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A newsletter from Councilwoman Jane Bonner

# Jane AND OUR COMMUNITY

*Working to protect your quality of life*



Councilwoman Jane Bonner



Town of Brookhaven  
Second Council District  
councilwomanbonner@brookhaven.org



Printed on recycled paper with soy-based ink.

## Scientific Breakthrough: Community Tesla Project Gains

When it comes to community-initiated successful projects, few can top the effort to acquire land in Shoreham for a museum and educational monument to the eclectic and eccentric scientist and inventor Nikola Tesla. In fact, the achievement is miraculous!

Local community members, encouraged by Tesla fans from around the world have secured some \$1.3 million dollars to purchase the former Peerless Photo Laboratory, eventually restoring the laboratory in which Tesla worked from 1903-1915, making discoveries in theoretical physics, engineering robotics and early computer science. Tesla is best known for establishing alternating current as the basis for transmission of electrical power. On the stranger side, Tesla became

obsessed with the number three and its multiples, refused to touch hair and required more than a dozen napkins before starting a meal!



“He was one of the most unusual guys around in his day, but he could match wits with Thomas Edison and Guglielmo

Marconi – other top scientific minds of his day,” said Brookhaven Town Councilwoman Jane Bonner. “I keep wondering what kind of constituent he would have been,” she added.

Local residents obtained grant money from New York State and Brookhaven Town before Matthew Inman, an internet cartoonist and blogger conducted an online fundraising campaign which raised more than \$1,300,000. The land is being purchased and fundraising for the museum itself is already underway.

Jane Alcorn, a community activist for years, is delighted at the progress to date and optimistic about the prospects for the Tesla Museum. Contributions for the Museum can be sent to [www.teslasciencecenter.org](http://www.teslasciencecenter.org).

*Please see inside for Recycling, E-Waste and Tax Grievance events*

One Independence Hill, Farmingville, NY 11738 • (631) 451-6964 • [councilwomanbonner@brookhaven.org](mailto:councilwomanbonner@brookhaven.org)

# Celebrating Community Accomplishments!

WINTER 2013

TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN • DISTRICT 2

TOWN COUNCILWOMAN JANE BONNER



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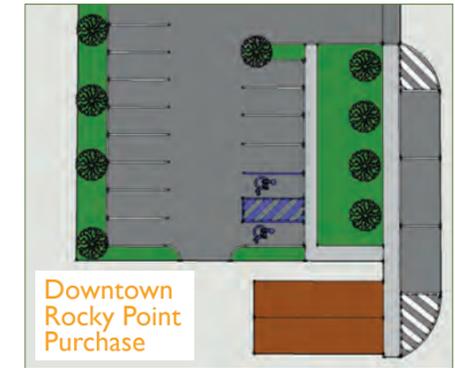
Top to bottom; left to right: **A) ROCKY POINT FARMERS MARKET-L to R:** Councilwoman Jane Bonner and Rocky Point Civic President/ Farmers Market Founder Charles Bevington **B) 3RD ANNUAL POLAR PLUNGE-L to R:** Special Olympic Athlete Matthew Schuster and Jane **C) BOY SCOUTS-L to R:** Assemblyman Dan Losquadro, Eagle Scouts Dean Zeffer, Christopher Argento, David Yonks, Kyle Matura and Councilwoman Jane Bonner **D) GIRL SCOUTS-L to R:** Jane with Girl Scouts Ashley Cordiale, Alexandra Francis, Kirsten Nicholas, Nicole Kurtinatis, and Receiver of Taxes Lou Marcoccia **E) LONG ISLAND SOUND SHARKS FOOTBALL-L to R:** Councilwoman Bonner (far left), Legislator Sarah Anker (third from right) and Assemblyman Dan Losquadro (far right) with members of the Long Island Sound Sharks 11-Year-Old Championship Team and members of the Sharks Organization **F) VETERANS-L to R:** Bill Shilling, Councilwoman Kathy Walsh, Rocky Point VFW Post 6249 Commander Joe Cognitore, Councilwoman Jane Bonner, Assemblyman Dan Losquadro and Supervisor Ed Romaine **G) SENIORS:** Jane pictured with the Volunteers at the Rose Caracappa Senior Center in Mount Sinai **H) NORTH BROOKHAVEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-**Councilwoman Jane Bonner (fourth from left) joins Legislator Sarah Anker (fifth from left) and Dr. Kathleen DeDio (fifth from right), Dr. DeDio's parents (with scissors), Meetings Coordinator of the North Brookhaven Chamber of Commerce Reeni Brill (second from right), and President of the North Brookhaven Chamber of Commerce Joel DeGregorio (right)

## THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND

### Land use that maintains community character:

#### DOWNTOWN ROCKY POINT PURCHASE:

On February 20, Councilwoman Jane Bonner attended the closing of the Town's acquisition of property located



on Broadway in Rocky Point to be developed as a municipal parking lot. The purchase presents the first opportunity for the Town to build on the J6 zoning designation that is part of the Route 25A Mount Sinai to Wading River Land Use Plan. The plan, which was spearheaded by Councilwoman Bonner and initiated in the fall of 2009 was adopted by the Town Board at the January 8 Town Board Meeting. It covers a 10.5 mile stretch of

Route 25A through the hamlets of Mount Sinai, Miller Place, Sound Beach, Rocky Point, Shoreham and Wading River to the Riverhead town line. The property was purchased from Anthony and Bridget Caccavale with funding in the form of a Community Development Block Grant through the Federal Government.

