

Kings Park Neighbors' Association, Inc.

February 2009

Dear Neighbor,

We hope this letter finds you well. 2008 was a busy year for all of us. A few of our favorite accomplishments came from our work with KPNA Cares. Last year we joined with neighbors and friends to walk to help the sun rise for children with cancer. We helped raise money for the Sunrise Day Camp, a place where children with cancer and their siblings can attend summer camp free of charge. We hope to participate again this year. We were also again proud to present our annual Community Service Scholarship to Kings Park High School graduating senior, Katherine Loiacono, a truly community minded young woman.

2009 brings with it new community challenges. In an effort to help our local economy, KP Neighbors has introduced the "3 Mile Challenge." Basically, we are promoting the simple idea of friends and neighbors frequenting our local eateries in an effort to boost our local economy. We will be promoting this challenge in various ways throughout the year. For a list of local restaurants and a chance to win a gift certificate to one of these eateries, please visit our web site.

We continue to find ourselves busy on the issue of the Nissequogue River State Park. In 2008, the State of New York paid \$768,870.75 in taxes to the Kings Park School District based on the entire Nissequogue River State Park and a total of \$6,678,910.40 taxes to the school, based on all State owned property. Most recently, Governor Paterson has sought to amend the Public Lands Law and Real Property Tax Law to freeze payments for taxes on State owned lands to no greater than that of fiscal year 2008-09. Senator Flanagan has opposed this amendment. This change carries with it the potential to erode a tax base that has been in place in Kings Park for decades.

We are currently awaiting the results of an engineering study that is being prepared at the request of State Parks regarding the scope and cost of remediation of the parkland. We also look forward to Parks Commissioner Ash's visit to our community to discuss the status of the Nissequogue River State Park. It is our hope that she will confirm that NYS Parks plans to keep this property as parkland and provides a time table for its remediation.

Finally, the board of KP Neighbors has met and decided to suspend the collection of membership dues. This decision was based upon several factors, including the recent changes in the economy and the pressing need of many humanitarian charities, both local and nationwide, for the coming year. We are, however, accepting donations that will be used for such purposes as our annual Community Service High School Scholarship.

We thank you for your continued support, we will continue to monitor the issues surrounding the former Kings Park Psychiatric Center and the St. Johnland expansion and we encourage you to visit our web site for updates on all the above.

With Warm Regards,
Kings Park Neighbors' Association

Donation

If you would like to make a donation to the Kings Park Neighbors' Association, please fill out this form and return it, along with your donation, to: Kings Park Neighbors' Association
PO Box 674, Kings Park, NY 11754

Name: _____

Please select a donation amount:

Address: _____

\$5 \$10 \$15 other amount \$ _____

E Mail: _____

Please make check payable to Kings Park Neighbors' Association