



E NEWSLETTER

SOUTHAMPTON TOWN BOARD MEMBERS

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



GOOD GROUND PARK OPENS FOR COMMUNITY DAY

It was a picture perfect day in the Park as Good Ground Park in Hampton Bays was introduced to the public for the first time on October 15th! About two thousand people turned out for the day long Community Day Celebration. From face painting and pumpkin decorating in the plaza to the entertainers on stage in the amphitheater, park goers were treated to quite a show! After 8 months of construction, the 36 acre park was opened to the public and from what we hear from visitors; it's a hit! The day began with a children's magician on stage and a children's musician who brought kids up on stage. There was a great mix of entertainers, including jazz, blues, standards and light rock. Local food trucks cooked up a storm in the park and Main Street merchants report they were busy with heavy foot traffic coming and going to the park. "This is exactly what was imagined when the park was first planned more than 10 years ago", said Supervisor Jay Schneiderman. "We want it to serve as a cultural and social anchor for the Hampton Bays community." The park is now closed to allow crews to work on the next phases of construction with a grand opening planned next summer.

BULLYING PREVENTION FORUMS A SUCCESS

In an effort to prevent all forms of bullying including cyber-bullying, Southampton Town is taking the initiative to find a solution to this growing problem. For the fifth consecutive year, in order to bring attention and awareness to those impacted by 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 and Awareness Month". Two forums were held during the month of October. "These events continue to be a great success, but as the problem persists, often with traumatic and even tragic consequences, it is my hope that these annual seminars continue to inform, provide strategies and tools and perhaps most importantly create awareness for school administrators, teachers, parents and our kids," said Councilwoman Scalera, "We need to reinforce a policy of zero tolerance when it comes to bullying. We owe it to our children."



PONQUOGUE BEACH PAVILION MAY SOON GET A MAKEOVER

We had a very good response to our survey to help decide what improvements might be desired at the Ponquogue Beach facility. And, overwhelmingly the respondents said they wanted to maintain the basic structure but upgrade the facility. We had over 1300 responses to the survey. Now we're ready to have the public weigh in on initial design concepts at a public meeting on November 15th at 6:00 p.m. at the Hampton Bays Elementary School Cafetorium on Ponquogue Avenue. The Parks and Recreation Department will update the community on the survey and some of the proposed upgrades. Our consultants, Savik and Murray, will present their findings from the survey and discuss some preliminary concept renderings.

PARKING AMNESTY PROGRAM WAS SUCCESSFUL

Parking ticket violators took advantage of the Town of Southampton's recent ticket amnesty program. More than \$50,000.00 was collected this summer, some from old parking tickets dating back to 2012. There were more than 2300 outstanding tickets from January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2015. Violators were given a chance to pay the fine without added penalties. The parking tickets ranged in price from \$280.00 for parking illegally in a handicapped zone to \$75.00 for a regular parking ticket. During the Amnesty program from June 1st through July 31st, violators were only charged an additional \$5.00 administrative charge.

TOWN SEEKS COMMUNITY INPUT IN FUTURE DESIGNS FOR HAMPTON BAYS BUSINESS DISTRICT

Hampton Bays residents are invited to a public meeting to help plan the future look of the downtown business district. The meeting is on the design charrette to develop a form based code for the Hampton Bays downtown district. This is an opportunity for residents to discuss design ideas with the consultant to develop what is known as a "look book" for the community. The form base code will help future developers adhere to structural designs that the community agrees reflects their own identity. The meeting will be held Monday Nov. 14th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Hampton Bays Community Center.

We Want Your Ideas!

Please join us to explore ideas for the future shaping of Downtown Hampton Bays

Streetscapes • Building Designs • Pedestrian & Vehicular Connections



Monday, November 14, 2016
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Hampton Bays Senior Center
25 Ponquogue Avenue



ZOMBIE GRANT

The Town of Southampton was awarded a \$175,000.00 grant to help remedy vacant and abandoned properties that are commonly referred to as "Zombie" homes. The grant comes from the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) through the New York State Housing Stabilization Fund. The Town plans to use these funds to develop a database of "zombie" properties, to expand community outreach, to prevent "zombie" homes, to train municipal officials to explore strategies to address vacant properties and to add a part-time code enforcement staff member to focus on maintenance issues. "We want to help people stay in their homes and connect them to services that will do just that", said Supervisor Jay Schneiderman, "while addressing the negative impact these homes have on the neighborhood."

SAFE MEDICATION DISPOSAL

Have you ever wondered what to do about those expired medications or pills you no longer take? You shouldn't flush them down the toilet or throw them in the garbage! They can be harmful to the environment! There is a safer way to dispose of those unused medications. On Saturday October 22nd, the Town of Southampton Police Department, Youth Bureau and Councilwoman Julie Lofstad joined forces with the Riverhead Community Awareness Program in Flanders at the Crohan Center and sponsored a Medication Take-Back Day. Residents were urged to turn in unused or expired medication to be safely disposed of, so that these substances don't enter our waterways or are not used in an inappropriate manner.

Even though the weather didn't cooperate, the event was a resounding success! "We collected over 25 lbs. of medication", said Councilwoman Lofstad. "What a great way to do your part to save the environment and turning in expired medication makes your medicine cabinet a safer place!" The group hopes to hold another Medication Take Back Day next year. There is also a safe medication drop off receptacle at the Southampton Town Police Department.



DOZENS ATTEND FIRST REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OUTSIDE TOWN HALL

The Town Board held its first regular Town Board meeting outside of Town Hall October 25th at the Hampton Bays Community Center. The Town Board has held work sessions and special meetings outside of Town Hall before but this is the first regular Town Board meeting held elsewhere. It was made possible by having Cablevision install a live feed hook-up for SEA TV to broadcast the meetings. Now that it is possible, more Town Board meetings might be held there in the future. The Town is also considering a similar hook-up for the Crohan Center in Flanders. "This is a great way for us to bring government into the community," said Supervisor Jay Schneiderman. "We believe more people will participate in these meetings if they are held closer to their homes."

LITTER TRUCK MAKES ITS DEBUT

Southampton Town has rolled out its new Litter Truck! The sweeper is a Tenant 4300 ATLV self-propelled all terrain vacuum. The compact vehicle functions well on grassed areas, fence lines, pedestrian areas, athletic fields as well as basketball and tennis courts. "This Litter Truck will help our Parks crews get to those hard to reach areas and to keep our recreational facilities litter free", said Supervisor Jay Schneiderman.

