

NOVEMBER 2006 NEWSLETTER

Civic Association of the Setaukets

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Jim Graham

Jim Wilson

Past Presidents

Norma Watson

Bill Schaub

Ken Sundberg

Bob deZafra

Grace Vander Voort

Peter Scully

Don Garber

UPCOMING EVENTS

Election Day

Tuesday, Nov. 7th

Remember to Vote!

Polls are open

6 A.M. to 9 P.M.

Monday, Dec. 4th

Light Pollution

Next Civics Meeting

Emma Clark Library

7:30 P.M.

Civic Association of the Setaukets

Organized May 14, 1942

64 Years of Public Service in the Three Village Area

Serving the Setaukets, Old Field, Stony Brook, and

Poquott

P.O. Box 2432, Setauket, N.Y. 11733

Phone 751-5030

Brookhaven Town Environmental Issues

Our next meeting will be on Monday, November 6th at 7:30PM, when we will host John Turner, the Town of Brookhaven's Director of Environmental Protection and Land Management. Mr. Turner will discuss a range of issues concerning the Town and, specifically, the Three Village area. Those of us who have heard Mr. Turner speak about land and nature issues can promise you an informative and entertaining evening! Join us in the Community Room of the Emma Clark Library.

The Civics is on the Web!

Your Civic Association is now on the web! Over the past several months, your Association has been busy building an attractive, easy-to-use, and informative web-site. You can now find it at civicsassociationofthesetaukets.org. So, log onto the site to get your meeting dates, special announcements, and community updates. We'll be adding Membership Meeting summaries, Executive Board Meeting minutes, and lots more in the future! **"Bookmark" the page!**

A very special thanks goes to our Web-Guru – Kara Hahn! Kara volunteered for the task of constructing the site "from the ground up" and has done a terrific job!

Viewpoints:

From our Board Archivist and past president Robert deZafra:

Setauket residents seem generally pleased by the improvements made to Route 25A by the New York State Department of Transportation. And all of us are happy with the inclusion of newly planted street trees, shrubbery, and flowers following the renovation plans carefully worked out between the DOT and your Civic Association's *Greening of 25A Committee*, with the considerable help and support of State Assemblyman Steve Englebright.

But many of us were astonished when several new trees planted along the road's north side near the historic Brewster House in East Setauket vanished a short time later. ***Why did the trees appear and then disappear?***

The Brewster House, the subject of the well-known painting "Long Island Farm Houses" by the 19th century artist William Sidney Mount, was purchased decades ago by Three Village Benefactor Ward Melville, who restored it and left it as part of his donations to the Stony Brook Community Fund, now known as the Ward Melville Heritage Organization (WMHO). According to a DOT spokesperson, WMHO objected to the tree planting and requested their removal "because street trees are not in the painting by Mount." The new street trees, however, were *replacements* for aging and diseased maple trees planted in the same location in the 1950's by – as I was told – Ward Melville himself. Mr. Melville's civic gesture was one of the inspirations that spurred the Civics to form the *Greening of 25A* and take on the challenge of future plantings throughout the community.

The Civic Association and *The Greening of 25A* would be pleased if the WMHO paid for the planting of new replacements for Ward Melville's original gift to East Setauket. This would be the proper way to honor his heritage to the community.

From our past president Norma Watson:

Three Village residents recognize that Stony Brook University is a vital part of our community and understand its need to develop and grow. At the same time, we are concerned to protect our shared natural resources and environment from the negative impacts of that *(continued on back)*

Civic Association of the Setaukets

**P.O. Box 2432
Setauket, N.Y. 11733**



NEXT MEETING:

**Monday, November 6, 2006
EMMA CLARK LIBRARY
7:30 P.M.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
PLEASE ATTEND**

Our Good Friends

Please patronize our business partners. These businesses have donated goods and services to our Association over the past year. We appreciate the work they do for the community!

Starbucks' Coffee of Setauket – Joe Frasca – Manager

King Kullen – Joe Penna – Manager

North Shore Tree and Landscaping (751-2000, 473-0303)

Three Village Lawn and Garden (473-6963) Keith Stanford – Owner

Setauket Landscape and Design (689-6082) Steve Antos – Owner

Stony Brook University (*continued from front*)

growth and development. To that end, many members of the Civic Association and other groups have worked to increase the University's participation in and interaction with our community. In particular, and especially since the University's acquisition of the so-called Flowerfield property, several groups jointly urged the University to develop a comprehensive master plan for both Flowerfield and the main campus, based on an *environmental management plan* for the campuses as a whole. Ideally, such a plan would be consistent with our community's own plans and vision, and could best be achieved by including community participation throughout the process of its development.

Now, the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation's Region I Advisory Committee, in its 2005 Open Space Plan, has recommended *as state policy* that all State University campuses develop master plans to identify, map, and preserve important natural areas on State University lands. The report notes that "the 65 SUNY campuses around the state represent a very significant public asset comprising many thousands of acres. A protection strategy must be created and implemented." The Civic Association of the Setaukets hopes Stony Brook University's leadership will take note of – and carry out -- this state policy recommendation. We stand ready to support and participate in such a process.