



# News from Legislator Bridget Fleming

*Second Legislative District*

*May 2016 Newsletter*

## **Here's what Bridget's up to....**

Co-sponsored Capital Budget Amendments, including increased funding for a new Capital Project to conduct a feasibility study for sidewalks to increase pedestrian safety along County Road 39 (CP 5412)

Championed funding for the creation of a new project that, for the first time, will fund equipment for the County's Arthropod Borne Disease Laboratory (ABDL), to combat tick-borne illnesses (CP 4091)

Introduced a bill to approve funding for the South Fork Natural History Museum (IR 1470)

Introduced a bill to identify appropriate properties for the siting of community wastewater treatment systems (IR 1564)

Introduced a bill to fund a new roof for the Cedar Island Lighthouse (IR 1371, CP 7510)

## ***Legislator Fleming Arranges Tick-Borne Illness Presentation for the First East End Appearance of the Health Committee***

**Second District Legislator arranges tick-borne illness presentation during first ever Riverside committee week; advocates research funding in the Capital Budget**



**CAPTION: Legislator Fleming speaking at the May 2016 General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature held in the Riverside Legislative Auditorium.**

Recognizing the public health crisis imposed by tick-borne illnesses, Legislator Fleming has made finding relief a top priority. The Second District Legislator is working to address the issue from a few angles, including awareness and funding.

During the first ever Riverside cycle of committee meetings held by the Suffolk County Legislature, Fleming arranged for a representative of Southampton Hospital, who specializes in infectious diseases, to give a presentation on tick-borne illnesses before the Health Committee on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM.

In addition to spreading awareness, Legislator Fleming advocated for tick-borne illness research funding in the Capital Budget. A new capital project (CP 4091) in the 2017-2019 Proposed Capital Budget, which was released in the second week of April, allocates \$100,000 to fund equipment for a tick pathogen testing program. “Our tick problem cannot be adequately addressed using research conducted outside of Suffolk County. In order to implement effective prevention methods, we need to understand what species are present in a given region of the County, what hosts they appear on, and the illnesses they are carrying” stated Legislator Fleming.

---

## *Fleming Joins the Call for Exploration of a Clean Water Fund*



The County Executive has proposed the creation of a water quality fund, which would be generated through a fee on water usage. Discussions regarding the proposal are ongoing.

Legislator Fleming delivered the following remarks at a press conference addressing a proposed Water Quality Fund: “There is a nitrogen pollution crisis in Suffolk County, and I applaud the Bellone administration for taking bold action to resolve it. I would also like to commend Sarah Lansdale, Peter Scully and the rest of the team who are showing true leadership on this critically important issue.

Bear in mind, this is not a county-wide sewer tax, what is being proposed is a user fee. If you conserve water, you pay less.

You know, if you lived in Hoosick Falls, New York, or Flint, Michigan, there was a time recently when you could not drink the water that came out of your tap. I am sure that public officials in those communities would love to turn back the clock and make good decisions to protect their water. Well, we have that chance. Our sole source aquifer, and our estuary systems are unique and precious assets, and we have the responsibility to invest to protect them.

I particularly appreciate the County Executive’s reaching out to stakeholders on the East End to understand and incorporate our unique needs and concerns on this issue.

I understand that there is no intent in this initiative to adversely impact agriculture, or to threaten the preservation of dwindling open space and farmland.

I support a bullet proof lock box that will ensure that the resources generated by this fund are used only for water quality improvements, and to ensure that equal attention is given to improvements to non-sewered onsite systems.

I am so pleased to have been invited to participate in the announcement of this important initiative. There is much work to do, and I look forward to working with the Bellone administration to get it right.”

---

---

## *Legislator Fleming honors Westhampton Beach High School Student*



On Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> Legislator Fleming honored Westhampton Beach High School student Ariana DeMattei. Ariana, is the founder of “Backpacks for Fellow Students”, a nonprofit group that provides elementary school children struggling economically with a new backpack filled with school supplies to start the school year. Her nonprofit has raised more than \$100,000 and has provided supplies to hundreds of elementary school children.

---

---

*Bridget was please to present veteran bars to active Volunteer Fire Department members, who have also served in the Armed Forces. Members will wear the bars on their class “A” uniforms*



**Legislator Fleming and 60 year veteran of the East Hampton Fire Department Joseph DeCristofaro at the Annual Inspection Dinner**



**Legislator Fleming pinning Veteran Mario Trunzo at the Sag Harbor Fire Department's Annual Inspection Dinner**



**The Suffolk County Legislature and staff members wear green at the May 10<sup>th</sup> General Meeting in recognition of Lyme Disease Awareness Month**



**Legislator Fleming and East Hampton Town Supervisor Larry Cantwell at the Springs Fire Department Annual Inspection**



**Legislator Fleming and Presiding Officer Gregory present a proclamation to Brigadier General Thomas J. Owens II, who was promoted from Colonel at the 106<sup>th</sup> Rescue Wing in Westhampton to Brigadier General for the New York Air National Guard.**



**Bridget traveled to Albany this month to fight for Suffolk County's fair share of the MTA tax, remarking that, if the tax can't be eliminated, we must get funds back for our public transportation needs.**

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Second Annual Catholic Health Services of Long Island Suffolk County 2016 Marathon, Half Marathon, 5k Run and Freedom Fest

Come support our local veterans at the 2nd Annual Suffolk County Marathon, Half Marathon and 5k on Sunday, October 30, 2016! All net proceeds will go toward enhancing local veteran services.

