

Summer 2009

2<sup>ND</sup> Legislative District



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# NEWS FROM...

Suffolk County Legislator

*Jay Schneiderman*

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Dear Neighbor,

As your elected representative in the Suffolk County Legislature, I strive to best protect the interests and address the concerns of our district. Throughout my tenure, I have shown independence, innovation and the ability to facilitate positive outcomes on local and regional issues. I have taken aggressive steps toward increasing affordable housing, preserving open space, reducing traffic congestion, keeping our communities safe and working to help our seniors and working families deal with the rising costs of living.

Suffolk County offers a wide range of services to our residents and sometimes finding the right person to call to answer a question or solve a problem can be challenging. My staff and I are always willing to help you with any assistance you may require. Please do not hesitate to contact my office at (631) 852-8400 or e-mail: [jay.schneiderman@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:jay.schneiderman@suffolkcountyny.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jay Schneiderman".

Legislator Jay Schneiderman

# Schneiderman Named Chair County's Environment Committee

Legislator Jay Schneiderman has been named chair of the County's Environment, Planning and Agriculture Committee (EPA) by Presiding Officer William Lindsay for the second year in a row. The former East Hampton Town Supervisor and three term, Legislator accepted the appointment. Legislator Schneiderman has a background in science education and has been involved with numerous environmental initiatives including land preservation and water quality protection. Legislator Schneiderman recently established a county-wide setback from wetlands for fertilizer application.

The chairman of the EPA committee under county law also serves on the County's Council on Environment Quality (CEQ) and the Environmental Trust Review Board (ETRB). The CEQ reviews all projects for potential environmental impacts under State guidelines. The ETRB is tasked with reviewing the appraisals and purchase price of properties being considered for acquisition.

Legislator Schneiderman's district stretches from Montauk to East Moriches and according to the Legislator contains some of the county's most pristine environmental regions. "Jay has been supportive of land acquisition throughout the county and all efforts to reduce pollution in our air water and soil," said Presiding Officer Lindsay "He's done an excellent job over the past year and deserves to stay right where he is."

Schneiderman said that he will make certain that the importance of environmental protection is not lost as the focus on stimulating our economy strengthens. It is essential that we do not compromise our environment for short term economic gain. Our environment is the key to our long term economic viability. Our scenic beauty, historic hamlets, farmlands and beaches are stabilizing our property values and attracting visitors who bring millions of dollars into our local economy.

## Suffolk Approves Setback for Residential Fertilizer Use

*Fertilizers now prohibited within 20' of wetlands*

The Suffolk County Legislature approved Resolution 40-2009 sponsored by Legislator Jay Schneiderman prohibiting the residential use of fertilizers within 20 ft. of natural water bodies. The bill, which cites the environmental detriments associated with fertilizer run-off, creates a county-wide setback for fertilizer use from wetlands. Fertilizers typically contain nitrogen and phosphorus which can leach into bays and harbors stimulating algae growth. Algal blooms, such as the infamous "brown tide", have been associated with the decline of shellfish populations throughout the county. "Fertilizers provide nutrients for plants. These same nutrients spur the growth of algae which in turn deplete oxygen from the water and block needed sunlight from bottom plants that provide safe habitat for marine life. This is a step toward restoring the ecologi-

cal health of our bays," said Legislator Schneiderman whose district includes Long Island's South Fork with many waterfront properties. Violations of the law are subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 per violation. "I'm happy to see that the county is putting the health of our marine environment ahead of our desire to see lush green lawns," said Schneiderman. "This continues a long history of Suffolk County showing leadership on environmental policy."

In December of 2007 the Legislature established a prohibition on residential fertilizer application from November 1 to April 1 to protect water quality. In November of 1970 Suffolk County became the first in the nation to prohibit detergents containing phosphates in an effort to protect water quality.

## Project Lifesaver - Rescues Lost Loved Ones

The Suffolk County Sheriff's Office **Project Lifesaver** program is a new countywide high-tech innovation that gives Sheriffs the ability to rapidly find people who suffer from cognitive impairments that may cause them to wander and get lost.

