

# May Newsletter 2014

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***Dues are due!***

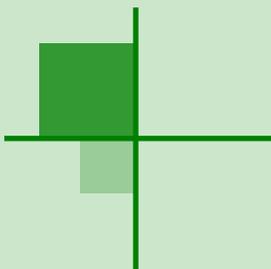
## 2014 Meeting Dates:

**May 6**

June 3

July 1

**First Tuesdays**



## Civic Speaker May 6th

### Dan Losquadro

(631) 451-9200

**The Highway Superintendent is charged with taking care of all the Town roads in the Town of Brookhaven and maintaining over 2,100 miles of roadway. Maintenance of town roadways includes the repair of pot holes, sweeping of all roadways with particular attention to intersections in the Town of Brookhaven. Other major community improvements undertaken on behalf of our residents include drainage projects, road resurfacing, tree trimmings and tree removals, maintenance of recharge basins (sumps), and installing and maintaining catch basins. Keeping main roads and secondary roads clear of snow and ice during inclement weather is a top priority for the Department.**

Superintendent of Highways  
Photo by Erika Karp



Sheriff Vincent De-Marco : Thank you for the clean-up

The median on 25A from Westchester Drive east to Waldbaum's - a distance of .6 miles The median on 25A from the By-Pass to JAE (Edgar School), a distance of .1 mile and the By-Pass on 25A from the start of the school to the Shoreham boundary at Water Street.

May 6th Agenda:

Pledge of Allegiance 7:30 PM

Roll call of Officers and Trustees

Reading of Minutes of Previous Meeting  
Report of Officers  
Report of Committees

COPE Report

Speakers

Old Business

Land Use Committee Report

Adjournment

Who to call? List of important numbers

Police and Emergency: 911 and Address: 400 Middle Country Rd, Selden, NY 11784 Phone:(631) 854-8600 Non emergency 852-COPS

Fire Department(631) 744-2390

Dangerous road complaint? Pothole repair call Highway Supt Losquadro (631) 451-9200, (631) 732-2584, fax

For Councilwoman Jane Bonner: 451-6964, phone / 451-6447, fax councilwomanbonner@brookhaven.org

For Supervisor Brookhaven Ed Romaine: One Independence Hill , Farmingville, NY 11738 (631) 451-TOWN

For NYS Assemblyman Anthony H. Palumbo District 2, 400 W. Main St., Suite 201, Riverhead, NY 11901 631-727-0204

For Suffolk County Legislator Sarah Anker: (631) 854-1600 620 Route 25A, Suite B, Mt. Sinai, New York 11766



2014

Rocky Point Civic Association

President - Kathy Weber

Vice President -

Treasurer - Maureen O'Keefe

Recording Secretary -

Corresponding Secretary Pat Adamko

Sergeant at Arms - Charles T. Bevington

Membership Secretary - Joan Sele

Trustees -

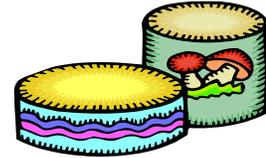
Rory Rubino,

Virginia Heslin,

and Susan Bevington

Call for members' \$10 Annual and \$15 Family Dues Renew Now— PLEASE RENEW NOW

Bring Pantry items each meeting...



From our April speakers:\

Guest speaker for April was Superintendent Ring: Public Hearing on School Budget Tuesday, May 6 @ 7 PM in the HS Auditorium; Public Vote May 20th

From the Local Legislators Anker's Office: 1117 was passed , I.R. 1117 A Local Law Prohibiting the Sale and Use of Hydraulic Fracturing Byproducts. (Spencer, Anker) Public Works, Transportation & Energy

Rocky Point Farmers Market: May 11th Mothers Day 8AM– 1PM

Hamlet Organic Garden plans on attending the first market! Right now its difficult to say what we have available, the cold weather has all our transplants a few weeks behind. But we plan to have asparagus, arugula, lettuce, spinach, Jerusalem artichokes, parsnips, chives, Asian greens, salad mix,

thanks, Jill

Davis peach Farm.com

We will be their with our sangria mix! Pies jams jellies salsas etc. and we were thinking if making little gift baskets filled with our canned goods

thanks, Christine Davis

Rocky Point Artisans Brewery will be there with some fresh spring beer , thanks, Mike

www.rockypointfarmsmarket/Wordpress.com

Sundays May through November



## Suffolk sued for diverting \$33 million in water funds and other Suffolk Water Issues

Environmental groups have sued Suffolk for diverting almost \$33 million from its Drinking Water Protection Program to balance the county's budget. The money from a voter-approved quarter-percent sales tax increase was sold to the public first in 1987 and approved five times by voters, most recently in 2007, as a way to protect drinking water and stabilize sewer district rates, according to the lawsuit. Instead, the redirected money, which comes from the sewer stabilization portion of the sales tax, was a one-time way to cover operating expenses in the county budget. The move was approved by Suffolk Executive Steve Bellone and the Suffolk County Legislature.

