

Around LI

INWOOD

Town dedicates street in honor of WWII vet

The Town of Hempstead on Sunday dedicated a street in Inwood to a former resident and World War II veteran who served in the country's first African-American tank unit.

Town Councilman Bruce Blakeman led the dedication of Bayview Avenue at Thomas Court in Inwood to Jeff Burns Sr., who died in 1988 at the age of 84 after serving in the 761st Battalion. It was the first all-black tank unit to go into battle.

"Sergeant Burns and his fellow soldiers in the 761 not only displayed great heroism in battle but had the added stress of dealing with racist attitudes from too many that will always be a sad part of our country's history," Blakeman said in a statement.

Known as the "Black Panthers," the group of 30 officers and 676 enlisted men landed in Normandy, France, on Oct. 10, 1944, and fought the German army across France and Germany for 183 days, according to congressional records.

For their service, members of the battalion received 11 Silver Stars, 70 Bronze Stars, 250 Purple Hearts and a Medal of Honor, congressional records show.

After the war, Burns raised his family on Bayview Avenue in Inwood and ran a dry cleaning business in Lynbrook, according to a news release from the Town of Hempstead.

At the dedication ceremony Sunday, Jeff Burns Jr. called for preserving the memory of his father's battalion.

"It's important that everybody know about this particular unit, not just African-Americans," he said.

"They were fighting for everybody."

— JESSE COBURN

BROOKHAVEN Recycling plant items to be auctioned

The company that formerly operated Brookhaven Town's recycling plant is planning to auction off its equipment at the facility.

Green Stream Recycling is selling container processing

systems, compactor boxes and other machinery after the company stopped running the plant Oct. 29, according to a legal notice announcing the auction. Green Stream, which is expected to fold, said it walked away from a 25-year deal with Brookhaven to run the town facility because of the collapse of the international recycling market.

The auction is scheduled for 1 p.m. Dec. 20 at the recycling plant, 352 Horseblock Rd. in Brookhaven, according to Manhattan-based Mannion Auctions, which is conducting the sale. The auction had been scheduled for Nov. 26 and Dec. 3 but was postponed both times. For information, call 516-826-6500.

Brookhaven last month entered an intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Smithtown to jointly process recyclables such as paper, cardboard, plastic and metals.

— CARL MACGOWAN

BABYLON TOWN New commissioner of general services

The Town of Babylon has hired a new commissioner.

North Lindenhurst resident Joe Ferrandino will be the commissioner of general services. He replaces Theresa Sabatino, who retired. Sabatino began working for the town in 1988 and became commissioner in 2011.

The general services department encompasses a variety of areas and several other smaller departments, including purchasing, building maintenance, central printing and mailing and information technology.

The town hired Ferrandino, a 2005 graduate of Lindenhurst High School, because of his "years of management experience in the food service industry, where he regularly oversaw maintenance and purchasing tasks," according to town

spokesman Dan Schaefer.

Ferrandino since March has worked as an assistant election clerk for the Suffolk County Board of Elections. Before that, from 2010 to 2017, he was a store manager for Gemelli Fine Foods in Babylon. Ferrandino will be paid the same salary as Sabatino, \$103,018.

— DENISE M. BONILLA

HUNTINGTON TOWN Hearing on request to build pier, dock

The Huntington board of trustees will hold a public hearing at Tuesday's board meeting on an application by a Northport homeowner to build a fixed pier and floating dock.