Project Lifesaver combines technology and specially trained Deputy Sheriff search teams from the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office. Project Lifesaver clients wear a personalized one-ounce battery operated transmitter/bracelet which emits a tracking signal every second, 24 hours a day. According to the Sheriffs, the system has cut average time to find a lost Alzheimer's or dementia patient from eight hours to a half-hour. The system is also used by residents with other cognitive impairments, including autism.

Transmitters are smaller than a quarter and each has its own frequency. The transmitter, transmitter case, transmitter tester, battery and wristband costs \$290 (approximately), plus tax & shipping. The battery and wrist band has to be changed monthly and a new battery and wristband installed. This costs about \$10 each month.

Enrollment applications can be requested via e-mail at: [lifesaver@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:lifesaver@suffolkcountyny.gov), or by calling 631-852-3405. Your Enrollment Application must be completed and submitted to the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, 100 Center Drive, Riverhead, N.Y. 11901. Once an application is reviewed, an appointment will be made by a Project Lifesaver specialist from the Sheriff's Office for a home visit.



Suffolk County Legislator Jay Schneiderman presented Christopher Kohnken, a Southampton Town Senior Bay Constable and Richard Franks, a Southampton Town Bay Constable with proclamations for their heroic rescue on April 8, 2009 of two teenage girls near Simmons Point in Jamesport.



Legislator Schneiderman honors Lillian Woudsma, Director of the Sag Harbor Food Pantry as the 2009 Woman of Distinction for the 2nd Legislative District.



Legislator Jay Schneiderman joins in the ribbon cutting and rededication ceremony for the David W. Crohan Community Center on Montauk Highway in Flanders. Photos by Andrea Aurichio



Joined by a diverse group of East End leaders at the Southampton Train Station, Suffolk County Legislator Jay Schneiderman convened a news conference opposing the proposed payroll tax to fund the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA).

## SCCC Legislator Appreciation Day April 24, 2009

Commemorating the legislative partnerships that have been instrumental in developing the institution as a College of Excellence

Left to right, Legislator Ed Romaine, Professor Richard Amster, adjunct instructor at SCCC, Legislator John M. Kennedy Jr. and Legislator Jay Schneiderman take part in a hands-on cooking demonstration at the College's recent Legislator Appreciation Day.





Pictured from right to left: Legislator Jay Schneiderman, Patricia Stearns, Administrator at the Riverhead Health Care Center and Commissioner Humayun J. Chaudhry, D.O., M.S.

On December 4th SC Legislator Jay Schneiderman & Health Commissioner, Dr. Humayun Chaudhry officially opened the county's state-of-the-art digital mammography unit at the Riverhead County Health Center.



Legislator Jay Schneiderman is pictured in his district office with care packages collected by Girl Scout Troops from Westhampton, Westhampton Beach, East Quogue and Hampton Bays, for the troops in Afghanistan. The troops (Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadets and Seniors) collected from Hampton Bays to Speonk, and received postage assistance from Westhampton Beach PBA, Quogue PBA, Quogue VFW and the Kiwanis Club.



Photos : left to right; SYS Director Scott Johnson, Student Andreas Esposito , Assistant teacher Nancy Miller, Student Hayley Lund, Student Emily Goleski, Sensei Helene Ely, Student Max Yardley, Student Victor Esposito, Legislator Jay Schneiderman, Student Harrison Yardley. Not pictured: Student Matthew Morgani

On March 28th, County Legislator Jay Schneiderman honored students from Sensei Helen Elys' karate class at Southampton Youth Services. All seven received their black belts and were presented with Certificate of Merits from the Suffolk County Legislature.



Among those attending were, above left to right, Lisa Cerretani, Eugene Koch, Joan Lycke, Asa Gosman, Richard Sperber and Suffolk County Legislator Jay Schneiderman.

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The Suzanne Koch Gosman Memorial Garden at the Montauk Playhouse was formally dedicated at an Earth Day observance on Saturday. Funding for the garden was made possible in part through a grant from Legislator Jay Schneiderman.