Changing a tax earmarked by voters "is a violation of a moral contract with the people of Suffolk County that the government serves," said Richard Amper, executive director of the Long Island Pine Barrens Society, Sunday. "If politicians want to change it, they have to get the public's permission. Otherwise, what little faith people have in government is degraded even more." The Pine Barrens Society and Long Island Environmental Voters Forum filed the lawsuit on Wednesday in Riverhead against the county, Bellone and the legislature. Bellone, who has made water quality a top priority of his administration's agenda this year, is negotiating with environmental groups to guarantee that the money is repaid. County officials said a plan to eventually pay money back into the fund. "We agree with their concerns and think they're valid," said Justin Meyers, a spokesman for Bellone. He said the county is committed to paying back the money in future budget years, and there will be no practical impact on drinking water programs once that money is repaid.

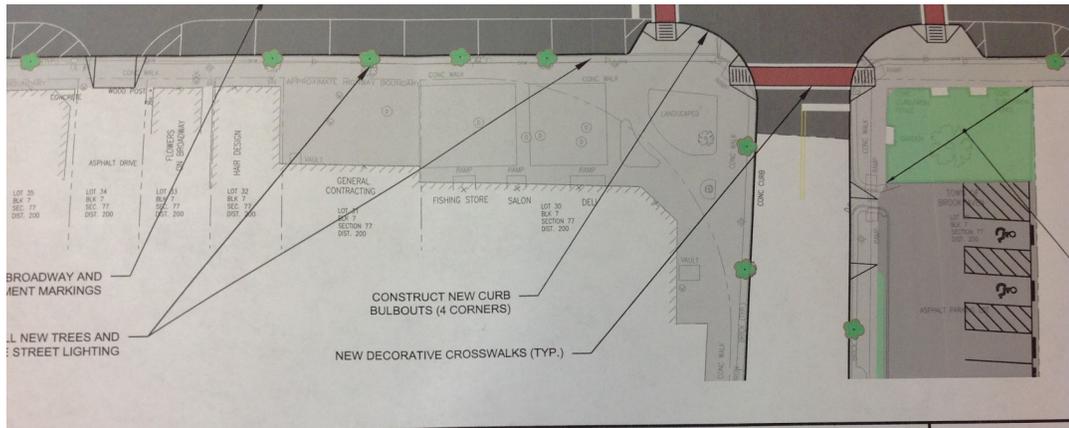
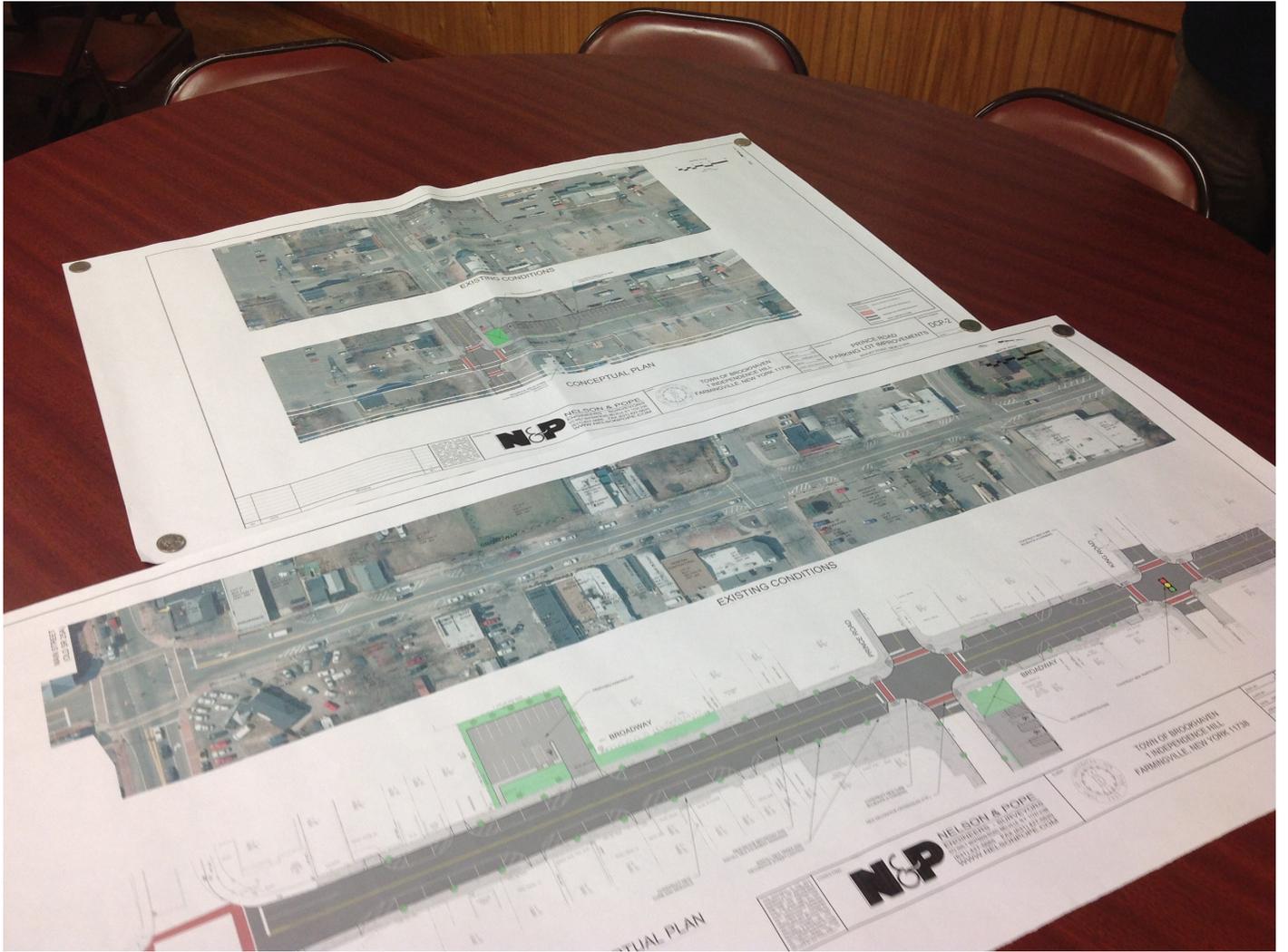
It isn't the first time drinking water money has been diverted for purposes other than those for which voters signed up, environmentalists said. Under former County Executive Steve Levy, Suffolk moved \$20 million from the Drinking Water Protection Program in 2011 to balance its budget. A legal challenge to that transfer is pending in the Appellate Court. The sales tax money also has been used to pay for county staff positions, instead of going to new clean water projects, according to Bob DeLuca, president of the environmental organization Group for the East End. The public trust is always at risk," DeLuca said Sunday. "The reason people came out to support this was to protect water quality, not to patch budget problems."

