



TOWN OF HUNTINGTON

Access Newsletter

April 2014

Spring/Summer Edition



A Message From Supervisor Petrone

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My office received a number of calls recently from persons concerned about how newly-approved changes involving metered parking would affect those with handicapped parking permits. The short answer is: no effect at all.

Persons with handicapped parking permits can still park for free at metered spaces throughout the Town, as long as the vehicle has handicap license plates or displays a valid handicap parking permit. As has always been the case, maximum time limits still apply, but the good news is that the changes extended the maximum time allowed for parking at a metered space to three hours (that affects all cars, not just those with handicap permits).

There also will be no fee for parking in one of the six spaces in the parking lot in front of the

Huntington Train Station dedicated for handicap parking. Parking in a handicap space in one of the parking garages requires both a handicap permit and a resident parking permit, which costs \$75, and parking in the non-handicap 12-hour metered spaces at the train station carries no discount.

The goal is to make sure that parking is not an impediment to persons with disabilities taking advantage of all that Huntington has to offer, including the many restaurants, shops and entertainment choices in our downtown centers such as Huntington Village. Some of the new changes are designed to make it easier for everybody to enjoy those attractions by increasing the turnover at spaces on New York Avenue and Main Street so you have a better chance to find a spot close to where you want to be.

You should also know that Huntington takes seriously its responsibility to vigorously enforce handicap parking violations, including parking in handicap spaces without a permit and parking in transfer zones – those additions to handicap spaces that make it easier for persons with disabilities to get in and out of their vehicles. Town public safety officers are helped in this effort by trained volunteers. If you know anyone who would like to be a volunteer, have them contact the Handicapped Parking Enforcement Division at 631-351-3232.

With winter's end and the onset of better weather, I hope you will get out and enjoy Huntington, whether it means eating in a restaurant, shopping at a store or taking in the nice weather at a Town beach or park. After the winter we just went through, we all deserve it.

Town of Huntington Beach Stickers

Free beach stickers are available to persons 60 years of age or older, and for persons under 60 who have a disability and meet **income eligibility guide-**

lines. Persons 60 or older can obtain a sticker at Centerport Beach from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Persons with disabilities can get the application in Room

207 at Town Hall or by downloading it from the Town's website, huntingtonny.gov.

Volunteers Needed for Special Olympics

On Sunday May 4, 2014, Commack High School will host over 600 athletes from Long Island, New York City, and Hudson Valley for the 2014 Special Olympics Long Island Spring Games North.

Volunteers are needed for:

- Set up and break down sport venues
- Keep score during competition
- Help Sport Directors in running

the event

- Stage athletes
- Help with our Opening Ceremonies at 8 :00 a.m.
- Coaches
- Olympic Village Booths

To volunteer or register to participate in the 2014 Special Olympics Spring Games you can follow the link below to find out more information

commack.k12.ny.us/communitynews/specialolympics.asp

If you would like to participate in the Special Olympics Spring Games please register by April 21st.

If you do not have internet access you can call (631) 254-1465 for more information.

Does Your Family Have an Emergency Plan?

FEMA is reminding Americans to be prepared in 2014. 6 out of 10 American Households do not have a family emergency plan! Some disasters strike without any warning and it is imperative that you and your family are prepared for these types of disasters. Taking simple steps to prepare you and your family NOW can make all the difference in the event of an emergency. In light of Long Island's recent disasters we urge you to follow these 3 simple ways to stay informed and minimize the impact of disasters.

CODE RED: Is a high speed notification for any type of emergency in your area, based upon your registered address. To register for CODE RED alerts follow the link below

scoem.suffolkcountyny.gov/OEM/Code-Red.html

SUFFOLK COUNTY SPECIAL NEEDS REGISTRY: The Suffolk County Office of Emergency Management has developed and expanded the Special Needs Registry into a county-wide registry for ALL residents to include those with special needs and/or functional medical needs including seniors. This registration website allows those with greatest risk, special needs and their families, friends and associates an opportunity to provide information to emergency response agencies, so emergency responders can better plan to serve them in a disaster or other emergency. To register for the Suffolk County Special Needs Registry follow the link below.

oemapps.suffolkcountyny.gov/spns/

SMART 911: Is a new free service brought to you by the Suffolk County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services Communication Center. SMART 911 will allow you to create a profile containing vital personal and medical information. If and when you have to call 911, your profile will be available to first responders and 911 operators. This profile will help first responders assist you and your needs more effectively. To sign up and create your SMART 911 profile, follow the link below

smart911.com/

If you do not have internet access to register for these programs or have questions, you can call The Office of Emergency Management's Customer Service Center at (631) 852-4900.

