

District 16 • SPRING 2009

Serving DIX HILLS • ELWOOD • NORTH BABYLON • CENTERPORT
DEER PARK • EAST NORTHPORT • GREENLAWN • MELVILLE AND HUNTINGTON



PRSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 156
11787



COMMUNITY REPORT

from Suffolk County Legislator

STEVE STERN

1842 East Jericho Tpke., Suite P, Huntington, NY 11743 • Phone: (631) 854-5100

2009 Committee Assignments

Chairman: Veterans & Seniors Committee

Vice Chairman: Economic Development,
Higher Education & Energy

Vice Chairman: Public Works &
Transportation

Member: Parks & Recreation

Legislator Stern Secures Federal Stimulus fund- ing for Our Community

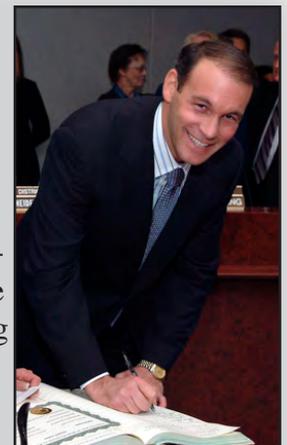
Legislator Stern traveled to our nation's Capital to meet with Congressman Steve Israel to secure high priority infrastructure funding for our community under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These investments will immediately create jobs and provide roadway improvements and repair.



Dear Neighbors:

We continue to face challenging times nationwide and here at home in Suffolk County. I remain fully committed to working with all levels of Government and with our community, to ease the burdens on working families by holding the line on taxes, making necessary spending cuts and ensuring that vital services are maintained. Inside this newsletter, you will find valuable information regarding County programs available to residents and important news about the steps that I have taken to help protect our seniors, young children and those with special needs.

Please know that my staff, Deborah Harris, Mary Young and Nancy Jacobsen and I are always available to assist you. Feel free to stop by our district office, call, e-mail or write and we will be happy to address your concerns.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Steve Stern.

SUFFOLK COUNTY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF INTEREST

SUFFOLK COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING
Advocacy, transportation, home care & nutrition
(631) 853-8200

SUFFOLK COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES AGENCY
Assistance to veterans and their families
(631) 853-VETS

SUFFOLK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Legal referrals and information
(631) 234-5511

LEGAL AID-SENIOR DIVISION
(631) 854-0401

NASSAU-SUFFOLK LAW SERVICES
1757 Veterans Highway - Suite 50
Islandia, NY 11749
(631) 232-2400

Provides legal assistance in civil matters to low-income persons who meet income guidelines. Concentrates on public assistance, food stamps, Medicaid, homelessness, evictions and foreclosures.

FORECLOSURE PREVENTION HOTLINE
Provides referrals, financial counseling and assistance to homeowners facing foreclosure.
(631) 853-4800

PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISCOUNTS- SCRIPTS CARD
Discount card for uninsured residents
1(877) 321-2652

SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (DSS) CENTER
Public assistance, medical assistance, food stamps, energy assistance, child support enforcement and housing assistance.
Southwest Center
Two South 2nd Street
Deer Park, NY 11729
(631) 854-9935

EMERGENCY SERVICES
Handles emergencies after 4:30 p.m. including child protective services, physical and sexual abuse, neglect and abandonment, emergency housing, adult protective services.
(631) 854-9100

SUFFOLK COUNTY ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION-SCAT
Provides curb to curb service for individuals with disabilities.
(631) 853-8337 TYY (631) 853-5658

One-Stop Employment Center



The Suffolk County One-Stop Employment Center provides valuable resources for those seeking employment. The Center is staffed by career counselors and has numerous tools, including computers, fax machines and job listings in the private sector and with Civil Service. Additionally, the Center provides advice on resume writing, interviewing and transitioning to new careers. The Center also offers Displaced Homemaker workshops to assist women re-entering the workplace. The One-Stop Employment Center is located at 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge. For additional information, please call (631) 853-6600.

E-Newsletter Saves Taxpayer Money

I have joined with my colleagues in the Legislature in voluntarily suspending the mailing of newsletters to constituents to save more than \$100,000 in taxpayer money over the next year. My newsletters will now be published electronically and can be accessed at <http://legis.suffolkcountyny.gov>. If you would like to receive e-mail updates and future e-newsletters, please send your e-mail address to:

steve.stern@suffolkcountyny.gov

Legislator Stern's Law Banning BPA is First In The Nation



I am proud to report that the Suffolk County Legislature unanimously approved my groundbreaking, first in the nation “Toxin-Free Toddlers and Babies Act,” banning the sale of baby bottles and drinking cups containing Bisphenol-A (BPA), a synthetic estrogen used to harden plastics. BPA has been linked to endocrine and hormonal abnormalities in young children. Since this legislation was passed, six leading bottle manufacturers have agreed to discontinue the use of BPA and chemical giant Sunoco has halted the sale of BPA for use in children’s products. Large retailers, such as Babies “R” Us, Walmart and Target have removed products containing BPA from their shelves. Legislation has been introduced statewide

in New York and at the Federal level. I am particularly pleased that several jurisdictions around the nation are following Suffolk’s example as we once again take the lead in protecting our public health.

Stern's Silver Alert Safeguards Seniors



The County Legislature recently passed my legislation creating a new “Silver Alert” system in Suffolk County. Similar to an “Amber Alert,” which is issued when a child is abducted or missing, a “Silver Alert” will be issued when a person suffering from a cognitive disorder such as Alzheimer’s disease is reported missing. The Suffolk County Police Department will maintain a database and distribute identifying information such as the individual’s name, age, physical description, last known location and identifying vehicle information, if applicable. These alerts will also be posted on highway signs throughout Suffolk County.

As the population of Suffolk County ages, an increasing number of us will be affected by cognitive disorders such as Alzheimer’s. This program will provide a valuable resource for law enforcement and for our community to aid in the safe return of our loved ones and provide peace of mind to the families of those caring for the elderly and those persons with special needs.



Downtown Revitalization

I am pleased to report that working with the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Babylon Town Supervisor Steve Bellone, I was able to secure a Downtown Revitalization grant for North Babylon. The grant helped to invest in new lighting and other upgrades to beautify the community. I will continue to work to improve the vitality of our downtowns to support local merchants and businesses and to improve our quality of life.



Legislator Stern *In our community...*



Steve awarded a Proclamation to Fran Greenspan, President of the Half Hollow Hills Board of Education as the 16th Legislative District's "Woman of Distinction" at the annual Founders Day Dinner.



Steve joined with Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts from Deer Park to collect food for Island Harvest. More than 1000 pounds of food were donated to local food pantries.



Steve awarded Proclamations to the undefeated Harborfields High School Girl's Volleyball New York State Championship Team.



Steve read to students at Signal Hill Elementary School as part of the Parents as Reading Partners program (PARP). PARP encourages families to read together to promote a lifelong love of reading and learning.



Steve congratulated Elwood students who shaved their heads to raise funds for pediatric cancer research at "St. Baldrick's" Day events held in memory of Elwood student Sarah Boss.



Steve joined in the Tri-Village Little League Opening Day Parade and congratulated the boy's baseball team, winners of the New York State District 34 championship.

Visit our Website at www.suffolkcountyny.gov/legis