

# The PORT TIMES RECORD

PORT JEFFERSON • BELLE TERRE • PORT JEFFERSON STATION • TERRYVILLE

Vol. 36, No. 43

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\$1.00



**Eye on the Street: Sewers**  
Locals weigh in on the ongoing  
wastewater debate in Suffolk County  
**A13**



**INSIDE**  
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## 'TEARS FROM HEAVEN'

Despite rain, Port Jeff hosts 9/11  
memorial service — A9



From left, T.J. Hatter, Long Island director of intergovernmental affairs for New York State Attorney General Letitia James; former New York State Assemblyman Steve Englebright; Anthony Rotoli Jr., president of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America Vigiano Brothers Lodge 3436; and Town of Brookhaven Councilmember Jonathan Kornreich. Photo by Raymond Janis



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# Hundreds travel to Three Village and Port Jeff for Culper Spy Day

BY RITA J. EGAN  
RITA@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

Saturday’s heat and humidity couldn’t spoil the enthusiasm of local history lovers as they embarked on a journey back in time.

Three Village Historical Society, Tri-Spy Tours and several area historical and cultural organizations hosted the 9th Culper Spy Day on Saturday, Sept. 9. The annual event celebrates regional history, especially the Culper Spy Ring that operated during the Revolutionary War.

According to Kimberly Phyfe, TVHS development coordinator, more than 1,000 people stopped by the historical society’s property. Other locations were sprinkled throughout Setauket, Stony Brook and Port Jefferson.

Phyfe said more than 1,000 samples of curry soup and colonial waffles were handed out at the table for Stirring up History with Diane Schwindt from Ketcham Inn, while historian Beverly Tyler, dressed as Abraham Woodhull, wax sealed 125 “spy” letters. According to Phyfe, the Huntington Militia’s cannon firing and musket drills were the most popular feature.

“They drew a huge crowd for all three demonstrations, and everyone walked away wowed by the experience,” she said. “The 23rd Regiment of Foot caused a fantastic scene, rounding up a rebel colonist and tying him to a tree for having the treasonous Declaration of Independence in his pocket and speaking out against the king. Not to worry, a brave band of musket-trained children ran to his rescue with the aid of General Washington.”

Guests were also able to tour the Spies exhibit

inside TVHS headquarters, and visit George and Martha Washington along with their squire at their tented field office. For the first time this year, the event was kicked off with a ceremonial raising of the Betsy Ross flag.

Participants could also take docent-led tours of the Setauket Neighborhood House; visit Patriots Rock, where the Battle of Setauket took place Aug. 22, 1777; and tour the Caroline Episcopal Church and Setauket Presbyterian Church as well as view the gravestones of famous residents and Patriot soldiers.

At Emma S. Clark Memorial Library, history lovers listened to live music while children played outdoor games, and those entering the library’s lobby viewed 18th-century items on display.

Herb Mones, Three Village Community Trust president, said TVCT members and Boy Scout Troop 427, Setauket, greeted hundreds of visitors at Patriots Rock Saturday to discuss the importance of the glacial erratic boulder and its role in history.

“There was a real enthusiasm and interest in this trust property,” Mones said. “We’re always thrilled to participate in Culper Spy Day — a celebration of our community’s colonial heritage.”

Over in East Setauket, “Big Bill the Tory” (aka William Jayne III), gave tours and told stories at the Sherwood-Jayne House. Visitors to Stony Brook’s Long Island Museum viewed the newly discovered Culper Spy Ring letter by Benjamin Tallmadge to Robert Townsend. In Port Jefferson, the Drowned Meadow Cottage Museum presented the new exhibit, Privateers: Pirates with Permission.



Scenes from the 9th annual Culper Spy Day event Saturday, Sept. 9, celebrated across Three Village and Port Jefferson. Photos by Rita J. Egan





# *Elect* **Dan PANICO**

*for* **Brookhaven Town Supervisor**



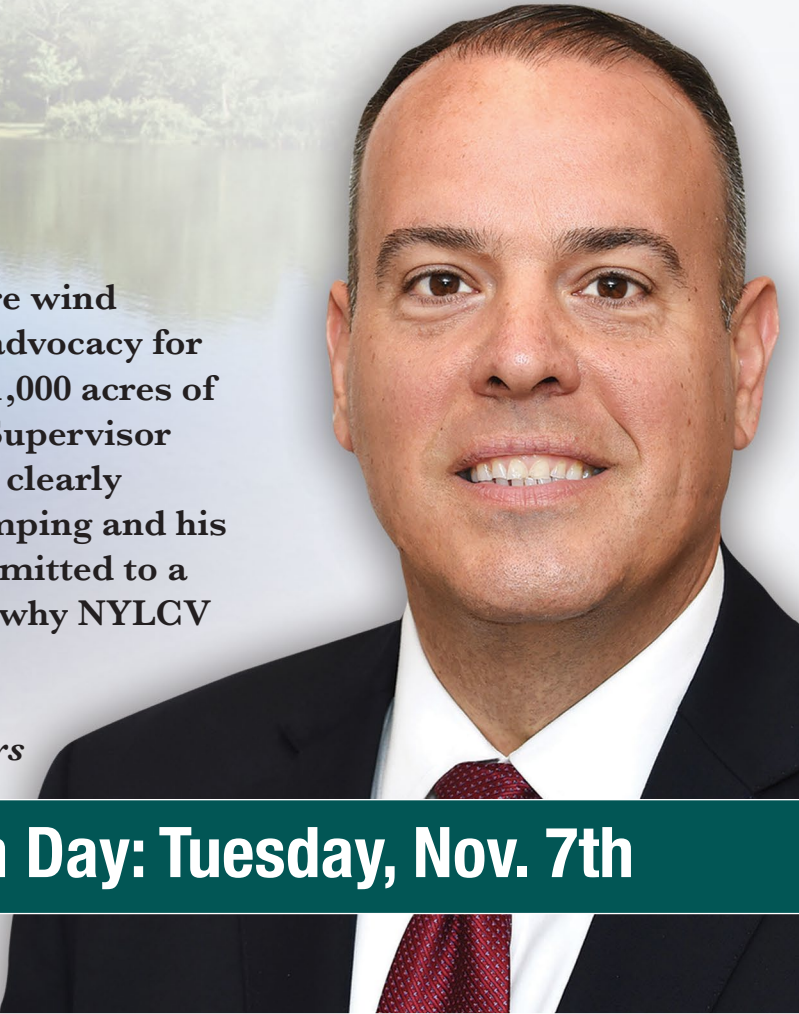
- Dan Panico preserved over 1,000 acres of open space in Brookhaven Town.
- Dan Panico began the flourishing oyster farming program, seeding our bays for naturally cleaner waters.



"From his help securing the transformative Sunrise Wind offshore wind cable—which will power nearly 600,000 homes sustainably—to his advocacy for solar panels on municipal buildings to his work preserving over 1,000 acres of open space and farmland, Brookhaven Councilman and Deputy Supervisor Daniel Panico's commitment to conservation and clean energy is clearly impressive. Combined with his tireless efforts against illegal dumping and his support for composting and cleanups, and you have a leader committed to a greener, healthier future for the Town of Brookhaven, and that is why NYLCV Proudly supports Daniel Panico for Town Supervisor."

*Julie Tighe, President of the New York League of Conservation Voters*

**DAN PANICO**  
*is proudly endorsed by the*  
**NEW YORK LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS**  
*for proven leadership in the conservation of our environment.*  
*Dan is also endorsed by the*  
**SIERRA CLUB**



**Early Voting: Oct 28 - Nov 5 | Election Day: Tuesday, Nov. 7th**

Paid for by the Friends of Dan Panico



# Port Jefferson school board reviews summer programs

BY NASRIN ZAHED  
DESK@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

The Port Jefferson School District held its second Board of Education meeting of the 2023-24 school year Tuesday, Sept. 12, highlighting the success of districtwide summer programs and the expansion of year-round enrichment opportunities.

Jodi Cahill, director of special education, presented a detailed recount of the Extended School Year Summer Program. It is a 30-day program geared for students K-8 with moderate to severe disabilities to maintain skill levels acquired in the previous school year and prevent summer regression. This program is recommended to students based on their individualized education plans, known as IEPs.

Cahill emphasized that while this program is tailored as a continued learning opportunity for students to carry skills from last June into the following school year, it is still fun and engaging. Weekly curriculum themes, stimulating activities and field trips were in place to maintain and encourage student engagement.

Michael Caravello, music and fine arts director, took to the floor to discuss the Summer Music Camp, congratulating the program on 21 years of operation. The camp caters to students at all levels of musical talent to both prepare them for entrance and continued participation in band and orchestra programs. It also offers ukulele classes and a NYSSMA jumpstart program.

Caravello added that the camp aimed to provide students with a relaxing and open atmosphere to begin or continue their exploration of music while teaching the importance of collaboration and problem-solving among peers.

Adam Sherrard, director of health, physical education and athletics, presented on the success of the Athletic Summer Camps' second year of running. With 20 camps advertised to students, the total offerings doubled from the program's initial rollout in 2021-22. Over 80 student volunteers aided coaches and instructors in facilitating these programs, some even being recent graduates who took pleasure in participating.

