

# OUR TOWNS

Bring laundry and small items inside before spraying. If you need to spray, wash with detergent and water.

For more information or current or future notices, contact the Suffolk County Division of Vector Control at 502-4270. The spraying information hotline is 502-4939.

— EMILY C. DOOLEY

## EDENHURST

### Age submits form costs to FEMA

The Village of Lindenhurst submitted nearly a quarter million dollars in storm damage reimbursement costs to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The bulk of the costs — more than \$204,000 — come from the collection and disposal of debris from last summer's Ice Storm Irene. That also cost the village more than \$4,800 in sidewalk repairs and another \$1,000 in repairs to the village's emergency protective measures, as well as repair of the main fire station, the Rainbow Center, and marina roofs, and the village is still making repairs to the marina, but the storm end of the parking area, bathrooms and all boat ramps remain open to the public.

— DENISE M. BONILLA

## WOLFF COUNTY

### Drainings in place on 60 area beaches

The Suffolk County Department of Health Services is asking residents to avoid swimming at 60 area beaches during heavy rainfall yesterday might increase the potential that bacterial levels will exceed state standards. The notice affects beaches currently open for the season, including along the northern shoreline of Great Bay, within and adjacent to North Shore embayments, Long Island Sound beaches that are typically impacted from water discharge. Beaches in the towns of Eden, Brookhaven, East Hampton, Huntington, Islip and Smithtown are affected. The county recommends residents avoid bathing and water contact at the

beaches until two successive tide cycles have occurred after the end of the rainfall.

Unless sampling shows elevated bacteria amounts, the advisory will be canceled at 2 p.m. today.

For more information, call the bathing beach hotline at 631-852-5822, and for a complete list of beaches included in the advisory, go to [www.suffolkcountyny.gov/health](http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/health).

— EMILY C. DOOLEY

## DEER PARK

### Renamed street will honor firefighter

The Town of Babylon plans to ceremonially rename a Deer Park street after a fallen firefighter.

The town will rename the stretch of 22nd Street between Long Island Avenue and Lake Avenue after Victor A. Isler. Isler was a member of the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department. An electrician by trade, Isler worked as an emergency medical technician for the New York City Fire Department from 2005 to 2007. His dream was to become a full-time firefighter, but because of age restrictions, he could not join the department as a firefighter.

Eager to fulfill his dream, Isler, an Oceanide native, left Long Island and joined the Salisbury Fire Department in Salisbury, N.C. Less than a year later, in March 2008, Isler died while fighting a massive five-alarm blaze at a Salisbury woodworking company.

Isler, 40, left behind a wife, Tracy, and two teenage children, Victor Jr. and Ryan-Ann.

A spokesman for the town said a date for the street-renaming ceremony has not yet been chosen.

— DENISE M. BONILLA

## BETHPAGE

### Credit union raises funds for United Way

Bethpage Federal Credit Union has made a \$100,000 donation to the United Way's Operation Live United Military Family Assistance Project as part of its continued support of the program, the credit union said yesterday.

U.S. Rep. Steve Israel (D-Dix Hills) in a related announcement said Operation Live United has been expanded to include the new Veterans

Hiring Program, which Bethpage also plans to support.

The credit union's contribution comes in light of the \$75,000 it has raised over the past three years for Operation Live United through T-shirt sales at the annual Bethpage Air Show at Jones Beach.

Bethpage also is to sponsor several local veteran events this year, including the Islip Art Council "Salutes Armed Forces of the USA" concert on July 14 at Heckscher State Park.

The \$100,000 donation "will go towards supporting programs that serve Long Island military, reservist and National Guard personnel active in Iraq and Afghanistan and their families," Israel said in a statement.

United Way of Long Island Theresa Regnante in a statement said the gift will be used for such veteran needs as "providing financial assistance for lodging near a rehab facility, transitional housing, or mental health treatment for PTSD."

— EMILY NGO

## SHELTER ISLAND

### Library to show off improvements

After nearly a year, Shelter Island's public library will be showing off its new look when it holds an open house on Saturday, letting people go

down to a renovated lower level and a new community room and — for the first time — ride an elevator which will give people in wheelchairs access to the entire building. The stairway to the library basement was boarded up during construction, and so many people kept asking what was happening that library director Denise DiPaolo kept posting update photos on Facebook.

The library raised the \$800,000 for the renovations through local contributions and state grants, and did not need to raise taxes to pay for the work. The renovation was done within the footprint of the existing building. Saturday's open house will be at 4 p.m. Refreshments will be provided by the local IGA supermarket.

— MITCHELL FREEDMAN

## HOLBROOK

### Foundation honors Ground Zero worker

Wearing a necklace bearing her father's ashes in a small container, his fingerprint on a medallion and a symbolic open-heart pendant, tears dripped down Crystal Gajewski's face as she reminisced about her dad.

Mark "Ski" Gajewski, a former U.S. Marine and professional welder who volunteered for three months in

BROOKHAVEN REPORT



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### What I cover

My job is to keep New York readers informed about happenings in Brookhaven Town. In addition to town matters, I'll be writing on Patchogue and Massie Beach villages. I've never turned down a good story idea! Please hello when you see me walking through your village or hamlet and let me know what's going on in your neighborhood. If you pass it along to me, pass it along to everyone else. Whether the issue is local government, safety or traffic, you can count on my articles to be fair, balanced and accurate.

### Coming up

You will see me at tonight's meeting of Brookhaven Town board.

Find community stories at

[newsday.com/brookhaven](http://newsday.com/brookhaven)

the cleanup efforts at Gro-Zero after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center, died in December from a rare form of lung cancer.

"He had such a huge heart," Crystal Gajewski said. "He was a 6-foot-4, 284-pound biker, but once you spoke to him, you knew he had a heart of gold and was really a big teddy bear."

In his honor, Crystal, 29, of Holbrook, and her brother Sean Gajewski, 26, of East Patchogue, founded Ski's Open Heart Foundation to help 11 first responders and their families. The foundation's launch party was June 11 at Irish Times Pub in Holbrook where about 155 people attended. They raised about \$5,500.

"Dad was the breadwinner of our family and now our family is stuck with paying medical bills," said Crystal, who is a project manager Concrete Nation in Smithtown. "Our reason for this is to help other families in the situation."

— BRITTANY



Crystal Gajewski helped fund Ski's Open Heart Foundation in honor of her late father, Mark "Ski" Gajewski.