SLANDANEWS

Village of Islandia | 1100 Old Nichols Road | Islandia, N.Y. 11749

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Children take part in a limbo contest during the Village of Islandia's annual Bar-B-Que.

The Wild West Comes to Islandia for Its Annual Bar-B-Que

Nearly 750 Islandia Village residents came out to the eleventh Annual Bar-B-Que on July 9. This year's theme was "The Wild West" as children in attendance received a free T-shirt to commemorate the event and a cowboy hat.

Village volunteers and local Boy Scouts served residents hamburgers, hot dogs, corn, ice cream, soda and water. Children enjoyed the day with hayrides, games, pony rides, a petting zoo, arts and crafts, face painting, piñatas, train rides, a limbo contest and a dunk tank. A local DJ provided the music to keep the party going.

Mayor Dorman hosted a blueberry pie eating contest with the winners each getting a blueberry pie. The BBQ also featured raffles, in which two lucky children each won a boys' and girls' bicycle and one Islandia resident went home with a 48-inch flatscreen TV.

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Village of Islandia Welcomes Denise Schrage as Its **New Activities Director**

Denise Schrage has joined the Village of Islandia staff as its new activities director. In her new duties, she will be responsible for organizing the village's annual events, including the Easter Egg Hunt, the Pumpkin Fest and the Christmas Tree Lighting. This year, she organized the annual Village Bar-B-Que, in which approximately 750 residents turned out for the event.

In addition to her position with the village, Denise works in the field of pediatrics as a licensed practical nurse.

She was born and raised in Islandia. She continues to live in the village with her husband Frank and their three children, Alyssa, Sophia and Gavin.

Denise loves working with children and is excited to share her ideas with the residents.



Mayor Allan Dorman (left) and Denise Schrage (right).

Mayor Dorman Sworn in as President of Suffolk County Village Officials Association



Allan Mayor Dorman was sworn Suffolk County Village Officials Association (SCVOA) during the organization's annual golf tournament and meeting, which was held on June 15 at the

Maidstone Golf Club in East Hampton. He previously served as SCVOA's first vice president.

First elected to office in 2005, Mayor Dorman has implemented many improvements to the village, including a comprehensive road improvement program and the Islandia Senior Bus, a service that shuttles senior citizens curb-to-curb for doctor's visits and shopping trips.

As a Vietnam veteran, Mayor Dorman was committed to having a memorial built to honor the many veterans in the Islandia community. The Islandia Veterans Memorial was dedicated in 2009 and, since then, it has become the site of the village's annual Veterans Day and Memorial

M. Day ceremonies. He worked with other local elected officials to acquire land that was used to build affordable in as president of the housing for returning war veterans. He also oversaw the establishment of a Veterans of Foreign Wars post at Islandia Commons and reserved parking for veterans at the Village Hall parking lot.

> He is very visible in the community as he hosts "Cup of Joe with the Mayor" every Saturday morning at Village Hall, where he meets with residents and listens to their concerns and suggestions. He also invites families to meet with him at the village's annual Bar-B-Que, Pumpkin Fest, Christmas tree lighting ceremony, and Easter Egg Hunt.

> Established more than 60 years ago, SCVOA is a nonprofit organization representing 125,000 Suffolk County residents who live in the county's 33 incorporated villages. SCVOA hosts meetings with informative guest speakers and noted experts to help provide village officials with timely and useful information on cutting-edge public policy issues. In addition, annual legislative receptions help the association develop and foster productive relationships with other levels of government.

Village Hosts Inaugural Story Time Hour



On May 20, the Village of Islandia introduced its first Story Time Hour. Kerri Dorman, an educator with the Hauppauge School District, volunteered to read to the children. Afterwards, the children and parents were treated to cocoa and cookies.

The village is currently looking for volunteers to read to the children. The program is scheduled to take place once a month.

A Message from the Mayor Real Tax Relief — Finally!

Village Taxes to be Reduced by Up to 50%

Dear Neighbor:

As I explained at our many "Cup of Joe" meetings, I would continue to communicate with Village residents regarding Delaware North, Delaware Properties, LLC's (Delaware North) application to operate Video Lottery Terminals, two Suffolk OTB kiosk machines and OTB simulcasts at the Marriott Hotel, located off the Long Island Expressway's North Service Road within the Village of Islandia.