#### Registration Costs:

**Full marathon:** April 1 – June 30: \$80, July 1 – October 24: \$85, at the Expo: \$100

**Half Marathon:** April 1 – June 30: \$70, July 1 – October 24: \$75, at the Expo: \$90

**5k:** April 1 – June 30: \$20, July 1 – October 24: \$30, at the Expo: \$35

**For Active-Duty Military and Veterans:** Full: \$50, Half: \$40, 5k: \$20

\*Must provide military ID/proof of service at packet pickup

Register Online at [www.SuffolkMarathon.com](http://www.SuffolkMarathon.com)



Southampton HISTORICAL MUSEUM

7TH ANNUAL TOUR OF SOUTHAMPTON HOMES

AN INSIDER'S VIEW

SATURDAY JUNE 4, 2016  
1:00-4:00 PM

Champagne Reception & Exhibit  
at the Rogers Mansion  
4:30-6:00 pm  
sponsored by  
Sant Ambroeus Restaurant

Tickets: \$95 in advance,  
\$110 day of tour with AMEX, Visa, MC or  
Paypal at southamptonhistoricalmuseum.org  
To order tickets by phone please call  
631.283.2494

corcoran Baker HC&G  
Historic Saint Ambroeus

## HEY...DON'T LITTER

LOW-COST SPAY/NEUTER



#### Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic Price List

Dogs: Spay \$100/ Neuter \$85

Cats: Spay \$50/ Neuter \$45

Rabies Vaccine: \$15

Feral Cats: \$45 (includes rabies vaccination)

Let's help control the animal population. SPAY and NEUTER!

Call Suffolk County SPCA at (631) 382-7722

Scheduling and payment must be made in advance

Upcoming Dates: June 5, 2016, June 26, 2016

725 Veterans Memorial Hwy.,  
Hauppauge, NY 11788  
[www.suffolkspca.org](http://www.suffolkspca.org)

---

---

## Legislator Fleming's Summer Tips

### **Pedestrian Safety:**

Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals

Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available

If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible. Cyclists should always ride with traffic and use hand signals when turning

Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections whenever possible.

Keep alert at all times – don't be distracted by electronic devices that take your eyes and ears off the road.

### **Camping Safety and Tips:**

Prepare safe food and water, don't litter

Inspect body for ticks and wear lightly colored clothing for tick prevention.

Stay away from wild animals at night

Wear bug repellent to avoid pesky mosquitos

Always wear sunblock to stay protected from intense summer rays



---

---

## *Tick Prevention*

Ticks will remain active year-round (above 40 degrees Fahrenheit/4 degrees Celsius). Preventative measures should be used whenever tick exposure is likely. Here are some ways to protect yourself:

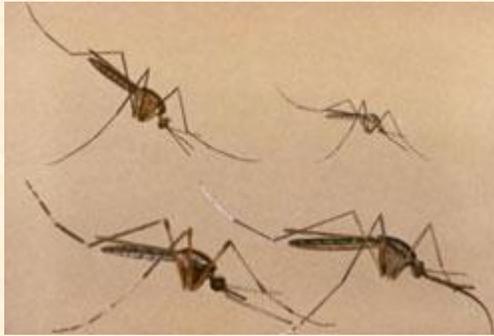
- Wear lightly colored clothing
- Wear long pants and sleeves
- Tuck your pants into your socks
- Tuck your shirt into your pants
- Use repellents as directed
- Walk along the center of trails
- Conduct frequent clothing checks
- Carefully inspect your body for ticks
- Keep pets away from tick infested areas and check them before entering the house
- Once home, dry clothing on the highest temperature setting for 10 minutes to kill ticks



Tick removal kits and information can be picked at our District Office, located at 75 Washington Street in Sag Harbor, or by calling the Southampton Hospital Tick Borne Disease Resource Center at 631-726-TICK.

---

## *Mosquito Prevention*



An important part of mosquito control around your home is making sure that mosquitoes don't have a place to lay their eggs. Mosquitoes need standing water for two stages of their [life cycle](#).

- Get rid of standing water in rain gutters, old tires, buckets, plastic covers, toys or any other container where mosquitoes can breed.
- Empty and change the water in bird baths, fountains, wading pools, rain barrels and potted plant trays at least once a week to eliminate potential mosquito habitats.
- Drain temporary pools of water or fill with dirt.
- Keep swimming pool water circulating and treated.