Farmingville, NY - On Sunday, May 18th, Councilwoman Valerie M. Cartright attended the Setauket Yacht Club's Annual Commissioning Ceremony with Commodore Geof Storms and other officers to kick off the boating season. Also in attendance were Senator Kenneth P. LaValle, Legislator Kara Hahn, and Mayor Barbara Donovan of the Village of Poquott.

The Commissioning Ceremony began with an invocation by Reverend Dr. Richard Graugh and a rendition of Amazing Grace by Bill Paul. The past and present Commodores, members, club staff, and distinguished guests were introduced followed by Commodore Storms' address and presentation of Officers' flags. The ceremony continued with the "dressing of the ship" which included raising the American flag, singing the National Anthem, firing of the cannon, and raising the club flags. The ceremony ended with the blessing of the fleet and a rendition of God Bless America.

"It was a pleasure to be included in this celebration of the official opening of the boating season and to honor those who put so much work into maintaining and preparing the fleet," said Councilwoman Cartright. "We were lucky to have beautiful weather and I was in excellent company."

The Setauket Yacht Club, located in Port Jefferson Village, was founded in 1959 and the clubhouse was completed in the current location in 1982. Setauket Yacht Club hosts yachts from all over the world and has many sailing programs including the sail racing program for Long Island boaters held every summer.