

# THE SUPERVISOR'S BULLETIN

Vol. 1 , No. 4 A Communication from Southampton Town Supervisor Anna Throne-Holst August 2010

## *A Message From the Supervisor*

*To My Colleagues,*

It's been a busy seven months since taking office and the summer has seen no let up! Among the many things my office has been working on, I am especially pleased about the agreement we have reached with the two unions that represent the bulk of the Town's employees – the Patrolman's Benevolent Association and the Civil Service Employees Association – marking a positive shift in labor relations in Southampton Town. I believe the recent contracts with the PBA and CSEA represent not only a fair and equitable agreement for all parties but a new paradigm for management and employees working together.

As a result, the PBA has agreed to more modest pay raises over the next four years, but is on track to move to steady work shifts, a change that will result in substantial quality of life benefits for all of the officers with less impact on the taxpayers.

The CSEA has also agreed to more modest pay raises over the next four years, but will receive enhanced health care benefits, the same as those earned by other Town employees – an exchange that is essentially equivalent to a greater increase in pay, and which

will provide enhanced insurance protection for employees and their families.

I am very thankful and appreciative for both memberships' sensitivity towards the challenging economic times we are all grappling with, as well as the Town's strained financial condition. Additionally, I must thank the leaders of the PBA and CSEA for their willingness to come to the table and commit to working out an arrangement that is fair and beneficial to both sides, and without resorting to arbitration.

It has been my honor and privilege to participate in these negotiations and I am very proud and pleased of both the process and dialogue that enabled us to arrive at these results, as well as the actual agreements and what they mean for our hard-working employees.

Thank you all for your continued dedication to this great Town.

It is a true pleasure and privilege to serve as your Supervisor.

Sincerely,



### UPCOMING MEETINGS

- *Town Board Meeting*  
Tuesday, August 10 at 1:00 p.m.  
Location: Town Board Room
- *Town Board Work Session*  
Thursday, August 12 at 9:30 a.m.  
Location: Town Board Room
- *Town Board Work Session*  
Thursday, August 19 at 9:30 a.m.  
Location: Town Board Room
- *Town Board Meeting*  
Tuesday, August 24 at 6:00 p.m.  
Location: Town Board Room
- *Town Board Work Session*  
Thursday, August 26 at 9:30 a.m.  
Location: Town Board Room



## Southampton Takes Title: Best Captain

On June 27, Supervisor Throne-Holst answered Riverhead Supervisor Sean Walter's challenge to a race – in boats made only from cardboard and duct tape and paint. The two paddled out before an audience of approximately 2,000 on the Peconic River Front.

"It was a fabulous event," said Throne-Holst, who won the race and took the "Best Captain" title. "The turnout was terrific and the boats were genius. I'm looking forward to next year!" she said.

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## **Town Efficiency Study Underway: Focuses on Gathering Objective Data and Employee Input**

A new efficiency study, focused on understanding the needs and processes of town departments is currently underway. Bowne Management Systems, the consulting firm conducting the study, is in the process of assessing and analyzing town operations in order to identify areas for improvement. The study, which includes substantial employee input from surveys and interviews, will evaluate how departments are run in terms size, skills, structure, management and costs. Bowne's methodology will include the use of "Op-scan protocol," a fact based and accurate diagnostic tool that will aid in developing opportunities to enhance town operations and save money.

"When considering operational effectiveness, I believe deci-

sions should be based on objective data when possible – and this process will do just that. Additionally, the thorough involvement of employee input in Bowne's process makes it especially attractive, in my opinion. I do hope the departments view this as a positive exercise – but that is certainly the intent – that will ultimately ensure they have the appropriate resources to run the most effective and efficient outfits possible," said Throne-Holst.

The efficiency study began on July 8 with the departments of Land Management, General Services and Code Enforcement and will likely take about 10-14 minutes to complete – in time for some of the recommendations to be included in the 2011 budget.

### ***Meet Bernadette Giblin: Sustainability Coordinator***



Bernadette Giblin was appointed Sustainability Coordinator for the Town on June 1 and is charged with heading-up the new Office of Energy and Efficiency, a position and program fully funded by a grant from the federal Department of Energy.

Charged with saving the Town money, increasing its efficiency and reducing its carbon footprint, Ms. Giblin will work closely with department heads, constituents and the Town's Sustainability Committee to identify and implement new sustainability measures.

A graduate of Smith College, Ms. Giblin comes to the Town by way of Massachusetts, where she transformed her company in Massachusetts into one of the leading socially responsible providers of environmentally safe and efficient land care services in that state. She is the author of the "Ten Step Guide to Sustainable Grounds Policy," written for Practice Greenhealth, a national non-profit institution that provides greening tools and strategies to hospitals. Ms. Giblin is also featured in the documentary "The Truth About Cats, Dogs & Lawn Chemicals," which was funded by the Newman Foundation.

Trained in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design – or LEED standards, Ms. Giblin is a member of the Long Island chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council and sits on the Green Schools Committee. She is also the founder of the "Paul's Memorial Garden Project," in which local residents and high school students work together to grow organic produce donating the harvest to those in need.

Ms. Giblin's office is located in Long-Range Planning section of the Land Management Office on the first floor. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to stop by and say hello.

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