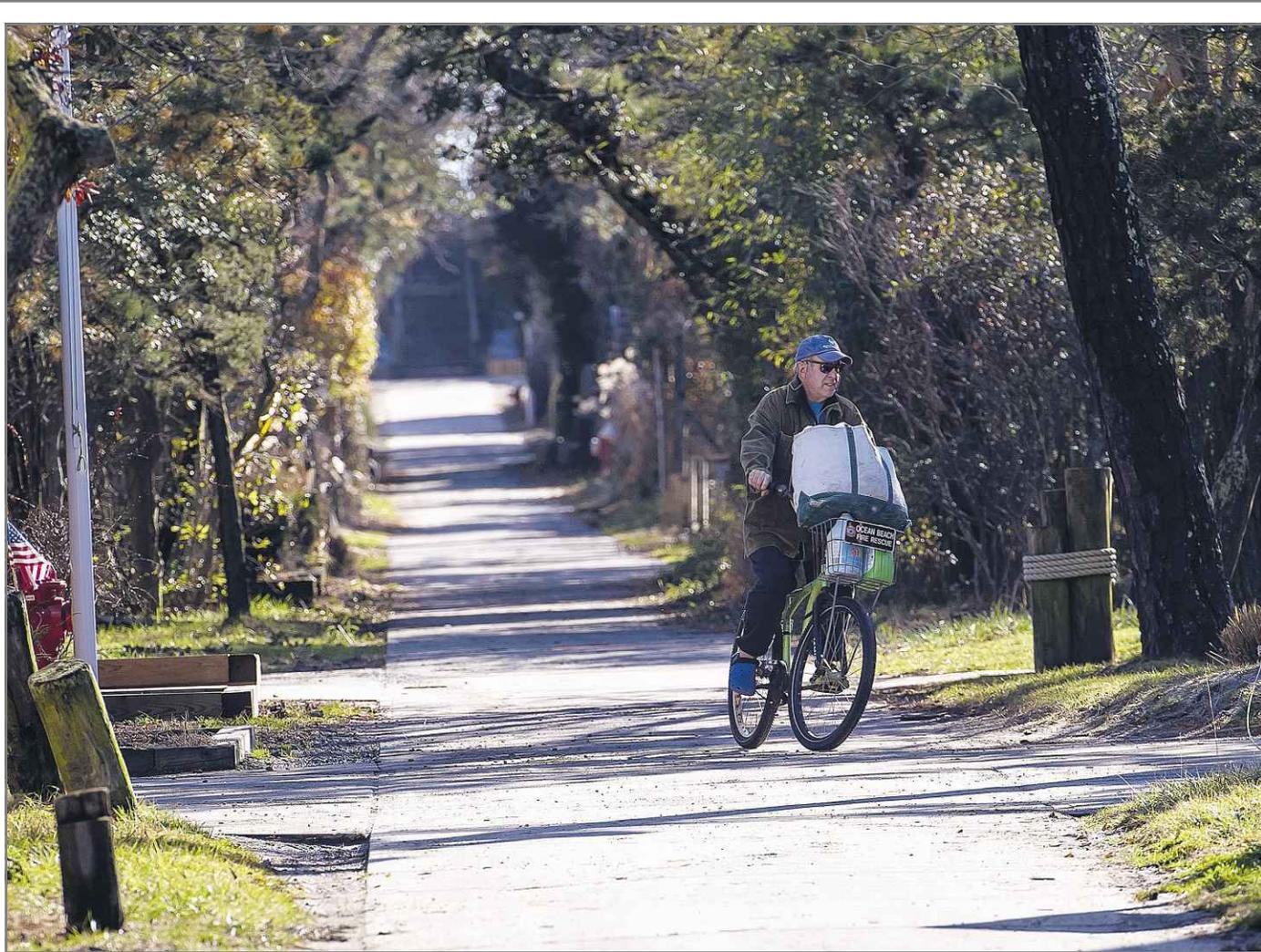
The hearing is scheduled for 2 p.m. at town hall, 100 Main Street in Huntington.

The application was submitted by Taplow Consulting on

behalf of Teresa Baiter of Asharoken Avenue in Northport. Baiter is seeking a special use permit because her application to build a residential fixed pier and floating dock assembly exceeds the town maximum length of 100 feet by another 65 feet. The application proposes a 4-foot wide by 97-foot long wood fixed pier, and two 8-foot wide by 20-foot long wood floating docks to be connected by a 3-foot wide by 35-foot long aluminum gangway.

The trustees unanimously approved 5-0 the scheduling of the public hearing at the previous board meeting on Nov. 20.

— SOPHIA CHANG



DANIEL GOODRICH

Easy rider

OCEAN BEACH. With no cars to contend with, a bicyclist casually rolls through an archway of trees on Fire Island's Midway Walk on a typically cool autumn Monday.

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