## The VILLA

STONY BROOK • OLD FIELD • STRONG'S N

Vol. 48, No. 30



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

**A11** 



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The Stony Brook and Setauket ladder trucks hang a 25-foot American flag during a memorial ceremony Monday night, Sept. 11.

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## Kumo Sushi & Steakhouse remains open after health scare, lawyer weighs in

BY SABRINA ARTUSA

DESK@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

On Saturday afternoon, Sept. 9, 28 people were ill due to the mishandling of cooked rice served at Kumo Sushi & Steakhouse on Nesconset Highway, Stony Brook.

A group of 13-year-olds were at the restaurant celebrating a birthday when some girls started projectile vomiting. Sixteen others, celebrating a baby shower, got sick after leaving the restaurant.

"I'm extremely angry with the business," the mother of one of the girls told News 12. "We all go out to eat all the time. We never think we're going to eat somewhere, and the food is going to be contaminated."

Employees at Kumo deferred comment to their lawyer, John Ruggiero of Garden City, who said that health officials thoroughly checked the kitchen. Ruggiero said the restaurant "immediately implemented" a new rice cooling procedure.

He added, "All steps have been taken to

ensure that this never happens again and the restaurant is fully operational with the blessing of the health department."

According to Suffolk County Department of Health guidelines, "If the food is not cooled in accordance with the sanitary code requirement, pathogens may grow to sufficient numbers to cause foodborne illness."

Suffolk County spokesperson Marykate Guilfoyle told Newsday that 12 of the 28 people were hospitalized at Stony Brook University Hospital and released without staying overnight. She also said that the health department issued 15 violations. Eight of the violations were for foodborne illnesses, Guilfoyle said, while others were more minor.

"All of the corrective measures were taken and the restaurant is open," she said.

"We are committed to learning from this incident, enhancing our practices and ensuring that every visit to Kumo is not just a meal but a memorable and safe experience," owners Tony and Bobby Lam said in a statement to Fox News.



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Children leave Alternatives For Children ready to learn and ready for kindergarten!

## 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

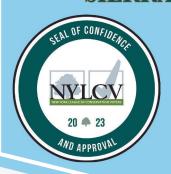
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Julie Tighe, President of the New York League of Conservation Voters

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

## Three Village students and staff honor Patriot Day

Students and staff across the Three Village Central School District honored Patriot Day on Sept. 11. Through in-class lessons and activities, students reflected on the tragic events of 9/11 by remembering the lives lost, those who were impacted and the many heroes who made sacrifices.

At several elementary schools across the district, students planted American flags on the front lawn of their buildings. Meanwhile,

the perimeter of the Ward Melville High School property was lined with flags as a display of remembrance.

Along with the flag tributes, many students and staff dressed in red, white and blue as a show of unity.

R.C. Murphy Junior High School social studies teacher Kristin Stelfox participated in an invaluable experience this summer to learn new strategies to effectively teach

Three Village students about 9/11. Stelfox was selected for the inaugural Institute for Educators at the 9/11 Memorial & Museum in New York City, spending five days learning from first responders, museum directors and curators and leaders in their fields of study on terrorism about how to teach the history of 9/11 and ensure this fateful day may never be forgotten.

Stelfox presented what she learned to

her department so that her experience and knowledge gained could be shared with a greater audience of Three Village students.

"This experience was incredibly impactful, not only because of the level of access to and caliber of presenters over five days, but because our commitment to never forgetting means we dedicate the time to teaching the next generation of students about the sacrifices and heroism of the day," she said.

#### **Kristin Stelfox**

From left, 9/11 Memorial & Museum senior vice president Noah Rauch, R.C. Murphy JHS teacher Kristin Stelfox and 9/11 Memorial & Museum vice president Megan Jones. Photo courtesy TVCSD



#### Minnesauke

Students at Minnesauke Elementary School plant American flags on the building's front lawn. Photo courtesy TVCSD



#### **Nassakeag**

Nassakeag Elementary School students display flags outside the school in honor of Patriot Day. Photo courtesy TVCSD



#### **Arrowhead**

Arrowhead Elementary School students wear red, white and blue to express their solidarity. Photo courtesy TVCSD



## 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.

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.

