

Supervisor Romaine, Councilwoman Bonner and Councilman Panico Celebrate Groundbreaking of Two New Homes for Returning Veterans in Sound Beach

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Farmingville, NY - On August 20, Supervisor Ed Romaine, Councilwoman Jane Bonner and Councilman Dan Panico joined Mark Baisch, president of Landmark Properties, and members of the Rocky Point VFW Post 6249 to celebrate the groundbreaking of two new homes to be built for returning veterans. The properties were created as part of a four-lot land division approved by the Town of Brookhaven Board of Zoning Appeals, with two of the lots to be built as affordables for returning veterans. It is the first time this has been done in the Town. The homes will be sold to the selected veterans at less than \$249k, as opposed to the other two homes in the land division which will be sold at a significantly higher price. The benefit is that two veterans and their families will be able to afford to stay on Long Island rather than having to leave due to housing costs. The selection of the candidates for the new homes will be conducted by the Rocky Point VFW.

Pictured left to right are Mark Baisch, Rocky Point VFW Post Commander Joe Cognitore, Councilwoman Bonner, Supervisor Ed Romaine, Long Island Housing Partnership President and CEO Peter Elkowitz, Jr. and Councilman Dan Panico

Supervisor Romaine said, "Many returning veterans want to settle down with their families after serving our country, but purchasing a home on Long Island might be out of reach. I commend Mark Baisch for continuing to make home ownership affordable for veterans so they can realize the American dream that they fought so bravely to protect."

Councilwoman Bonner said, "I thank Mark Baisch and the Rocky Point VFW for all they do for veterans after they return from overseas. The houses that will be built here for two very deserving families will be their first step into a new life and I look forward to welcoming them to Sound Beach when they move in."

Councilman Panico said, "As Americans, we owe a debt of gratitude to our veterans for their service to our country. So many people talk about doing things for our veterans, but not enough people take the bull by the horns like Mark Baisch of Landmark Properties. Mr. Baisch is a doer, and the Town of Brookhaven is proud to be part of his exemplary work for the men and women in our Armed Services."

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