The camps served as forums for students to be active, work on personal health and form connections between older and younger peers.

The summer programs ebbed to a close with the Summer Academic Enrichment Program. Two camps were offered to students grades six to 12, introducing them to the world of coding and drones. The drone camp was made possible by a grant proposal to the Port Jefferson Royal Education Foundation, providing \$2,000 for the district that was used to purchase 10 drones for student use.



Port Jefferson school district aims to expand summer programs for drone technologies. Photo from Metro Graphics

Robert Neidig, the district's assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, said that the hope is now to expand summer programs to create more opportunities for

students from the elementary level and beyond.

He stated that the district has applied to the state to use Title IV federal financial funding to create enrichment opportunities

throughout the academic school year, with approval pending.

The Board of Education will reconvene on Tuesday, Oct. 10, at 7:30 p.m.

## FDA approves new COVID-19 booster from Pfizer and Moderna

BY DANIEL DUNAIEF  
DESK@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved a new COVID-19 booster, which will protect against the virus's circulating strain.

With hospitalizations and cases rising in Suffolk County and nationwide, single booster shots from Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna should be available soon.

Local doctors recommended that people at the highest risk consider getting the shot.

That includes those with other medical issues, such as a 45-year-old smoker or a 65-year-old with diabetes.

Health care providers generally believe people who recently had COVID have at least three months of protection, although no definitive rule exists.

"If you had it in August, you probably don't need to get a booster now," said Dr. Sharon Nachman, chief of the division of pediatric infectious diseases at Stony Brook Children's Hospital. "If you had it in

January and you're high risk, you should get it now."

Nachman added that no study has indicated the age at which patients should get a booster shot.



Photo by Katja Fuhlert from Pixabay

People should consult their physicians to determine how their underlying health can affect the decision to get an updated vaccine.

"That gets back to the doctor-patient relationship," Nachman said.

People who are 70 years old and planning a cruise that stops in several ports might want to get a shot at least two weeks before they travel because "the last thing you want happening is to be hospitalized in a foreign country," Nachman said.

Nachman suggested that this vaccine, like the others that people have taken, won't prevent illnesses but will keep people from shedding the virus and can reduce the symptoms and duration of an infection.

The FDA approval of the current vaccine is welcome news because it is a "good match" for the current strain, Nachman indicated.

It's difficult to predict how much protection the current vaccine will provide for whatever strain might be circulating in February.

When a higher percentage of the population receives the vaccine, the likelihood of new variants declines, she added.



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# POLICE BLOTTER

The following incidents have been reported by Suffolk County Police:

## CAUGHT ON CAMERA

Do you recognize these two men? Photo from SCPD

## Wanted for questioning in quick change scam

Suffolk County Crime Stoppers and Suffolk County Police Sixth Precinct Crime Section officers are seeking the public's help to identify and locate two men who allegedly made a purchase at Uncle Giuseppe's Marketplace, located at 1108 Route 112 in

Port Jefferson Station, on August 16 and placed their change in their pocket. One of the men then asked again for change of \$400, which the clerk provided before realizing they had already been given their change. The men left the store on foot.

## Credit cards stolen from vehicle parked at Cedar Beach in Mount Sinai

Suffolk County Crime Stoppers and Suffolk County Police Sixth Squad detectives are seeking the public's help to identify and locate the woman who allegedly used stolen credit cards at a store in Shirley in August.

Credit cards were stolen from a vehicle parked in the parking lot of Cedar Beach in Mount Sinai on August 17. A short time later, a woman used the stolen credit cards at Kohl's, located at 999 Montauk Highway. The woman fled in a dark-colored vehicle.

Do you recognize this woman?  
Photo from SCPD

## Selden motorcyclist killed

Suffolk County Police Seventh Squad detectives are investigating a motorcycle crash that killed a Selden man on Sept. 9 in Manorville.

Henry L. Zdenek Jr. was riding a 2005 Harley-Davidson motorcycle southbound on Clancy Road, near Hampton Vista Drive, when he crossed into the northbound lanes in an attempt to pass other motorcycles at 10:28 a.m. Zdenek swerved back into the southbound lane to avoid oncoming traffic and struck a 2004 Harley-Davidson being ridden by Rosalind Zayas.

Zdenek, 59, of Selden, was transported via ambulance to Peconic Bay Medical Center in Riverhead where he was pronounced dead. Zayas, 62, of Central Islip, was taken to the same hospital for treatment of minor injuries.

Anyone with information on the crash is asked to call 631-852-8752.

— COMPILED BY HEIDI SUTTON

Visit [www.tbrnewsmedia.com/police](http://www.tbrnewsmedia.com/police) for more press releases from the Suffolk County Police.

Suffolk County Crime Stoppers offers a **cash reward** for information that leads to an arrest. Anyone with information about these incidents can contact Suffolk County Crime Stoppers to submit an anonymous tip by calling 1-800-220-TIPS.



# National Recovery Month a painful reminder of the cost of addiction ... and the way forward

As September heralds the approaching changes brought on during Earth’s annual autumnal shift, so too does it offer a pathway to a new life for many as it also marks National Recovery Month.

This comes on the heels of International Overdose Awareness Day which occurred on Aug. 31. This day, for too many families like mine, is a yearly reminder of the awful price exacted by the disease of addiction.

The lives lost during the ongoing opioid crisis in this country has impacted every community across this country as over 107,000 deaths of our fellow citizens occurred in 2022. Let that sink in. That is the equivalent of almost 300 people a day, or one person every four minutes or so who has died from a treatable and preventable disease.

Can you imagine the resources we would commit to deal with a crisis if every single day a jet plane with 300 people crashed? I dare say everything in the U. S. would come to a screeching halt until we determined how to deal with such a monumental tragedy.

Yet, the most pressing public health crisis in our country equal to or, at the moment, worse than COVID-19 typically gets short shrift but once a year from many public officials.

This year, many municipalities across Long Island, including Brookhaven Town “went purple” to honor and acknowledge Overdose Awareness day Thursday, Aug. 31 [See story, “Brookhaven goes purple, marks Opioid Awareness Month with calls for intervention,” Sept. 7, TBR News Media]. Many of my fellow

warriors in this battle gathered that day to remember and to raise our voices for those no longer here to speak for themselves.

I added my voice to this fight nearly 15 years ago to honor my nephew David Aaron Costell who, just shy of his 23rd birthday, succumbed to a heroin overdose on Feb. 12, 2007.

He was a sweet, loving if troubled young man who found recovery for a short time but sadly relapsed due to limited resources of support our society afforded him at the time. But, as the heroin crisis on Long Island became more prominent with Newsday reports of the death of Natalie Chiappa, an 18-year-old honors student, I knew it was time for action.

So, I ultimately became a family advocate involved with educating the press and running to Albany over many legislative sessions. It was poignantly sad but rewarding to work with many families across New York state to change public policy in order to save lives which otherwise would be lost to addiction.

We accomplished a lot over several years by the passage of better access to treatment to make it harder for insurance companies to refuse treatment so easily to those seeking help. Also, we passed the NYS 911 Good Samaritan Law, which encourages young people to seek help for anyone in overdose without fear of legal consequences.

We also advocated for the state I-STOP Law, which has nearly eliminated “doctor shopping” by addicts, and changed to an e-prescribing process, thereby enabling a real-time database when prescribing narcotics like opioids.

Along the way, I met many amazing



By Ira Costell

individuals I came to know and love who turned their grief into helping others. Not only did we help change laws, many I have come to know help change lives.

There is Avi Israel with Save the Michaels of the World in Buffalo and here on Long Island, Gabriel’s Giving Tree and Thomas’ Hope Foundation by my friends Paulette Phillipe and Linda Ventura with help from Teri Kroll, who lovingly offer services to families and individuals impacted by addiction. These are angels in action.

So I am grateful to Brookhaven Town, where I live, and other municipalities which scheduled similar activities on Aug. 31. It was one way to reduce the stigma of drug overdoses and to honor those souls around our area who no longer will share Thanksgiving dinners with us later this year.

It is not the first time nor the last time families will be at the steps of Town Hall and shed tears for the

loved ones as they recall their sons and daughters, husbands and wives, nieces and nephews or fathers and mothers whose lives were cut short by the scourge of opioids and fentanyl. It brings public attention to this crucial issue and hopefully can build support for more action in the future.

And, while this is a laudable goal, it is not nearly enough to hold hands, hug each other in grief and move on again until next August when Town Hall is lit up purple, the color for Overdose Awareness.

According to an annual report issued last year by State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli (D), Suffolk County experienced more cumulative deaths due to overdose than any other county in the state. And, it is easy to extrapolate that Brookhaven Town has more deaths than any other township in Suffolk County.

I submit it is incumbent on Brookhaven, as well as other towns and

the county, to invest more resources at the municipal level to address this absolute horror visited upon our families. It is not only essential to reduce the suffering from the loss of a loved one, but we lose untold hours of productivity in our workplaces due to the toxic stress of families with members still in active addiction.

