



KARL A. BRABENEC, MPA

DEERPARK TOWN SUPERVISOR



“The Supervisor’s Corner: News from Deerpark”

March 2010 Monthly Report

The beginning of Spring marked the Grand Opening of two businesses in Sparrowbush. The town board in conjunction with the Tri-State Chamber of Commerce held ribbon cutting ceremonies for Nancy’s Gifts and Gamo’s Country Store both located on Main Street. The board feels that it is critical for our town to support and promote local business. I encourage you to patronize these new ventures and wish Nancy Wolffe of Nancy’s Gifts and Tom Grosse of Gamo’s the best of luck and success.

It is critical in these times to save taxpayer money wherever and whenever possible. In the beginning of March, a no-cost energy audit was performed at all town facilities, which was made possible by Orange and Rockland and NYSEERDA. Recommendations were submitted to the town board which outlined opportunities to save money, save energy, and help the environment. 70% of all costs for the improvements will be funded by Orange and Rockland and the other 30% will be funded through the town. Some of these improvements include energy-efficient bulbs and light motion sensors. After the upgrades are completed, the town will realize an estimated cost savings of \$4,700 per year. That’s almost \$25,000 in a five year period! Work is expected to be performed very soon.

In addition, with the help of Port Jervis Councilman George Belcher and Deerpark Councilman Dave Dean, the town bid out for an electricity provider for the many accounts maintained by us. We are currently paying an average of \$0.10 per kilowatt used. By shopping for electricity rates, the town locked in for one year on a contract to pay \$0.08 per kilowatt, which is one of the lowest rates offered in five years. Over time this will amount to a huge cost savings for town taxpayers. We will continue to look for more ways to cut costs in the coming months.

I have initiated an Internship program at Town Hall. The program costs the town nothing and gives opportunities to our youth to volunteer their time assisting in town operations. In addition, these students learn about how local government operates and prepares them to be future leaders in our communities. We currently have one student from Orange County Community College that reports two days a week. This work program may also help students by building their resumes or helping them with college credit. If any college student is interested in learning more about the program, please contact my office at 856-2210, ext. 1.

The Town of Deer Park has partnered with the United States Census Bureau to make sure our town is accurately counted in this year’s census. An accurate count is very important because the demographics that are reported will determine future federal and state funding opportunities for our town. It will also determine the amount and quality of representation that we have in Washington and Albany. We ask all of you to complete your Census surveys and mail them in by may 1st. Blank surveys are available at Town Hall and Building #2. If you have any questions, you can call our Census Liaison, Town Clerk Flo Santini at 845-856-2210, ext. 2.

The town still has vacancies on various committees and we are looking for able residents to step forward to serve the community. There are alternate positions available on the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and Police Commission and positions on the Board of Assessment Review and Recreation Committee. If you are interested, please send a letter of interest to Flo Santini at fsantini@townofdeerpark.org.

Assessment Grievance Day is scheduled for Tuesday, May 25, 2010 from 4 pm to 8 pm at Town Hall. If you feel that you need an adjustment on your assessment, you can obtain forms at the deerpark Assessor's Office after May 1st. All paperwork should be in to the Assessor's office before Grievance Day.

The second annual Community Development Task Force Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 25th starting at 12 PM at Jack Champions Steakhouse at the Port Jervis Country Club. Last year's event was very successful in bringing all facets of our business and government community together to share ideas on how we can expand community development in the town. All business owners are invited to attend. If you need more information or would like to sponsor the event, please call Councilman Dave Dean at 845-856-5090.

Finally, I want to thank Dan Morse and the rest of our Recreation Committee for their hard work in organizing the annual Easter Egg Hunt. It was a great success as we had over 200 children attend. Hot dogs and soda was sold at the event by the Deerpark Lions Club and Alyssa Goldstein provided some nice acoustic music. The response was fantastic and I look forward to the next event.

Until next month, I wish you and your family health and happiness.