



# E SOUTHAMPTON TOWN NEWSLETTER



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## SOUTHAMPTON TOWN WELCOMES THE US OPEN

Golf fans will arrive in the Town of Southhampton when the US Open comes to Shinnecock Hills Golf Club from June 11th through the 17th. The event was last played here in 2004. The lessons learned from past events are helping the Town and the USGA plan with several agencies to make sure the event runs smoothly, traffic flows without a major problem and emergency contingencies are well coordinated. There will be several road restrictions around the golf course area and spectators are being urged to use designated buses for drop off at the golf club. A pedestrian bridge will help spectators cross County Road 39 from the Stony Brook Southhampton Campus to the course. The Long Island Railroad has also set up a temporary train stop at the college. There are two bus staging areas: Westhampton's Gabreski Airport and Bridgehampton's Hampton Classic Grounds. Uber and other car services will use a "drop off and pick-up area" at the College from Montauk Highway.



## GOVERNOR CUOMO MAKES A SPLASH IN HAMPTON BAYS

The Governor was in Hampton Bays on Thursday, May 31st to oversee the creation of a new artificial reef system. 12 artificial reefs will be reinforced in waters around Long Island, including one that will be located 2 miles off Shinnecock Inlet. Shinnecock Reef will become a new habitat for schools of fish, enhancing recreational and commercial fishing, and creating a much valued site for recreational divers. Three barges of salvage materials from the old Tappan Zee Bridge and four old canal service boats were part of the materials dumped into the waters to construct the artificial reefs.

Read More...

[www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-launches-first-phase-largest-artificial-reef-expansion-new-york-state-history](http://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-launches-first-phase-largest-artificial-reef-expansion-new-york-state-history)

## SEARCHING FOR SOLUTIONS TO END THE OPIOID CRISIS

The Southhampton Town Opioid Addiction Task Force recently held two important events to help address the opioid addiction epidemic. At a public forum in April entitled "It Hits Home Part II", Suffolk County District Attorney Tim Sini, the keynote speaker, spoke about making strides getting these deadly drugs off the streets. But as he noted, "We are not going to arrest our way out of this." He asked parents to do their part to become good role models for their children. The Task Force also held a very moving candlelight vigil on May 12th, Mother's Day Eve, to remember those lost to the opioid crisis. About 200 people gathered on stage around a circle of 359 votive candles to represent the number of people who died from opioids in Suffolk County in 2017. A smaller circle was formed inside with 19 larger candles to represent the number of people who were lost in the Town of Southhampton last year, and one taller candle stood at the center to honor the life of the only person lost so far this year. "Let's hope, if we do this vigil again next year, there will be fewer candles on the stage," said Supervisor Jay Schneiderman.



## BEACHES AND PARKS ARE READY FOR SUMMER SEASON

Some of the world's best beaches are right here in the Town of Southhampton and the Town's Parks and Recreation Department is ready for the summer crowds! Lifeguards are in their chairs on weekends and will be on duty 7 days a week, from June 23rd through Labor Day. Parks will be open from dawn to dusk for visitors to enjoy amenities such as ball fields, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts, or to take in one of the many concerts scheduled at Good Ground Park and the East Quogue Village Green. Summer registration for dozens of recreational programs for children and adults are now underway. From softball and soccer camps, to swimming, sailing and surfing, there is an array of fun learning experiences for everyone. To learn more detailed information, go to the [www.southamptontownny.gov/parksrec](http://www.southamptontownny.gov/parksrec) and click on the Recreation News 2018 Summer Brochure.





## SANDY TASK FORCE STOPS AT TOWN HALL

Almost six years after Super Storm Sandy hit Long Island, the Suffolk County Super Storm Review Task Force made a stop at Southampton Town Hall to listen to homeowners and business owners about problems they faced getting financial assistance to rebuild. One of the people they heard from was Southampton Town Councilwoman Julie Lofstad, who owns a commercial fishing business in Hampton Bays. She told the Task Force she is still battling the effects of the storm, mired in red tape through “New York Rising” and other groups established to help victims from the storm. Members of the Task Force, including Councilman John Bouvier, are expected to issue a report to the County on recommendations to improve storm readiness and response before the next big storm hits.



## VOLUNTEERS CLEANED UP AGAIN!

It was another successful “Great East End Clean Up” to Celebrate Earth Day. More than 640 people participated in the annual weekend event April 21st and 22nd. Councilwoman Christine Scalera joined forces with the Moriches Bay project to clean up beachfronts and roadways in Westhampton Dunes. “Thanks to all who participated we collected over 20 tons of garbage, over 4 tons of metal and 10 tires,” said Councilwoman Scalera.

## YOUTH COURT IN SESSION

Councilwoman Julie Lofstad and Councilman Tommy John Schiavoni witnessed the “Youth Court” swearing-in ceremony in April. Sixty students from high schools throughout the Town were sworn in. Youth Court is a program in which volunteers are responsible for conducting a real court case, and all participants act in some official capacity during the trial, such as judge, jury and attorneys. “Some youth court members move on to study law, some learn from the experience, but mostly they are helping their peers through a difficult time,” said Councilman Tommy John Schiavoni.



Youth Court member Joseph Algieri, a senior at Mercy High School, recently won the New York State Youth Court Association’s Judge Kaye Scholarship. He will be attending Utica College in the Fall and is planning to study history and education.