## 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.

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## 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



Do you recognize this woman?
Photo from SCPD

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.

#### 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 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.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING THE THREE VILLAGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BROOKHAVEN AND SMITHTOWN, SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK ON BEHALF OF THE EMMA S. CLARK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special District Meeting of the qualified voters of the Three Village Central School District of Brookhaven and Smithtown, Suffolk County, New York, will be held in the Periodicals Room of the Emma S. Clark Memorial Library, Main Street, Setauket, on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. prevailing time, to vote upon the annual operating budget of the Emma S. Clark Memorial Library for the calendar year 2024.

The proposition will appear on voting machines in the following form:

Shall the Board of Education appropriate funds in the amount of Five Million Seven Hundred Twenty Six Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Two (\$5,726,582) Dollars for the 2024 operating budget of the Emma S. Clark Memorial Library, with said sum to be raised by a tax on the taxable property of the Three Village Central School District.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS **HEREBY GIVEN** that voting at such meeting will be by paper ballots; polls will be open on September 20, 2023 during the period commencing at 10:00 a.m. and ending at 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, on said date.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS **HEREBY GIVEN** that a **Budget Information Meeting** will be held at the Library on September 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.; Library Trustees and personnel will be present to provide information to the public.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS **HEREBY GIVEN** that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required to fund the Library's budget for 2024 may be obtained by any

resident of the District on Wednesday, September 6, 2023 through Tuesday, September 19, 2023 between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., prevailing time, at the Library on those days on which the Library is open and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on weekdays at the North Country Administration Building, 100 Suffolk Ave., Stony Brook, New York, on the days on which the School District is in

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that personal registration of voters is required either pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law or Article 5 of the Election Law. If a voter has heretofore registered pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law and has voted at an annual or special district meeting within the last four calendar years, he/she is eligible to vote at this special district meeting; if a voter is registered and eligible to vote under Article 5 of the Election Law, he/she is also eligible to vote at this Special District Meeting.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots will be obtainable from the District Clerk beginning August 30, 2023; between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., prevailing time, during all days on which school is in session. Completed applications are to be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days prior to the vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the vote. Tuesday, September 19, 2023 if the ballot is to be hand delivered to the voter at the District Clerk's office located at the North Country Administration Building, 100 Suffolk Ave., Stony Brook, New York,

A list of persons to whom absentee ballots are issued will be available for inspection to qualified voters of the District in the office of the District Clerk commencing September 13, 2023, during regular office hours through the day of the vote.

Said absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the vote, September 20, 2023 in order to be canvassed.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS

HEREBY GIVEN that reg-

istration for the purpose of

registering all qualified vot-

ers of the District pursuant

to Section 2014 of the

Education Law who are to

be added to the Register to be used at the aforesaid vote will be conducted from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on days when school is in session at the Office of the District Clerk in the North Country Administration Building and at the Office of Student Registration located at the North Country Administration Building; any person will be entitled to have his or her name placed on such Register, provided that he or she is known or proven to the satisfaction of the Registrar to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at the Special Meeting for which the register is to be prepared. The deadline for registering to vote is Friday, September 8, 2023. The register so prepared pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law and the registration list prepared by the Board of Elections of Suffolk County will be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the School District in the North Country Administra-tion Building, 100 Suffolk Ave., Stony Brook, New York and will be open for inspection to any qualified voter of the District beginning on Friday, September 8, 2023 through Tuesday September 19, 2023 be-tween the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., prevailing time, on weekdays and each day prior to the day set for the vote, except Sunday and; in addition, the registration lists shall be available at the Emma S. Clark Memorial Library on the day of the vote.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law of the State of New York, the Board of Registration will meet on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 in the Periodicals Room of the Emma S. Clark Memorial Library, Main Street, Setauket, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. prevailing time, to

