



LT MICHAEL P. MURPHY NAVY SEAL MUSEUM

50 West Avenue, West Sayville, NY 11796

www.murphsealmuseum.org

631-589-7325

Our Newsletter

In an effort to keep our patrons informed, we have created a quarterly newsletter. We will be reporting on upcoming events, news from the museum, updated museum exhibits as well as new merchandise available at the museum and online.

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Executive Director

Paul Racioppi
Assistant Executive Director

Donna J. Donahue
Museum Manager

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WELCOME!

The LT Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum and Sea Cadet Training Facility opened on June 28, 2022 before a crowd of more than 1,300 people. The museum staff welcomed invited guests from the USS Michael Murphy DDG-112 Arleigh Burke destroyer, donors, celebrities, dignitaries from federal, state and county government, family and friends. The opening day ceremonies were televised and President George W. Bush sent his regards via a personal video presentation. Navy SEALs made their special entrance by air, landing on the golf course not 500 yards away from excited guests. In the eighteen months since the doors opened, the museum staff has welcomed visitors from forty states and nineteen countries. Guided tours have been given to over 1,200 students from Long Island school districts.



UDT aka DAD!

Sisters, Carol Sweeney and Patty Moore and their families visited the museum last February. They were eager to visit as their dad was a UDT (Underwater Demolition Team) during WWII. As they approached the first exhibit hall, to their surprise, there is a large photograph of their dad during training (Log PT.) “That’s my dad! Right there! That’s him!!” Exclaimed one of the sisters. Chills ran up the spines of the museum staff, while tears of joy fell down family faces. It was a truly touching moment for everyone to witness. Tour guides now point out his image during every tour. A copy of the photo has since been sent to the family.

Visit from Afar

In October, the museum hosted visitors from Poland. Jack brought his wife Anna out to see the museum as he had done just months before. Jack is a member of Poland GROM which stands for Operational-Maneuver Response Group, Poland’s equivalent of the U.S. Navy SEALs. The two rode out from Manhattan on motorcycles for the visit. They could not say enough about each exhibit and were glad they could pay tribute to our U. S. Navy SEALs.

Appreciated Community Support

Matt King was at the museum last Spring and asked if he could make a new rope for the navy bell, located outside the museum. Some months later, he stopped by and presented the museum with a hand made knotted rope for the bell. Mr. King’s craftsmanship is outstanding and indeed it put the finishing touches on our bell. Thank you Mr. King for your support and contribution to the museum.

Brick Donations & Legacy Benches

To date, nearly 650 bricks have been purchased in support of the museum. There is still room for more! Brick donations are not only a huge support for the museum, they are also a source of inspiration to everyone who walks the beautifully landscaped grounds.

The pad next to Murph’s Tower is the future site of our new K-9 Memorial Monument. Visitors have begun to purchase bricks in memory/honor of their own beloved dogs. For info, go to: www.murphsealmuseum.org/support/bricks

We now have designated areas along the path for Legacy Benches. The benches will be made of granite and engraved with gold lettering. There will only be four available. These very special Legacy Benches may be purchased (\$5,000 donation) by calling the museum office (631) 589-7325.



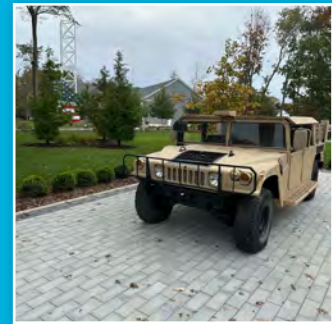
Future Executive Officer's Visit

It was an honor to welcome CDR Caitlin Cunningham, to the museum in October. CDR Cunningham is the future Executive Officer of the USS Michael Murphy DDG 112. She is originally from Indiana and commissioned through the NROTC program at Colorado University in Boulder. She served on ships in Japan and Pearl Harbor. Her husband Max works remotely as an IT administrator for the Naval Academy. After her P-XO/CO training track, she will be headed to Virginia and then will report to the USS Michael Murphy in April. Pictured, top right: CDR Cunningham and husband Max, with Dan Murphy and Chris Wyllie.



Exhibit Update

The Special Operations HMMWV was unveiled on Memorial Day. The HMMWV, or Ground Mobility Vehicle, has been adapted for special operation use, mostly based on lessons learned during Operation Desert Storm in 1991. Our HMMWV was modified by our Executive Director, Chris Wyllie, then transported to the museum grounds.



