

# Economic Development Newsletter

Nassau County Office of Economic Development



## County Executive Suozzi Attends BioPartners Graduation

Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi, joined by North Hempstead Town Supervisor Jon Kaiman attended the inaugural graduation ceremony October 31st of the BioPartners Emergent Worker Training Program - a program inspired by the County Executive's vision for industry and government working together to promote the life sciences industry in Nassau County.

"The BioPartners initiative has grown from vision to reality and is something we can all take pride in, especially today's graduates," stated the County Executive.

Congressman Gary Ackerman sponsored BioPartners with a \$252,960 grant, through the Employment and Training Administration of the United States Department of Labor. The Program is overseen by the Nassau County Office of Economic Development, under the direction of Deputy County Executive Patrick G. Duggan and the Town of North Hempstead under the direction of the BioPartners Chair, Supervisor Jon Kaiman.

The program consists of six weeks of intensive training for entry level workers in the biotech, health care and life sciences industries, based at

Nassau Community College. Student certifications include First Aid, CPR, Fire and Lab Safety. Participants in the inaugural class of 20 graduates ranged in age from 20-59.

viding career opportunities for successful program graduates. Additional key partners in this initiative include Nassau County Department of Social Services, Workforce Partnership, Workforce Investment Board, Hempstead



County Executive Suozzi together with Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Jon Kaiman, was on hand to congratulate the first class of Nassau's BioPartners Emergent Worker Training Program.

Industry partners include North Shore-LIJ Core Labs, North Shore-LIJ Hospital System, Winthrop University Hospital, and Antech Diagnostics. Each has either supplied personnel to teach a class, discussed job opportunities and /or conducted interviews for current job openings. They are dedicated to hiring and pro-

Works, New York State Department of Labor and the Research Foundation of SUNY Farmingdale - the Long Island Education Opportunity Center.

**High Skilled/High  
Tech Industry**

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**Patrick G. Duggan, Deputy County Executive for Economic Development**



The County Executive and Deputy County Executive participating in a panel discussion at the Economic Development Summit in September.



County Executive Suozzi discussing affordable housing initiatives for Nassau County with LIHP Chair, President and Vice President.

## *Developing Our Future*

## From the desk of –Deputy County Executive Patrick G. Duggan

As we come to the close of 2006 I am struck by several overwhelming thoughts:

1. The forward thinking agenda set forth by the County Executive, and the challenges it represents.
2. The dedication and professionalism of my staff, and their commitment to the residents of Nassau County.
3. How much we have accomplished in a short span of time.
4. How much more we have to accomplish.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your contributions big and small, from answering the telephones and greeting visitors to our office, to making certain that homeless families have permanent stable housing choices, to ensuring the integrity of planning and transportation for the county, and providing technical assistance and support to area municipalities and non-profits.

Rosemary Olsen (OHIA), Connie Lassandro (OHHS), Patti Bourne (Planning), Evette Beckett-Tuggle (BDU), Bob Shelly

(Operations & Finance), and Vanessa Pugh (BRU) are dedicated and experienced professionals.

They respond every day to the demands of our ambitious agenda with enthusiasm and professionalism.

Ours is an ambitious and challenging mission and we are more than up to the task.

Each small part has a big impact, and ultimately leaves communities better than when we first encountered them.

## Economic Development Summit—September 7, 2006

On September 7, 2006 the Office of Economic Development convened a wide and diverse group of stakeholders, experts and interested citizens, from the public and private sectors to discuss, study, analyze and provide critical assessments and recommendations on the County's current and future economic development strategies and initiatives. Moderated by LIA's Matthew Crosson, a panel of business and education leaders participated in an Executive Roundtable given the theme, "Developing Our Future." Presidents of Adelphi University, C.W. Post College, Hofstra University, Molloy College, Nassau Community College and NY Institute of Technology joined the County Executive and leaders in businesses such as OSI Pharmaceuticals, Newsday, Photocircuits, Long Island Builders Institute, Nassau Health Care Corporation, Long Island Association, Empire State Development, People's Choice Surgical Supplies and LMN Printing Co., Inc to discuss Nassau County and Long Island's Economic future.

The event was coordinated through the Business Development Unit. Issues discussed included affordable housing, business incentives, the Empire Zone and employment opportunities.

## High Tech/High Skilled Industry—Empire Zone UPDATE

The Nassau County Empire Zone Administrative Board and the Zone Certification Officer have certified seven businesses for Empire Zone Benefits. This local certification represents just the first step. The applications are pending in Albany for the State's approval for the businesses to be officially dually certified which would

enable them to receive Empire Zone benefits.

Freeport, Hempstead and Westbury are the selected locations so far, and the businesses are largely in the manufacturing industry with over 600 jobs projected for these communities.

Additionally, two Regionally Significant Projects (out of zone businesses) are expected to be approved shortly.

The Business Development Unit, (administrators of the Empire Zone applications), is one of County Executive Suozzi's newest priorities.

## County Executive Congratulates Roosevelt's Centennial Avenue School

Roosevelt's Centennial Avenue School is a hive of high-tech learning, Chinese language lessons, a TV News Show and dedicated, innovative educators. In October, Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi along with Deputy County Executive Patrick G. Duggan, paid the school a visit and lauded it as a great example of a school that's getting it right.

County Executive Suozzi noted that the students in the Roosevelt school district face many challenges and he wanted school officials, parents and students to know that the county is here to support them—ready to bring its expertise to bear in many areas, from school safety issues to social services to health concerns.