prepare the Register of the School District to be used for the Annual School District Meeting to be held in 2024 and any special district meetings that may be held subsequent to the preparation of said Register. On the day of the vote, any qualified voter will be entitled to have his or her name placed on such Register provided that he or she is known or proven to the satisfaction of the Board of Registration to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at the Annual School District Meeting in 2024 or any Special District Meeting held subsequent to September 20, 2023.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that military voters who are not currently registered may apply to register as a qualified voter of the Three Village Central School District by requesting and returning a registration application to the District Clerk in person, by mail to North Country Administra-tion Center, 100 Suffolk Avenue, Stony Brook, New York, by email to igermano@3villagecsd.k12. ny.us, or fax sent to (631) 730-4068. The request for the registration application may include the military voter's preference for receipt of the registration application by either mail, fax or email. Military voter registration application forms must be received in the Office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 25, 2023.

HEREBY GIVEN, that military voters who are qualified voters of the Three Village Central School District, may request an application for a military ballot from the District Clerk in person, by mail to North Country Administration Center, 100 Suffolk Avenue, Stony Brook, 160040 8/10 4x vth New York, by email to igermano@3villagecsd.k12. ny.us, or fax sent to (631) 730-4068. In such request, the military voter may indicate his/her preference for receiving the application by mail, fax or email. A military voter must return the original military ballot application by mail or in person to the Office of the District Clerk at the address

above. In order for a military voter to be issued a military ballot, a valid military ballot application must be received in the office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m., on August 25, 2023. Military ballot applications received in accordance with the foregoing will be processed in the same manner as a non-military ballot application under Section 2018-a of the Education Law. The application for military ballot may include the military voter's preference for receipt of the military ballot by mail, fax, or email.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, a military voter's original military ballot must be returned by mail or in person to the Office of the District Clerk at North Country Administration Center, 100 Suffolk Avenue, Stony Brook, New York. Military ballots shall be canvassed if they are received by the District Clerk before the close of polls on September 20, 2023 showing a cancellation mark of the United States Postal Service or a foreign country's postal service, or showing a dated en-dorsement of receipt by another agency of the United States Government; or received not later than 5:00 p.m. on September 20. 2023 and signed and dated by the military voter and one witness thereto, with a date which is ascertained to be not later than the day before the election.

Dated: August 1, 2023 AND FURTHER NOTICE IS Stony Brook, New York

> Inger Germano, District Clerk Three Village Central School District of Brookhaven and Smithtown. Suffolk County, New York

AVISO DE LA REUNIÓN ESPECIAL DEL DISTRITO **ESCOLAR CENTRAL DE THREE VILLAGE** DE BROOKHAVEN Y SMITHTOWN, CONDADO DE SUFFOLK, NUEVA YORK EN NOMBRE DE LA BIB-LIOTECA CONMEMORATIVA EMMA S. CLARK

POR LA PRESENTE SE DA

AVISO de que una Reunión Especial del Distrito de los votantes calificados del Distrito Escolar Central de Three Village de Brookhaven y Smithtown, Condado de Suffolk, Nueva York, se llevará a cabo en la Sala de Publicaciones Periódicas de la Biblioteca Conmemorativa Emma S. Clark. Main Street, Setauket, el miércoles 20 septiembre 2023 a las 10:00 a.m. hora prevaleciente, para votar sobre el presupuesto operativo anual de la Biblioteca Conmemorativa Emma S. Clark para el año calendario 2024.

La proposición aparecerá en las máquinas de votación en la siguiente forma:

La Junta de Educación deberá apropiarse de fondos por la cantidad de Cinco Millones Setecientos Veintiseis Quinientos Ochenta y Dos (\$5,726,582) Dolares para el presupuesto operativo 2024 de la Biblioteca Conmemorativa Emma S. Clark, con dicha suma que se recaudará mediante impuestos sobre la propiedad imponible del Distrito Escolar Central de Three Village.