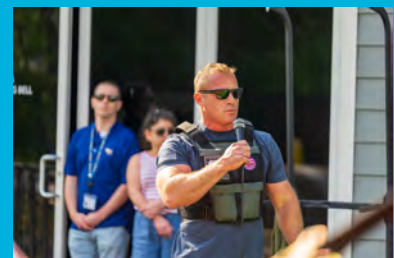
2023 Gala

The 2023 LT Michael P. Murphy Gala was held at the prestigious Oheka Castle in Huntington, NY. Over three hundred guests attended. Speaker after speaker gave insight into their stories about LT Murphy. Among the guest speakers were Bobby Henline, who gave an inspirational speech about his life before and after his catastrophic injuries and Vice ADM Joe McGuire who recommended LT Murphy for the Medal of Honor. The LT Michael P. Murphy Division of US Naval Sea Cadet Corps served as Honor Guards for the occasion. The gala was a huge success and preparations are already in the works for our next gala.



2023 Murph Challenge

The museum hosted its first "Murph Challenge" on Memorial Day. There were over two hundred participants and three hundred family, friends, and spectators cheering them on. Executive Director, Chris Wyllie not only spear headed the event, he also participated. The event was so successful that the Museum Board of Trustees agreed to make the Challenge an annual event. Registration information will be listed on the website in early 2024.



Our special thanks...

We appreciate all who have made the museum a reality. We cannot possibly thank everyone at once but we plan to include as many of you as we can in each newsletter. In this issue we would like to thank the following:

Sue McCoy Designs - Sue McCoy, Chief of the Interior Design Team designed all seven exhibition halls in the museum. Her innovative ideas are beyond reproach. Her partner, **WL Concepts, Inc.** of Freeport, NY fabricated all of the design ideas. Their talented touches are reflected in every exhibit hall.

We would also like to thank **Daniel DeMarco and Associates**, an architectural woodworking firm who donated all of the cabinets, display cases, and anything made of wood, as well as the new custom made podium that will be used for special events.



FLASHBACK!

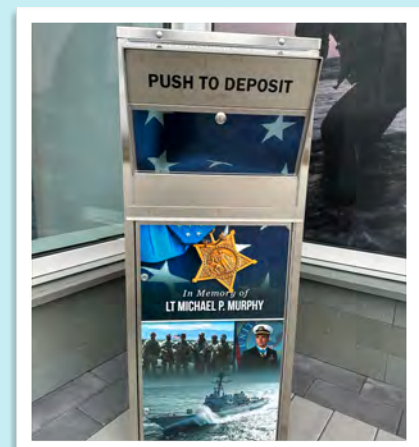
BREAKING GROUND

A tribute to all Navy SEALs started as a steadfast goal of the Murphy Family. After several years of planning, obtaining the best architects, project managers, construction companies and after relentless hard work, the dream became reality. This journey will be documented in photos in each newsletter henceforth. Pictured above, finally breaking ground in 2018 after two years of obtaining permits variances, etc. This is what the property looked like in October of that year.

FLAG DISPOSAL PROTOCOL

Do you have a weather beaten flag that has served it's purpose? If so, please feel free to bring it down to the museum and deposit in our flag receptacle outside. The LT Michael P. Murphy Sea Cadets Division will see that it is properly disposed of in a dignified manner according to protocol.

This very useful addition to museum was the brainchild of Eagle Scout Peter Welling, Jr. who came up with the idea while the museum was being built. Thank you Peter!



Check Us Out at..

Google
Discover Long Island
I Love New York

Newsletter Information~

If you are not on our e-mail list and would like to receive the newsletter, or you have a question or suggestion for the newsletter, go to:

newsletter@murphsealmuseum.org

Golf Anyone?

Don't miss our Annual LT Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum Golf Classic. Be sure to watch the website for registration. The 2024 golf outing will take place Tuesday, June 18th.

Museum Hours

Tues. - Sun. 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Closed Mondays and some holidays.

Call 631-589-7325 for more information or e-mail us at: info@murphsealmuseum.org



Our Latest Merchandise....

We are proud to offer the official USS Michael Murphy DDG 112 ball cap. The cap is exclusively sold only on the ship or at the museum in West Sayville. The navy blue cap is embroidered with the ship's insignia, and has a velcro strap on the back to fit all.

This *January Special* can be purchased and shipped to you while supplies last, directly from the museum store during the month of JANUARY only. E-mail us at newsletter@murphsealmuseum.org to order yours. Hurry, as supplies are limited.

Give An Unforgettable Experience!

Holidays are here! May we suggest giving the gift of a unique museum adventure? Gift cards are a perfect way for your family and friends to enjoy museum admission, merchandise or memberships! A gift they won't forget! Available online or at the museum gift shop.

Groups Welcomed!

We provide a group rate for **any** group of ten or more.

School groups of up to 135 per day are welcome. We will create a package specific for grade level, including a guided tour, Adventure Ride and viewing of "Lone Survivor" or "Murph the Protector." The LT Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum has partnered with the Arts in Education Programs of Nassau, Western Suffolk and Eastern Suffolk BOCES. Call the Museum to reserve your school trip!