



## **TOWN OF AMHERST, ERIE COUNTY JOIN CENTRAL AMHERST LITTLE LEAGUE TO DEDICATE CLUBHOUSE**

The Town of Amherst, Erie County and Central Amherst Little League (CALL) officials, players and families joined together on Saturday, June 25, 2022 to dedicate the new clubhouse, including fully ADA-compliant, handicapped accessible restrooms. The dedication ceremony included remarks from CALL President Chris Schiller, CALL Board Member - Grounds & Special Projects Vince Polino, Amherst Town Board Member and CALL T-Ball Coach Shawn Lavin, Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz and Erie County Legislator Jeanne Vinal.

Funded by a partnership with Erie County, Town of Amherst and CALL, the construction of the new clubhouse was led by Town of Amherst Engineering Department along with CHA Consultants and Buffalo Engineers as the designers of the project, which was built by Willett Builders, Goodwin Electrical and DV Brown Plumbing contractor. Construction started in August 2021 and was concluded in the spring of 2022. In addition to the restrooms, the 1,400 square-foot clubhouse includes an improved snack stand and storage space. The project also included the construction of a new open-air pavilion near the Major's Field.

"The Town and its community partners continue to deliver on our promise of improving youth athletics. This new clubhouse was sorely needed to serve all players and fans, and this greatly enhances their experience at the ballpark. I want to thank the Town Board, Erie County, the Town's Engineering Department, our construction consultants and the CALL families and officials for completing this project," said Town Supervisor Brian Kulpa.



“Congratulations to CALL on a tremendous season, the first for my son and I. I know how important it is that we ensure youth athletics is available to all families in our community. We couldn’t have done this project without the support of Erie County and all the sponsors and donors,” said Councilman Lavin.

“Sports are a vital part of growing up and discovering your capabilities,” said Legislator Vinal. “I am proud to have been able to deliver funding to enable Central Amherst Little League to invest in the upgrades to

facilities that will provide everyone who wants to participate with the opportunity to do so. It was an honor to attend the Dedication Day ceremony.”

CALL officials described the new clubhouse as an investment in the community that allows CALL to not only provide great opportunities, but a lifetime of memories for baseball players and families for years to come. It also ensures an inclusive, welcoming environment for Central Amherst Little League.

In 2021, CALL honored Supervisor Brian Kulpa and Legislator Jeanne Vinal with the Community Champion Award for their efforts to make the new clubhouse a reality. CALL’s Capital Campaign Committee was also honored, recognized with the Volunteer of the Year Award for working collaboratively in a variety of areas to help the league fundraise and plan for the Capital Improvement project.



The Town is current in design of another improvement to the facility to possibly replace the existing Major’s Field backstop with a taller, netting-based system that will offer an enhanced level of protection of the users of the facility as well as the newly constructed buildings.

The new clubhouse is located at CALL, 480 Wehrle Drive in Amherst. CALL is an all-volunteer organization and was founded in 1955 by local parents as a chartered member of Little League Baseball, Inc. (Williamsport, PA). The partnership goes back to the league’s inception when the Town of Amherst dedicated park space for the league’s ongoing use.