Thankfully, Suffolk County just announced another round of nearly \$20 million from funds realized by the lawsuit against drug companies and Big Pharma in the opioid settlement case initiated by former Presiding Officer Rob Calarco [D-Patchogue].

I urge Brookhaven Town to promptly put together a proposal to obtain some of these funds to undertake initiatives which could provide better mental health and addiction services to our communities. Babylon Town, with less than half the population of Brookhaven, presently runs a facility called the Beacon Family Wellness Center, which provides drug and alcohol services as well as other important supports.

This could and should be a priority for the largest town in Suffolk, which is essentially Ground Zero for the addiction and overdose crisis on Long Island.

With Overdose Awareness Day past, it is important to remember. But it is more important to act substantially throughout the year with tangible programs which can assist people along the path to a healthy life. That is the true way to show support for National Recovery Month.

*Ira Costell is the president of the Port Jefferson Station/Terryville Civic Association.*

## Harvey Weiss, integrity personified

PREPARED BY ILONA WEISS-PEPE  
DESK@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

Harvey Weiss, a longtime Port Jefferson resident, died Saturday, Sept. 9. He was 89.

Born on May 28, 1934, Weiss moved to Port Jefferson in 1968, where he resided for the remainder of his life.

Weiss was a member of the U.S. armed forces stationed in Japan during the Korean War. After completing his military service, he attended the University of Houston, where he majored in engineering.

Weiss was a man of many talents. He worked as a flight test engineer at Grumman Aerospace for 34 years, assisting with the aircraft testing and lunar construction for the first landing on the moon.

He retired in 1992 and became a science educator at Bayside High School until his retirement in 1994. He served on the Village of Port Jefferson Planning Board for 15 years, where his knowledge of village code and ordinances was put toward meaningful public ends. He also worked as a village code inspector for years and for

the board of elections for decades.

Weiss was an accomplished jazz guitarist. He could pick up any instrument by ear and play, though his passion for jazz guitar was unrivaled. He played at LANs End and other venues throughout the 1960s and ’70s. Harvey was also a member of the Port Jefferson Country Club, where he played both golf and tennis. He was a passionate patriot with an elaborate knowledge of the U.S. Constitution. His love for the police and his country was strong, and he believed passionately in the principle of justice for

all. Throughout his life, Weiss personified the ideals of integrity, always doing the right thing even when no one was looking.

Family members remember Weiss as an open, compassionate and amazing human being.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; daughters Jessica and Ilona; brother Robert; stepchildren Mark and Eric; and grandchildren Marlo, Sam, Toni and Sal.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation at [givemichaeljfox.org](http://givemichaeljfox.org).

Harvey Weiss  
Photo courtesy Ilona Weiss-Pepe





LEGALS

To Place A Legal Notice  
Email: [legals@tbrnewsmedia.com](mailto:legals@tbrnewsmedia.com)

NOTICE OF SALE

Supreme Court  
County of Suffolk

Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee, in trust for the registered holders of Morgan Stanley ABS Capital I Trust 2005-NC2, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-NC2, Plaintiff

AGAINST

Estate of Thomas Seman, Thomas Seman's respective heirs-at-law, next-of-kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignees, lienors, creditors, and successors in interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise, any right, title or interest in the real property described in the complaint herein, et al, Defendant

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated July 31, 2018 and entered on August 10, 2018, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Brookhaven Town Hall, 1 Independence Hill, Farmingville, NY on September 28, 2023 at 10:00 AM premises known as 57 Superior Street, Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Suffolk, State of New York, SECTION: 311.00, BLOCK: 07.00, LOT: 024.000, District 0200. Approximate amount of judgment is \$187,206.35 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 607665/2015.

The aforementioned auction will be conducted in accordance with the District and Suffolk County Auction Plan in effect at this time.

Louis England, Referee

FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS  
WEISMAN & GORDON LLP  
53 Gibson Street  
Bay Shore, NY 11706

161560 8/31 4x ptr

REFeree'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF SUFFOLK THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE CWALT, INC., ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2004-J11, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-J11, Plaintiff - against - ALI KAYA, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on September 19, 2019. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Brookhaven Town Hall, 1 Independence Hill, Farmingville, NY 11738 on the 21st day of September, 2023 at 11:00 AM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being at Shoreham, in the Town of Brookhaven, County of Suffolk and State of New York. Premises known as 1 Pal Court, Shoreham, NY 11786. (Section: 127.00, Block: 01.00, Lot: 004.001) Approximate amount of lien \$798,353.03 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 029748/2013 formerly 29748/13. Karen C. Napolitano, Esq., Referee. McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 420 Lexington Avenue, Suite 840 New York, NY 10170 Tel. 347/286-7409 For sale information, please visit Auction.com at www. Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832 Dated: July 31, 2023 **During the COVID-19 health emergency, bidders are required to comply with all governmental health requirements in effect at the time of sale including but not limited to, wearing face coverings and maintaining social distancing (at least 6-feet apart) during the auction, while tendering deposit and at any subsequent closing. Bidders are also required to comply**

**with the Foreclosure Auction Rules and COVID-19 Health Emergency Rules issued by the Supreme Court of this County in addition to the conditions set forth in the Terms of Sale.**

162210 8/24 4x ptr

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 2004 FIRST FRANKLIN MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST MORTGAGE LOAN A S S E T - B A C K E D CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-FF1,

V.

ANTONIO RUSSO, ET. AL.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 24, 2018, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Suffolk, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 2004 FIRST FRANKLIN MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST MORTGAGE LOAN A S S E T - B A C K E D CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-FF1 is the Plaintiff and ANTONIO RUSSO, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the BROOKHAVEN TOWN HALL, 1 INDEPENDENCE HILL, FARMINGVILLE, NY 11738 on October 2, 2023 at 10:00AM, premises known as 26 GRIFFEN COURT, MILLER PLACE, NY 11764: District 0200, Section 026.00, Block 04.00, Lot 010.005:

**ALL THAT A CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED,SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN, COUNTY OF SUFFOLK AND STATE OF NEW YORK**

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #

005510/2013.

Robert G. Steinberg, Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. **All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. \*LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.**

162850 8/31 4x ptr

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF SUFFOLK Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-, Plaintiff AGAINST Joel Fumuso a/k/a Joel G. Fumuso, Michelle Fumuso a/k/a Michelle M. Wentz a/k/a Michelle Wentz, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered July 13, 2018, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Brookhaven Town Hall, 1 Independence Hill, Farmingville, NY 11738 on October 13, 2023 at 12:00PM, premises known as 5 Hemlock Road, Mount Sinai, NY 11766. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Brookhaven, County of Suffolk and State of New York, Section: 211.00 Block: 01.00 Lot: 048.000 District: 0200. Approximate amount of judgment \$598,156.25 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #605079/2016. The aforementioned auction will be conducted in accordance with the SUFFOLK County COVID-19 Protocols located on the Office of Court Administration (OCA) website (<https://ww2.nycourts.gov/Admin/oca.shtml>) and as such all persons must comply with social distancing, wearing masks and screening practices in effect at the time of this foreclosure sale. Annette Eaderesto, Esq., Referee FEIN, SUCH & CRANE, LLP

28 East Main Street, Suite 1800 Rochester, NY 14614 SPSNY430 77565

163830 9/14 4x ptr

VILLAGE OF BELLE TERRE PLANNING BOARD

A pre-hearing work session will begin at 7:00 PM

Please take notice that the Planning Board of the Inc. Village of Belle Terre will hold a public hearing at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at the Vincent Bove Belle Terre Community Center, 55 Cliff Road, Belle Terre, for the following applications for site plan review:

Section 9, Block 1, Lot 18 Mr. Isacc Halpern 2 Soundview Drive Applicant seeks approval for construction of a new inground swimming pool.

Section 6, Block 3, Lot 10 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Floyd 7 Cedar Road Applicant seeks approval for the construction of a new inground swimming pool and retaining wall.

Joanne Raso, Clerk Treasurer September 14, 2023

164230 9/14 1x ptr

Notice of formation of High Rollaz LLC Arts of Org. filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on July 16, 2023. Office location: Suffolk County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to the LLC: 42 Crystal Beach Blvd Moriches NY 11955. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

165100 9/14 6x ptr

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE IV, SEC. 85-55 (B) OF THE BUILDING ZONE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

THAT THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS WILL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS LAW, HOLD THE FOLLOWING, AT ONE INDEPENDENCE HILL, FARMINGVILLE, N.Y.: 1. A WORKSESSION ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 (BZA CONFERENCE ROOM - 1ST FLOOR) AT 4:00 P.M., 2. A PUBLIC HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 20, 2023** (2ND FLOOR AUDITORIUM) COMMENCING **AT 2:00 P.M.** (THE PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE LIVE STREAMED OVER THE INTERNET AT <http://brookhaventownny.igm2.com/Citizens/Default.aspx>, TO CONSIDER THE MATTERS LISTED BELOW and 3. A WORKSESSION ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2023, (PUBLIC DINING AREA 2ND FLOOR) COMMENCING AT THE END OF THE CALL OF EITHER THE 2:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING CAL-NDAR AND/OR THE END OF THE CALL OF THE ENTIRE PUBLIC CALENDAR, AS TIME PERMITS TO DISCUSS THE DECISION CAL-NDAR

**PORT TIMES RECORD**

**THE FOLLOWING CASES WILL COMMENCE AT 4 P.M.**

33. Vito Vescovo, 184 Hickory St., Port Jefferson Station, NY. Location: Southwest corner Two Rod Rd. and Hickory St., Port Jefferson Station. Applicant requests front yard setback variance from Two Rod Rd. for proposed attached garage addition; front yard setback variance from Two Rod Rd. for existing shed located in the front yard (not permitted); rear yard variance for existing inground swimming pool. (0200 16300 0400 047000)

CASES WILL BE HEARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BOARD.

