



# E NEWSLETTER

## SOUTHAMPTON TOWN BOARD MEMBERS

Jay Schneiderman, Supervisor  
John Bouvier, Councilman • Christine P. Scalera, Councilwoman  
Stan J. Glinka, Councilman • Julie Lofstad, Councilwoman



## MOODY'S AFFIRMS SOUTHAMPTON TOWN'S STRONG FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The Town of Southampton continues to make the grade with financial analysts. Moody's, in its investor report dated February 6, 2017, affirmed the Town's Aaa, the highest rating issued by the investment service, and specifically noted particularly the Town's

- Very large and stable tax base which has shown continued resilience
- Strong management and diversified revenue provide for stable operations
- Recent financial performance has led to growth in available fund balance

The report follows an annual presentation to the rating agency led by Town Supervisor Jay Schneiderman and Town Comptroller Leonard Marchese on Monday, January 20. "This is my second presentation to the rating agency," commented Supervisor Schneiderman, "and I am very pleased with the assessment of the Town's financial well-being as reflected in this report."

The Moody's report went on to comment on their "expectation that the Town will continue to maintain solid financial performance." The foundations for that expectation are based, the report indicates, on the continued increase in available reserves, strong liquidity and an aggressive debt reduction strategy resulting in a 26% reduction in debt since 2009 and a projected 86% reduction over the next 10 years.

"As the report points out, our community is our best asset," Mr. Schneiderman added, "and we work very hard to protect and enrich that asset." The report recognized those strategic efforts noting the "Town management is strong, with officials actively working both to maintain the financial stability of the Town as well as the desirability of the region through various initiatives."

# Aaa

## DEDICATED SERVICE TO SENIORS



She was known as "Pam" to seniors in the Town of Southampton and she was usually the life of the party at our senior centers. But after 27 years of service for the Town of Southampton, Senior Citizens Program Director Pam Giacoia has retired! "We will miss her contagious, vivacious spirit", said Supervisor Jay Schneiderman. "The seniors loved her!" Pam led the Town's Senior Services program with such a passion that she was often seen engaging the seniors in activities herself. That hands-on approach gave seniors a sense of belonging that many say keeps them coming back to a safe nurturing environment. Good Luck Pam, we will miss you!

## MEDICATION TAKE BACK DAY



Due to its tremendous success last year, the Town of Southampton held another medication take back day! And it was another big success! Despite digging out from a snowstorm, we had a great turnout! Residents dropped off more than 20 pounds of unused or expired medication on Saturday, February 11th at the Hampton Bays Community Center on Ponquogue Avenue. "Medication Take-Back Day" is a coordinated effort by Councilwoman Julie Lofstad, the Southampton Town Police Department and the Southampton Youth Bureau. "This is a safe way to get rid of any old prescriptions without dumping them down the toilet and into the aquifer", said Councilwoman Lofstad. Last October "Medication Take Back Day" collected more than 25 pounds of prescription drugs. We are planning another "Medication Take-Back Day" on April 29th at various locations.



## TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM

We now have a bigger space within Town Hall to hold public hearings. The Auditorium has been cleared out and cleaned up to host large size public hearings. We held our first public hearing on Tuesday, January 24th, and held other meetings February 7th and February 28th. The room is large enough to seat 200 people and will be utilized when we know there could be a large number of people in attendance. The Auditorium once served as office space and in recent years it was turned into a storage area. Now this spacious room will be used as the demand warrants for large public meetings.

## HAMPTON BAYS PATTERN BOOK

Hampton Bays will soon have its own “pattern book” to help shape the future design of the downtown district. The downtown district runs along Montauk Highway from Springville Road to Ponquogue Ave and includes Good Ground Park. The design consultants for the Hampton Bays “Pattern Book” met with residents on January 25th and the Town Board on January 26th to update them on survey results from the respondents. According to the survey, which generated more than 1200 responses, residents want to keep the small town feel with a pedestrian friendly shopping district. The ideas from the survey came from a community process where residents looked at photos of other villages and were asked to choose some designs they would like to see in Hampton Bays. The consultants will next create a “Pattern Book” for the Town Board and the community to review.



## PONQUOGUE PAVILION

The public recently weighed in on some of the design proposals for the Ponquogue Beach Pavilion. More than 1300 people responded to our online survey. The architect, Savik and Murray, came back with some design concepts from some of the suggestions from the survey and two well attended public meetings on September 28th and November 15th, 2016. Those suggestions include more outdoor seating, more showers and a wider ramp to the beach.

They also want upgrades to the restrooms, improvements to the parking area, enhanced handicapped accessibility, to relieve congestion on the pavilion, new fixtures, decking, siding, railings, lighting and benches, and the use of environmentally friendly materials.

The architect first presented some ideas to the Town Board in October and returned in February with some final refinements. The architect will come back to the Town Board this Spring and present their final concepts. If approved, reconstruction could begin in the Fall after the summer season and be ready in time for the 2018 summer season.

