of life, for which they fought and died to preserve.

DeRiggi-Whitton and Germino Still Undetermined

The recount in the 18th Legislative District of Nassau County which was waged between Democrat Delia DeRiggi-Whitton and Republican Robert Germino, Jr., as of press time on Tuesday, still remains undecided.

Of the original 148 challenged ballots according to sources, De-Riggi-Whitton has established a 31 ballot lead.

According to the Democratic Board of Elections office the final decision rests with Nassau County Administrative Justice Anthony Marano which should be decided in the next few days.

The Republican Commissioners Office provided no information on the important election.



Delia DeRiggi-Whitton



Robert Germino

Bayville Lease

Bridge Marina and Bridge Marine Sales, located on Ludlam Avenue, Bayville has entered into a five year lease with the Village of Bayville which they sold to the village in 1998. They have occupied this land for the past 35 years. It

will continue to be used as a waterfront recreation area and marina. The lease will run from May 2012 to April 2017 at an annual rental of \$127,867 with a potential sharing of tax increases imposed by Nassau County.

Warning: IRS E-mail Scam

If you have received an email from somebody at "irs.gov" do not open it, this is an identify theft scam. The IRS website publishes the below notice on their official website.

"The Internal Revenue Service reminds consumers to avoid identity theft scams that use the IRS name, logo or Web site in an attempt to convince taxpayers that the scam is a genuine communication from the IRS. Scammers may use other federal agency names, such as the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

In an identity theft scam, a fraudster, often posing as a trusted government, financial or business institution or official, tries to trick a victim into revealing

personal and financial information, such as credit card numbers and passwords, bank account numbers and passwords, Social Security numbers and more. Generally, identity thieves use someone's personal data to steal his or her financial accounts, run up charges on the victim's existing credit cards, apply for new loans, credit cards, services or benefits in the victim's name and even file fraudulent tax returns.

The scams may take place through e-mail, fax or phone. When they take place via e-mail, they are called "phishing" scams.

The IRS does not discuss tax account matters with taxpayers by e-mail."