Farmingville, NY, March 30, 2010 - Today the town is moving forward in boarding up an abandoned house that has been an eye-sore and safety concern to the local neighborhood. Councilwoman Kepert's office received calls concerning an abandoned house in the Gordon Heights at 33 Erna Drive, which had been occupied by squatters and reportedly drug dealers. Councilwoman Kepert's office contacted a number of departments to secure the house including, the Town of Brookhaven's Building Department, Suffolk County Health Department and Suffolk County Police Department.

"No one should have to feel unsafe in their own homes, and neighborhoods. The Town of Brookhaven and my office will continue to work closely with our Quality of Life Task Force to clean up these abandoned, illegal structures," stated Councilwoman Kepert.

The house, originally owned by Mary Seymore who has since passed away, has been neglected and has attracted squatters. Town of Brookhaven Senior Building Inspector Robert Incagliato identified the deceased owner, Suffolk County Police Department removed the squatters, and the Town posted the notice to board & secure the house. On Friday March 26th, inspectors found the house to be unsafe due to a collapsing interior ceiling, missing shingles and holes in roof. In addition garbage was found through out the interior of house and the house had no running water, heat or electricity. All copper base boards and piping had been removed and there was also black mold throughout the structure along with cesspool issues.

"Issues of public safety, especially those that affect our youth, are top priorities to the Gordon Heights Community and this is why we are so grateful for the quick response from Councilwoman Kepert and her staff," said Tawaun Weber, President of the Great Gordon Heights Civic Association.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor
One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone (631) 451-6595 • Fax (631) 451-6258