

## Around LI

### LONG BEACH

#### Vote set on bonds for road, transit updates

Long Beach City Council members will vote Thursday on \$7.7 million in capital project bonds, including \$4.1 million in projects eligible to be reimbursed by federal agencies.

The bond resolution is planned to include road work and sidewalk repairs throughout the city, sewer repairs and other city infrastructure. The bond includes a bus station rehab project using funding from the Federal Transit Administration and improvements to beach bathrooms and the lifeguard station with funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The city will also consider upgrades to police and fire radio systems, fire hydrant replacements, dune planting, tree planning, a roof replacement at the Maple Avenue Fire Station and replacing a wall at the Long Beach Ice Arena.

The council will need four of the five council members' votes to pass the bonds.

Council members are also set to vote on a contract for a foreclosed home registry and a contract for reconstructing the Minnesota Avenue comfort station on the boardwalk.

— JOHN ASBURY

### SUFFOLK COUNTY

#### Ex-shelter operator seeks teaching job

Julie Levine, former CEO of a homeless shelter organization that was ousted after a Suffolk County audit found her organization overcharged the county by \$3.6 million, is seeking a new career.

Her job search came to light after a state education official sought records on the Long Island Women's Empowerment Network from the Suffolk County Department of Social Services and the county comptroller because Levine was looking to become a teacher.

In a July 19 letter, Martin Burke, senior State Education Department attorney, said his agency was requesting records from Social Services and the



NEWSDAY / ALEJANDRA VILLA LOARCA

### Putting a fun spin on it

**NEW HYDE PARK.** Brianna Espinel, 8, a patient at Cohen Children's Medical Center, enjoys games during the annual Lil' Bravest carnival event organized by firefighters from Washington Heights.

comptroller to help "evaluate the moral character of Julie Levine, the former CEO of LIWEN, who is seeking a New York State teaching certificate to work with schoolchildren and school personnel."

The network was removed as operator of a 400-bed shelter in Brentwood after an audit showed the agency owed Suffolk County \$1.09 million that had to be repaid and claimed another \$2.59 million in expenses that were disallowed. The county has sued to recover the money.

The audit also criticized Social Service officials for failing to seek required background information on Levine, who was convicted in 2001 of criminal possession of marijuana with intent to sell. Levine earlier held a teaching certification, but it was revoked in 2008, according to state Education Department records.

Maurizio Savoiaro, Levine's attorney, said his client "vehemently denies" the county's claims and said its lawsuit is

"without merit." Levine has countersued for \$1 million in damages, Savoiaro said.

— RICK BRAND

### MANORVILLE

#### Zoning plan for town homes approved

The Brookhaven Town Board has approved a zoning change to pave the way for 125 town houses at a Manorville golf club.

The board voted 7-0 Sept. 13 to change the zoning on a portion of the Pine Hills Golf and Country Club to multifamily. The parcels had been zoned for single-family homes and industrial uses.

Commack-based Heatherwood, which owns the golf course, plans to build Sun River Town Homes on a 23-acre section of the property near Sunrise Highway and Jerusalem Hollow Road, officials said. About 74 acres would be transferred to the town to be preserved as open space.

The town houses would be

built within the central pine barrens' compatible growth area, where development must follow strict regulations for sewage disposal and preservation of natural habitats.

— CARL MACGOWAN

### BROOKHAVEN

#### Board shifts talk on brownfields

Brookhaven Town Supervisor Edward P. Romaine on Tuesday said a brownfield presentation he abruptly tabled will be added to next week's agenda.

Romaine said the report identifying the number of possibly contaminated sites along Montauk Highway in the North Bellport, Hagerman and East Patchogue areas needed clarification.

The brownfield study was released in a work session early last week, but was officially scheduled to be presented to the board and general public at last Thursday's council meeting.

In the detailed report, town planning officials were originally supposed to inspect 41 sites representing 302 parcels of land.

However, concerns about possible contamination grew and the examination expanded to cover 406 acres consisting of 633 parcels of land. The number of sites those parcels represented was not in the report.

"We wanted to make sure that there was a complete understanding of that report," Romaine said after Thursday's meeting.

On Tuesday, Romaine and planning officials confirmed the parcels of land were on 41 sites and scheduled the presentation for the Sept. 27 meeting.

Brownfields are sites that have been used for industrial or commercial purposes but can be made safe for redevelopment. The state will eventually determine which parcels are contaminated and in need of remediation.

— DEON J. HAMPTON