## CALL TO DONATE OLD PHONES

The public is being called on to donate their old phones to help senior citizen centers and battered women’s shelters. The Town has set up “Secure the Call” barrels for the old devices at the Citizens’ Response Center at Town Hall and at the Hampton Bays Community Center on Ponquogue Avenue. The phones are cleaned of any old numbers and data and then refurbished to dial 911 only. Donors can download a tax deductible form at [www.securethecall.org](http://www.securethecall.org)



## RECYCLING CELL PHONES FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY

## DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

In an effort to keep unused or expired drugs from finding their way into the wrong hands, or from polluting our waterways, Southampton Town Police sponsored the annual Drug Take Back Day in April and it was a big success!

More than 88 pounds of medicine were disposed of properly at drop off points at our Community Centers in Flanders, Hampton Bays and Bridgehampton. For those who missed the event, a drop off disposal can is located in the lobby of Police Headquarters in Hampton Bays.

## OPERATION MEDICINE CABINET



SAFELY  
DISPOSE OF  
UNWANTED  
PRESCRIPTION  
DRUGS

## HYBRID CAR EXPO CELEBRATES EARTH DAY

More than ten manufacturers went green on Earth Day when they participated in the Town's first Hybrid and Electric Car Expo at Good Ground Park in Hampton Bays. Visitors got an up-close look at more than 20 different electric and hybrid models on display and learned about rebates and incentives available. Participants also received tips on home energy efficiency and learned how to sign-up for a home energy audit. Tiny Hamptons, a local manufacturer of a mobile tiny house, displayed one of the energy efficient models. A face painter for the kids and a food truck from a local restaurant made for a very festive and informative Earth Day.



### SWEET TREATS!

On Saturday April 14, Councilwomen Christine Scalera and Julie Lofstad were honored to be judges in the "Bake Yourself Happy" competition. This contest, open to 5th through 12th graders, gives our kids the opportunity to showcase their baking (and creative) skills! Baking is shown to be a great stress reliever, and it's also a very enjoyable experience for all the tasters, especially the judges! Congratulations to everyone who participated, and thanks to the Southampton Youth Bureau and volunteers for making this event happen.



### LEADERSHIP AWARDS

The Southampton Town Anti-Bias Task Force held its first-ever Community Leadership Award Ceremony on May 7th. Councilman John Bouvier, the committee liaison, along with members of the Task Force, honored community members Sylvia Baruch, Bonnie Cannon, Dianne Rulnick, Kathryn Szoka and Richard Wingfield. "These leaders have embodied true leadership, community service and through their work have demonstrated the values included in the committee's mission statement," said Councilman Bouvier. The Anti-Bias Task Force is comprised of community members who meet monthly to address bias and discrimination issues that may be impacting our community.

## A PITCH FOR A NEW COMMUNITY CENTER IN WESTHAMPTON

Councilman John Bouvier and Supervisor Jay Schneiderman recently met with representatives of Rechler Equity Partners to discuss the possibility of constructing a new Community Center at the Rechler Business Park at Old Riverhead Road in Westhampton. "The need for a Community Center in the Westhampton area is clear," said Councilman John Bouvier. "I am very optimistic and grateful to both the community and Rechler Equity that we now have an opportunity to make this long awaited dream a reality," he said. Councilman Bouvier and members of the community toured the Hampton Bays and Flanders facilities to get an understanding of how they operate. Although it is still early in the process, the Board would like to lease a 4,000-5,000 square foot building that would be constructed by the Rechlers and would meet Town specifications.





## TOWN HALL DESIGNATED GREEN ZONE

Town Hall is going green! Southampton Town Councilwoman Christine Scalera recently enlisted the help of the American Green Zone Alliance (AGZA) to certify the Town Hall property as a “Green Zone,” the second in the Town, after the East Quogue Village Green. The Town’s Parks and Recreation crews use the environmentally friendly battery operated mowers and other landscape equipment that are quieter and less polluting than gas powered equipment to maintain the landscaping around Town Hall. The Town hopes the high visibility use of this equipment will encourage private landscape contractors to follow suit. When the East Quogue Village Green was designated a “Green Zone” it became the first location on the East Coast to earn that distinction!



## LYZON HAT SHOP OPENING

The newly restored Lyzon Hat Shop will be open to visitors this summer starting on June 30th. The restoration project along Main Street in Hampton Bays is now complete and ready for its close-up! The shop was once a thriving business in the 1920’s. People from all over the world, including royalty, ordered unique one of a kind hats from Walter King. Several dozen of his beautiful hats are on display for people to inspect the quality and workmanship that went into his designs. The Town used CPF money to restore the building and it will now be managed by the Hampton Bays Historical and Preservation Society. The opening day event will include a barber shop chorus and light refreshments.



## GOOD GROUND ON STAGE

The summer 2018 Good Ground Park concert series schedule is planned with several local favorites returning to play at the amphitheater, Good Ground on Stage. A dozen events are on the schedule this summer, including the return of the very popular “Nancy Atlas Project,” “Gene Casey and the Lone Sharks” and “Mambo Loco”. This year also marks the debut of “Shakespeare in the Park”. For a complete event schedule, go to the Town’s website at [www.southamptontownny.gov/GGP-ON-STAGE](http://www.southamptontownny.gov/GGP-ON-STAGE)

Good Ground Park will have an additional children’s playground, thanks in part to a generous donation by Douglas Elliman Real Estate, who donated \$50,000 to assist with building of a playground designed for kids ages 5-11. A toddler playground was installed last year when the park was first opened. “We really appreciate the partnership with Douglas Elliman,” said Supervisor Jay Schneiderman as he received the check from Regional Vice President for Sales, Carl Benincasa, former Assistant Town Attorney. There will be a dedication for the added playground on June 14th.