Sample Emergency Supply Check List:

- 3 Day Supply of Non-Perishable Food
- Can Opener
- First Aid Kit
- Sleeping Bag or Warm Blanket for Every Person in the Family
- Change of Clothing (3-day supply)
- Matches in a Water Proof Container
- Water (at least one gallon per person for a minimum of 3 days)
- Flashlights and Batteries
- Hygiene Products
- Cell Phone & Charger, or Solar Charger
- Medications
- Whistle to Signal Help

Citizens Advisory Committee



The **Citizens Advisory Committee** is comprised of residents from the Town who are interested in issues related to disabilities. The Chairperson of the Committee is Marianne Iannaccone; Vice-Chairperson is Tamar Sherman; additional Board Members include Maureen Donohue, Trudy Exelbert, Janis Kaiser, Lee Levy, Thomas Mangan, Martin

Mandelker and Beryl Trim. Liaisons to the Citizens Advisory Committee are Jillian Guthman-Abadom, Esq. and Rhonda Shepardson, Esq. The group meets throughout the year. New members are welcome. For more information, call Jillian Guthman-Abadom, Esq. at (631) 351-3058 or email Jillian at abadom@HuntingtonNY.gov.

Joint Emergency Evacuation Program (J.E.E.P.) & Special Needs Registry

The recent Super Storm Sandy left hundreds stranded in their homes, among those stranded were disabled individuals with special needs. If you are at risk during emergency situations and require special planning, which may involve transportation and/or sheltering, the Joint

Emergency Evacuation Plan (JEEP) may be of assistance. *The Suffolk County Office of Emergency Management* maintains the *JEEP* database and activates it prior to an impending disaster. This database will help the Department of Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services (FRES) co-

ordinate assistance to eligible disabled individuals with special needs. **You must apply ahead of time to be included.**

For more information, questions, or if you require assistance applying send an e-mail to suffolkjeep@suffolkcountyny.gov or call (631) 852-4900.

NAMI Walks for Mental Health

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) will raise awareness and funds to help those who suffer from mental illness at their annual walk on Saturday, May 3rd, 10:00 a.m. at Jones Beach (Parking Field 5).

From coast to coast and around the globe mental illness affects everyone. Every year, regardless of race, age, religion or economic status, mental illness im-

pacts the lives of at least one in four adults and one in 10 children across the United States that is nearly 60 million Americans. People living with mental illness need help and hope; they need a community that supports them, their families and their recovery. Because mental illness devastates so many Americans, NAMI works to give hope and support.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

SATURDAY, MAY 3rd.

For more information about this event, or how you can help, please contact:

Rori Fleshel, Walk Manager

Phone: 516-325-0428

E-mail: nami-walksliqn@gmail.com

Recreational Programs for Children & Adults with Special Needs

This is a good time to look at some recreational activities that are available for children & adults with special needs on Long Island. There is a wide range of activities. We are fortunate to have so many organizations in our communities that run recreational programs for children & adults with special needs. Here are just a few to check out.

The Police Athletic League offers sports activities for children with special needs, <http://www.suffolkpal.com/index2.php>

TOP Soccer offers a supportive environment for children with

special needs to learn and enjoy soccer, <http://www.lijsoccer.com/Programs/TopSoccer.html>.

K.I.D.S. Plus, Kids in Developmental Sports is an organization that offers sports and physical fitness activities for children with special needs, <http://www.kidsplusinc.com/>.

Surfers Way offers surfing classes for children with disabilities as a form of therapeutic recreation, <http://surfersway.org/aboutus.html>.

The Miracle League of Long Island offers a wonderful baseball program for children and adults with

special needs, <http://www.mllongisland.com/faq.asp>.

My SHINE Program is a non-profit therapeutic horseback riding program for individuals of all ages with special needs. They have two NARHA (North American Riding for the Handicapped Association) certified instructors, and can accommodate individuals from 3-103 years old and work with a variety of special needs from developmental to various physical disabilities. <http://www.myshineprogram.com/>

Town of Huntington Programs for the Developmentally Disabled

Adult Program

The Department of Parks and Recreation offers a physical education program on Tuesdays and a general recreation program on Saturdays. The Saturday program includes activities such as arts & crafts, films, gym, games, music, table games, group discussions, dancing, bowling, parties, restaurants, theater, and trips to sporting events. **There are eligibility requirements and fees.** For registration information, program dates and locations, please contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at 631-351-3071.

Young Teen Program

This is a general recreation program for young teens with developmental disabilities, including autism. This program includes activities such as arts & crafts, films, gym, games, music, table games, group discussions, dancing, bowling, parties, restaurants, theater, and trips to sporting events. This program is supported by a grant from the New York State Office of People with Developmental Disabilities. **There are eligibility requirements and fees.** For registration information, program dates and locations, please contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at 631-351-3071.