HOWARD M. BERGSON  
CHAIRMAN

166190 9/14 1x ptr

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids will be received, publicly opened and read aloud at 11:00 a.m. in the

**LEGALS** *con't on pg. 16*



# 'Tears from heaven' rain down amid Port Jeff 9/11 memorial

BY RAYMOND JANIS  
EDITOR1@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

Rain couldn't halt the annual memorial service held on Monday, Sept. 11, in downtown Port Jefferson.

**VILLAGE** The Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America Vigiano Brothers Lodge 3436 hosts this event each year. The vigil honors the lives of brothers John and Joseph Vigiano, who died from the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in 2001.

Traditionally held outdoors in Harborfront Park, this year's iteration moved to the Village Center's drier interior, a last-minute accommodation courtesy of the Village of Port Jefferson.

"I don't care if it was raining or not raining, we were going to get this done," said Anthony Rotoli Jr., president of the lodge.

Lodge members, community residents, faith leaders and public officials gathered for a ceremony

of prayer and reflection. Town of Brookhaven Councilmember Jonathan Kornreich (D-Stony Brook), former New York State Assemblyman Steve Englebright (D-Setauket) and T.J. Hatter, Long Island director of intergovernmental affairs for New York State Attorney General Letitia James (D), each addressed the audience in turn.

Of the many annual events Kornreich attends, he referred to 9/11 memorial services as "the most solemn and most painful." Despite the lingering pain over two decades later, the councilmember maintained that the nation has endured.

"Although that day was a day of terror and sorrow and tragedy, the days that followed became days of community, hope and resolve," he said.

In the face of tragedy, Hatter maintained that "inspiration can come from many places." He asked those present to apply the examples of service and selflessness exhibited on 9/11 to their daily lives.



T.J. Hatter, Long Island director of intergovernmental affairs for New York State Attorney General Letitia James, speaks during a Sept. 11 memorial service at the Port Jefferson Village Center. Photo by Raymond Janis

"Hope is real," he said. "There is no such thing as false or too much hope. There is only hope. As we remember those who were lost that day, I want to thank you all for being here to help

keep that hope alive."

Englebright offered that services such as these can keep the memory of the 9/11 fallen heroes alive.

"We must never forget, always

remember, and always give thanks to those who ran into the buildings and up the stairway into heaven on behalf of all of us," he said. "The rain is the tears from heaven today."



From left, Earl L. Vandermeulen High School's Christopher Smith, Ava Romonyske, Joshua Kwon, Evan Monaghan, Andi Kelly, Mari Fukuto, Marco Puopolo, Kay Moran and Michael Caravello. Photo courtesy PJSD

# Port Jefferson students perform at 9/11 ceremony

Members of Earl L. Vandermeulen High School's music department paid tribute to those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001, by giving a moving performance during the Port Jefferson Fire

Department's annual 9/11 memorial service.

The students, led by Michael Caravello, director of music and fine arts, performed "The Star-Spangled Banner," "God Bless America" and taps.



# Hurricane Lee, a case study for future monster storms

BY DANIEL DUNAIEF  
DESK@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

City planners all along the eastern seaboard, meteorologists and people living in flood plains are all hoping the current projections for Hurricane Lee prove correct.

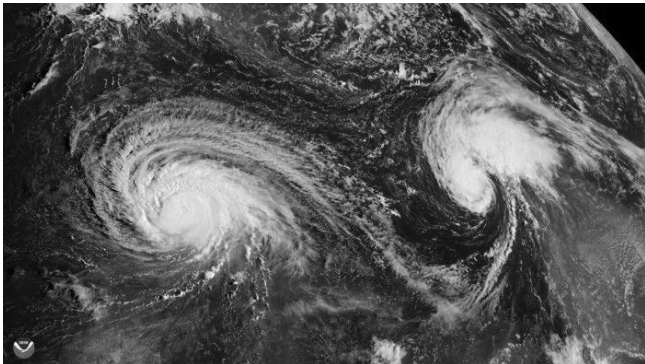
As of earlier this week, the hurricane, which became the fastest system to transition from a tropical storm into a Category 5 hurricane, was not expected to make direct landfall.

That, however, may only be a temporary reprieve, as the conditions that made such a rapid intensification of this monster storm, which, at one point, had wind speeds of 165 miles per hour, continue to exist during the rest of this hurricane season and will likely continue in future years.

Earlier this summer, a sensor off the coast of Florida recorded an ocean temperature of 101.1 degrees Fahrenheit, the highest ever recorded. That creates conditions that threaten marine life and provides the energy that fuels the growth and intensity of hurricanes.

“We know that the warmer the sea surface temperatures are that a storm interacts with, the increased likelihood that a storm will undergo rapid intensification,” said Kevin Reed, associate professor at the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences at Stony Brook University. As the Earth continues to warm, Reed added, he expects those conditions to persist.

The exact timing of when a storm will intensify “remains a significant challenge to the weather community,” Reed added. “These types of events continually remind us that we have some way to go in forecasting the intensity of storms, even over a couple of days’ time scale.”



Hurricane Lee, left, and Hurricane Margot churn over the Atlantic. Satellite photo from NOAA

While most of the models predict the storm will head north before tracking toward a potentially dangerous landfall, Reed added that “there remains a possibility that the storm could take a track that interacts with New York or New England” and that the hurricane is still multiple days away from the region.

At this point, Reed believes such a landfall is not impossible but is unlikely.

Even without a landfall nearby, forecasters warn that the storm could produce dangerous rip currents and rough waters around the middle Atlantic states toward the latter part of this week.

## NOAA forecast

One of the first things Reed does each morning and the last thing he does in the evening is check the National Hurricane

Center site, among others.

A month ago, the hurricane season, which runs from June 1 through Nov. 30, was relatively quiet.

At that point, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association updated its seasonal projection to suggest that the hurricane season would be above normal.

“Here we are, in the thick of things,” with multiple storms out there and high activity levels, Reed said. “It’s important to keep an eye on those storms. All it takes is one to make landfall in our region to have a lasting impact.”

Hurricane Lee is the fourth hurricane of the season and the 14th named storm, six ahead as of Sept. 9 of the average over the last 30 years, according to the National Hurricane Center data.

A Category 1 storm, Hurricane Margot, is moving northward in the Atlantic, where it is not expected to make landfall. Another two disturbances may also combine and form a tropical storm. If they do, the disturbance would be named Nigel.

Reed is currently working on a few projects in which he hopes to use climate information to help inform potential impacts of future storms in the local area and coastal regions.

He is looking back retrospectively at various storms to determine how those hurricanes might differ in a warmer world. Those projects, he said, are still in the early stages.

Well aware of the potential for strong storms to hit the area, Reed has looked at a flood map around his house to know where flood waters would go amid different conditions.

He has also talked with his family about what they would do during a storm and where they would get information in the event of an evacuation from New York.

“I try to practice what I preach,” Reed said.

# LIPA and PSEGLI wrestle for control over Long Island’s electrical grid

BY RAYMOND JANIS  
EDITOR1@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

Long Island’s two primary utility companies are in a tug-of-war over the region’s electric future.

A management contract between the New York State-owned Long Island Power Authority and the investor-owned utility company PSEG Long Island expires in

December 2025, prompting uncertainty over the future management of the regional grid.

The Legislative Commission on the Future of the Long Island Power Authority is a bipartisan panel of state legislators from Long Island, formed in 2022 to make recommendations to the state Legislature for future reorganization.

Conflict erupted during the commission’s public hearing at the William H. Rogers Legislature Building in Hauppauge Tuesday, Sept. 12, during which LIPA and PSEGLI reps offered disparate visions.

## Municipalization proposal

The legislative commission is

considering implementing a full-scale municipalization of utility power on Long Island, empowering LIPA to provide electric service independently without contracting with a third-party vendor, such as PSEGLI.

During the hearing, Tom Falcone, LIPA’s CEO, addressed the commission, noting the complications of overlapping responsibilities between the separate management hierarchies of LIPA and PSEGLI.

“There is not one best governance model ... but there are governance models that could result in duplicative roles and responsibilities or unnecessary conflict,” he said. “Multiple overlapping bodies with similar responsibilities can frustrate customers with a lack of clarity and accountability, much like our hybrid management structure between LIPA and PSEG.”

