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LEGISLATOR KARA HAHN MARKS FIRST 100 DAYS IN OFFICE

Economy, Environment & Public Safety Top Priorities



Photo: Kara Hahn being sworn in as a Suffolk County Legislator on January 3, 2012 in Hauppauge

Earlier this month Suffolk County Legislator Kara Hahn marked her 100th day in office; a time during which she focused on initiatives to address the county's fiscal crisis, protect the environment and respond to public safety concerns. During her first 100 days, Hahn sponsored nine pieces of legislation, which can be found under the Sponsored Legislation section found by [clicking here](#).

During the Suffolk County Legislature's first general meeting of 2012, Legislator Hahn introduced a bill to increase government transparency and accessibility by requiring that audio of legislative meetings be posted on the Internet within two hours of the conclusion of each meeting.

From that starting point, she has kept a fast-paced schedule highlighted by constituent meetings and community events and has pursued a legislative agenda focused on protecting Suffolk County residents' health, environment and quality of life. Here's a snapshot of what Legislator Hahn has accomplished in her first hundred days:

- Assumed leadership of the Legislature's Environment Committee introducing legislation to move forward a proactive agenda that includes preserving additional open space, as well as prohibiting the acceptance of hydrofracking waste water by Suffolk County's treatment facilities.
- Appointed as a member of the Parks & Recreation and Public Safety committees and the Suffolk County Government Operations Task Force, while also serving as Vice Chair of the Human Services Committee.
- Sponsored nine pieces of legislation dealing with issues ranging from environmental protection to public safety, including a bill to address the growing opioid epidemic among our youth with the launch of a police department Narcan pilot program that will help to save lives in cases of opioid overdoses.

- Co-sponsored two additional bills, one that specifically deals with the critical issue of sewer infrastructure so critical to preserving Suffolk's sole source aquifer.
- Successfully fought for an additional School Resource Officer in the 6th precinct.
- Worked with Suffolk County Sheriff's SLAP program to clean up litter in Port Jefferson Station and Coram.
- Held over 150 meetings to engage constituents, local officials, not-for-profit organizations and business leaders in identifying issues and solving problems.
- Sponsored a community blood drive in Setauket that received enough donations to have saved the lives of as many as 85 individuals.
- Issued over 50 proclamations and certificates of merit to members of the community for their contributions in making the Fifth Legislative District a great place to live.

"The government that took office this January inherited an enormous deficit crisis that will require tough decisions and our county has many environmental and public safety challenges," Legislator Hahn said. "But with the support and partnership of the Three Village community, I know we can forge ahead and make significant progress."

HAHN'S INNOVATIVE INITIATIVES ADOPTED BY LEGISLATURE

Bills to address some of Suffolk's most pressing issues approved by lawmakers

The Suffolk County Legislature this week adopted four important initiatives sponsored by Legislator Kara Hahn (D-Setauket) that deal with wide ranging issues from public safety to environmental protection.

GIVING POLICE AN ANTIDOTE TO OVERDOSE

The Legislature has adopted a bill sponsored by Legislator Hahn intended to reduce the number of opiate related overdose deaths. [Introductory Resolution 1281-2012](#) will expand a Health Department opioid antagonist pilot program for emergency medical technicians to include the Suffolk County Police Department as well, who are oftentimes the first responders to calls involving overdoses.

"Time is critical in all medical emergencies, but can truly mean the difference between life and death in cases involving drug overdoses," said Legislator Hahn. "By allowing for the administration of life saving treatments more quickly than is currently the case, this bill will hopefully improve the outcomes of opioid overdoses here in Suffolk County"

"Over the past five years we have seen a spike in opium use across Long Island, with more and more people becoming addicted to heroin and pain pills," Legislator Hahn added. "While the ultimate goal is to have these addicts seek treatment, the reality is that for many, death comes before sobriety. It is my hope that this bill will allow someone's child the time and a second chance to get clean."

RATE THIS PARCEL

Legislator Hahn has won approval for a bill intended to strengthen and preserve Suffolk's renowned land preservation efforts during an era of greatly reduced revenue for such purchases. [Introductory Resolution 1359-2012](#) calls on the County to review all of the parcels contained on its Master Lists of high priority, highly sensitive lands and make recommendations on properties that should be removed due to development or purchase by other municipalities. Additionally, the Legislation requests that Suffolk County's Divisions of Planning and Real Property Acquisition and Management develop an

advisory priority ranking system for proposed acquisitions and apply those rating to the updated Master List. This comes as the County faces shrinking funding for land purchases in 2012 and beyond with the expiration of an accelerated acquisitions program approved by voters in a 2007 bond referendum.

