

Spirit of Huntington Art Center commissioned for bronze statue on Huntington Green to commemorate Washington historical event

HUNTINGTON, NY – A life-size bronze statue at the corner of 25A and Park Avenue in Huntington Green will be created by Spirit of Huntington Art Center on the historic site of Platt's Tavern to commemorate a visit by George Washington in 1790.

The statue, commissioned by Long Island developer Dominick Mavellia of Wharton Pryce Realty, will act as an iconic gateway to the newly revived Huntington Green, a centerpiece of a proposed new medical development pending approval by the Town of Huntington.

The statue will take the place of a much-loved painted mural by LI artist Erich Preis that commemorated the event, found on the exterior wall of a former gas station built in 1953 that will be demolished along with the adjacent delicatessen next door.

George Washington stopped here for lunch on April 23, 1790 while touring Long Island to thank locals for their clandestine efforts to help defeat the British.

Current redevelopment plans include Platt's Medical Plaza, to house doctor offices and an urgent care center administered by North Shore LIJ Health System. This new medical building will replace the gas station and deli, constructed within historical context that will include stone chimneys, peak dormers and clapboard siding in the colonial salt box style.

The site formerly housed the original Spirit of Huntington (SOH), a 501c3 charity founded by Mr. Preis in 2009 to support children with special needs and local veterans through the arts.

Currently located at the former South Huntington Library at 2 Melville Rd., SOH serves over 50 students each week with art classes and after school programs in partnership with the South Huntington School District.

Co-located at the Library is the headquarters of New Media Marketing (NMM), which handles events, marketing and community outreach for SOH as well as for other local and regional clients.

For more information, please contact Michael Kitakis at 631.234.2900

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