

Miller Place Civic Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 623, Miller Place, NY 11764

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January/February 2009

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

A Message from the President

Dear Neighbor,

It has become more difficult to find new information to share with you in this newsletter since it has become so easy to keep everyone informed via email. There are still civic members who either prefer to receive a mailed copy or don't have online access so I will continue to mail out a paper to those who request one but this may be reduced to every other month. I ask everyone to remember to check our web site for updates: www.millerplacecivic.org.

Our town has been quiet as far as controversy goes, which is actually what fuels greater attendance at our meetings. We have some interesting speakers scheduled in the next few months. I encourage you to attend the Meet the Candidates night for Town Supervisor on **March 23**. Both candidates will have 45 minutes to introduce us to their platforms with sufficient time for Q & A.

Deirdre Dubato, a local Real Estate professional and Mount Sinai Civic President, will present an overview of the Real Estate market in Miller Place on **April 27** with facts she'll compile from recent years. A similar discussion was held for Mt. Sinai recently which was well received. Our last monthly meeting prior to summer break on May 18 will have County Legislator Dan Losquadro and Town Councilwoman Jane Bonner to provide updates on topics affecting our hamlet at the county and local levels.

Consider attending these informative evenings, they're well worth a few hours of your time.

Kathy Rousseau

Local updates

Vassilaros Property

Planning Department Public Hearing: tentatively now March 23rd

We just heard the original date of February 23rd, and asked the applicant to consider rescheduling to allow residents more time to view and comment on the application being submitted. Check our Web site, the Kiosk, and emails for further details in the next week.

Please Inform Your Neighbors!

It appears that the notoriously vacant Waldbaum's store will soon welcome **Marshalls!** The final stage of approvals through the town has been issued. Signage agreeable to all will now allow them to move forward with plans. We have heard that an opening by Easter is a real possibility.

The TGI Friday's center is also still awaiting the permits required to begin their buildings.

There is an updated application for Branch Funeral Home on 25A in the works without the rezoning required for the B1 residential piece included within the mostly J2 property. That smaller parcel will remain B1 with no plans to develop. The funeral home structure and parking would be located on the J2 property with Route 25A the only exit/entrance.

General Membership Meeting

Monday February 23, 2009

7:30-9:30 PM

**Miller Place Main Fire Department
Vassilaros Property Subdivision**

Next Meeting: March 23, 2009

Meet the Candidates for Town Supervisor

Mark Lesko & Tim Mazzei

7:30 -9:30 PM

Miller Place High School Library

Miller Place Pond



Photo courtesy of Aimee DeChambeau

A favorite winter pastime of our hamlet for both young and old is skating at the Miller Place Pond. Originally named Willow Pond, the pond has been a center for Miller's Place since the very early colonial days. Fed by springs located on the hill just to the south, the pond water continues down past North Country Road School (now buried in a pipe) and down Gully Landing, eventually joining with Long Island Sound. A fragile resource, the Pond is home to many aquatic species that depend on this ecosystem for their survival. So, come, enjoy, respect and share in the natural delights of Miller Place Pond.

Keep Brookhaven Beautiful will sponsor its annual cleanup on April 18 which we will participate in once again. The Plant-in will be held on May 16. This year, our primary locations to "beautify" will be the wedge along Old Rocky Point Rd and Woodhull Landing, and Sylvan Avenue Park. All volunteers are welcome to be part of the planning stages along with the actual physical work. More information will be shared as plans are established by the town.

For all our gardeners, the Ecology site has agreed to start providing perennials along with the annuals for sun and shade. We've requested this for years and are pleased.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County (CCE) FREE BROCHURES...

Looking for info on pest management and home composting? You can stop looking – Cornell Cooperative Extension can help you out! Their pest management brochure has information on preventing and eliminating pests both inside and outside your home. Integrated pest management (IPM) minimizes environmental and health risks while helping homeowners identify and manage pests in and around their homes. Their Home Composting brochure contains information on the essentials of home composting yard and food wastes, as well as a troubleshooting chart that addresses problems such as compost odor.

To receive one or both brochures (please indicate which you'd like), send a self-addressed-stamped legal size envelope to: Ag Brochures Cornell Cooperative Extension 423 Griffing Ave. Riverhead, NY 11901

Unsolicited Newspapers Despite Suffolk County and Brookhaven laws, the driveway delivery of unsolicited "newspapers" continues. Most notorious is the "THIS WEEK" publication that appears to be delivered to homes that do not subscribe to Newsday. Until the legal issues are settled the best available solution is to call 1-800-NEWSDAY and request that your address be removed from the program. It may take a week or two, but seems to be effective.

Welcome to the "New" Town and Country

Deli on North Country Road, which officially opened on Jan 31st. It has been totally remodeled and is now owned by Tom Fallica, a young man from Miller Place whose parents are in the Deli Business as well in Wading River with their deli known not surprisingly as The Deli in Wading River. He has a partner by the name of Gene Silvestrone from Patchogue. They offer free deliveries, curbside assistance when you call in your orders. Their signature dishes are specialty hamburgers, meatballs and marinara sauce along with designer salads. Coming soon are heart healthy meals, vegan dishes and many organic products. An eating area may be available in the future.