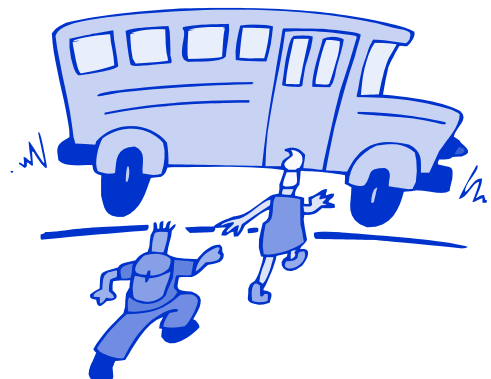
Social Program Without Walls

This program is for independent adults with developmental disabilities, age 21 and over, who are interested in making friends and socializing with peers. Participants visit local restaurants, recreational establishments, i.e. bowling alleys, movies, concerts, sporting events, museums both locally as well as in Nassau County and New York City. Public transportation is utilized for certain trips. Participants are expected to assist in selecting and organizing activities. **There are eligibility requirements and fees.** For registration information, program dates and locations, please contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at 631-351-3071.

Camp Bright Star

Campers who have various development disabilities will experience true fun and develop friendships at Camp Bright Star, in a safe, caring and structured environment. Activities include swimming, sports, arts & crafts, music, creative arts, trips and special events such as; carnivals, camp plays, talent shows, and picnics. There is an application and evaluation process for new campers. For more information on this process, please

contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at (631) 351-3071.



Includes bus transportation for Huntington residents.

****Preference is given to Huntington residents****

Dates:

Tuesday, July 1st - August 8th

Times:

Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Location:

A school in the Commack School District TBD.

Eligibility:

Boys and girls, age 6 and older must be able to function in a group environment without one-on-one assistance.

Fee:

\$185.00 with Recreation ID Card
\$545 without Recreation ID Card

Resources for the Disabled: Check these agency's out: they have lots of Services!

Town of Huntington Handi-capped Services

Phone: (631) 351-3058

Web: <http://HuntingtonNY.gov>

Disabled American Veterans Transportation Network at the Northport VA Medical Center

Phone: (631) 543-2245

Web: <http://www.davtnnorthport.org/>

Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center: Long Island Events & Seminars

Phone: (631) 580-5100

Web: <http://www.adrcinc.org/>

Office of Disability Employment U.S. Dept. of Labor

Phone: (866) 633-7365

Web: <http://www.dol.gov/odep/>

Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind

Phone: (631) 930-9000

Web: <http://www.guidedog.org/>

NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness

Phone: (631) 271-2935

Web: <http://nami-huntington.org/>

New York State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities

(OPWDD)

Phone: (866) 946-9733

Web: <http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/>

Special Olympics

Phone: (631) 254-1465

Web: <http://www.nyso.org>

Suffolk County Office for People with Disabilities

Phone: (631) 853-8333

Web: <http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/CountyExecutive/PeoplewithDisabilities.aspx>

United Cerebral Palsy Assoc. of Greater Suffolk, Inc.

Phone: (631) 232-0011

Agencies that Loan or Assist with Finding Equipment

- SILO- Suffolk Independent Living Organization, Ronkonkoma, NY 631-880-7929 (for Individuals with Disabilities living in Suffolk County) <http://www.siloinc.org/services/traid.php>
- ALS Association Equipment Loan Program, 1-800-672-8857 (For those registered with the ALS Association) http://www.als-ny.org/index.php?page=ps_patientfamilyequipment
- Arthritis Foundation, Melville, NY 631-427-8272
- The Society for Lending Comforts to the Sick, Smithtown, NY 631-265-1674
- MDA- Muscular Dystrophy Association, Lake Success, NY 516-358-1012 <http://static.mda.org/equipment.html> (For those registered with the MDA)
- Joey's Friends http://joeysfriendstoo.org/Home_Page.php (to assist in getting medical equipment for children)
- National Multiple Sclerosis Society- Long Island Chapter, contact: Marissa Baum 631-864-8337 (must have diagnosis and financial need) <http://www.nationalmssociety.org/chapters/nyh/programs--services/assistance/home-modification/index.aspx>

Town Board Meetings

Dates for Spring/Summer

Tuesday, April 8th at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 6th at 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 1st at 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 19th at 7:00 p.m.

All Town Board Meetings are held at Huntington Town Hall,
100 Main Street, Huntington.

Meetings can also be viewed on the Town's public access channels
18 on Optimum and 38 on Verizon.



Town of
Huntington
A Shore to Explore Since 1653
Long Island, NY



**Supervisor
Frank P. Petrone**



**Councilman
Mark Cuthbertson**



**Councilwoman
Susan A. Berland**



**Councilman
Eugene Cook**



**Councilwoman
Tracey A. Edwards**