Brookhaven Officials Celebrate Grand Opening of the New Boys and Girls Clubhouse in Bellport
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Privately-funded facility includes learning center and full sized gymnasium

Farmingville, NY - On August 14th, Councilwoman Connie Kepert was in attendance for the grand opening of the new Boys & Girls Clubhouse, located at 471 Atlantic Avenue in Bellport. The state-of-the-art 28,000 square foot facility features a full sized gymnasium, community room, learning center, teaching kitchen, computer lab, library and teen center. The center will also host numerous programs to enhance educational development, physical education, environmental education and leadership among Bellport area youth.

"The building of the Boys and Girls Club is the culmination of years of hard work by the board of the Boys & Girls Club, community members, and a host of philanthropists. The opening of the Boys & Girls Club represents a new beginning for the young people of North Bellport. It is truly a great day," stated Councilwoman Kepert.

Supervisor Mark Lesko said, "For decades, the residents of the Bellport area have fought hard to build a new facility for the local Boys & Girls Club and with this grand opening, that dream has become a reality. This clubhouse provides young people a safe place to learn, play and interact. I congratulate everyone at the Boys & Girls Club for this monumental achievement."

Since her first election in 2005, Councilwoman Kepert has been a strong advocate of the Boys & Girls Club and immediately began working to secure funds for this important and worthwhile project. Within the negotiations surrounding the building of the Caithness Power Plant in Yaphank, Councilwoman Kepert included a dedicated line of funding for the Boys & Girls Club of $1,000,000. Additionally, another $250,000 was provided to the Boys and Girls club through the Host Community Benefit Fund. The Councilwoman also introduced a resolution to waive site plan and application fees, and worked to push their application through a sometimes difficult process.

The Boys & Girls Club of the Bellport Area is a not-for-profit charitable organization that is part of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America Movement that supports over 3 million young people throughout the United States and at military bases abroad. The club is for young people between the ages of 5 and 19 who take part in recreational, creative, and education activities under the guidance of trained adult professionals and volunteers. For more information, please visit http://www.bgcbellport.org/.