I am pleased to announce that, following extensive negotiations and public meetings to review the application, the Board of Trustees has approved the application. <u>As part of the</u> <u>agreement, the Village retains the authority to review</u> <u>the special use permit every two years.</u> In addition, as detailed below, the agreement will provide Village residents with real, significant property tax relief.

There has been a lot of misinformation put forward by **nonresident civic organizations** that I also want to address:

The Facts

- **Hotel's Appearance** The plan for the exterior appearance of the hotel will not change, other than the name. There are no plans to add lighting on the building that would make it more visible to passing traffic. New fencing and landscaping enhancements will be added to the appearance of the property.
- **Security** Security will be provided around the clock with surveillance and guard presence within and outside the hotel. Parking lot security will be addressed with roving security patrols, surveillance and valet parking attendants managing the lot throughout the hours of operation. Village of Islandia security will be visible on and around the surrounding area 24/7.
- **Fire Protection** The Marriott Hotel has been at the same location for over 35 years and is serviced by the Central Islip and Hauppauge Fire Departments. It is also serviced by the Central Islip Hauppauge Volunteer Ambulance Corps (CHVAC).
- **Traffic** This hotel is located on Expressway Drive North with access to the Long Island Expressway from both directions. New traffic controls will be implemented to minimize traffic on local roads.
- **No Buses** The applicant has agreed that it will not provide an incentive to bus companies to bring patrons to the location.
- No Special Events Delaware North has agreed that there will be no Vegas-style shows at the hotel. Tony Orlando is not coming to Islandia.

In addition to addressing the concerns raised above, the approval provides several significant benefits to the Village and surrounding communities, including real, significant tax relief to Village residents, along with job creation.

Tax Relief & Job Creation Benefits

• **Job Opportunities** — Delaware North anticipates that

over 200 jobs will be created by way of this approval. It has agreed to give preference to local residents and provide job training to all employees.

- **No IDA Tax Abatement** Delaware North is not seeking any IDA benefits. All taxes will be paid to the Village and Hauppauge Schools.
- **Initial Funding** Delaware North has agreed to pay the Village \$1,532,400 for completing the construction and development of the Village's First Responders Recreation Baseball Field located on Old Nichols Road.
- **\$47 Million in Tax Relief Payments** The operator has agreed to make equal annual payments amounting to \$47 million over the course of the 20-year term.

As a result of this approval, Islandia residents will finally experience real tax relief. Some residents pay as high as \$1,200 per year in Village taxes alone. Some mom-and-pop businesses pay Village taxes as high as — and even higher than — \$18,000 to \$24,000 per year. Village taxes will be reduced by up to 50% within the first two years of the agreement and will be progressively lower each year after that.

School district taxes account for, by far, the largest portion of a local resident's tax bill. Within the Village, three school districts operate: Central Islip, Connetquot and Hauppauge. The taxes for these school districts account for 72.9%, 73.1% and 60% of an average resident's tax bill, respectively. Residents who live in the Central Islip and Connetquot school districts pay about \$1,300 more each year in school taxes, since the commercial and industrial base isn't as large as that of Hauppauge. While we can't control school district taxes directly, as a Village, we can help to grow the commercial and industrial tax base and bring in more revenue to provide **real** tax relief to the remaining hamlets of Central Islip and Ronkonkoma. Hauppauge residents will also receive a reduction in Village taxes, along with the reduction in school taxes they already receive. Hauppauge taxpayers win either way, and that's OK.

As your Mayor, I have worked tirelessly at reducing the tax burden on Village residents. In 2010, we eliminated Village garbage taxes, saving homeowners about \$500 per year. I am now proud to say that this agreement will have a **real** impact on local families and their ability to withstand the high cost of living on Long Island.

If you have any questions, please drop me a line at 631-348-1133 or join us for one of our upcoming "Cup of Joe" meetings. And don't forget to join us for our annual Pumpkin Fest on October 22. I was so happy to see nearly 750 residents attend last month's barbecue.

Thank you for your time and remember: this is only the beginning.

Sincerely,

Allan M. Dorman

Allan M. Dorman, Mayor



Stormwater Report Now Available Online



The Village of Islandia is making its stormwater report available to its residents and anyone else who wishes to read it on its website (www. newvillageofislandia. com). People can learn about what the village is doing to prevent contamination during runoff and how they can get involved by reporting to the village of any illegal dumping.

In addition, the website features information on how to properly dispose of unwanted or expired medications. The village urges its residents not to dump the contents from their medicine bottles into sewers, sinks or toilets. Rather, residents can visit the website and learn how and where to get rid of medications they are no longer taking.

