

Smithtown Councilman Edward Wehrheim was our featured guest speaker at the June KPCA meeting. Councilman Wehrheim discussed what steps the town of Smithtown is taking to remediate and redevelop the Kings Park industrial area. The KPCA has been advocating for a master plan for this area as we feel that it is key to providing tax relief for our residents.



Councilman Wehrheim speaks to KPCA members about redeveloping the Kings Park industrial area



Councilman Wehrheim also heard complaints from the many Marvin Drive residents who were there to discuss the Santilli sand mining operation near their homes. Residents have many complaints and are frustrated that their concerns have not been addressed. Councilman Wehrheim explained that the property is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the town has tried to oversee the property a number of times. Mr. Wehrheim said he will do all he can to see that the residents' concerns are addressed. He also stated that he will contact all the proper authorities, including Senator Flanagan. KPCA President Mike Rosato stated that he would contact the DEC to speak on behalf of the residents. Many thanks to Environmental Committee Chairman Steve Weber for his work on this issue.



Residents discuss the Santilli property at the June KPCA meeting

Pat McKeon discussed the increase in drug use among our area youth. He had conversations with fourth precinct officers about who is buying, selling and where some of the trouble spots are. He mentioned that high school level children are now buying and selling drugs and many are prescription drugs. Some of the trouble spots are behind the Key Food shopping area and the Kings Park train station. KPCA members discussed ways to combat the drug problem.



Pat McKeon gives his report on drug use in the area.

Mike Rosato gave an update on the Nissequogue River State Park Foundation. Mike stated that the foundation had sent out letters to Assemblymen Englebright and Silver and another letter to environmental groups asking for them to support a bill sponsored by Senator Flanagan and Assemblyman Fitzpatrick that would legislatively add the remaining acreage of the Kings Park State Hospital property to the Nissequogue River State Park. Mike also announced that the foundation was donating a flat screen TV and DVD player to the park to be used to communicate with park visitors on the recreational opportunities there.