

Around

BRIGHTWATERS

A new plan to lower village speed limits

The Brightwaters Village Board is expected to once again address the issue of lowering speed limits to 25 mph, after discovering the village-wide reduction was illegal.

Trustees could vote during next Monday's meeting on a motion to repeal the original local law reducing the speed limit to 25 mph village wide, officials said.

In September, the board voted to reduce the speed limit from 30 mph throughout the 1-square-mile village. But the board had unintentionally violated state and traffic law. State law prohibits area-wide speeds limits of less than 30 mph in villages and cities, except in Long Beach.

Following the vote on repealing the law, a public hearing will be held on the newly proposed lower speed limit, listing each street that will be changed to 25 mph, officials said.

The board's intent in reducing the speed limit is to improve safety, officials said.

Mayor John Valdini said most streets in the village are expected to be reduced to 25 mph, excluding roads that are considered part of the Islip Town, Suffolk County or New York State systems. — ANTONIO PLANAS

HEMPSTEAD TOWN

Fee waivers extended for post-Sandy work

Hempstead Town Board members voted Tuesday to extend waiving fees on building permits and copies of town documents for residents who lost or are rebuilding their homes after superstorm Sandy.

The town board unanimously approved an extension to waive fees for another six months, through June 30.

Residents affected by Sandy will not be charged by the town to obtain building permits to make repairs. Fees will also be waived for documents from the town clerk's office.

Building permits include all Sandy-related structural repairs that conform to original dimensions and in-kind repairs

and replacements. Structural work will be allowed between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on weekends and regular construction during the week between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. Regulations vary for incorporated villages.

The town clerk will also waive fees for residents who lost documents during Sandy including birth and death certificates, marriage licenses and passports.

For more information, residents can contact the Building Department at 516-538-8500 or the Town Clerk's Office at 516-812-3046. — JOHN ASBURY

BROOKHAVEN TOWN

Shoreham, town join service-sharing pact

The Brookhaven Town Highway Department and Shoreham Village have entered into a shared services agreement to consolidate public works efforts, highway officials said.

The agreement includes snow and ice removal, salt and sand dissemination, the installation and dismantling of snow fences, road striping, signage installation, sweeping and pothole and roadway repair,

highway officials said.

Officials said the move furthers Brookhaven Town's goal of promoting efficiency between municipalities and special districts while saving taxpayer money.

"The goal of this program is to identify opportunities where a town-village partnership makes sense and deliver real financial savings," Brookhaven Highway Superintendent Daniel P. Losquadro said in a statement.

Brookhaven Town last year was awarded a \$20 million state grant to expand efforts to cut taxes by eliminating unnecessary special districts and sharing services with villages.

Shoreham Village Mayor Brian Vail said his village has already saved roughly \$100,000 in road construction by working with Brookhaven and that he plans to continue looking for areas to consolidate.

— DEON J. HAMPTON

N. HEMPSTEAD TOWN

4 events for disposal of hazardous waste

The Town of North Hempstead will host four events this

year where residents can properly dispose of hazardous materials and pollutants.

The first two Stop Throwing Out Pollutants, or S.T.O.P. events will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 27 and April 28 at North Hempstead Beach Park's north lot.

During S.T.O.P. events, town residents can dispose of aerosols, household chemicals, pesticides, disinfectants, fertilizers, bulbs, thermostats, lithium-ion batteries, and television and computer monitors. These are waste products that are too dangerous to be disposed of with regular curbside pickup, town officials said. Residents can also bring sensitive documents to the event for proper shredding. The town accepts up to six bankers box-sized containers of documents per event.

The event is open to North Hempstead residents only; no commercial vehicles allowed. The town will not accept pharmaceuticals or water-based paints, including latex. It will accept oil-based paints.

The last two S.T.O.P. events will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 19 and Oct. 20, also at North Hempstead Beach Park's north lot.

— KRISTOPHER J. BROOKS



JEFF BACHNER

STEAM team dreams

WESTBURY. Syed Ali, 14, presents his team's project during a marathon code-a-thon at nonprofit sponsor We Connect the Dots on Old Country Road.

The competition, with students in Pennsylvania and Ohio, focused on STEAM (science, tech, engineering, arts and math) subjects, inspiring them to collaborate to find solutions to problems. The students, ages 13-18, brought sleeping bags and worked from Friday until Sunday afternoon.

MOUNT SINAI Tax breaks OKd for senior housing plans

Two Mount Sinai senior housing projects will receive economic assistance from the Brookhaven Town Industrial Development Agency.

The IDA closed on a deal to provide tax breaks for the Engel Burman Group, which plans to build both complexes. The Garden City-based company has started construction of the projects and expects to make the first apartments available later this year.

One of the projects, a joint venture of Engel Burman and Harrison Street Real Estate Capital, will be a 120-unit Bristol Assisted Living facility, the IDA said in a news release. The complex, which is expected to employ about 60 people, would include an unspecified number of units for independent living.

The second complex will include 225 rental apartments for residents who are 55 years old and older, the IDA said. Plans for the development also include an outdoor pool, fitness center and screening room.

— CARL MACGOWAN