

## Councilwoman Bonner Joins Shellfish Mariculture Program Students at Cedar Beach

posted on 10/27/2015 4:17:00 PM

**Farmingville, NY** – On October 23, Councilwoman Jane Bonner joined students from Western Suffolk BOCES who participated in the 2015 Shellfish Mariculture Program at Cedar Beach. The program, which is sponsored by the Town of Brookhaven, is aimed at educating students about aquaculture techniques and how to raise seed clams and oysters for planting at public restoration sites. Pictured at left (front row, left to right) are Malynda Nichol, Western Suffolk BOCES Outdoor Environmental Ed Specialist; North Babylon High School students Tyler Ramirez and Kristina Scheid; Councilwoman Bonner and North Babylon High School Biology Teacher John Jaeger. Back row, left to right are Tom Carrano, Town of Brookhaven Assistant Waterways Management Supervisor and North Babylon High School Science Teacher Thomas Murphy, preparing seed clams for planting in Mount Sinai Harbor. Pictured on right with Councilwoman Bonner are Bay Management Specialists Emily Goldner and Craig Strong planting oysters in Mount Sinai Harbor.

As part of the Shellfish Mariculture Program, the Town provides shellfish rafts, mooring supplies to anchor the rafts and shellfish to stock the rafts. Students do the work required while being supervised by their teachers and Town of Brookhaven personnel. The Town also provides personnel and machinery to assist in the installation and removal of the rafts and periodic maintenance.

“Our oyster and clam restoration program at Mount Sinai Harbor and other waterways around the Town helps to preserve our marine life and protect the environment,” said Councilwoman Bonner. “The added benefit is the opportunity to educate students so they will continue to make progress in maintaining and growing the shellfish population.”

**Division of Public Information \* Office of the Supervisor**

One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone 631-451-6595