**FRIARY:** Brookhaven Town and Suffolk County have committed to the permanent preservation of the Little Portion Friary – a three-parcel assemblage located within the "Mt. Sinai Highlands Project Area." The long-sought acquisition has been a major priority of the Town of Brookhaven Open Space Program, which includes 115 acres of wooded properties, just south of Mt. Sinai Harbor.

These parcels are all within the harbor watershed and are thus critical to

protecting surface waters in the harbor. The lands contribute approximately 2.5 million gallons of fresh water per year to Mt. Sinai Harbor.

In addition, the Friary properties boast a wide variety of tree and shrub species, providing critical habitat for numerous birds, mammals and reptiles. The preservation of these lands are part of a continuing environmental conservation for the Second District's natural treasures. The partnership with Suffolk County is very much appreciated.



Join your Councilwoman Jane Bonner at The Rose Caracappa Senior Center for any of the following great free events set up to help our residents!

#### Recycle! E-Waste Event

Recycle Your Old Electronics! Items that can be recycled at this e-waste recycling event range from fax machines to old cell phones and even mainframes!!



Time: 8am - 1pm  
Date: March 23, 2013

#### Think your property tax is too high?

Come to an informational meeting with Councilwoman Jane Bonner and Brookhaven Town Tax Assessor James Ryan to learn how to grieve your property tax assessment.

Time: 6pm - 8pm  
Date: April 4, 2013

#### Shed The Meds

Brookhaven residents have responded overwhelmingly to this program which takes back both prescription and non-prescription drugs and medications, helping keep them out of the hands of children, discourages drug abuse and helps protect underground water!



Time: 10am - 1pm  
Date: April 6, 2013

PUT THESE ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW ...

The Rose Caracappa Senior Center is located at: 739 Route 25A, Mt. Sinai

If you would like to receive updates from our office on a more regular basis please send us your e-mail address and we will be happy to keep you informed: [councilwomanbonner@brookhaven.org](mailto:councilwomanbonner@brookhaven.org)

Is there a pothole on your street or in your neighborhood? Is it impossible to read a street sign because of graffiti or overhanging branches? Is there a streetlight out on your block? Is there litter along a town road or are weeds growing against the sump fence? Please contact your Councilwoman at (631) 451-6964 or email her at [councilwomanbonner@brookhaven.org](mailto:councilwomanbonner@brookhaven.org)



# Jane's Thoughts



**Recently, I had the pleasure of visiting the Animal Shelter, as the liaison between the Town Board and that department. You know, there is just something wonderful about taking care of animals without homes. They need love, care and attention just as we do. So, the Town of Brookhaven Animal Shelter is providing all of this until we can find permanent homes for these animals.**

In these fiscally hard times many of our residents need help to feed their furry family members. Our shelter takes the donations that help keep pets in their homes. So if you know of someone in need, or someone who would like to help, please have them contact us at (631) 286-4940.

Though we have had a record number of adoptions and redemptions these past two months -- 72 dogs adopted and 81 redeemed by their owners and 35 cats adopted, we still have close to 190 dogs and 80 cats for adoption.

And be sure to mark the date for our free rabies and low cost vaccination clinic. It's May 18.

**Please visit the town Animal Shelter and meet all our dogs and kitties. The hours are Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri 9:30 to 4:00, Saturday 10:00 to 4:00 and Sunday 12:00 to 4:00. Closed on Wednesdays. Think about giving these animals a wonderful home and making your home more wonderful at the same time.**

*Please see inside for Recycling, E-Waste and Tax Grievance events*

## JANE RECOGNIZED AS WOMAN OF THE YEAR

*Councilwoman Jane Bonner Selected as Village Beacon Record Newspaper's "Woman of the Year in Government" JANUARY 8, 2013*



Brookhaven's Second District Councilwoman Jane Bonner has been designated as "Woman of the Year" in government by Village Beacon Record Newspapers. She was cited for her work to revitalize Rocky Point and for the completion of the Route 25A Corridor Study which will serve as a blue print for future land use from Mt. Sinai to Wading River. Her efforts to restore the Mt. Sinai Harbor Marine Environmental Stewardship Center were also praised.

Brookhaven Town Supervisor Ed Romaine congratulated Councilwoman Bonner, saying, "Jane is a knowledgeable dedicated public official who does a great job on behalf of her constituents."

"It's a great honor to be selected as the Woman of the Year in Government by people who I respect and admire for their own service to the community," Councilwoman Bonner said, "As an elected official, satisfaction comes when you get the opportunity to help your neighbors and make the community a better place to live. Being recognized in this way, shows that all the hard work and long hours are appreciated and I thank all those who nominated me for this very special honor," she added.

The award dinner was held at Majestic Gardens in Rocky Point on March 13th.

*"I do what I do to serve the people, its humbling to be recognized this way"*

**District Two includes: Mt Sinai, Miller Place, Middle Island (part), Terryville (part), Coram (part), Rocky Point, Sound Beach, Shoreham, East Shoreham, Ridge (part), Wading River**

