

JOHN VENDITTO
Town Supervisor



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Town of Oyster Bay
54 Audrey Avenue
Oyster Bay, NY 11771

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Town Supervisor
JOHN VENDITTO

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TALK OF THE TOWN

Town to Begin New Cardboard Recycling Program

The Town of Oyster Bay will begin hosting a weekly cardboard recycling drop-off program at three convenient Town locations. Under this new program, spearheaded and organized by Town Councilmembers Rebecca M. Alesia and Anthony D. Macagnone, residents will be able to drop off unwanted cardboard to be recycled on Saturday mornings, beginning June 4.

"This new program will not only generate less solid waste for the Town, but recycling cardboard also reduces the demand for new paper, thereby saving trees and decreasing the amount of pollution generated in new paper production," Councilwoman Alesia said.



From right, Councilman Anthony D. Macagnone and Councilwoman Rebecca M. Alesia set up logistics for the recycling program.

Councilwoman Alesia went on to note that the three locations for drop-off each week are as follows: Town Hall South, 977 Hicksville Road in Massapequa, the Town of Oyster Bay Department of Public Works facility, 150 Miller Place, Syosset, and the Lake Avenue Highway Yard, Oyster Bay. Drop off will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Under this new drop-off program, the following can be recycled: corrugated and paperboard, also known as boxboard. Both types of cardboard are acceptable. Common types of corrugated boxes are those used for moving and shipping, appliances, electronics, office paper, etc. Paperboard is commonly used for cereal and other food boxes, shoe boxes, soda and beverage cartons, tissue boxes, department store gift boxes, etc.

"The Town of Oyster Bay is committed to providing high quality, environmentally sound sanitation and recycling services," Councilman Macagnone stated. "By recycling cardboard, the Town is protecting the environment and saving tax dollars."

Visit Our New Parks Facebook Page



Councilman Pinto Working to Refurbish Local Parklets



Town Councilman Joseph G. Pinto at the new playground on Burton Lane in Massapequa, one of the recently refurbished local parklets he has worked to improve.

"Last May, in a perfect example of government and residents working together, I was approached by residents about the condition of this parklet," Councilman Pinto said. "Town staff worked to make improving this park aesthetically, as well as ensuring its safety, a top priority. I am pleased that we were able to make this happen for our residents, and look forward to more similar projects in the future."

Reminder Regarding Town's Paper Shredding Program: Town residents may bring any unwanted documents to be shredded free of charge under the Town's Paper Shredding Program. This includes old tax-returns, bills, and bank statements. The Paper-Shredding Program is limited to three banker size boxes per resident and excludes home businesses. The next Paper Shredding date will take place on June 25th at the Town's Solid Waste Disposal Complex in Old Bethpage from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Supervisor Venditto: Town Installs Nearly 10,000 Money-Saving LED Lights



Since 2012, the Town of Oyster Bay has installed nearly 10,000 energy efficient LED (Light-emitting Diode) streetlights throughout the Town, under a grant provided by the United States Department of Energy, Supervisor Venditto announced. This program was originally funded through a nearly \$2 million grant obtained by the Town through the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) and the Town has continued to replace High-pressure Sodium (HPS) street lights on roads around the Town of Oyster Bay.

"LED lights have made huge strides in the recent past regarding both energy savings and life span," Supervisor Venditto said. "These new LED lights save 50% of the amount of energy consumed by the previous high pressure sodium bulbs. By replacing these existing HPS street lights within the Town, the Town benefits by receiving a decrease in operating and maintenance costs, as LED streetlighting offers an average lifespan of 10-15 years, whereas HPS lights die out within 5-7 years, resulting in an overall increase in efficiency. Additionally, these new LED lights help the Town save a substantial amount each year on our electric bill."

Ceremony to Honor NYPD Detective Brian Moore Scheduled for May 21 at Plainedge Park

New York City Police Department Detective 1st Grade Brian Moore, who died in the line of duty on May 4, 2015 while serving the residents of New York City, will have a special dedication ceremony held in his memory at the Town of Oyster Bay's Plainedge Park on Saturday, May 21 at 1:00 p.m. The event will include a statue unveiling and building dedication.