Y SE DA AVISO ADICIONAL que la votación en esa reunión se realizará mediante cédulas de papel: las urnas estarán abiertas el 20 septiembre de 2023 durante el período que comenzará a las 10:00 a.m. y terminará a las 9:00 p.m., hora vigente, en dicha

Y SE DA AVISO ADICIONAL de que se llevará a cabo una Reunión de Información Presupuestaria en la Biblioteca el 13 de septiembre de 2023 a las 7:00 p.m.; Los fideicomisarios y el personal de la biblioteca estarán presentes para proporcionar información al público.

Y SE DA AVISO ADICIONAL que cualquier residente del Distrito pueda obtener una copia de la declaración de la cantidad de dinero que se requerirá para financiar el presupuesto de la Biblioteca para 2024, cualquier residente del Distrito el miércoles 6 septiembre de

**LEGALS** con't on pg. 9

## 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

#### UTILITY

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 publicprivate 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 publicprivate 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. Register on-site to testify. Written testimony can be submitted at nylipa. gov/public-input. Other September meetings are due to be held at The Rockaways, Southampton and Farmingdale State College.

#### **LEGALS** con't from pg. 7

2023 hasta el martes 19 septiembre de 2023 entre las 9:30 a.m. y las 4:00 p.m., hora vigente, en la Biblioteca en los días en que la Biblioteca está abierta y entre las 9:00 a.m. y las 3:30 p.m. días laborables en el edificio de la administración North Country, avenida de 100 Suffolk Avenue, Stony Brook, New York, en los días en que el Distrito Escolar está en sesión.

Y POR LA PRESENTE SE DA AVISO ADICIONAL de que se requiere el registro personal de los votantes de conformidad con la Sección 2014 de la Ley de Educación o el Artículo 5 de la Ley Electoral. Si un votante se ha registrado hasta ahora de conformidad con la Sección 2014 de la Ley de Educación y ha votado en una reunión anual o especial del distrito dentro de los cuatro años anteriores al 20 de septiembre de 2023, él / ella es elegible para votar en esta reunión especial del distrito; si un votante está registrado y es elegible para votar bajo el Artículo 5 de la Ley Electoral, también es elegible para votar en esta reunión especial del distrito.

Y SE DA AVISO ADICIONAL de que las solicitudes de boletas para votos en ausencia se podrán obtener del Secretario del Distrito a partir del 30 de augusto de 2023; entre las 9:00 a.m. y las 3:30 p.m., hora vigente, durante todos los días en que la escuela está en sesión. Las solicitudes completadas deben ser recibidas por el Secretario del Distrito al menos siete (7) días antes de la votación si la boleta se va a enviar por correo al votante, o el día antes de la votación, el martes 19 de septiembre de 2023 si la boleta se va a mano entregada al votante entregar en la oficina del Secretario del Distrito ubicada en el Edificio de administración de North Country, 100 Suffolk Avenue, Stony Brook, New York.

Una lista de personas a las que se emiten boletas de voto en ausencia estará disponible para su inspección a los votantes calificados del Distrito en la oficina del Secretario del Distrito comenzando el 13 de septiembre de 2023 durante las horas de oficina regulares hasta el día de la votación.

Dicha boleta de voto en ausencia debe ser recibida por el Secretario del Distrito a más tardar a las 5:00 p.m. del día de la votación, 20 de septiembre de 2023, si se va a sondear.

