



A NEW YEAR AND NEW POSSIBILITIES



Photo: Legislator Kara Hahn and Presiding Officer William Lindsay during the Legislature's 2013 organizational meeting.

Dear Neighbor,

Let us begin 2013 optimistic about our future here in the Fifth Legislative District and for the possibility that we have to shape our hopes into reality during this next year. In my first year as your Suffolk County Legislator we faced many great challenges, but worked together to overcome these obstacles and put our County on a path to economic stability and recovery from natural disaster.

As I begin this second year of my term, I am committed to building upon the accomplishments we achieved in 2012 to help keep Suffolk moving forward. Last year we were able to:

- Close a multiyear \$530 Million budget shortfall;
- Allow police to carry opiate antidotes, which helped to save over 40 lives in 2012;
- Prohibit toxic hydrofracking wastewater from coming to Suffolk County;
- Increase transparency in the legislative process by posting audio recordings of meetings;
- Adopt a 2013 operating budget below the New York State tax cap;
- Develop online firefighter training courses which will help make serving easier for volunteers and reduce costs for the County;
- Establish a memorial arbor program in County Parks ;

and so much more.

In 2013, I look forward to continuing the work of safeguarding public safety and our environment while protecting you the taxpayer. With your guidance, I know that the promise of tomorrow will be founded in the work of today.

Best Wishes,

Suffolk County Legislator
Fifth District

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN FROM POTENTIAL PREDATORS



Photo: Legislator Kara Hahn and Parents for Megan's Law Executive Director Laura Ahern prepare a mailing to childcare providers and youth organizations about ways to safeguard children from potential abuses that pose as sub-contractors.

Seeking to close a loophole in the County's nearly decade old law on screening requirements for day care providers, I have joined Legislator Kate Browning and Parents For Megan's Law to introduce [a bill](#) that will require, at a minimum, background checks for anyone with access to children

enrolled in programs at county contracted agencies. The bill expands a previous requirement that only employees of agencies be checked against a state database of convicted sex offenders.

SUFFOLK ADOPTS 'COMMUNITY PROTECTION ACT'

Suffolk County has adopted what many consider the nation's strongest sex offender monitoring and verification program. The new multipronged policy will strengthen address

verification efforts to ensure registered sex offenders are properly reporting their whereabouts as required under Megan's Law, monitor social media sites to stop convicted offenders from illegally joining, and enhanced community notification programs on offenders within their neighborhood.

The [Community Protection Act](#) will also end the controversial policy of clustering of sex offenders that had been in place since 2007.

RESPONDING TO SCHOOL EMERGENCIES

I am the co-sponsor of a recently adopted [resolution](#) that examines the feasibility of installing emergency notification systems in schools throughout Suffolk County in an attempt to speed up response times during an emergency incident similar to the tragic shooting in Newtown, Connecticut. In situations like Sandy Hook Elementary School and Columbine High School, police response time is critical in helping to reducing injuries and fatalities.

The legislation gives the Suffolk County Police Department up to 120 days to examine notification systems that will immediately alert officers to a situation at a school. One technology to be examined is a panic button similar to ones in banks. When the report is complete, the Police Department will issue its finding and recommendations to the Legislature and County Executive for possible action.

VETERANS PEER-TO-PEER GROUPS FORMING

Suffolk County's Veterans Service Agency and Suffolk County United Veterans are now forming support groups across Suffolk County for veterans of any era that suffers from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or a Traumatic Brain Injury. Groups have already begun to meet in Bellport, Yaphank, and Bay Shore and will shortly begin in Stony Brook.

The groups are run by Veterans who are being trained by Moe Armstrong, the founder of a national Veterans Peer Support organization, Vet-to-Vet. If you know a Veteran with PTSD or TBI who can benefit from peer support please call 631-853-8345 or email: vetpeertopeer@suffolkcountyny.gov for more information.



AT THE HELM OF PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT IN 2013

I am pleased to have been reappointed by Presiding Officer William Lindsay to serve as Chairwoman of the Legislature's Environment, Planning and Agricultural [EPA] committee for 2013. Overseeing the County's land acquisition programs, water quality improvements initiatives, farmland protection efforts, smart growth planning and numerous other projects, the EPA committee is central to many of the functions of County Government. As Chairwoman, I will have direct oversight of the Suffolk County's planning division, County Planning Commission and matters that deal with our local environment.

In addition to chairing the environmental committee, I have also been appointed to serve as a member of Economic Development & Energy and will remain a member of the Parks & Recreation and Public Safety Committees.

There is much work still ahead of us environmentally and I am grateful for the opportunity and confidence that the Presiding Officer and my colleagues have given me. We have many important policy decisions ahead of us, and I look forward to working with my fellow legislators in setting a course to be stronger protectors of our drinking water and our bays and waterways.

COMMUNITY SHORT TAKES

Legislator Hahn in the Community



RESIDENTS' ISSUES FRONT AND CENTER DURING PJST CIVIC MEETING

I was the featured guest speaker at the Port Jefferson Station/Terryville Civic Association's January meeting. I was joined by Inspector Oswald of SCPD's Sixth Precinct in a discussion about quality of life issues in the hamlet.

STONY BROOK SCOUT MAKES EAGLE

I joined the families and friends of new Eagle Scouts Daniel Santangelo (left) of Stony Brook and Eric Oswald (middle) from Smithtown during their Eagle Court of Honor. For his Service Project, Daniel designed and constructed a meditation garden in the cemetery at St. James Roman Catholic church in Setauket which measures 250 square feet and includes 10 different plant species.



LISTENING TO THE VOICE OF BUSINESS AT THE THREE VILLAGE CHAMBER'S JAN. MEETING

I was on hand for the Three Village Chamber of Commerce's January general membership meeting held at the Old Field Club. *Photo Left to Right: Brookhaven Town Supervisor Ed Romaine, Legislator Kara Hahn and Three Village Chamber President Michael Ardolino.*

HAVING CLEAN BEACHES TAKES YEAR ROUND WORK

I joined the Coastal Steward and other volunteers for a wintertime beach cleanup of Port Jefferson Harbor. Everyone involved braved the January weather in an effort to pick up debris unearthed by Superstorm Sandy and other Nor'easters this season.



SUFFOLK COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S PROMOTION CEREMONY

The Suffolk County Police Department promoted over 100 officers during a ceremony held at the Staller Center for the Arts in Stony Brook. I was on hand to recognize these officers on their achievements.

IN THE WINNER'S CIRCLE

I celebrated the works of 12 of the more than 135 artists that participated in Gallery North's 47th Outdoor Art Show. The exhibition, entitled Winner's Circle, featured the most outstanding masterpieces created during the annual event and were selected based on merit, originality, and outstanding quality of workmanship. Photo Left to Right: Karina Gerry, Legislator Kara Hahn and photographer Annabelle Reboli.



PJ GALLERY INSPIRES IMAGINE-ATION

Imagine Gallery hosted a recent networking event from its new location on the corner of Main Street and East Main Street in Port Jefferson. I had the pleasure of mingling with local artists and art enthusiasts at the meet and greet.

TOUR OF HOPE HOUSE

Fr. Frank Pizzarelli and Hope House staff members provided me and Suffolk County Sheriff Vincent DeMarco with a tour of its facilities in Port Jefferson.