Falcone advised that consolidating management positions within LIPA would enable the state to reduce total management personnel by roughly 13 senior positions.

Falcone added that municipalization would deliver greater accountability from the electric service provider,

empowering the LIPA Board to replace senior officials who fail to perform.

“The board can fire me,” the LIPA CEO indicated. “I can’t fire PSEG,” adding, “If PSEG is not delivering, we litigate and we hold back money.”

## Checks and balances

But PSEGLI refused to go down without a fight, countering Falcone’s assessment of the existing dynamic between the two utilities.

Christopher Hahn, vice president of external affairs at PSEGLI, advocated for the existing public-private partnership between LIPA and PSEGLI.

“There’s real, built-in accountability to the public-private partnership,” he said. “It is something that has been working for Long Islanders and will continue to work for Long Islanders.”

Hahn maintained that the public-private partnership gives Long Island “the best of both worlds,” maximizing the potential for each utility company while creating checks and balances between LIPA and PSEGLI.

“Having a municipally owned grid gives us the benefit of that low [interest] bonding and, of course, access to



Photo by Andrew Martin from Pixabay

[Federal Emergency Management Agency] funds in the event that we have storms,” he said. “And then having the private company and being held accountable.”

He added that accountability for PSEGLI is built into its contract structure, which is only 40% guaranteed. He maintained that PSEGLI continues to rank highly in reliability and customer satisfaction.

“Those are things that came here because of the public-private partnership, because of the push-pull

between PSEG and LIPA,” he said.

Conversations over the restructuring of LIPA will continue this week as the commission is scheduled to meet again at 10 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at the Nassau County Legislature in Mineola. To livestream the meeting, visit [totalwebcasting.com/live/nylipa](http://totalwebcasting.com/live/nylipa). Register on-site to testify. Written testimony can be submitted at [nylipa.gov/public-input](http://nylipa.gov/public-input). Other September meetings are due to be held at The Rockaways, Southampton and Farmingdale State College.



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# Wastewater infrastructure casts shadow over Suffolk County elections

BY SAMANTHA RUTT  
DESK@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

As the local election season intensifies, Suffolk County’s wastewater infrastructure has now become the defining policy issue, with residents and environmentalists demanding immediate action to address what they consider an environmental crisis.

Water quality of Long Island’s coveted waterways is currently suffering as the county’s wastewater infrastructure deteriorates rapidly. Much of the system was built decades ago and has not been adequately upgraded to meet the demands of the growing population, critics say.

“Clean water is crucial to the health of our families, the lifeblood of our economy and central to our way of life,” said businessman Dave Calone, Democratic candidate for Suffolk County executive running against Town of Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine (R). “Unfortunately, our water quality is at an all-time low, and we need to act now to protect it.”

Local officials, residents and environmentalists have voiced concerns over the issue. Adrienne Esposito, executive director of the Citizens Campaign for the Environment, said, “Suffolk County Legislators have an ethical and moral obligation to protect our drinking and coastal water resources.”

## County Water Quality Restoration Act

The Suffolk County Water Quality Restoration Act, a plan to restore the county’s water quality, includes two bills that would create a fund to restore clean water by connecting homes and businesses to sewers and finance clean water septic system replacements.

“The need for an overall plan for wastewater infrastructure has been well-recognized for more than 60 years,” said Peter Scully, deputy county executive for administration.

Earlier this year, Scully had spearheaded a proposed 1/8 penny sales tax initiative to finance wastewater infrastructure. This proposal was rejected by the county Legislature in July, setting the stage for a contentious election season over this issue [See story, “Suffolk County Legislature recesses, blocks referendum on wastewater fund,” July 27, TBR News Media].

“Tragically, the Legislature doesn’t consider this a priority and has refused to let the public vote on this plan,” Esposito said. “Letting the public vote on a clean water referendum is good policy and good for democracy. It is deeply disturbing that the legislators support neither of those objectives.”

## Impact on elections

The Republican vote to recess has met with fierce opposition from county Democrats, who are using the wastewater controversy to highlight differences in platforms.

“Republicans did not vote to put the referendum on the ballot,” said Keith Davies, Suffolk County Democratic Committee campaign manager. “It is clear that Republicans chose not to trust voters to make their own decisions. In our opinion, it was the wrong decision.”

Responding to these charges, county Legislator Stephanie Bontempi (R-Centerport), who is defending her 18th Legislative District seat against pediatrician Eve Meltzer-Krief (D-Centerport), indicated that her caucus is avoiding a rush to judgment.

“Rushing to pass legislation that is flawed and that will raise our taxes is simply irresponsible and not what our residents deserve,” Bontempi said. “Holding off with a referendum for a couple of months will certainly not lead to the end of Long Island, like some fearmongers like to claim.”

Many of the county’s wastewater treatment plants, pipelines and pumping stations are well past their intended lifespans, representing a growing risk for sewage leaks, overflows and contamination of local waterways and bays.

Meltzer-Krief warned that this could have devastating consequences for the region and its fragile ecosystems, including its renowned coastal areas and marine life.

“The quality of our waterways and bays here in Suffolk County is currently the poorest it has ever been,” she said. “The main cause is nitrogen runoff from outdated cesspools and septic systems which flows into our waters and triggers potentially toxic

algal blooms which deprive marine life of the oxygen they need to survive.”

Research from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency indicates that nitrogen from sewage is suffocating Long Island’s bays and harbors, contaminating drinking water and causing fish kills and algal blooms.

“Thankfully, scientists know how to reverse this troubling and urgent environmental concern and clean our waters,” Meltzer-Krief said.

But, she added, “It is the responsibility of our county legislators to follow the science and protect our children from the toxins in the water by securing funding for the recommended clean water infrastructure.”

While local officials and environmental organizations have been sounding the alarm for years over aging infrastructure, progress has been slow and funding for these projects has often fallen short of what is required.

Restoring clean, healthy water requires drastically reducing nitrogen pollution from its primary source — Suffolk County’s approximately 360,000 nitrogen-polluting cesspools and septic systems.

“Once the legislation has been amended to properly address our wastewater infrastructure, the voters will be able to decide,” Bontempi said. “The Republican majority at the Suffolk County Legislature wants clean water, too.”

Suffolk County elections will take place Tuesday, Nov. 7.

# Suffolk Republicans cannot wash hands of clean water issue

With November elections rapidly approaching, both sides of the political aisle are tense.

All 18 seats on the Suffolk County Legislature are up for election, and with the end of County Executive

Steve Bellone’s (D) tenure, the county executive seat will be open for the first time since 2011. Unfortunately, the political desperation to take unilateral control over Suffolk County has led to dirty tricks and unethical behavior.

In late June, the Republican majority in Suffolk County was given the option to vote on a measure which, if passed, would have placed a clean water referendum on the ballot in November. The referendum would give voters the option to approve a negligible sales tax increase — 12 cents for every \$100 dollars in spending — and critically, gain access to available state and federal funding.

This was particularly important as voters in 2022 overwhelmingly approved a \$4.2 billion Environmental Bond Act to protect

the environment [See story, “NYS offers possibilities of \$4.2B bond act for Suffolk County, urges public input,” Aug. 31, TBR News Media], with almost 64% of Suffolk County residents voting to pass the funding. Passing a referendum would allow Suffolk County to access some of these funds.

Clean water infrastructure would greatly improve our drinking water and protect our beaches and natural spaces. In addition, the funding would create new jobs for Suffolk County.

The Republican majority, led by Presiding Officer Kevin McCaffrey (R-Lindenhurst), refused to allow residents to vote on approving the referendum. Despite the efforts of labor unions in their efforts to create jobs for working-class individuals, as well as pleading by environmentalists and advocates, the county Legislature tabled the resolution [See story, “Suffolk County Legislature recesses, blocks referendum on wastewater fund,” July 27, TBR News Media].

While McCaffrey made various excuses for his refusal to allow



By Skyler Johnson

Suffolk County to vote on the issue, the true reason was clear: The Republican majority knew that if the referendum was on the ballot, Democratic voters would be driven to the polls in November to approve it.

The blowback was immediate. People of all political parties voiced their disapproval for the Legislature’s blatantly political action. Despite this, McCaffrey let the deadline to

approve the referendum pass.

As residents continued to grow angry, McCaffrey decided to make an attempt to suppress arguments being made by Democratic candidates. Last week, he called a special meeting of the Legislature to approve a December special election for the referendum — a special election which would now cost taxpayers over \$2 million to hold.

However, the special meeting of the Legislature was abruptly canceled. While McCaffrey sought to cleanse the record of his heinous political malpractice, he forgot to consider one key problem: The dissent of his own caucus.

The Republican majority refused to vote positively on the issue. With all six Democrats pledging support for the referendum, McCaffrey could not persuade even three members of his 11-seat majority to vote “yes,” and the special meeting was canceled.

Suffolk County residents now bear the consequences of these political games. Tens of thousands of homes throughout the county are without adequate septic systems.

Without this funding, these systems will continue to leach toxins into our water — water that we cook with, our kids bathe in and our pets drink.