Y POR LA PRESENTE SE DA

AVISO ADICIONAL de que el

registro con el propósito de

registrar a todos los votantes calificados del Distrito de conformidad con la Sección 2014 de la Ley de Educación que se agregarán al Registro para ser utilizados en la votación mencionada se llevará a cabo de 8:30 a.m. a 3:30 p.m. los días en que la escuela esté en sesión en la Oficina del Secretario del Distrito en el Edificio de Administración North Country y en la Oficina de Registro de Estudiantes ubicada en el Edificio de Administración North Country; toda persona tendrá derecho a que su nombre se inscriba en dicho registro, siempre que se sepa o se demuestre, a satisfacción del Secretario, que tiene derecho a votar en la reunión extraordinaria para la que se ha de preparar el registro. La fecha límite para registrarse para votar es el viernes 8 de septiembre de 2023. El registro así preparado de conformidad con la Sección 2014 de la Ley de Educación y la lista de inscripción preparada por la Junta de Elecciones del Condado de Suffolk se presentará en la Oficina del Secretario del Distrito Escolar en el Edificio de Administración de North Country, 100 Suffolk Ave., Stony Brook, Nueva York y estará abierto para inspección a cualquier votante calificado del Distrito a partir del viernes 8 de septiembre de 2023 hasta el martes 19 de septiembre de 2023 entre las 9:00 a.m. y las 4:00 p.m., hora prevaleciente, los días de semana y todos los días anteriores al día establecido para la votación, excepto el domingo y; además, las listas de inscripción estarán

disponibles en la Biblioteca Conmemorativa Emma S. Clark el día de la votación.

Y SE DA AVISO ADICIONAL **DE** que de conformidad con la Sección 2014 de la Ley de Educación del Estado de Nueva York, la Junta de Registro se reunirá el miércoles 20 de septiembre de 2023 en la Sala de Publicaciones Periódicas de la Biblioteca Conmemorativa Emma S. Clark. Main Street, Setauket, entre las 10:00 a.m. y las 9:00 p.m. hora prévaleciente, para preparar el Registro del Distrito Escolar que se utilizará para la Reunión Anual del Distrito Escolar que se celebrará en 2024 y cualquier otra reuniones especiales de distrito que podrán celebrarse con posterioridad a la elaboración de dicho Registro. El día de la votación, cualquier votante calificado tendrá derecho a que su nombre se coloque en dicho Registro siempre que se sepa o se demuestre a satisfacción de la Junta de Registro que tiene derecho a votar en la Reunión Anual del Distrito Escolar en 2024 o en cualquier Reunión Especial del Distrito celebrada después del 20 de septiembre 2023.

ADICIONAL, que los votantes militares que no están registrados actualmente pueden solicitar para registrarse como votantes calificados del Distrito Central Escolar de Three Village solicitando y devolviendo una solicitud de registro al Secretario del Distrito en persona, por correo al North Country Administration Center, 100 Suffolk Avenue, Stony Brook, New York, por correo electrónico a igermano@3villagecsd.k12. ny.us, o por fax al (631) 730-4068. El pedido de la solicitud de registro puede incluir la preferencia del votante militar de recibir la solicitud de registro por correo, fax o correo electrónico. Los formularios de solicitud de registro de votantes militares deben recibirse en la Oficina del Secretario de Distrito a más tardar a las 5:00 pm del 25 de augusto de 2023.

SE HA DADO UN AVISO

SE HA DADO UN AVISO

ADICIONAL, que los votantes militares que son votantes calificados del Distrito Central Escolar de Three Village, pueden pedir una solicitud para una boleta militar al Secretario de Distrito en persona, por correo al North Country Administration Center, 100 Suffolk Avenue, Stony Brook, New York, por correo electrónico a igermano@ 3villagecsd.k12.ny.us, o enviada por fax a (631) 730-4068. En dicha solicitud, el votante militar puede indicar su preferencia de recibir la solicitud por correo, fax o correo electrónico. Un votante militar debe devolver la solicitud de boleta militar original por correo o en persona a la Oficina del Secretario de Distrito en la dirección anterior. Para que un votante militar reciba una boleta militar, se debe recibir una solicitud de boleta militar válida en la Oficina del Secretario de Distrito a más tardar a las 5:00 pm del 25 de augusto de 2023. Las solicitudes de boleta militar recibidas de acuerdo con lo anterior se procesarán de la misma manera que una solicitud de boleta electoral no militar según la Sección 2018-a de la Ley de Educación. La solicitud de boleta militar puede incluir la preferencia del votante militar de recibir la boleta militar por correo, fax o correo electrónico.

