

EDITORIAL

DRAWING CONCLUSIONS - by Kevin Eastwood

Legislature was right in shutting off SWSD discounts to Islip's Heartland project

Members of the Suffolk County Legislature's Public Works Committee took a strong stand this week declining to bring forward a request for the developers of the Heartland Town Square project in Islip. It voted down 4-3 a plan that would have permitted the developer to hook up 9,000 units to the Southwest Sewer District. The developer was also seeking a 50 percent reduction in sewer treatment fees, a request we believe was an affront to the thousands of SWSD users who paid for the construction, improvements and expansion of that district at full price!

More important, however, is the fact that now that the district, through its taxpayers, has paid off debt, any funding the district has can be channeled into water quality programs such as the work currently being done in Babylon Village to reduce contamination of the Great South

Bay by implementing rainwater runoff and other preservation projects.

The developer, Jerry Wolkoff, reminded county officials he had conducted an extensive environmental study and that his proposal addressed the major environmental concerns.

Environmental opponents of the plan point out that the plan would remove up to 2.5 million gallons of water a day from the aquifer, depleting it, and pumping it into the SWSD where it would be treated and sent out into the ocean.

Beyond that, however, is an element of fairness to the residents of the Southwest Sewer District. To allow the transfer of funds that could improve the district and water quality in the Great South Bay into the pockets of the developer is a plan that simply stinks.

Let the project pay its fair share, or build its own sewer treatment plant.

Subscribers can post comments on letters to the editor and articles on the Record website: www.amityvillerecord.com

THANK YOU CAPTAIN



DAVID WRIGHT - THIRD BASEMAN, NY METS 2004-2018 - SEVEN TIME ALL STAR. HOLDS MOST OF THE FRANCHISE'S OFFENSIVE RECORDS INCLUDING MOST RBI, DOUBLES, HITS, RUNS SCORED AND EXTRA BASE HITS. NAMED THE FOURTH TEAM CAPTAIN IN 2013.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY:

Animal research is crucial for pets—and their owners

by Matthew R. Bailey

A team of researchers is testing a groundbreaking vaccine that could prevent cancer in dogs.

About 800 dog owners have volunteered their healthy canine companions for a clinical trial. The pets will receive either the vaccine or a placebo and will undergo regular checkups to monitor for tumors. Researchers have spent more than a decade developing the drug — and hope that it could stave off every form of cancer.

Six million canines are diagnosed with cancer annually. If the vaccine works, it could save tens of millions from an untimely end. And since dogs and humans develop similar cancers, researchers are optimistic the vaccine could ultimately be used in people.

Eradicating cancer with a single shot sounds like science fiction. But thanks to research in animal models, it could soon be scientific fact. Impeding this research, as some animal rights activists would have us do, would be a disaster

—for pets and people.

Americans love their pets. More than 60 million U.S. households have a dog; 47 million have a cat.

Our pets rely on medicines that were developed thanks to humane research in animal models. Several vaccines can prevent cats from developing feline leukemia virus — which kills 85 percent of cats within three years of diagnosis. New anti-inflammatory drugs can enable dogs with arthritis — which afflicts one in five dogs — to move with less pain.

Without clinical trials in pets, none of these advances would have been possible.

Many animal researchers are pet owners who chose their profession specifically to help their furry friends. Consider Dr. Jessica Quimby, a veterinary scientist at Ohio State University who developed an affection for barn cats as a girl growing up in Wisconsin. Now, she's uncovering

ways to help felines who have kidney disease, which afflicts about 10 percent of cats over ten years old. Quimby has spent the past decade analyzing how an antidepressant for humans might help cats with failing kidneys boost their appetites and live longer, healthier lives.

There are many more potential treatments for animals with dangerous diseases on the horizon.

Researchers at CSU are attempting to find the first definitive non-invasive diagnostic test for feline infectious peritonitis, a highly fatal disease that kills kittens without any warning symptoms. Other CSU veterinarians are testing how a compound derived from marijuana can treat epilepsy in dogs without the side effects of debilitating sedatives.

Such studies can also help humans. A report published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, for example, revealed that medicines used to protect pets from fleas and ticks could actually help humans fight Zika and malaria. Meanwhile, research from Texas A&M University on brain tumors in dogs could soon yield insight into human brain tumors.

Despite its impressive history of producing cures for all sorts of diseases that afflict both pets and humans, critics claim animal research is unnecessary.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Animal research has already saved, and will continue to save, millions of pets' lives. Without animal research, how many of our cats would be dying prematurely of leukemia? Or how many of our dogs would be unable to run and play because of debilitating arthritic pain?

Cats and dogs are treasured family members for many Americans. To ensure that their furry friends can live long, happy lives, pet lovers must support animal testing.

The writer is president of the Foundation for Biomedical Research.

Amityville Record

Postmaster: Send address changes to:
85 Broadway - Suite A
Amityville, NY 11701
Phone: 631-264-0077 • Fax: 631-264-5310
e-mail: acjnews@rcn.com

Member:
• NY Press Association
• Press Club of Long Island
• National Society of Professional Journalists

NEW YORK PRESS ASSOCIATION
NYPA

PRESS CLUB OF LONG ISLAND

SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS

Entered as periodicals paid at the Post Office at Amityville NY under act of March 3, 1979 (USPS 114-210) ISSN 1553-0413

FOUNDED MAY 1, 1904
Published Every Wednesday

Alfred James	President & Publisher
Carolyn James	Publisher / Editor
Barbara Frisch	Asst. to Publisher
Maryann Heins	Advertising Representative
Lynn Domond	Art Director
Stella Manassis	Production
Melissa Schweickert	Production

"Good Newspapers help make good communities"

Subscription Rates

By mail in NY State: \$25 per year - \$40 for 2 years.
Out of State: \$35 per year / \$60 for 2 years.
Senior Citizens over 65: Take 10% discount.
Paid Subscriptions are non-refundable.
Copies: 50 Cents within 6 weeks of publication
\$1.00 for all others, as available.

Composition Responsibility

This paper will not be liable for errors in advertising beyond the cost of the space occupied by the error. Error must be reported before the next publication date. The publisher reserved the right to reject any advertisement at his discretion.

Deadline

Advertising deadline is noon, Friday. Editorial must be received by noon Thursday, to be considered.
Calendar items are due two weeks prior to publication date requested. Clear black and white or color photos will be considered with articles, but we can't guarantee their return.