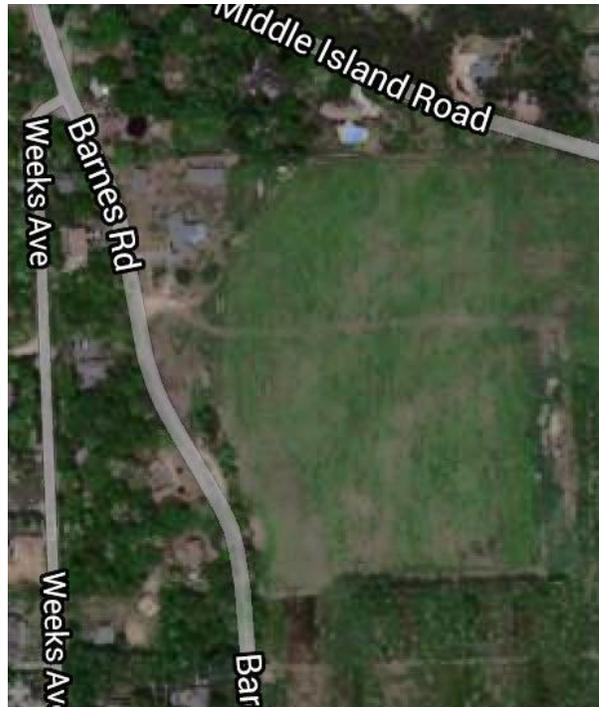


Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico Announces Preservation of 13.75 Acres of Farmland in Manorville

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Farmingville, NY – Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico has announced that the Town recently closed on 13.75 acres of land in Manorville that will be preserved as active farmland.

Located on Barnes Road in Manorville, the Town – under the leadership of Councilman Panico – was able to acquire the parcels through the acquisition of Farmland Development Rights from the property owner, Moriches Middle Island LLC. The Town invested approximately \$950,000 to preserve this land from dedicated open space funds. This property – once home to Bruno Farm – will be preserved as a pumpkin farm, without worry of future commercial or residential development, Panico noted, and joins adjacent parcels, formerly Shaw Nursery, that were preserved thanks to the efforts of Supervisor Ed Romaine, then a Suffolk County Legislator.

"Councilman Panico has always been a strong advocate for farmland preservation, open space and the protection of the Forge River Watershed," said Supervisor Ed Romaine. "Thanks to his leadership, this acquisition will guarantee that the property will remain as a farm, preserving the rural character of the Manorville community."

"This is the latest of our acquisitions in the Forge River Watershed, where we continue to limit, when possible, cesspools and the amount of nitrogen that finds its way into our water ways," said Councilman Panico. "I will continue to aggressively pursue open space and farmland acquisitions that are essential in preserving the natural characteristics of the places that we call home," said Councilman Panico.

"We are very pleased that Brookhaven is working hard to preserve farmland in the Town. Agriculture is an important component to our way of life on the east end. Councilman Panico's efforts, along with the support of Supervisor Romaine and the Town Board, ensure that agriculture in Brookhaven will be a vibrant industry for years to come," said Robert Carpenter, Administrative Director of the Long Island Farm Bureau.

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