



# News from Legislator Bridget Fleming

*Second Legislative District*

*December 2016 Newsletter*

## Here's what Bridget's up to....

Added a representative of Southampton Hospital Tick-Borne Disease Resource Center to the Tick Control Advisory Committee to (IR 2101)

Worked with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works, Division of Vector Control to include plans for partnership with the East End Town Trustees in the 2017 Vector Control Plan to reduce methoprene spraying (IR 2002)

Sponsored a Local Law to amend the Suffolk County Charter to improve and strengthen the operations of the Suffolk County Board of Ethics (IR 2083)

## State, County and Village Officials Revisit Main Street in Sag Harbor to Discuss Improvements to Local Economy



On Thursday, December 22nd, Legislator Bridget Fleming joined County Executive Steve Bellone, Sag Harbor Mayor Sandra Schroeder and New York State Assemblyman Fred Thiele in revisiting the site of the Main Street fire and discussed how various levels of local government can work together to improve the local economy in the aftermath of the destruction. The officials also visited local businesses in the village, including The Wharf Shop and Golden Pear.

# **Suffolk County 2017 Vector Control Plan to Include Partnership with the Town Trustees to Reduce Methoprene Spraying**



On Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, members of the Suffolk County Legislature voted to adopt the Vector Control 2017 Annual Plan of Work (IR 2002).

The Plan received the support of Legislator Fleming, who had successfully tabled the adopting resolution at the November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Public Works, Transportation and Energy committee, because it did not include the goal of reducing the use of methoprene. Methoprene is applied on the ground level and aerially to control the mosquito population. Its use has been controversial on the East End because of the unintended effects on other wildlife.

After the resolution was tabled, a productive meeting was held on December 8<sup>th</sup> at East Hampton Town Hall between Legislator Fleming; Tom Iwanejko, Director of Vector Control, Suffolk County Department of Public Works; Gil Anderson, Commissioner, Suffolk County Department of Public Works; Kim Shaw, Director of Natural Resources, Town of East Hampton; and the East Hampton Town Trustees. It was agreed that Suffolk County and the Town Trustees would work together on educational efforts and wetland management measures, with the goal of reducing the use of methoprene.

Following the meeting in East Hampton, the plan was amended, and now includes the following language:

“SCDPW Vector Control Division will also continue to work with the various Trustees of the East End to provide educational materials for distribution throughout the communities by the Trustees as well as develop, plan and construct wetland management projects that will hopefully lead eventually to a reduction in methoprene use, while still protecting human health and quality-of-life.”

Legislator Fleming said, “This is a small first step, but a very promising one. I am so pleased that the Trustees and County Vector Control are willing and able to work together to achieve the important goal of reducing the

use of methoprene. The Trustees bring important expertise and resources that can help bring the wetlands back into balance, to allow for non-toxic approaches to reducing the mosquito population.”

“One of Suffolk County’s goals is to reduce pesticide use whenever possible while still protecting the public’s health and well-being” stated Tom Iwanejko, the Director of Suffolk County’s Vector Control program. “Under the direction of County Executive Steve Bellone, Vector Control is actively working on several marsh restoration projects that will not only build coastal resiliency against future storms, but will also target mosquito breeding locations and reduce our need to treat these wetlands by helicopter. Vector Control continues to seek partnerships with the Towns and trustees, State agencies and organizations to further wetland restoration projects to best serve the residents of Suffolk County.”

Trustee Francis Bock said, “The East Hampton Town Trustees appreciate the efforts of County Legislator Bridget Fleming in bringing the interested parties together for a productive meeting. This is a good first step and I look forward to working with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works Vector Control Division towards the reduction and elimination of the use of methoprene.”

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## **LEGISLATOR FLEMING ORGANIZES DISCUSSION WITH EAST END COMMUNITY ON NEW WASTEWATER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGY**



On Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, Legislator Fleming met with Deputy County Executive Peter Scully, staff of the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, Municipal Leaders of the East End, the vendors of the advanced onsite wastewater treatment systems approved by the county, and members of the community to discuss the benefits of the new wastewater technology. During the meeting, each vendor gave a presentation on their system and informed the public of the benefits of upgrading an old cesspool or septic tank. They also spoke about installation costs, how the system works, system operations and maintenance. Some of the benefits include reduced nitrogen levels in surface and ground water, healthier bays, and protection of marine life affected by nitrogen. The program is currently being aired on LTV and Sea-TV.