"Detective Moore grew up in North Massapequa and proudly called the Plainedge community his home," Supervisor Venditto said. "The Town of Oyster Bay stands united with the Plainedge community, the Plainedge School District, New York City and the family, friends and neighbors of Brian in remembering this remarkable young man."

The son of an NYPD Police Officer, Brian served with distinction during his career as an officer with the New York City Police Department and made over 150 arrests. He quickly earned the respect of fellow police officers with his tireless dedication to his profession and his inherent ability to root out crime and perform his duties at the highest level. His NYPD colleagues knew he was a natural.



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Photo courtesy of NYPD

Town Clerk Altadonna Reminds Residents to Hire Licensed Landscapers

With the spring season upon us, many residents may be looking into hiring a landscaper to take care of yard work. Oyster Bay Town Clerk James Altadonna Jr. reminds residents that for their own protection, they should make sure they hire only Town-licensed landscapers.

"The Town has a local law mandating that all persons, companies or corporations doing landscaping for hire in the Town of Oyster Bay be licensed by the Town," Town Clerk Altadonna stated. "You can identify a Town-licensed landscaper by the identification decal affixed to the driver's side door of each vehicle and to the left rear bumper of any trailer used in the course of business. They are also required to carry the license or a photocopy signed by the licensee at all times.

"The landscaping field has always attracted, and continues to attract, people who are unlicensed, are not familiar with Town regulations regarding landscapers, and who may not be around to guarantee their work," Town Clerk Altadonna commented. "Whether you are looking for a landscaper to simply cut the grass and trim the shrubbery or to install the landscape of your dreams, hiring a Town-licensed landscaper is good protection for you as a consumer because the Town checks to see that the landscaper has a Nassau County license, all insurances and that the vehicles used are properly registered. The Town of Oyster Bay license assures you that the contractor is accountable to you and that the Town is there for you should there be a problem."

Town Clerk Altadonna went on to say that the law provides a number of other regulations. These include restricting landscapers to work Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. No work is permitted on Sunday. Also, landscapers are prohibited from blowing debris into a street or any public property without removing or cleaning up immediately thereafter. In addition, landscapers are required to use a drop cloth or other device designed to collect spillage when refilling oil or gas tanks on equipment.



Councilman Macagnone Secures Wounded Warrior Signs for Town Parks

Town Supervisor John Venditto (second from right) along with (from left) Town Clerk James Altadonna Jr., Councilman Joseph D. Muscarella, Councilman Chris J. Coschignano, Councilwoman Rebecca M. Alesia, Councilman Joseph G. Pinto, Receiver of Taxes James J. Stefanich, Councilman Anthony D. Macagnone and Councilwoman Michele M. Johnson were in attendance at Town Hall to unveil a new Combat Wounded Warrior Parking Sign which will provide a special parking accommodation for a combat wounded warrior at Town Parks. The signs, which were secured through the efforts of Councilman Macagnone, prominently feature a depiction of the iconic Purple Heart medal in its center and will ensure that whenever a combat wounded warrior comes to a Town park, they will have a specially designated place to park. The Town of Oyster Bay proudly carries the designation of "Purple Heart" Town. The title, which was the result of the issuance of an official proclamation to representatives from the New York State Military Order of the Purple Heart and Chapter 417 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, honors the brave men and women who have been wounded or have made the supreme sacrifice in service to the Nation. Among those on hand for the event with Supervisor Venditto and the Town Board are Past New York State Commander Connie Steers of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (front row sixth from right), Commander Bob Chiappone of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Post 417 (fifth from right) and Town Veterans Services Officer Matt Rufrano.

Brian Moore Dedication Ceremony May 21

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"To those who had the pleasure to know Brian, it was no surprise that he was able to leave such an indelible mark, both socially and professionally," Supervisor Venditto said. "He had a unique ability to connect with people and felt a tremendous sense of duty as a police officer to stand up for those in need."

Detective Moore paid the ultimate price serving and protecting others. More than 30,000 police officers from around the country came to Plainedge to attend services and pay respects to him.