SE HA DADO UN AVISO ADICIONAL, la boleta militar original de un votante militar debe devolverse por correo o en persona a la Oficina del Secretario de Distrito en North Country Administra-tion Center, 100 Suffolk Avenue, Stony Brook, Nueva York. Las boletas militares serán escrutadas si son recibidas por el Secretario de Distrito antes del cierre de las urnas el 20 de septiembre de 2023 mostrando una marca de cancelación del Servicio Postal de los Estados Unidos o del servicio postal de un país extranjero, o mostrando la fecha de endoso reciba por otra agencia del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos; o recibido a más tardar a las 5:00 pm del 20 de septiembre de 2023 y firmado y fechado por el votante militar y un testigo del mismo, con una fecha que se determina que es no más tarde del día anterior de la elección.

fechado: 1 de augusto de 2023 Stony Brook, Nueva York

Inger Germano, Secretaria de Distrito Escolar Central de Three Village de Brookhaven y Smithtown, Condado de Suffolk (Nueva York)

160140 8/10 4x vth

Notice of formation of Cleanprep LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on June 15th 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: 23 Vento Lane, Setauket NY. 11733. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

162330 8/24 6c vth

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN

PURSUANT TO THE PROVI-SIONS 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 ZON-ING APPEALS WILL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS LAW, HOLD THE FOLLOWING, AT ONE IN-DEPENDENCE HILL, FAR-MINGVILLE, N.Y.: 1. WORKSESSION ON SEPTEM-BER 18, 2023 (BZA CONFERENCE ROOM – 1ST FLOOR) AT 4:00 P.M., 2. A PUBLÍC 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 MAT-TERS 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 CALENDAR AND/OR THE END OF THE CALL OF THE ENTIRE PUBLIC CALENDAR, AS TIME PERMITS TO DISCUSS THE DECISION CALENDAR

#### **VILLAGE TIMES HERALD**

- 2. Wildwood Family Limited Partnership, c/o Andrew Malguarnera, 713 Main St., Port Jefferson, NY. Location: South side Hillside Rd. 75' West of Midwood Rd. (West side Midwood Rd.), Stony Brook. Applicant requests division of a parcel into 2 plots, A & B, requiring lot frontage (Midwood Rd.) and minimum side yard variances for existing one family dwelling on plot A. (0200 10800 0300 003000)
- 3. Wildwood Family Limited Partnership, c/o Andrew Malguarnera, 713 Main St., Port Jefferson, NY. Location: South side Hillside Rd. 225' West of Midwood Rd., Stony Brook. Applicant requests lot area and lot frontage variances for a proposed one family dwelling on plot B.

CASES WILL BE HEARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BOARD.

HOWARD M. BERGSON CHAIRMAN

166170 9/14 1x vth

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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

#### COUNTY

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 the voters will be "The Republican Legislature wants Suffolk County is currently the poorest it has ever "The Republican Legislature wants Suffolk County is currently the poorest it has ever "The Republican Legislature wants Suffolk County is currently the poorest it has ever "The Republican Legislature wants of the voters will be "The Republican Legislature wants of the voters" was also be "The Republican Legislature wants of the voters will be "The Republican Legislature wants of the voters" was also be "The Republican Legislature wants of the voters will be "The Republican Legislature wants of the voters" was also be "The Republican Legislature wants of the voters" was also be "The Republican Legislature wants of the

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

#### PERSPECTIVE (D)

D) tenure, 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].

approved a \$4.2 billion While McCaffrey made various Environmental Bond Act to protect 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



Katherine Cahill, Belle Terre

they were not singleissue 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:

"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.