The sales tax has been extended until 2030. The tax has raised more than \$1 billion over the past 25 years, according to the lawsuit. The lawsuit asks a judge to void resolutions passed in 2013 that amended the county's operating budget and that future diversions of the drinking water money to the county's operating budget be declared illegal. Meyers noted that even after the transfer of the \$32.8 million, the fund would still have more than \$100 million.

### From May 2012

"Planned cuts to the well-drilling staff of Suffolk's Water Resources unit would "severely impact" the county's ability to operate a "safe, sustainable and cost-efficient" water-testing program and also jeopardize state grants, according to an internal Health Services Department memo. Reducing staff from five to two would affect a series of existing water-quality programs, said the memo, which Newsday obtained. As a result of the reduction, "it is unlikely we could perform any significant drilling" with the two remaining staffers, said the memo. Legis. Ed Romaine (R-Center Moriches) is preparing a resolution that would use existing funds from a quarter-percent county sales tax, known as 477 funds, to finance nine jobs in the division through the end of the year. Layoffs are scheduled to start July 1. Some \$300,000 would be required to restore the jobs through year's end, Romaine said. There would be no drilling," he said. "We would be blind to the threats to our groundwater. This is a major threat."

In a statement, Health Services Department Commissioner James Tomarken said, "In spite of impending layoffs, county staff will continue to conduct comprehensive well-drilling activities and the Department of Health Services will ask for occasional support from other county departments when it is needed." He said the department plans to explore "new ways to leverage state and private resources, for example, charging polluting parties for the expenses encumbered by the county" to offset the impact of layoffs. Tomarken added public drinking water quality would be "unaffected by changes to the groundwater unit." Among the findings in the March 22 memo from and to staff division heads in the Health Services Department. The unit would not be able to perform all drilling and sampling required under a state Department of Environmental Conservation pesticide monitoring program, jeopardizing a \$150,000 annual grant. Special investigations such as the county's digging and monitoring of 10 wells under compost/mulch piles and former manufactured gas plants could be impacted. A \$20,000 contract to investigate three Suffolk County Water Authority supply wells for possible contamination by chlorinated solvents could be affected. Legislative requests for groundwater probes in districts could be curtailed. Programs to drill and monitor wells with the U.S. Geological Survey could be impacted. Vanessa Baird-Streeter, a spokeswoman for County Executive Steve Bellone, said, "We are looking into and performing the analysis of 477 funding" for the affected jobs, but cautioned, "We cannot tap into reserves to fund these functions." The jobs must be funded from recurring revenue "since the cost associated will be recurring expenses."



IS THE SOLE ENGINEERS & AND HAS BEEN DISSEMINATED USE OF OUR ENT AND ANY S. ESTIMATES CONTAINED E UTILIZED BY THOUT PRIOR T OF N&P EYORS. P.L.I.C. RISK OF LOSS LTING FROM D USE OR RD-PARTY.

CONSULTANT:



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 ENGINEERS • SURVEYORS  
 572 WALT WHITMAN ROAD, MELVILLE, N.Y. 11747-2188  
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