Town Demolishes Miller Place "Dirty Dozen" House in Danger of Toppling Off Cliff into L.I. Sound

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Severe Erosion Necessitates Emergency Action by the Town

Farmingville, NY - On January 22, Supervisor Ed Romaine (right) and Councilwoman Jane Bonner (left) were present during the demolition of a condemned house located at 1 Seacliff Avenue in Miller Place. The vacant house, which over the years has been undermined by severe cliff erosion and in danger of a collapsing onto the beach below, was determined by the Town to be an unsafe structure and a hazard to the community. It was on Supervisor Romaine's "Dirty Dozen" list of 12 vacant houses targeted for demolition in accordance with Chapter 73 of the Town Code that provides a "fast track" to rid neighborhoods of unsafe structures.

Supervisor Romaine said, "This house sat dangerously close to the edge of the cliff and it was only a matter of time before the next storm made the situation even worse. Thanks to our Law and Building departments, we have removed another unsafe, vacant house and improved the quality of life in the neighborhood."

"What happened to this house should remind residents to be considerate and make sure that your erosion problems do not threaten the safety of your neighbors and the community" said Councilwoman Bonner. "I urge those who live on the cliffs to have their property inspected and if there are erosion problems they should address them as soon as possible."

This is the fifth vacant house demolished since the Supervisor announced the list in September of 2014. The cost of demolition and debris removal is the responsibility of the property owner. The Town places a lien on the property that is then placed on the tax bill. The County reimburses the Town and they collect the money from the property owner.

The "Dirty Dozen" listed below, includes properties from every Council District in Brookhaven Town:

1. 25 Devoe Place, Mastic
2. 33 Ashwood Drive, Shirley
3. 131 Bedford Avenue, Mastic (Demolished 10/15/14)
4. 10 Murray Lane, Coram
5. 2808 John Roe Smith Avenue, Medford
6. 1 Seacliff Avenue, Miller Place (Demolished 1/22/15)
7. 6 Frank Street, Patchogue
8. 26 Gabon Lane, Coram
9. 22 Sundial Lane, Bellport (Demolished 11/6/14)
10. 9 Middle Island Road, Yaphank
11. 5 Parnet Court in Port Jefferson Station (Demolished (10/1/14)
12. 26 Berkeley Avenue in Selden (Demolished 9/3/14)

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