The school has a new building which educates 716 students from kindergarten through sixth grade. It is outfitted with a wireless computer network and a state-of-the-art science lab. In its second year, the school was built with funds from legislation introduced in 2002 by Assemblywoman Earlene Hooper (D-Hempstead). The district received \$6 million a year in state aid and \$100 million for new construction.

Principal Patricia Charthern with encouragement from Superintendent Ronald Ross has instituted innovative education programs such as first and second graders learning Chinese.



County Executive Suozzi spent the day at the Centennial Avenue School in Roosevelt meeting with parents, teachers and students.

## New Hyde Park Downtown Revitalization

On November 16th, Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi commended Village Officials in New Hyde Park for their Downtown Revitalization Project. The County Executive was joined in New Hyde Park by Village Officials, Clerk-Treasurer Patrick Farrell, Trustees Don Barbieri and Richard Coppola, State Assemblyman Tom McKeivitt, and Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Jon Kaiman.

“New Hyde Park is a prime example of best practices in Downtown Revitalization,” stated County Executive Suozzi. “Through sound planning and design, leveraging of a variety of grant funding sources and strong community support for the project, they have successfully completed Phase I of

an ambitious downtown project.”

Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Funds in excess of \$1.5 million obtained through the Nassau County Office of Housing and Intergovernmental Affairs (OHIA) were utilized in the project. In addition, the County Legislature contributed \$100,000 in CRP funds. Improvements include design, engineering, and the installation of brick pavers, decorative lighting, benches, trash cans and plantings of trees, flowers and shrubs along Jericho Turnpike between Ingraham Lane and Hillside Boulevard. These improvements as well as two pocket parks, funded with \$150,000 by the Town of North Hempstead, complete Phase I of the project. The goals of “Operation Main Street” are to revitalize the area by re-creating

what was a pedestrian friendly, downtown destination spot that offers a full range of neighborhood services. Already, as a result of work completed, business owners have been inspired to replace storefronts and improve facades.

The New Hyde Park project is a laudable example of a public-private partnership focused on achieving the goals of “New Suburbia” - revitalizing our downtowns, addressing the needs of emerging minority communities, encouraging the redevelopment of brownfield properties and developing the Nassau HUB.



November 16, 2006 - Best Practice Citation - Village of New Hyde Park

### FIRST TIME HOMEBUYERS PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

Nassau County has opted in to the existing New York State Real Property Tax law 457, authorizing tax relief for eligible first time homebuyers on the County portion of property taxes. The bill was introduced by Presiding Officer Judy Jacobs on behalf of County Executive Thomas R. Suozzi.

This exemption is for income eligible first time homebuyers of newly

constructed cost eligible (\$457,000 maximum home price) primary residential property or on the value of new improvements (in excess of \$3,000) that are pursuant to a contract entered into at closing or within 90 days of closing on an eligible primary residential property.

The bill went before the full Legislature, December 4, 2006, and was unanimously approved.



# Redeveloping Brownfields and Preserving Open Space

## Nassau County Office of Economic Development

Thomas R. Suozzi, County Executive  
Patrick G. Duggan, Deputy County Executive

400 County Seat Drive  
Mineola, NY 11501

Phone: 516-571-3188  
Fax: 516-571-1388

## The Vision for New Suburbia

*Investing In Our Future*

We're on the Web! [www.nassaucountyny.gov](http://www.nassaucountyny.gov)

## Brownfields Conference 2006—Boston

From November 13-15, 2006, Deputy County Executive Duggan and several of our staff attended the EPA 2006 Brownfield Conference in Boston, Mass. This provided an opportunity to speak with our EPA Representatives, and receive guidance regarding new grant submissions and pending grants. Attendees had the chance to network and hear the latest in Brownfield technology, development tool kit, and best practices.

The Keynote Address featured Michael Porter, Harvard Business School, Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino, and Boston's CityYear Corps.. Other speakers throughout the conference included EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson, Ray Suarez from the "News Hour with Jim Lehrer," Fuad Reveiz, Former NFL-All Pro and currently a DIY Network host of "Weekend Remodeling" as well as a certified American Lung Association Healthy Builder.

Classes and workshops in a wide variety of areas were offered including Green Building, Best Practices and Smart Growth. There was also an all day Legal Forum sponsored by Boston College. The staff attended workshops in the Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced track.



Deputy County Executive Patrick G. Duggan conducted a workshop at the Planning Federation Conference.



County Executive Tom Suozzi addressing the Economic Development Summit on Sept 7, 2006

## PLANNING FEDERATION THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Nassau County Planning Federation held its annual training conference October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at the de Seversky Conference Center at NYIT. Over 80 local officials and planning board members received 2 hours of professional training concerning planning, quality of life and land use issues. Deputy County Executive Patrick G. Duggan and Planning Federation Director May W. Newburger welcomed the attendees on behalf of County Executive Suozzi. Workshop topics included: Planning Tools For Maintaining Community Image; Community-based Law Enforcement; Managing Locally Unpopular Projects; Recent Laws and Decisions Affecting Planning and Zoning; and Environmental Conditions in Nassau County. Featured speakers included Nassau District Attorney Kathleen Rice, the Commissioner of Health, Dr. David Ackman, Executive Commissioner, Patricia Bourne and experts from the NY State Department of State.

### Departments

Office of Housing & Intergovernmental Affairs (OHIA)  
Office of Housing & Homeless Services (OHHS)  
Business Development Unit (BDU)  
Brownfields Redevelopment Unit (BRU)  
Planning Department

### Agencies

Nassau County Public Utility Agency  
Nassau County Industrial Development Agency (IDA)