NYS Open Space Conservation

A draft plan of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation was released for public comment recently.

New York's formal Open Space Conservation program began in 1990, and was designed to ensure citizen input into the land acquisition decisions made by the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). Since its beginning, the program has developed a comprehensive statewide Open Space Conservation Plan (Plan) that represents current open space conservation actions, tools, and programs administered by DEC, OPRHP, the Department of State, the Department of Agriculture & Markets and the Department of Transportation; and has become an important and popular advocacy voice for conserving our State's open spaces - and the **quality of life** which they provide us.

New York has several Open Space Conservation Goals:

- To improve quality of life and overall health in our State's communities, especially those with limited current access to open space.
- To protect our State's water quality, including surface and underground drinking water supplies, and our lakes, streams and coastal and estuarine waters needed to sustain human life and aquatic ecosystems.
- To combat global climate change by encouraging more compact community design patterns.
- To combat global climate change by adding to the tree canopy in our urban centers and urban communities to moderate temperature fluctuations, and thereby lowering our energy consumption.
- To combat global climate change by sustaining our State's forests for carbon sequestration, as well as enhancing our State's air quality.
- To provide accessible, quality outdoor recreation and open space to all New Yorkers.
- To protect habitat for the diversity of plant and animal species to ensure the protection of healthy, viable and sustainable ecosystems.
- To protect habitat to sustain the traditional pastimes of hunting, fishing, trapping and wildlife viewing.
- To maintain critical natural resource industries such as farming, forest products, commercial fishing and tourism.
- To provide places for education and research relating to ecological, environmental and cultural resources.
- To protect and enhance scenic, historic and cultural resources viewed as valued parts of the common heritage of our State's citizens.

Identified parcels for conservation in our immediate and neighboring area (Region 1 – Long Island Coastal Area 3) are:

- **Nissequogue River System** - 138.6 acres adjoining Nissequogue River State Park, Sunken Meadow State Park and DEC's King's Park Greenbelt property. All drain into the Nissequogue River watershed and Long Island Sound. High-value consolidation parcels.
- **Crane Neck** - Two parcels near DEC's Flax Pond State Tidal Wetlands and SUNY's Flax Pond Environmental Research Center are available for purchase. A 5-acre parcel west of Flax Pond and fronting Long Island Sound has notable geologic features including a stepped topography dating to the last glacial retreat. A 1-acre wooded site has 300 feet of frontage on Flax Pond and could greatly improve public access to the water.
- **Conscience Bay Watershed** - Three heavily wooded parcels totaling 30 acres within the immediate drainage of Conscience Bay and within the zone of capture of nearby public water supply wells. Preservation is necessary to prevent ground and surface runoff into this still quite pristine ecosystem.
- **Mount Sinai Highlands** - 115 acres of hardwood forest in the Mt. Sinai Harbor watershed. The area contains some steep topography, with slopes up to 30% and elevations up to 220 feet above sea level. Exceptional views and wildlife habitat.
- **Wading River Assemblage** - Several sound-front parcels totaling 500 acres in the Town of Riverhead Hamlet of Wading River, including land owned by Little Flower Children Services and the Boy Scouts of America.
- **Vassilaros** - 64 acres between Miller Place Pond and Woodhull's Landing Road with extensive oak-hickory-beech woodlands, expanses of grassland habitat and old orchard. Topography on the eastern edge is severe with slopes near 30 degrees. Site is also

archaeologically significant.

- **Key Span/Shoreham** - 893.2 acres in the Hamlets of Shoreham and Wading River with one mile of Sound frontage and 2000 feet along Wading River Marsh. Links with the 1500-acre Brookhaven State Park to the south.

Public comment is encouraged and will be accepted from **January 7, 2009** through **4:45 PM, February 27, 2009**. Submit comments to:

Francis E. Sheehan
Assistant Director, NYS DEC Division of
Lands and Forests
625 Broadway, 5th floor
Albany, NY 12233-4250

You may e-mail comments to:
osp2009@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Nissequogue River System, Crane Neck, Conscience Bay Watershed, Mount Sinai Highlands Wading River Assemblage, Key Span/Shoreham

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Mail to: Miller Place Civic Association, PO Box 623, Miller Place, NY 11764

2009 Family Annual Dues \$15.00 Renewal____ New____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail address: _____

MPCA Board of Directors

- Kathy Rousseau - President, Membership
- Jim Moran - Vice President, Zoning/Planning
- Woody Brown - Treasurer, Webmaster
- Kevin Cantwell
- Jackie Czarnecki - ABCO
- Mike Guido - Zoning/Planning, School Affairs
- Frank Klement - Traffic and Safety, ABCO
- Kyle Markott
- Rita Miszuk - Secretary

Board Meetings are held the second Monday of the month.

General membership meetings are held the fourth Monday of the month.

February meeting will be held on February 23.

Next Meeting: March 23, 2009



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Inside...

Important Information Regarding *Your* Community!