VFW Post Member John Probst Raises Over \$1,200

John Probst received an award from the Col. Francis S. Midura Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #12144 for distributing the highest number of poppies in the post for 2015. He also collected over \$1,200 in donations to benefit the VFW. Post Commander Raymond Bush recognized Mr. Probst at the March 26 meeting.



VFW Post #12144 Post Commander Raymond Bush (left) presents the award to John Probst (right).

Local Families Brave the Cold to Come out for the Village of Islandia's 11th Annual Easter Egg Hunt



Children collect as many Easter eggs as they can during the Village of Islandia's 11th Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Five hundred families beat the cold by hopping over to Islandia Village Hall for the 11th Annual Easter Egg Hunt, which took place on March 19. Children and parents stayed warm by enjoying hot cocoa, coffee, tea, cupcakes and cookies and dancing to music performed by "Joe the Singing Bus Driver."

During the Easter Egg Hunt, children collected some of the 8,000 Easter eggs that were spread throughout the Village Hall grounds. Some of the eggs contained a ticket in which the lucky children were able to redeem for a special prize. Before the end of the event, the children stopped to get their pictures taken with the Easter Bunny.



Get On The Bus!

Mayor Allan M. Dorman is urging senior citizens to take advantage of the village's bus The handicappedservice. accessible bus accommodates up to 20 people and is used to transport seniors who may otherwise have no other means transportation of to their appointments. doctor's On certain days, transportation is also provided to senior citizens who wish to go shopping.

In the summer of 2010, the village purchased a new bus to help senior citizens get to where they need to go. Bus service began on October 18, 2010, but only on a limited schedule. Since then, the village has expanded its service.

"This service is being provided to our senior residents to make life a little easier, and why not?" said Mayor Dorman. "As Mayor of this village, I am proud to offer this service that is so needed."

Transportation is available by reservation only. To arrange a pickup, please call (631) 348-1133.

War Veterans Honored at Memorial Day Ceremony



Pictured (left to right): Mayor Allan M. Dorman, Suffolk County Comptroller John Kennedy and Sal Scarlato.

On May 28, the Village of Islandia held its Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Triangle, located at the intersection of Old Nichols Road and Johnson Avenue. Local elected officials, war veterans and village officials were in attendance.

Following invocations from Deacon Jim Altonji of St. Joseph Parish in Ronkonkoma and Chaplain Tom Braun of the Col. Francis S. Midura Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #12144, Mayor Dorman, a Vietnam veteran, recognized those who served our country — including local war veterans who have since passed away — and acknowledged the local veterans groups who have attended the current and previous ceremonies. There was also a laying of wreaths at the memorial.

More Annual Bar-B-Que Photos



Village of Islandia 1100 Old Nichols Road Islandia, N.Y. 11749

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Calendar of Events

Ye Old Fashioned Tag Sale: September 17

It is said that one man's junk is another man's treasure. Residents are being asked to clean out their garages, attics, basements and closets and bring down their unwanted items. Toys, books, clothes, lamps and assorted knick-knacks will be on sale. Spacing is limited, so register early.

12th Annual Pumpkin Fest: October 22

Children and their parents will come out, dressed up in their favorite costumes. There will be pumpkin decoration stations, a costume parade, cookies and hot cocoa. Prizes will be awarded for best decorated pumpkin and best costume. There will also be a petting zoo and hayrides for the children, as well as live music from "Joe the Singing Bus Driver."



Veterans Day Ceremony/Veterans Memorial Triangle: November 5

The village will host a Veterans Day ceremony in front of the memorial at the Veterans Memorial Triangle, located at the intersection of Old Nichols Road and Johnson Avenue. War veterans and local elected officials will join village board members in an invocation and a ceremonial placing of the wreaths at the memorial.

Christmas Tree Lighting: December 10

Village residents will be in the holiday spirit as the village prepares to light the Christmas tree to kick off the holiday season. "Joe the Singing Bus Driver" will entertain children and adults alike by performing holiday songs as everyone enjoys cookies and hot cocoa. After the tree lighting, Santa Claus will arrive — courtesy of the Central Islip Fire Department — and give out presents to the good little boys and girls of Islandia.



Village of Islandia

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Mayor Allan M. Dorman

Deputy Mayor Michael Zaleski

Trustees Barbara Lacey Diane F. Olk Patty Peters

Village Attorney Joseph Prokop

Village Justice Alan Wolinsky