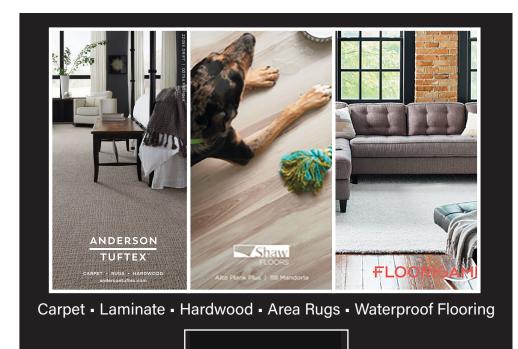
When asked if protecting groundwater and expanding sewers in Suffolk County would influence her vote, she replied, "Yes. The sewer infrastructure would impact the environment and the wellbeing of the people who live here in the community. It is important that we have clean water and fresh air, just an 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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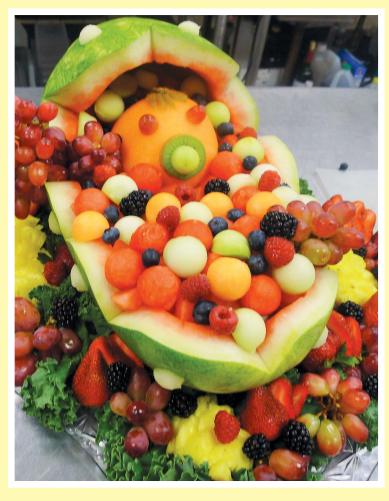
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## Wonderful Tea Party Baby Shower

"Words cannot describe how perfect my daughter's shower turned out in large part to your amazing food and even more so your amazing staff! Guests were wowed with the passed items and then the crepe station was just beyond! The staff were like old friends! So many guests remarked on how they just loved them! I'm attaching some photos but just want you to know I will never use another caterer!!" -Kathy D, East Islip

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## Setauket FD keeps the memory of 9/11 alive

BY BOB O'ROURK

DESK@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

On my way home in 2001 from a photo assignment, I heard news about a plane crashing into the World Trade Center.

OUR **TURN** 

Within the following hours, the horrific events of 9/11 unfolded. I found myself at the Setauket Fire Department's Nicolls Road fire station, where

members assembled to respond to New York City with help. After assembling equipment and tools, Setauket led several neighboring departments into the city to support the NYFD.

On Monday night, Sept. 11, the memory of 9/11 was preserved by members of the Setauket Fire Department in a ceremony held at the Setauket 9/11 Memorial and led by Setauket Chief of Department Richard Leute. This year, the event was held inside the Nicolls Road Firehouse due to the threat of heavy rain and lightning.

"It's hard to believe it's been 22 years," Leute said. "Many of us remember that day like it was yesterday. That day changed our lives forever. 2,977 people were killed that day, and many more people have died as a result of sickness or injuries they got as a result of 9/11."

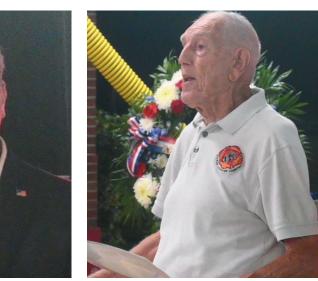
Several officials, including New York State Assemblyman Ed Flood (R-Port Jefferson) and Town of Brookhaven Councilmember Jonathan Kornreich, delivered brief statements about that day of infamy.

Kornreich spoke to the numerous Scouts in attendance, saying, "You won't find a better example of honor and bravery than the men and women in front of you," referring to the fire department members.

Lou Andrade, a retired NYFD and SFD firefighter, gave an unexpected talk about his participation in the 9/11 response efforts. The ceremony then closed with a prayer from Bobby Thompson, after which four wreaths were placed upon the Setauket 9/11 Memorial.











## 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



Above and right, Suffolk County first responders honor the fallen during a memorial service Monday morning, Sept. 11. Below, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone delivers his remarks.

Photos from Steve Bellone's Flickr page



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."

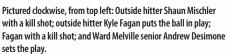
He added that 9/11 can serve as an annual reminder of America's capacity to heal, overcome differences and rediscover common values.