PLANTING OPPORTUNITIES TO REMEMBER A LOVED ONE

Friday, April 27th is Arbor Day, but members of the Legislature began commemorating the annual celebration of the wonders of nature through the planting and caring for trees on April 24th when they adopted a [resolution](#) to create a memorial tree planting program in Suffolk County parks. Legislator Kara Hahn's Introductory Resolution 1339-2012, will authorize the Suffolk County Parks Department to develop a 'Memorial Arbor Program' that will allow for the planting and dedication of individual trees on select active parkland. When implemented, individuals, families and organizations will be able to purchase trees to be planted by the county in honor of a loved one.

"Trees are both symbolic of the cycles in each person's life and serve as a reminder of the renewal of nature. Therefore the planting of a tree is one of the most fitting and lasting tributes to the memory of a loved one," said Legislator Hahn. "With the adoption of this bill Suffolk County will provide families with an earth-friendly way to celebrate the life of a loved one within the beauty and tranquility of our County parks."

The program will be administered by the Suffolk County Parks Department with input from the Parks Board of Trustees in determining specific rules and regulations that will govern the program.

PARTNERING TO PROTECT WATER

A proposal by Legislator Hahn that may allow towns and villages the ability to obtain surplus County catch basin inserts has been adopted by the Legislature. Under the proposal, certain inserts for storm drains that filter roadway runoff, that are still functional but no longer useful for Suffolk County's purposes, will be declared as surplus property. Once this happens, Suffolk County Department of Public Works will be authorized to determine how best to dispose of the surplus property, typically through sale or transfer to other entities, in this case municipalities.

Suffolk County currently has 202 catch basins that it does not have a use for, but may help smaller governmental units, like towns and villages, meet runoff pollution goals.

"While these inserts no longer serve the needs of Suffolk County they still work," said Legislator Hahn. "In this harsh economic climate these kinds of partnerships are going to allow governments to continue to offer important services, like improving the health of our waterways and protecting drinking water, at a reduced cost."

REMEMBERING NORA BREDES

Suffolk County formally dedicated the preserve portion of Forsythe Meadow County Park in Stony Brook to the memory of Nora Bredes this month. The ceremony was in honor of the former Fifth District legislator, environmentalist and Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant opponent who passed away last August after a lengthy battle with Breast Cancer.



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Last October, then Legislator Vivian Vilorio-Fisher sponsored [Resolution 797-2011](#) to name the preserve, which Suffolk County acquired in 1999, in Bredes's honor. The 34 acre site was purchased with Greenways funding, a land preservation program sponsored by Bredes during her six years as Legislator. Some consider it a fitting tribute to Bredes's legacy to officially name this preserve, which was saved with Greenway funding, in her honor.

In the coming weeks, Legislator Hahn will begin discussions with the Parks Department and members of the community on a management plan for this preserve. The ultimate goal of the plan will be to ensure public access without disturbing the tranquility and beauty of this park.

PHOTOS FROM AROUND TOWN

LEGISLATOR HAHN IN THE COMMUNITY



Hauppauge - Suffolk County Legislator Kara Hahn recognized Ward Melville High School Intel STS and Siemens competition awardees during the Suffolk County Legislature's full session in Hauppauge.

South Setauket - Suffolk County Legislator Kara Hahn and Stony Brook Long Island Children's Hospital teamed up to sponsor an Easter Egg hunt at the Holiday Inn Express in Stony Brook. The event, which was billed as Long Island's Largest Easter Egg Hunt was free of charge for families



Port Jefferson Station - Legislator Kara Hahn attended the Brookhaven Coalition of Chambers of Commerce Awards Dinner held at the Meadow Club.

Setauket - Legislator Kara Hahn joined Three Village Meals on Wheels at its annual volunteer recognition luncheon held at the Old Field Club.



Hauppauge - Legislator Kara Hahn recognized Port Jefferson Middle School student Jefferson Koutsantanou for placing in the top five percent nationally in the American Mathematics Competition (AMC) during at the Suffolk County Legislature's full session in Hauppauge.

Upton - Legislator Kara Hahn addressed attendees at Citizens Campaign for the Earth's Earth Summit held at Brookhaven

Nation Lab.



Stony Brook - Legislator Kara Hahn helped with the cleanup of the Three Village Nature Preserve located near William Sidney Mount Elementary School.

Stony Brook – West Meadow Beach is cleaner thanks in part to all of the volunteers, including Legislator Kara Hahn, who took part in the recent clean up.



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