

Kings Park Neighbors' Association

January 22, 2008

Dear Neighbor,

We hope this letter finds everyone well. As 2008 has so quickly arrived, as we do every year, we take this opportunity to review our work last year and set goals for this year. The issues that have dominated our time are of course the New Nissequogue River State Park and The St. Johnland Swap.

As the new administration in Albany moved in last January, it became clear that they were not committed to the parkland our community worked so hard to obtain. In February we organized and gathered with members and community friends to send a strong message to the State, "Keep Our Park." We were joined by Senator Flanagan, Supervisor Vecchio and County Executive Levy. We next met with New York State Parks Commissioner Ash and Empire Development Corp. Chairman Patrick Foye to push the State to commit to this park and start remediation and redevelopment of the property.

We have had meetings with various State and County agencies, including the Chair of the New York State Council on the Arts, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Assemblyman Steve Englebright to discuss possible reuses of the Park.

We have lobbied the Governor to re appropriate the 25 million dollars for the environmental cleanup of the Nissequogue River State Park and have asked for additional funds to accomplish the complete remediation and redevelopment of this property.

We continue to work on the St. Johnland Swap Campaign. As you know, St. Johnland Nursing Center is seeking to build a continuing care retirement facility, consisting of approximately 200 units, on 50 acres of pristine woodlands across from their current facility. KPNA has advocated that St. Johnland utilize already developed property at the KPPC site instead. This would not only save woodlands and wetlands, but help clean the former hospital grounds while bringing money into the KP school district. We have sent over 1000 signatures in support to the Town Board, we have met with County Executive Levy, Commissioner Ash and Chairman Foye. We have fulfilled the legal requirements that any zone change regarding this important issue require a 'super majority' vote by the Town Board. We are planning to step up this campaign in the spring.

KPNA was proud to present a \$500 dollar scholarship to Kings Park graduating student Jacalyn Dillon. Jacalyn has not only excelled in academics but also is a community minded young woman who has a deep concern for children. We

hosted a forum for the Smithtown Library Board to present their initiative to the community and we invited Congressman Bishop to speak to our community regarding not only local issues, but important national issues as well.

We are also quite excited about our 2nd annual candidates' debate held in October, as well as the addition of 'KPNA Asks,' a Q&A process that we post on our website. Both these endeavors help all of us decide what the candidates who want to represent us stand for in order to help us make informed decisions. We look forward to continuing this work.

KPNA has done a lot this year, but there is much more to be done. We look forward to the challenges that are in front of our community. We thank you for your support last year and ask for it again this year. Attached is our 2008 membership form. Please don't forget to visit our new website, www.KPNA.org, which we try very hard to keep updated. Together, we can continue to make our community the best it can be. Thanks again and enjoy the rest of the winter.

Warm Regards,

Linda Henninger
KPNA President
www.KPNA.org