



E SOUTHAMPTON TOWN NEWSLETTER

JAY SCHNEIDERMAN, SUPERVISOR

JOHN BOUVIER, COUNCILMAN • CHRISTINE P SCALERA, COUNCILWOMAN

JULIE LOFSTAD, COUNCILWOMAN • TOMMY JOHN SCHIAVONI, COUNCILMAN

2019 TOWN BUDGET

The Southamptontownny Board adopted the 2019 Town Budget which continues to reduce taxes while making necessary infrastructure improvements and meeting growing demands. The new spending plan includes a 1% tax rate reduction, \$23 million debt reduction, infrastructure and facilities improvements and an increase in available Highway funding. The 2019 budget provides funding for several capital project improvements, including the renovation of the Ponquogue Beach Pavilion, an elevated walkway to Hot Dog Beach, a new restroom for Good Ground Park, creation of the Riverside Maritime/Pedestrian Trail and development of the Lobster Inn Marina. "Some of these improvements are long overdue," said Supervisor Jay Schneiderman. "We are in a position now to make these improvements without placing an undue burden on taxpayers." The approved budget also included a reorganization plan that consolidated offices that performed related functions.

<http://www.southamptontownny.gov/2019-Budgets>



RIVERSIDE TRAFFIC CIRCLE

It's been smooth sailing for drivers through the Riverside Traffic Circle since the roundabout was turned into a two lane, egg shaped convergence in an area long thought to be a major congestion point. The \$5.3 million transformation was finished two months ahead of schedule! At a ribbon cutting October 26th, members from both the Southamptontownny Board and Riverhead Town Board celebrated with County officials, State elected officials, the contractors, local businesses and members of FRNCA. "Suffolk County and its Department of Public Works should be recognized for the success of this important project," said Supervisor Jay Schneiderman. "This is a dream long realized from my work as a Suffolk County Legislator. This new and improved traffic circle will relieve traffic congestion and give Riverside the added boost needed to revitalize the area."



LONG ISLAND HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Almost 300 potential first time home buyers entered a lottery for a chance to purchase an affordable home at Southamptontownny Pointe. The lottery was conducted at Southamptontownny Town Hall, Thursday, October 25th, for 15 condominium townhouses that were recently built on Village Green Drive, off of County Road 39. The new homes feature 2 bedrooms and 1½ baths. Eligible households must meet median income requirements under 2018-2019 income levels established by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. The homes are being offered through the cooperative efforts of the Town of Southamptontownny, Fairfield

Southamptontownny, LLC and the Long Island Housing Partnership. There were 280 applications that received ranking numbers from the lottery. Those applicants must now submit formal applications to the Long Island Housing Partnership to be screened for home ownership.



PONQUOGUE BEACH FACILITY IS NOW UNDERGOING RENOVATIONS

The Ponquogue Beach Facility is now undergoing renovations following a groundbreaking ceremony October 30th. Southamptontownny Town Board Members joined Parks and Recreation, other Town Staff and members of the community to kick off the \$3 million renovation. The Beach Pavilion will get a facelift that includes new IPE decking and railings, siding, roofing, cupolas, interior hardware and finishes, expanded deck space, a new entrance, additional shower, completely renovated restrooms and parking lot improvements. The renovation follows input from hundreds of residents at community meetings and through polling. During the construction there will be no public access to the facility, but beach access for permitted vehicles will be provided through a designated point of entry just east of the facility. The renovation is expected to be completed by Memorial Day weekend 2019.





HAMPTON BUSINESS DISTRICT AT GABRESKI AIRPORT

More business space will soon be available at the Hampton Business District at Gabreski Airport. A “Topping off” ceremony was held on October 16th for the latest round of construction on the Park’s newest building, 215 Roger’s Way. Members of the Southampton Town Board joined Rechler Equity Partners to recognize the \$10.8 million dollar investment with the start of the third of nine planned buildings for the industrial park, which has already proven to be an invaluable asset to East End businesses and its economy. “It is great to see the Hampton Business District continue to grow and strengthen the regional economy,” said Southampton Town Supervisor Jay Schneiderman. “This business district is home to many new and growing businesses, and keeping the promise of local jobs is critical to our area.” A local produce company, ADS Management, which is a fourth generation family owned operation, will occupy almost half of the 64,000 square foot building, bringing more than 100 jobs to the new location.

FISHERIES TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP HAS BEEN FORMED

In an effort to make sure various voices are heard on the prospect of using more wind energy in open waters, a Fisheries Technical Working Group (FTWG) has been formed and Southampton Town Councilwoman Julie Lofstad, who comes from a commercial fishing family, was part of the discussion at their first meeting which was held in New York City on Friday, November 2nd. The group is made up of commercial fishermen and those who support the commercial fishing industry, offshore wind developers and several state and federal agencies, such as the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Federal Agency (BOEM), and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority Corporation (NYSERDA). “The goal of the FTWG is to have a real conversation between stakeholders and developers and come up with workable solutions that allow the two industries to co-exist,” said Councilwoman Lofstad. The first meeting ended with some concrete objectives such as, better communications between the developers and fishermen, a realistic timeline and mapping the many offshore projects that are proposed for the eastern seaboard, and good data directly from fishermen that will be useful to developers. The next meeting is being planned for early 2019. Anyone interested in offering input is advised to contact Councilwoman Lofstad at jlofstad@southamptontownny.gov



HALLOWEEN AT THE HAMPTON BAYS COMMUNITY CENTER

A magician performed tricks and kids had lots of treats at a Halloween party at the Hampton Bays Community Center on October 27th. Over 100 people, including kids in costume and parents, turned out for the Halloween event. The festivities were originally scheduled for Good Ground Park, but due to a Nor’easter that hit the area, the party was moved inside to the Ponquogue Avenue location. The little goblins were treated to arts and crafts, including pumpkin decorating on pumpkins donated by Pumpkintown. There was also a costume contest with prizes sponsored by the Hampton Bays Civic Association. Members of the Southampton Town Board served as judges, including Councilwoman Julie Lofstad, who dressed as the scarecrow from the Wizard of Oz.

NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH EVERY OCTOBER

For the seventh consecutive year, in order to bring attention and awareness to those harmed by bullying and cyber-bullying and to enhance action already taken by school districts, Southampton Town Councilwoman Christine Scalera and the Town’s Youth Bureau partnered with the National Bullying Prevention Center in recognizing the month of October as “Bullying Prevention Awareness Month” in the Town of Southampton.

The focus of the annual event was on education for parents, youth and school officials. However, this year’s Bullying Prevention Summit brought together young Southampton Town leaders to discuss effective bullying and cyber-bullying prevention strategies and to learn skills and resources that will empower them to be role models. “Each year has been a great success and this year exceeded my expectations,” said Councilwoman Christine Scalera. “We brought together over 35 middle school students to participate in this year’s Summit, which was held at the Hampton Bays Middle School on October 24th, where the students participated in interactive activities with the Imaginarium Theater and Act Two Drama Troupe, and also shared school specific strategies with staff from HUGS, Inc. and heard from presenters for the LGBT Network.” For more information on bullying prevention strategies, please contact the Southampton Youth Bureau at 631-702-2425 or visit www.southamptontownny.gov/youthbureau