The failure by Republican leadership to come up with a plan to address Suffolk’s infamously poor drinking water quality is inexcusable. The Environmental Working Group, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting our drinking water, estimates that those served by the Suffolk County Water Authority are ingesting numerous separate contaminants.

In a county with the highest breast cancer rates in the state — rates significantly higher than the rest of the nation — we cannot afford McCaffrey and his Republican majority’s dirty games.

McCaffrey cannot wash his hands of this issue. It is his responsibility to address his majority’s failure of government. If he refuses to do so, voters must take this neglect of duty into account when they cast their ballots on Nov. 7.

*Skyler Johnson is the chair of the Suffolk County Young Democrats.*



# Eye on the Street : Residents and visitors generally favor sewers

BY CAROLYN SACKSTEIN  
DESK@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

In downtown Port Jefferson and Port Jefferson Station, people were asked whether they favor expanding local sewer districts. We also asked if their vote this November would hinge upon a candidate's stated position on groundwater pollution or wastewater infrastructure expansions.

Some respondents refused to discuss their vote, while others said

they were not single-issue voters, maintaining that their decisions at the ballot box would factor in various issues.

Many of those approached for comment declined to speak, saying that they did not feel sufficiently informed about the ongoing wastewater debate in Suffolk County to provide a reasoned response. All but one of the respondents supported reducing groundwater contamination and expanding sewer access. Their comments follow:



**Katherine Cahill,  
Belle Terre**

"I think there are pros and cons. I am happy to have the water protected. That is very important to me on Long Island, of course. Then there is the political side: How long is it going to take? What is the traffic congestion going to be like? What are the implications to other areas other than just the groundwater?"

"Overall, I think I am for that, assuming we can get sewers put in that can manage the water that goes into them adequately, and it doesn't just get put into the ocean as raw sewage."

Cahill expressed a need for treatment facilities so that clean, treated water is released. She explained that she does not have access to sewers in Belle Terre.

"Water management is a very serious issue up there. The water is eroding the cliff, and we live in a protected environment for the birds and the animals up there. So, the fact that it is not being managed adequately is a very big problem here."

When asked if she thinks sewers might help, she responded, "I do. There is always a downside. The most important thing is managing what happens once the sewers collect the water. Where does it go? How is it going to be treated? How is it going to affect sea life? We are starting to see dead whales from the impact of the windmills."



**Derrick Hines, Nova  
Scotia, Canada**

Hines sailed here with his wife and their labradoodle, Tessa. When we asked how the Maritimes deal with sewage, he replied, "Actually, we have septic plants, which make sure any of the sewage going out into the harbor has been cleaned before it is dumped."

When asked if Nova Scotia has any septic tanks or cesspools, Hines said, "Yes, more in the rural areas, where it is too expensive to connect to the sewer systems. [They] have their own septic systems [not a cesspool] where it is pumped out and dealt with afterward."



**Wendy Brame,  
South Shore of  
Suffolk County**

Brame is a North American Native woman descended from the Shinnecock and Mohican tribes.

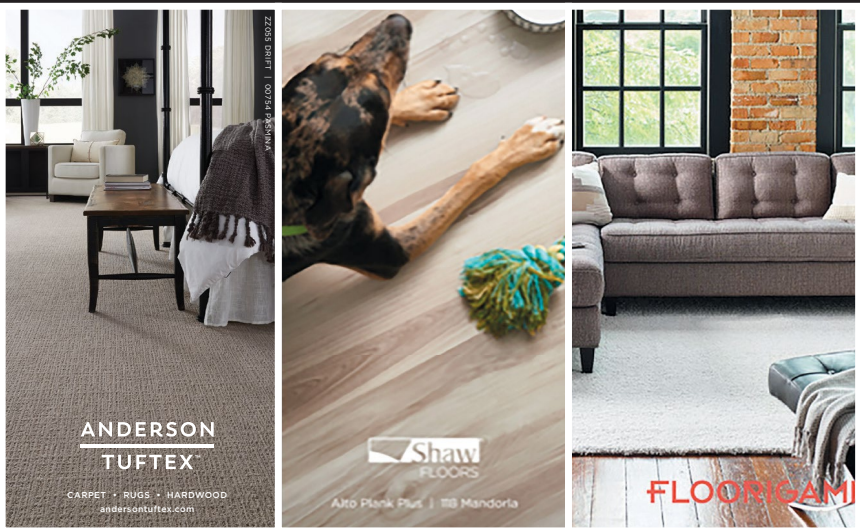
When asked if protecting groundwater and expanding sewers in Suffolk County would influence her vote, she replied, "Yes. The sewer infrastructure would impact the environment and the well-being of the people who live here in the community. It is important that we have clean water and fresh air, just an overall better quality of life."



**Kathy Ferraro,  
Coram**

Ferraro discussed the impact of stormwater on the sanitary system. "When you come here after a bad rainfall, you've got to watch where you walk, it stinks." We asked if she was on a sewer line in Coram.

She replied, "Yeah, we have city water, and our sewer is right there on the corner where we live." Ferraro was skeptical of a new sewer system on Route 112 in Port Jeff Station, saying, "To put in a new sewer system, I'm not sure. I'm not too supportive. I think it's going to be a hot mess."



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# During 9/11 memorial service, Bellone asks for unity, healing

BY RAYMOND JANIS  
EDITOR1@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

At the Suffolk County 9/11 Memorial outside the H. Lee Dennison Building in Hauppauge Monday morning, Sept. 11, county officials, first responders, faith leaders and veterans held a memorial ceremony to honor the lives lost during the 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

The service included music, prayer and ceremonial name reading, paying tribute to Suffolk County residents who had perished on that fateful day.

Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone (D), county Comptroller John Kennedy (R), county Clerk Vincent Puleo (R) and county Legislators Nick Caracappa (C-Selden), Leslie Kennedy (R-Nesconset) and Stephanie Bontempi (R-Centerport), among others, participated in the name reading dedication.

### Striking at the heart

“We stand before a monument with names etched in glass to honor, to remember the individuals who were killed on September 11, 2001,” said Bellone, who reflected upon the initial aftermath of 9/11 and the nation’s solidarity.

The nation and world, however, have undergone considerable transformation in 22 years since the attacks, Bellone added.

He suggested the terrorists sought to strike at “the heart of this nation and what we represent, the values that we believe in — freedom and democracy.”

Despite initial disruptions and the carnage inflicted, Bellone maintained that Americans worked to coalesce and persevere.

“We responded, we recovered, we rebuilt and came back stronger

than ever,” the county executive said.

More than two decades later, Bellone expressed apprehensions over existing currents, highlighting the “division” and “arguments in our own country about elections.”

### A day of healing

Bellone called upon citizens to return to the values that had once united them. He maintained that internal dissension rather than external threat represents a greater risk to the nation’s future.

“If this nation, if this republic, if this democracy is ever to fall, it will not be because of external forces,” he claimed. “It will be internal division and strife.”

He added that 9/11 can serve as an annual reminder of America’s capacity to heal, overcome differences and rediscover common values.

“It is incredibly important that we have these names etched on the wall,” he said. “Because the absence of them — their lives and what they meant to their families and communities — is felt every single day.”

He concluded by saying, “How do we honor them? I believe each and every one of us [can] use 9/11 as a day to remind ourselves, to commit ourselves to coming together —

to heal as a nation and as a community.”

The ceremony ended with a collective singing of “God Bless America.”



Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone delivers his remarks. Photo from Steve Bellone's Flickr page



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# Local hospitals see increased accidental pediatric pot consumption

BY DANIEL DUNAIEF  
DESK@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

Children are getting into their parents’ supplies of edible marijuana, leading to an increase in illnesses and emergency room visits.

Stony Brook Pediatric Hospital treated 14 children in 2022 and 13 in 2021 — up from about one or two a year before 2020.

## HEALTH

“In the last two years, we’ve seen very high numbers,” said Dr. Candice Foy, a pediatric hospitalist at Stony Brook Children’s Hospital.

The accidental consumption of marijuana among children has increased throughout the country. A study published in the journal “Pediatrics” indicates that calls to poison control centers for children five and under for the consumption of edibles containing tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC — the main ingredient in the cannabis plant — rose to 3,054 in 2021 from 207 in 2017, with over 95 percent of the children finding gummies in their homes.

Amid an increase in adult use of edible gummies containing marijuana, children of a wide range of ages have mistaken them for candy, leading to symptoms that trigger medical concerns from their parents.

Children with THC in their system can have low blood pressure, high heart rates, lethargy and sleep



These images reveal the striking similarities between real candy and edible products containing THC. Photos from the Suffolk County Department of Health Services

for prolonged periods, Foy said.

One child required a machine to help breathe.

Dr. Jennifer Goebel, emergency room doctor at Huntington Hospital, said the hospital recently saw children who were dizzy and not acting appropriately.

When pediatric patients accidentally consume pot edibles, doctors also need to consider what else they might have in their system,

Goebel added.

Significant exposure can “lead to severe hyperactive behaviors, slowed breathing and even coma,” Dr. Gregson Pigott, Suffolk County Health Commissioner, explained in an email.