"This memorial statue and building dedication, in the community where he grew up and lived, will stand as permanent tribute to a young man who touched the lives of many," Supervisor Venditto said. "It will also serve to honor the memories of those who made the ultimate sacrifice while defending this nation and protecting its citizenry."

Brian cared about the people he served and his community. "This ceremony is the community's way of showing how much we cared about him," Supervisor Venditto said. "Brian will forever be a true American hero."

Councilman Coschignano Initiates Amnesty Program

The Town of Oyster Bay is launching an innovative new amnesty initiative designed to allow residents to obtain the necessary permits required on residential building improvements previously done to their homes, according to Councilman Chris J. Coschignano, who is the Town Board's liaison to the Town's Department of Planning and Development.

"Beginning July 1st through December 31st, Town residents will be afforded an amnesty period to secure these permits, without having to incur stringent penalties," Councilman Coschignano said. "During the six month window, residents with these existing improvements will be able to simply follow the normal application and inspection procedure. The standard fees will cover the entire process. All residential homeowners are eligible, including landlords of residential rental properties."

Councilman Coschignano went on to state that this program will be implemented this summer following a public hearing at a future Town Board meeting to amend the Town's local laws to put this amnesty program into effect. The public hearing is currently scheduled for the June 7th meeting of the Oyster Bay Town Board, which will take place at Town Hall North, 54 Audrey Avenue, in Oyster Bay at 10:00 am.

The Councilman said the program addresses both public safety concerns and homeowner convenience. "The Town requires building permits on home improvements because the work needs to be done in accordance to standards and codes," Councilman Coschignano said. "These standards ensure that construction on your home meets workmanship and safety requirements."

Construction work, such as the installation of a deck, swimming pool or other alteration or addition that is not inspected properly can raise serious questions with respect to structural integrity. In addition, faulty plumbing or electrical work can lead to many other problems that can put lives at risk. "The building permit process is not the time to cut corners," Councilman Coschignano said. "Quality workmanship that meets legal building codes is a wise investment; it creates peace of mind and ultimately saves time and money down the road. This will be especially important when a resident needs to sell or refinance their home and they do not have the proper approvals."

The program shall also provide the same amnesty period for expired building permits, which can be renewed for \$200. This will also apply to open residential building permits.

To begin the process for a building permit, residents can call the Town of Oyster Bay's Department of Planning and Development's Building Division at 516-624-6200, where you will be directed through the process. "Residents are also invited to visit the department during business hours for more information or to pick up permit applications," Councilman Coschignano said.



Operation Democracy in Locust Valley

Town Councilwoman Michele M. Johnson (second from left) recently joined with members of Operation Democracy and the Locust Valley Historical Society in welcoming dignitaries from Sainte-Mere-Eglise in Normandy France, who traveled to Locust Valley with a contingent of students as part of an Operation Democracy Celebration. Operation Democracy was initiated in Locust Valley in 1947 following World War II. In a show of mutual respect and appreciation, Locust Valley and the Town of Sainte-Mere-Eglise became sister cities. It is a tremendous bond of unity and friendship that continues to this day. Operation Democracy's original mission was to spread the concepts of freedom, democracy and peace around the world through goodwill. Underlying this movement is the belief that peace cannot be achieved by governments alone, but must start in the hearts of the people themselves. The event promoted peace, friendship, history, civic pride and the strength of the human spirit in participating students from both communities. On hand (left to right) were Normandy Mayor Quetier, Sainte Mere Eglise, Town Councilwoman Johnson, Philippe Gosselin, Depute du Manche of Normandy, Kaye Weninger of Locust Valley, President of Operation Democracy and Normandy Mayor Jean Pierre L'Honneur of Carentan.



Challenger Field Dedication in Plainview

Councilwoman Rebecca M. Alesia (right) and Councilman Joseph G. Pinto (left) recently joined administrators, coaches, players and parents with the Plainview Little League Challenger Baseball Division, members of the Plainview-Old Bethpage School Board and other community leaders, for the opening day ceremony of the league and the first game played on the newly created challenger baseball field on the grounds of the Fern Place School in Plainview. The specially designed field was spearheaded by Councilwoman Alesia and provides a venue for disabled youngsters to play a game they love.