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# THE TICK CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETS FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE RE-ESTABLISHED

On Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, the Tick Control Advisory Committee held its first meeting since being re-established this year. The committee was re-established by a resolution sponsored by Legislator Fleming in July, in order to ensure that proper actions are being taken to reduce the tick population and the occurrence of tick borne illnesses in Suffolk County. The re-established committee will review and manage tick control methods, provide advice to the Tick Surveillance and Management Program (TSMP), provide input to the Annual Vector Control Plan and assist in public education and the dissemination of information regarding the prevention of tick borne illnesses.

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## LEGISLATOR FLEMING HONORS SOUTHAMPTON POLICE BAY CONSTABLE



At the December 6<sup>th</sup> General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature, Legislator Fleming presented a proclamation to Southampton Town Police Officer Danielle McManus for her outstanding accomplishments during her time as a bay constable, and to recognize her for a life she saved this past summer. On August 26<sup>th</sup>, the Southampton Town Police Department received a call at about 4pm from the Suffolk County Parks Police regarding a beach goer that had been paddle boarding and was in distress. Upon arrival, a young man reported that he was watching his friend paddle board at Meschutt Beach when the wind picked up and pulled her out of sight. The young lady was reported to be wearing a lifejacket while paddle boarding and was heading east. The wind was around 15 knots from the west and sea 2-3 feet. The Southampton Bay Constables were dispatched to conduct a search of the area, and within minutes Bay Constable Danielle McManus located the young lady

about 3 miles east of Meschutt Beach and one mile out to sea. Thanks to her brave and selfless efforts, the young lady was reunited with her family and friends.

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## LEGISLATOR FLEMING HONORS EAST HAMPTON VILLAGE POLICE OFFICERS



At the last General Meeting of 2016, Legislator Fleming presented proclamations to three East Hampton Village Police Officers for going above and beyond the call of duty to save a life. On September 25<sup>th</sup> around 3 pm, the East Hampton Village Police received a call that a man had collapsed on the tee of the 3<sup>rd</sup> hole at the Maidstone Golf Club. Sergeant Richard J. Mamay, Police Officer Steven C. Niggles and Police Officer Matthew B. Kochanasz responded. The man was unresponsive and not breathing upon their arrival. Police Officer Kochanasz quickly began CPR while Sergeant Mamay administered oxygen. Police Officer Niggles connected the AED pads and delivered one shock and the man began breathing again and regained a pulse. He was then transported to Southampton Hospital by members of the East Hampton Village Ambulance Association. Thanks to the efforts of the officers, the man was saved.

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# HOLIDAY MESSAGE FROM BRIDGET FLEMING



I would like to wish the families of the East End a wonderful holiday season and a safe and prosperous New Year, from my family to yours. Let us remember to help the less fortunate and bring good cheer to our neighbors and friends in need. We spent the last few months connecting and working to make the communities the East End a vibrant and thriving place to live. As we move into the New Year, I will continue to work diligently to improving and maintaining the quality of life for the people of the East End, but above all be safe and enjoy your family and friends.



## TICK PREVENTION

Ticks will remain active year-round (above 40 degrees Fahrenheit/4 degrees Celsius). Preventative measures should be used whenever tick exposure is likely. Here are some ways to protect yourself:

- Wear lightly colored clothing
- Wear long pants and sleeves
- Tuck your pants into your socks
- Tuck your shirt into your pants
- Use repellents as directed
- Walk along the center of trails
- Conduct frequent clothing checks
- Carefully inspect your body for ticks
- Keep pets away from tick infested areas and check them before entering the house
- Once home, dry clothing on the highest temperature setting for 10 minutes to kill ticks



Tick removal kits and information can be picked up at our District Office, located at 75 Washington Street in Sag Harbor, or by calling the Southampton Hospital Tick Borne Disease Resource Center at 631-726-TICK.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**FOR THE LATEST UPDATES ON UPCOMING EVENTS, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: <http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/do2/Home.aspx>**