"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."







## Patriots boys volleyball maintain good start

BY BILL LANDON

DESK@TBRNEWSMEDIA.COM

SPORTS

Ward Melville looked to build on their season opening win two days earlier when the Raiders of Pat-Med came calling in a league matchup Thursday night, Sept. 7. Pat-Med stayed within striking distance in all three matches, but the Patriots prevailed, sweeping the Raiders, 25-22, 25-17,

25-21.

Kyle Fagan was the spark for the Patriots, leading his team with 13 kills, nine digs and a block. Teammate Brady Reyling killed nine while Shawn Legge and Shaun Mischler had six kills and three digs each.

The team retook the court with a road game against Smithtown East, Sept. 11, and had another three-set win, lifting the Patriots to 3-0-0 in the early going.

- Photos by Bill Landon





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- Garage Sales
- Announcements
- Antiques & Collectibles
- Automobiles/Trucks etc.
- Finds under \$50
- Health/Fitness/Beauty
- Merchandise
- Personals
- Novenas
- Pets/Pet Services
- Professional Services
- Schools/Instruction/Tutoring
- Wanted to Buy
- Employment
- Cleaning

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- Handyman Services
- Home Improvement
- Lawn & Landscaping
- Painting/Wallpaper
- Plumbing/Heating
- Power Washing
- Roofing/Siding
- Tree Work
- Window Cleaning
- Real Estate

  - Residential Property
  - Commercial Property
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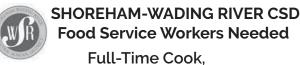
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#### Editorial

### 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 or mail them to TBR News Media, P.O. Box 707, Setauket, NY 11733

### Letters to the Editor

### The scope and size of The Stony Brook School's proposed expansions

In response to your Stony Brook School article on Aug. 31 [See story, "The Stony Brook School submits application for new buildings as neighbors voice concerns"], please note a total of 95 signatures, not "over a dozen," were submitted to the Town of Brookhaven Zoning Board at the Aug. 23 meeting opposing the indoor practice facility. You can review the video of that meeting on Channel 18 to see when I actually presented the board with the petition.

It is true that the Stony Brook School's representatives — the lawyers and architect — presented an updated plan that we were only informed of the changes an hour before the case was called before the board, eliminating the access of the indoor sports facility from Chubb Hill Road and also eliminating the 14 proposed parking spots, which is good.

The new proposed access road will be at Quaker Path, pending the fire department's approval. But the proposed size of the building itself is huge: 35,000 square feet and 46-feet tall.

It's like a Costco smack in the middle of a residential neighborhood. A metal building of that size will significantly impact the aesthetics of the beautiful wooded area of old Stony Brook.

Please note that the proposed 35,000 square feet is 23,800 feet over the currently permitted size of 11,200 square feet. And the proposed 46-feet height is 11-feet taller than the currently allowed 35 feet. The school said they would do nice landscaping around the sports facility, but you can't hide a 35,000-square-foot, 46-feet-high metal building.

The Stony Brook School only has approximately 400 students grades seven through 12, so the question is why such a large building is needed for a small student body when other schools in our area that have many more students do not have an indoor sports facility. Once the metal building is up, the local residents will be stuck with this monster of a building in our backyard.

Potentially The Stony Brook School can use this sports facility for any function sports or nonsporting event any time of day and night.

The school can also rent out the facility to outside groups, though the school's representatives at the Zoning Board meeting said they would not do that.

I'm not so sure of their sincerity. The next ZBA meeting to discuss this proposal is on Wednesday, Sept. 20.

Hope Wolinski Stony Brook

## 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 A uthority wells and into our homes as drinking water.

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

Old cesspools and septic systems need replacing, and they should be replaced with upgraded, nitrogenreducing 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 Copiague

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.



File photo by Raymond Janis

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

ou 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?

y favorite meal of the day is breakfast. Now I'm not one of those happy people who awaken 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 bours

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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