

# Port Washington Founded 1924 NEWS

**February 14, 2008**

The Port Washington Chamber of Commerce's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual SOUPer Bowl was a great success. The weather was perfect for a soup contest, with cool temperatures and partly sunny skies. Over 200 eager and hungry residents and visitors attended and all received a warm, filling and tasty lunch and fun-filled afternoon. The event, held on Feb. 2 at the Port Washington Senior Citizens Center, offered samples of soups from 19 of Port Washington's best restaurants and markets. Everyone who "bought a spoon" then got to vote for the 2008 SOUPer Bowl Champ. With so many delicious soups, it was difficult to predict who the winner would be.

Before the event opened to the public, a select panel of judges was invited to taste and rate the soups based on seven different criteria: taste, texture, aroma, color, spiciness, salt level and overall flavor. The SOUPer Bowl judges were Anne Arter, gourmet and representative of the Head Coach Sponsor Daniel Gale Sothebys Real Estate; Wendy Collett, personal chef and owner of Creative Cuisine by Collett; Iron Chef Alex Lee; Dolores Kazanjian O'Brian, writer and restaurant reviewer for the *Port Washington News*; and Roger Poulin, gourmet and student at the Helen Keller National Center. When the judge's votes were tallied, there was a tie. The prestigious Judges' Choice Award went to both Bistro du Village for their butternut squash soup with spicy pecans and to Finn MacCool's for their carrot, leek and potato soup with crispy bacon.

Then, from noon to 3 p.m., the public was invited to taste the soups and vote for their favorites. The people have spoken and, surprisingly, they voted exactly the same as the judges. The tally of the people's votes also resulted in a tie and the same two winners: Bistro du Village and Finn MacCool's. Congratulations to these two fine establishments and to all those who donated soup for this first-time event. The people who attended raved about the quality of all the soups and many were able to purchase quarts of their favorites when the event was over.

In addition to the soup contest, everyone enjoyed viewing a beautiful art exhibit by members of the Senior Citizens Center. Many of Port's seniors have been studying under the direction of volunteer members of The Art Guild. Their artwork showed exceptional talent and variety. The Chamber of Commerce has offered to donate a portion of the proceeds from the SOUPer Bowl to our wonderful Port Washington Senior Citizens Center.

More SOUPer Bowl entertainment was provided by Harvey Electronics, one of the event sponsors. Harvey Electronics, set up a big screen TV showing last year's Super Bowl (alas, this year's hadn't been played yet) for the amusement of all the tasters and

volunteers. When not viewing the art exhibit or the TV, most who attended enjoyed getting together with other tasters at large round tables in the middle of the room and comparing notes on the delicious soups.

The Chamber of Commerce's co-presidents, Warrant Schein and Richard Strautman, were so pleased with the success of the event that they are telling everyone to reserve the Saturday before next year's Super Bowl for Port Washington's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual SOUPer Bowl! They were grateful for the support of this year's sponsors: Head Coach sponsor, Daniel Gale Sotheby's International Real Estate and Assistant Coach sponsors Gold Coast Family Dental; Harvey Electronics; Port Washington Federal Credit Union and State Bank of Long Island. They especially wanted to thank the Chamber's committee members who worked so hard to make this event a reality and a success: Brenda Garfield (After Five), Debbie Greco (Greco Integrated Communications), Anthony Guzzello (Port Washington Police District), Carl Lalena (Kiwanis), Hal Linden (Ayhan's Mediterranean Marketplace and committee chairman), Marie Marcellino (Mainly Marketing), Alice Melzer, (Port Washington Federal Credit Union), Catherine O'Neill (Sullivan's Quay), Bobbie Polay (Port Washington Chamber of Commerce), Jerry Rudnick (Kiwanis), Warren Schein (Town of North Hempstead Parks & Recreation) and Richard Strautman (Picus Enterprises).

The restaurants and markets that generously donated the soup for this contest were:

**Amalfi**

**Ayhan's Fish Kebab**

**Ayhan's Mediterranean Marketplace**

**Ayhan's Shish Kebab**

**Bistro Du Village**

**Bistro Toulouse**

**Finn MacCool's**

**Frank's Pizza**

**Grill Room at Harbor Links Golf Course**

**Livorno**

**Louie's Oyster Bar & Grille**

**Main 415**

**Pomodoro**

**Prime View**

**Stop & Shop**

**Sullivan's Quay**

**Tava**

**Uncle Guiseppe's**

**The Waterview**