

Community Awareness Minutes February 2019

Co-Chairs - Lisa Gelman & Kim Marcus

Meeting on February 25, 2019

Attendance: Allison Ocak/Vanderbilt; Clair Habeeb/HSE; Michelle Kahn/HSW; Jennifer Nuzzulo/Candlewood; Denise Maestre/HSE; Madeline Roberts/West Hollow/HSE; June Foster/West Hollow/HSE; Clay Wade/Leg. Susan A. Berland's Office; Michelle Cooke/SEPTA/Signal Hill; Lisa Maurino/Otsego; Leeat Yopp/Sunquam; Nina Cunningham/PTA Council

Gun Control- NYS senate bill was passed that bans teachers from being armed in class. The new bill prevents schools with students in K-12 from authorizing anyone except law enforcement, security guard or school officer to carry a firearm on school grounds. Currently anyone with written permission from a NY school can carry a gun. This is only one item within the large package of legislation combating gun violence. The bill is headed to the governor's office and is expected to get his signature.

Potholes- To report a pothole go to the Town of Huntington website huntingtonny.gov and go to form listed under "highway" then "report a pothole" and fill out the info requested.

Payless Shoe Stores has declared bankruptcy and plans to close all of its 2,300 US stores. It is preparing for going-out-of-business sales but it's possible a buyer could still crop up. There are more than 100 Payless stores in the state of New York.

Petland Discount, the Tri-State area pet supply company is closing all of its 69 stores including 8 on Long Island. The closing comes after the death of the sole owner Neil Padron who died of cancer earlier this month. All stores are expected to be closed by April 2019.

Dollar Tree discount store where everything is priced at \$1 or less is set to open 3 new locations. The first will be at 1626 New York Avenue in Huntington Station in the spring. The next will open in late spring in Riverhead at an undisclosed location. The location at 20 Smith street in Farmingdale will open over the summer.

Huntington

American Nihon Jiu-Jitsu just opened at 1155 E. Jericho Tpke in Huntington. It is a martial arts school teaching self defense to children and adults. The school plans on participating in Family Fit night at Signal Hill on March 14th and hosting an anti-bullying workshop on March 24th. They are interested in doing more events like these for our schools. Contact Christina Ardita 631-848-6306.

Almarco Italian Grill at 13 Wall street in Huntington has suddenly closed. It has been seized by New York State for non payment of taxes. It was stated that they owe \$244,000.

K-Mart in Huntington at 805 New York Avenue is set to close this month as part of Sears Holding Corp's restructuring under its bankruptcy.

Rotisserie Banks is a brand new eatery located at 295 Main Street in Huntington. It's a takeout spot highlighting two current trends: white-hot bowls and blue-flamed rotisserie meats featuring sandwiches or bowls with a protein topping either quinoa, farro or rice. Rotisserie Banks replaces the short-lived Franco's Gourmet Deli across from Burgerology.

One Stop Dance location will be moving 1 mile West to 680 E. Jericho Turnpike. Directly across from Best Market. Shopping center with Shoe Maker and Yoga Studio. The last day at current location will be March 31st, and new location to be open by April 1st.

Main Street Board Game Cafe is opening this Spring at 307 Main Street. Featuring over 300 Board games, food, & beer and wine.

Deer Park

Verde Wine Bar located at 450 Commack Rd. Deer Park has closed. The landlord was unable to extend the lease for the property and decided to reconstruct the building,

Island Empanada, founded by Lake Ronkonkoma resident Roy Pelaez, is opening its fourth location in Deer Park next month. The new Island Empanada at 1912 Deer Park Avenue, in the former space that housed Lorenzo's Pizza.

Huntington Station

Walt Whitman Mall -

Chocolate Works has opened in the location between Tourneau and Victoria's Secret.

Things Remembered store is closing on Feb. 25th but the other Long Island locations will remain open.

Melville

The Homework Hub has moved to a new location at 628 Walt Whitman Road, Melville. The old location at 20 Broadhollow Road is now closed.

Farmingdale

Orange Theory Fitness will open later this year in Airport Plaza in a 3100 sq. ft space previously occupied by Floris Day Spa. There are 10 more locations set to open this year throughout Long

Island.

Blink Fitness will be occupying the space at the former Waldbaum's at 450 East Main Street sometime this year.

Walmart on Broadhollow Road in Farmingdale is planned to convert the current store to a walmart Superstore with a grocery store and online grocery pick up by increasing the location's current store size by 40%. The 12 year old store will remain open during the project which is set to start this spring and continue for 14-18 months.

Cirque LI is a brand new event space located at 229 Broadhollow Road, Farmingdale. It's a new venue for bar mitzvahs, sweet 16's, special events and concerts.

Chichimecas Mexican restaurant on Main Street has closed.

Levittown

Smash Ping Pong Bar opened at 2953 Hempstead Tpke. in Levittown. The cost is between \$20-\$35 an hour for a table for anywhere from 2 to 7 players. Families are welcome during "off peak" hours like afternoons and early evenings. After 8:00 PM it shifts to 21 & over. Party rooms are also available. Plans for ping pong leagues and lessons are in the works.

Plainview

Sugar Crazy opened up at 1431 Old Country Rd. Plainview in the Shop Rite Shopping Center. Next to Starbucks It carries ice cream, gelato, italian ices, cookies, toys, gift baskets, tee shirts, camp items, and all the hottest items for kids.

Commack

Whole Foods will open this spring in the Veterans Memorial Plaza where in the site of the previous King Kullen supermarket location.

Five Below store and a Burlington off price department store are both set to open in the fall in the Veterans Memorial Plaza. The space was vacated by the Toys R Us/Babies R Us location.

The Bakery in Northgate shopping center at 1139 Jericho Tpke. is closed.

East Northport

Redevelopment is underway at the site of the old Sears department store in the Huntington Square Mall at 400 Jericho Tpke. E. Northport. A multi screen AMC movie theater with 13

screens and stadium seating, a 24 Hour Fitness Gym, Floor & Decor store, and small shop retail space are all slated to be finished by the fourth quarter of this year.

Chipotle Mexican Grill and America's Best Contacts & Eyewear will be going in the shopping center but outside of the old Sears. They will be opening in the third quarter with Chipotle opening over the summer.

Lindenhurst

Revitalization of downtown Lindenhurst:

The community was issued 2 grants last year and there have been many new businesses that have opened since last January including:

WA Meadworks, Sideline Cafe, the Color Palette, 27A Brewery, C'est La Vie Boutique, Restoration Kitchen and Cocktails, South Shore Theater, Bisou Events and Blink Fitness.

Hermana's Restaurant is set to open this spring at 136 S. Welwood Ave. Lindenhurst. It is a new contemporary hispanic food restaurant. The comfort food menu will feature tapas, street tacos, empanadas. Three Long Island friends are coming together to open the restaurant. Hermanas means "sisters" in Spanish.

Patchogue

I Heart Mac & Cheese has opened its 1st Long Island location at 3 Village Green in Patchogue. It is a Florida chain. Offers Gluten Free options. In warmer weather they will have outside seating.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD: March 25th 2019