

Around

N. HEMPSTEAD TOWN

Hearing on limits for garden equipment

The Town of North Hempstead will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. Jan. 29 at town hall in Manhasset to discuss proposed guidelines on commercial use of landscaping and gardening equipment.

The guidelines — details of which have not been released — were recommended by a special committee tasked with determining when and how landscapers can use lawn equipment within the town.

The town in 2017 had proposed banning gas-powered blowers and equipment between June 1 and Sept. 30. The proposal received pushback from landscaping companies. The town council postponed its vote and Supervisor Judi Bosworth created the committee of landscapers, residents and environmentalists earlier this year to study the issue.

— KRISTOPHER J. BROOKS

WESTHAMPTON BEACH

Funding for hookup to county sewer plant

A \$5 million grant from the New York State Regional Economic Development Council will help pay construction costs for a Westhampton Beach \$15 million sewer connection project.

The work will allow Westhampton Beach Village's Main Street business district and two condominium complexes to connect to Suffolk County's wastewater treatment plant at Gabreski Airport, which county officials approved in March.

Once operational, the project is expected to help the village reduce nitrogen seeping into groundwater and surrounding water bodies by 24 percent. In addition, village officials said the project could pave the way for a new hotel, restaurants and additional apartments over storefronts.

"There's a lot of good things that would come from the project," Westhampton Beach Mayor Maria Moore said.

H2M Architects + Engineers



BARRY SLOAN

Shake it up, count it down

COLD SPRING HARBOR. Sisters Talia, 4, and Arielle Harvey, 2, made noisemakers with their mother, Stacy, during the New Year's Bash for Kids at The Whaling Museum & Education Center of Cold Spring Harbor on Sunday. The family lives in Baltimore, but Stacy is a Syosset native.

of Melville will create the project's construction documents and design, which is funded by \$1.13 million from Southampton's Community Preservation Fund awarded to the village in October. Moore said the firm is expected to complete those documents in late 2019. The village will then put the project out to bid.

— JEAN-PAUL SALAMANCA

HEAD OF THE HARBOR B&B vote delayed following objections

Head of the Harbor trustees will delay until Jan. 16 or later a vote on a proposal to permit some homes along North Country Road to be operated as bed-and-breakfasts, Mayor Douglas Dahlgard said.

A draft of the proposal allows for no more than four guest bedrooms and requires the home be the primary residence of the owner. The proposed law would also require two parking spaces plus one parking space per guest room, all on site.

"We'll listen to people if they feel something is not right," Dahlgard said in an interview after the proposal got a skeptical reception from residents at a Dec. 19 village board meeting. Bed-and-breakfasts could bring unwanted traffic and other commercial incursions, said some residents who attended the meeting.

Dahlgard said he proposed the law primarily to expand the pool of buyers for Innisfallen, a 10-bedroom Gothic Revival mansion off Three Sisters Road. The home listed this fall for \$929,000, but Dahlgard said it needs renovation and could attract more interest with the income potential of a bed-and-breakfast than solely as a restoration project.

"We want that house to be restored and to be a showpiece," he said.

— NICHOLAS SPANGLER

RIVERSIDE Brown Street house might be demolished

Southampton Town plans to address an unsafe and abandoned Riverside home

that caught fire earlier this month.

Town officials inspected the house at 11 Brown St. following the Dec. 15 fire and found buckets of human waste, piles of garbage and extension cords running through the rooms, according to a town board resolution on the matter.

The Southampton Town Division of Fire Protection in a Dec. 17 letter said the home is dangerous, unsafe and does not meet town code.

The town could secure the building, demolish it or take any steps necessary to bring the property into compliance if the town board accepts the findings.

A public hearing on the determination will be held at 1 p.m. Feb. 12 at Southampton Town Hall, 116 Hampton Rd.

— VERA CHINESE

GLEN COVE Police Dept. launches recruitment drive

The Glen Cove Police Department has launched a recruitment drive for new

auxiliary police officers.

Auxiliary officers direct vehicle and pedestrian traffic at special events, patrol parades, fill crossing posts at churches and synagogues, and use radios to report issues to the police department. They are not expected to intervene in crimes in progress.

Officers are part-time and, as of Jan. 1, will earn \$10 an hour. That is below the New York State minimum wage but allowed under an exception for local government employees, city spokeswoman Lisa Travatello said. There are no health benefits. Auxiliary officers are eligible to join the state retirement system.

The city is recruiting for three to five positions, police Lt. Pat Wright said in an email. There are currently about 25 auxiliary officers, Travatello said.

Applicants must have a valid New York State driver's license and a high school diploma. Applications are available in the city personnel department on the second floor of City Hall. For more information, call 516-676-4814. — DAVID OLSON