The health effects of marijuana can last 24 to 36 hours in children. The response may vary based on the amount ingested, the size of the child and metabolic factors, Pigott added.

Unlike naloxone, which health

care providers can administer to counteract the effect of narcotics, doctors don’t have the same resources available with accidental marijuana ingestion.

Doctors opt for supportive care. A nauseous child could receive anti-nausea medication, while a child sleeping and not eating or drinking can receive intravenous fluids.

Typically, doctors observe children who consume marijuana for several hours, often releasing them to return home once the symptoms subside.

Hospitals are required to call child protective services during such an incident. Investigators usually find that such consumption is incidental, as parents sometimes leave their edibles in the wrong location.

“A lot of times, CPS will go in there” and, after checking the home, “will close the investigation,” Foy said.

Doctors and local officials urged people who consume such edibles themselves either not to keep them in the house or to put them in places far from other candy or food, such as in an inaccessible spot in the back of a closet.

“The Department’s Office of Public Information has issued warnings about keeping edible gummies out of the reach of children through its social media channels,” Pigott explained in an email. “In addition, the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports and our partners in prevention promote safe keeping of all THC products, including edibles,

out of reach and in secure child safe storage,” such as a lock box.

Goebel cautioned that children are adept at getting to products that appeal to them, mainly if the packaging makes them look like candy.

Many of the pot-related medical issues are “accidental,” Goebel said.

Hospitals have seen a range of children with marijuana symptoms, from as young as one year old to 11, with the vast majority falling between two and four years old, Foy said.

“I don’t think it’s something that a lot of people think about the same way they think about protecting their children from bleach and other chemicals commonly found” in the home, she said. It’s important to “get the message out” and ensure “people are talking about this.”

The Suffolk County Department of Health Services Office of Health Education offers curriculum and teacher training to public and private schools at no cost. The lessons address behaviors that lead to morbidity and mortality in the young, including intentional and unintentional injuries, such as injury caused by children ingesting edible gummies or other edible-infused products, Pigott wrote.

“During parent workshops, we show the similarity between real food items and the THC-containing items that look like the food item to highlight how deceptive and easy it is to mistakenly ingest cannabis-laden products,” he added.



From left, Dr. Gregson Pigott, commissioner of the Suffolk County Department of Health Services; Dr. Candice Foy, a pediatric hospitalist at Stony Brook Children’s Hospital; and Dr. Jennifer Goebel, emergency room doctor at Huntington Hospital. Left file photo; center from Stony Brook Medicine/Jeanne Neville; and right file photo from Northwell Health



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LEGALS *con't from pg. 8*

Town Hall Lobby of the Town of Brookhaven, One Independence Hill, Farmingville, NY 11738, for the following item(s) on the dates indicated:

Bid #23089 – On-Call Leachate System Maintenance Contract..... September 28, 2023  
- A non-mandatory site visit will be held for this project on Monday, September 18, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Landfill Conference Room located at 350 Horseblock Road, Yaphank, NY

Specifications for the above-referenced bids will be available beginning September 14, 2023.

Preferred Method

- Access website: Municipal Market | Brookhaven, NY ([brookhavenny.gov](http://brookhavenny.gov)): click on link for Bids.
- Follow directions to register and download document.
- Questions must be submitted in writing to the following e-mail: [PurchasingGroup@brookhavenny.gov](mailto:PurchasingGroup@brookhavenny.gov)

The Town of Brookhaven reserves the right to reject and declare invalid any or all bids and to waive any

informalities or irregularities in the proposals received, all in the best interests of the Town. The Town of Brookhaven welcomes and encourages minorities and women-owned businesses and HUD Section 3 businesses to participate in the bidding process.

Further information can be obtained by calling (631) 451-6252

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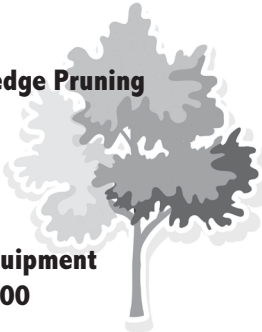


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# Editorial

## More than a pipedream

### Suffolk County’s wastewater election

As Election Day nears, it is becoming increasingly evident that our local elections here in Suffolk County will hinge upon the people’s vision for wastewater treatment.

The state of our wastewater systems is a crucial policy concern for residents and environmentalists alike. Our existing system of disparate sewer districts and individually operated septic tanks is inadequate, impairing our environment, drinking water and quality of life.

Responsible wastewater treatment countywide can ensure our communities remain clean, healthy and safe. However, as years pass, our county’s wastewater infrastructure will continue showing its age — and the consequences could be devastating.

The first and most immediate impact of deteriorating wastewater infrastructure is public health. A failure to address these issues could result in an uptick in health crises, increasing the demand for health care services and leading citizens to question the competence of local governments to meet even their most basic human needs.

Residents expect their elected officials to take proactive approaches in maintaining critical infrastructure. If this does not happen, it can erode trust in government.

Our people ask for clean drinking water. We desire fewer fish kills and algal blooms in our local surface waters. Perhaps above all, our citizens long for political representation that actually advances their needs over the wants of powerful, monied interests that finance political campaigns in this county.

Money talks in Suffolk County, as elsewhere. Powerful special interest groups here — notably developers and organized labor — often curry favor with politicians. For developers, sewers allow for increased building height and density. For labor unions, sewers produce lucrative government contracts.

As we inch closer to November, we remind prospective officeholders that they must be careful not to allow campaign contributors to drive policy, that the people are the prime movers of our democracy.

The paramount stakeholder group in this election is the taxpaying citizens of Suffolk County. Though not cutting large campaign checks, this group will be the ultimate judge deciding who ascends to county office.

Shamefully, the county Legislature failed to put the Suffolk County Water Quality Restoration Act on November’s ballot. So, this election season voters must listen carefully to candidates from both major parties. Only those who demonstrate a firm commitment to the popular will should earn our votes.

Candidates must develop a plan for modernizing our wastewater infrastructure. They should be prepared to answer difficult questions on this most critical issue, demonstrating their commitment to the betterment of our county.

To our fellow residents, listen closely during this election cycle, especially to conversations surrounding wastewater.

### WRITE TO US . . . AND KEEP IT LOCAL

We welcome your letters, especially those responding to our local coverage, replying to other letter writers’ comments and speaking mainly to local themes. Letters should be no longer than 400 words and may be edited for length, libel, style, good taste and uncivil language. They will also be published on our website. We do not publish anonymous letters. Please include an address and phone number for confirmation. Email letters to: [editor1@tbrnewsmedia.com](mailto:editor1@tbrnewsmedia.com) or mail them to **TBR News Media, P.O. Box 707, Setauket, NY 11733**



# Letters to the Editor

## Traffic analysis needed for Scraggy Hill Road

Scraggy Hill Road is the road where our elementary school, Edna Louise Spear, is located and where we have many playing fields.

A few years ago, I worked with former principal Thomas Meehan to help calm the local traffic on Scraggy Hill. Specifically, we wanted to mitigate speeding and make it safer for crossings to the playing fields. We worked with our village’s Department of Public Works and installed the two speed bumps along with the stop signs and the crossing path.

Unfortunately, the speeding hasn’t stopped and now we are in full school season. Prior to the start of school, Mayor Lauren Sheproh held a “public hearing” on Aug. 7 at Village Hall, to have two more stop signs installed on the street. The “public hearing” was held without providing proper advertising (public notice) or having the required stenographer there to take notes. Notice was simply and irresponsibly “placed” in surrounding mailboxes. No traffic study had been done to analyze the overall conditions and make recommendations to mitigate the traffic flow or reduce speed.

Before we can have more stop signs put in, we need to do a proper traffic analysis of the street. This will determine what is needed and where it is needed to coincide with the times that the traffic is peaked to ensure the safety of our students, teachers and families so that the residents who live there are minimally impacted. We can then update our code and implement what’s in the best interest for the neighborhood.

Let’s all “stop” and ensure we have the process right, before we make any improper alterations to an already challenging situation.

**Margot Garant**  
**Port Jefferson**

*Editor’s note: The writer served as Port Jefferson Village mayor from 2009-23.*

## Parking pass for Belle Terre residents impacts PJ residents and customers

As a taxpayer residing in Port Jefferson and a village business owner, I’m concerned about Mayor Lauren Sheproh’s recent proposal to provide essentially free parking to Belle Terre residents. I don’t feel this proposal is fiscally responsible nor does it serve the residents of Port Jefferson village.

Since 2016, I’ve been running my businesses here and, like fellow business owners, I’ve often heard complaints about the parking shortage in our village. It’s evident that the village has been actively working to secure additional parking spaces to ensure ample options for both our

residents and visitors.

However, during the Sept. 5 board meeting, the mayor suggested offering parking to Belle Terre residents for a reduced fee [See story, “PJV updates public on emergency response, traffic and new SBU internship program,” Sept. 7, TBR News Media]. While the idea of reduced fee parking is appealing, I believe it would be unjust to our taxpaying residents and out-of-town customers who already face parking challenges in our village.

Although Belle Terre is home to less than 1,000 residents, if 10% of those residents receive reduced fee parking, our out-of-town customers, residents and employees will have to compete for parking with even more people.

