Farmingville, NY - Supervisor Mark Lesko and Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld have announced that the Town of Brookhaven will be hosting the fourth annual "Sunset Seminars-West Meadow Wanderings" at West Meadow Beach in Stony Brook. There will be five seminars held on various Thursdays from August 2nd to September 13th focusing on the geological origins and history of the beach and the plant and animal species that inhabit the area. The events are free, but reservations are required due to limited space. Each seminar is expected to last around two hours. To reserve a spot, please e-mail egerle@brookhaven.org.

"West Meadow Beach is an environmental treasure that is home to many diverse species of plants and animals," said Supervisor Lesko, "I strongly encourage residents to learn about one of the Town of Brookhaven's premiere locations while enjoying a beautiful summer sunset."

Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld stated, "Our Ranger, Eileen Gerle, has run numerous successful ecological interpretive programs for our children and families at West Meadow Beach. The West Meadow Wanderings are just another example of these wondrous programs explaining the magnificent flora, fauna, and history of West Meadow Beach. I would strongly recommend you seize the opportunity to participate in at least one, if not all, of the 2012 Sunset Seminars."

The agenda is as follows:

**August 2nd at 6:00pm: Brookhaven Town's Shorebird Motel**
- Special Guest: John Turner, Consultant for Town of Brookhaven's Open Space Program.
- Observe shorebirds in their habitat and see what they are eating at the Town of Brookhaven's shorebird's motel. Bring binoculars.

**August 16th at 6:00pm: Geological Origins of West Meadow**
- Special Guest: New York State Assemblyman Steve Englebright.
- Travel back in time and learn about the fascinating beginnings of Long Island and West Meadow Beach during this hands-on walk.
August 23rd at 6:00pm: West Meadow - More than a Bathing Beach
- Special Guests: Barbara Russell, Town of Brookhaven Historian, and Beverly Tyler, Historian for the Three Village Historical Society.
- Learn about the history of West Meadow Beach from the days of the Native American hunter-gathers through the colonial era to today. Bring binoculars.

August 30th at 6:00pm: Diamondback Terrapins - New York's Native "Sea Turtle"
- Special Guest: Matthew Draud, Chair of Biology Department at C.W. Post - Long Island University.
- West Meadow Creek is prime habitat for diamondback terrapins, and females come ashore each summer to lay their eggs in the swale of the beach. Learn all about these beautiful estuarine turtles and the head start program conducted at West Meadow.

September 13th at 5:30pm: Plants and Critters of the West Meadow Salt Marsh
- Special Guest: Glenn Richard, Educational Coordinator of the Mineral Institute at SUNY Stony Brook; Sandy Richard, Educator.
- Enjoy a first-hand look at the diverse inhabitants of the salt marsh and an opportunity to learn about their roles in the development and ecology of this interesting natural area.

West Meadow Beach is operated by the Town of Brookhaven and is located on West Meadow Beach Road in Stony Brook. Visitors are encourage to take advantage of the many recreational opportunities the beach offers, whether it be swimming, boating, fishing, or simply enjoying the view of the Long Island Sound. For more information about West Meadow Beach, please visit www.brookhaven.org or call (631) 451-TOWN [8696]. Go to www.visitbrookhaven.com for more destinations and attractions throughout the Town of Brookhaven.