I’m also curious about the motivation behind this proposal and whether it offers any advantages to our taxpayers. I don’t believe Port Jeff village residents are allowed to park at Belle Terre beaches without fear of being ticketed.

I strongly urge the mayor and the board of trustees to thoroughly contemplate the potential repercussions of this decision on our residents, businesses, employees and customers. At the very least, I implore them to provide an opportunity for the public to voice their opinions through a public hearing.

**Lisa Harris**  
**Port Jefferson**

## Polluted groundwater affects more than the tap

A recent letter by George Altemose [“An alternative to advanced septic systems,” Sept. 7, TBR News Media] suggested that instead of increasing Suffolk sales tax 1/8% to help fund upgraded, nitrogen-reducing septic tanks, it would be more cost effective to eliminate the nitrogen after it has already entered the groundwater. But only the groundwater that comes from Suffolk County Water Authority wells and into our homes as drinking water.

What about the polluted groundwater from old cesspools and septic systems that’s now going into our beaches, bays and other waterways, killing fish and creating dead zones?

Old cesspools and septic systems need replacing, and they should be replaced with upgraded, nitrogen-reducing systems and there are rebates and grants to help pay for it.

Another consideration, according to one local company’s website, is that the upgraded systems work best when homeowners use less water and fewer chemical cleaning products. So in the long run the homeowner will be motivated to reduce water use by running only full loads in the washing machine and

dishwasher and to stop buying expensive cleaning products with harmful chemicals and instead make their own homemade cleaners using baking soda or white vinegar to prolong the life and improve the performance of their new, high-tech septic system.

Remember, we live on an island and there are grants and rebates to help pay for the upgraded systems because we all benefit from Long Island’s beautiful beaches and abundant wildlife.

**Diane Ives**  
**Copague**

*Editor’s note: The writer serves on the executive committee of the Sierra Club Long Island Group.*

## SCWA can’t ward off algal blooms

While the Suffolk County Water Authority can do something about nitrogen in drinking water, it does not and cannot do anything to reduce the excessive amount of nitrogen in the drinking water of those of us that get our water from our own wells, nor can it do anything to reduce the amount of nitrogen in our lakes, ponds, streams and saltwater bodies. In those bodies, it is a fertilizer for all sorts of life.

Plant life, called algae, grows and reproduces at an increased rate when fertilizers are present in the water. In large numbers, they form a “bloom” which actually changes the color of the water.

Two of these are brown algae and green algae. Brown algal blooms — aka brown tides — shadow the seafloor, which leads to the death of seagrasses. It also can slow the growth of shellfish.

Red algae, which contains saxitoxin — a nerve damaging toxin — when present in large quantities as in a red tide or red algal bloom, can kill many fish and shellfish and sicken any animal that ingests the water, including making humans quite sick. Red algal blooms also deplete water oxygen levels, resulting in fish not getting enough oxygen through their gills and dying as a result.

Then there is blue-green algae, which is actually a bacteria — aka a cyanobacteria — that grow in number in shallow, still, warm bodies of fresh or salt water. It, too, contains a neurotoxin called microcystin that is known to cause rashes and make people sick. In fact, it is an excess of this toxin that has killed dogs and other animals when they drink the water.

All because of excess nitrogen that the no drinking water process does or can remove.

**Jane Fasullo**  
**Setauket**



Opinion

What if we're ignoring the wrong things

You know that optical illusion with the vase and the two faces? If you're looking at the outline of the white object, you see a vase, but if you look at the white as the background, you see two faces.



D. None of the above  
BY DANIEL DUNAIEF

Is it possible that we might, at times, be missing something in our lives?

We drive from one event to another, often ignoring the people in the car next to us at a stoplight, at the birds resting on a telephone wire or at the last few rays of the sun as the light disappears over the horizon.

Instead, we're focused on getting where we're going, giving our mind a chance to wander to important things, like

what we're going to say to the coach of our son's little league team, to our boss who wants to know why we're late, or to that person at the deli counter who starts preparing our sandwich before we even order.

Along the way, we might be missing signs that could stimulate or enrich our mind in unexpected ways or that could provide the kind of unanticipated signs that serve as clues about our lives. Sure, some people read horoscopes for such help, they ponder the pithy poetry of fortune cookies, or they visit a psychic, who asks them if they've ever known a person named John or if they've ever gone with a date to a movie or like to take walks on the beach.

But, with our heads down, living on our phones, focusing on events and people far from us, is it possible that we might miss something akin to a puzzle piece in the mystery of our lives?

Sure, telemarketers are frustrating and annoying, offering us products we don't

need, asking us for personal information, and assuming a far-too-familiar tone.

What if those telemarketers, who are even more unpopular than used car salesman, journalists and politicians, offered us something between the lines of their scripts that might be of use to us? We don't have to stay on the phone long with them and we don't have to buy something we don't want, but maybe we can give them half a minute, listening to them and politely declining their offer for more life insurance, a time share in the Everglades, or a chance to earn money as a personal shopper.

Maybe something they say will remind us of a task we wanted to accomplish, a phrase a friend or relative used to use, or a responsibility we haven't yet met for ourselves. In a world in which there are no accidents, perhaps they can remind us of something we value.

Along the same lines, the scenery that flies by while we're on a train, a bus or in a car could remind us of a picture we drew from our

childhood, a tree we used to climb, or a friend who might need to hear from us but hasn't felt strong enough to ask for help.

Hundreds and thousands of years ago, people looked to the skies for the kind of signs that might help them.

When we shut ourselves in our homes, disconnect from the people in the room or from the environment, we close down the opportunity to see or consider any signs from the world around us or to get out of our own limited physical, mental and emotional headspace. We also lock ourselves in to a particular way of thinking, removing the opportunity to consider whether today is a day to see the vase or the two faces.

By getting away from our computer screens, cell phones, and cubicles, we give ourselves a chance to see what the world offers, and how those cues affect the way we think about our lives.

Do you eat breakfast, and if so, what do you eat?

My favorite meal of the day is breakfast. Now I'm not one of those happy people who awakened with the dawn, but I will say that my first thought after



Between you and me  
BY LEAH S. DUNAIEF

I open my eyes is usually breakfast. It used to be that I had to get up and walk the dog, but that's history. Now, as soon as sleep is over, I am hungry.

Maybe that has something to do with the fact that I don't eat past dinner, and that my dinner usually ends by 7:00 pm or even earlier. That means I have been fasting for at least 12 hours, maybe even 14, so my lustful appetite would seem valid. I start thinking about what I am going to make for breakfast while I am brushing my teeth. It's

almost never what you might expect.

I guess the traditional American breakfast is eggs and toast, and maybe some sort of meat, like bacon or ham. Or people start the day with cold cereal and milk in a bowl or hot oatmeal, with maybe some fruit on top. That's if they have time to fix breakfast.

Many people just run through the kitchen, put on their jackets and rush out the door to work or to school. Perhaps they might snag a roll or a piece of fruit on the way out, maybe even a cup of coffee if they remembered to plug in the pot the night before and to push the button on the way to the bathroom in the morning. Incredible as it sounds to me, I even know some people who eat nothing until dinner—a big dinner that then stretches right up to bedtime.

So what do I eat?

I might eat an egg with some veggies thrown in if it's a weekend and I have time to cook. I particularly like English muffins with Irish butter and one of any number of different

jams I harbor in my frig. More often I will heat up some green lentil pasta that I prepared in advance, top it with low sodium spaghetti sauce and a couple of spices, and munch away. (Don't Yuk! Just try it.) The green lentil flour, which comes in a box, is loaded with good nutrients: 11 grams of fiber; 25 grams plant-based protein. My favorite shape for the flour is rotini; it makes me think I am eating wheat pasta. And by the way, it's made in Italy.

Or, I might finish off the previous night's leftovers. That could be anything from shrimp, which I love, or a kind of white flaky fish like branzino or salmon. Now you might be taken aback by the nonconformist choices I make in the morning, so I will explain. I have had the pleasure of traveling to a number of different countries and eating their traditional breakfasts, so I am not in the least put off by eating my leftover sushi that I brought in the previous night. It makes me think I am in Bali.

On rainy mornings, I have the urge for pancakes because my mother, when I was a

child, often made silver dollar pancakes for breakfast when it rained, especially if it rained really hard. The wonderful smell would fill the kitchen and bring us quickly to the table. I never put butter or syrup or powdered sugar on them; they were just delicious straight from the pan. I confess, though, that now I hardly ever have time to make them. I'm too busy looking for an umbrella.

Instead I grab a smoothie, filled with frozen fruits and dark green leafy vegetables, like baby bok choy and baby kale, that is pre-made in the refrigerator and carry it to my office, where I sip it through a straw for a couple of hours.

Another unorthodox breakfast that I enjoy is a salad, one with cucumbers, tomatoes, pears and walnuts, perked up with a little balsamic vinegar. I don't care for iceberg lettuce much, preferring romaine and mixed greens.

I have learned that only some 35 percent of Americans eat breakfast every morning. How about you?

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