

Suozzi: Nassau County Burned by MTA Bailout

County Executive Urges Creation of MTA Regional Bus

Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi is urging state leaders to create an MTA Regional Bus System, which was not included in the recent MTA bailout.

Suozzi notes that the Ravitch Commission recommended "the MTA Regional Bus Authority to be the single entity responsible for bus service in the metropolitan region and to bring together the fragmented delivery system that exists today."

"The current funding system for Long Island Bus is broken. Nassau County property taxpayers cannot be responsible for carrying the burden of funding Long Island Bus. Property taxpayers will never be able to support expanding service beyond exist-

ing levels with property tax dollars," Suozzi said. "We need a regional approach to improve service among Nassau, Suffolk, Queens and the rest of New York City."

Nassau County owns Long Island Bus, but it is operated by the MTA. Nassau County currently contributes \$10.5 million annually out of its operating budget to fund Long Island Bus.

Long Island Bus is currently experiencing record ridership volumes, with much of this increased activity occurring between Queens and Nassau County. A regional and dedicated transportation revenue source should make it possible for the MTA to both fully take over LI Bus, streamline operations and expand and improve transit service in Nassau County, Suozzi said.

"Ridership on LI Bus has grown by 3.5 million riders a year over the past decade," said Ryan Lynch, Long Island coordinator

for the Tri-State Transportation Campaign, a non-profit transportation policy watchdog organization. "Unfortunately, funding for the system has lagged. We need to find sustainable funding solutions to keep pace with this record ridership."

Robert Yaro, president of the Regional Plan Association, added, "We are disappointed the Regional Bus Authority was not included in the final legislation to bail out the transit system. This was a common-sense measure that would have provided a dedicated revenue stream to improve bus service throughout the region."

Suozzi believes a regionalized bus system in Nassau County would spur economic growth by attracting new businesses, enhance access to destinations, especially around the Nassau County Hub, stimulate "Cool Downtowns," retain young residents and expand the tax base.

PLAINVIEW LACROSSE ROUND-UP

The Plainview third-and-fourth grade boys lacrosse team played at Hicksville this past Sunday for its fifth game of the season. Plainview got out to an early lead on goals from Jack "attack" Thurber and Anthony "all heart and hair" Trentacosta. Anthony had a career day as a defensive middy, on faceoffs, and as a scorer. This is his fourth multigoal performance of the season. Jack Thurber recorded a hat-trick, tallying three goals and 6 ground balls along with a bevy of bone crushing hits. Plainview maintained the lead throughout the game until the final minutes when Hicksville rallied for 3 unanswered goals. Although in the end Hicksville put one more in the nets, Plainview has quite a bit to be proud of.

The standing-room-only crowd was treat-

ed to a well-played lacrosse game, one which I think many will remember for a long time. Standout performances were given in by midfielder Joe "go'in to the goal" Lamonte and Greg "only looks" Gentile. These two will be ones to watch as both are standout athletes with intensity in their bones. On defense, Dave "Robocop" Lombardo, Joe "one of these days" Dejesus, and newcomer Josh "the defensive pesterer" Lester made clear improvements to their games. Austin "the anchor" Schenck does just that for this close defense, offering punishing hits and leadership from the crease position. The goal tending duties were handed out to Kevin "confidence" Lynch, who played his best game of the season. On the attack side of the ball, Plainview

lacrosse royalty Jordon "the threat" Berson continues to make plays which demand respect from his opponents. Also on attack, Tyler "take the long way" Purde continued to show improvement as did defensive specialists Ethan "Every sport" Birnbaum, and Matthew "you look big for 8" Lamantia. Midfielders Alex "rocket-shot" Jenkins, Jake "got speed" Wilen, and Jason "I can run as fast as I swim" Rosen also continued to grow as they showed improvement throughout the game.

The Plainview lacrosse coaches are committed to the concept of double goal coaching; playing to win while building good character through sports. Thank you to the parents and volunteers who make this program possible. Go hawks!

CRIME REPORT

Police Seek Assistance in Two Separate Cases

Second Squad detectives are seeking the public's assistance involving an incident that occurred in Plainview on April 28 at 8:30 p.m.

Detectives have reason to believe that a male operating a white 1997 Mercury Cougar may have pulled over at least one vehicle on the Long Island Expressway on April 28 in the vicinity of exit 48 in Plainview. The white Mercury is equipped with strobe lights to give the impression that

the motorist being pulled over is being stopped by a police officer. Detectives are certain that the subject is not a Police Officer and ask anyone who may have been pulled over by this subject to contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-244-TIPS or the Second Squad at 573-6253.

The Robbery Squad reports the details of a bank robbery that occurred at 11:30 a.m. on Monday May 18 in Plainview.

According to detectives, the male subject entered the Chase Bank located at 1100 Old Country Road in Plainview and passed a demand note. The teller gave the subject an undetermined amount of U.S.

currency. The subject fled on foot in an unknown direction. There were seven employees and one customer present at the time of the robbery. No injuries were reported. The subject is described as a male white, age late 30s to mid 40s, approximately 5'9", 170 lbs. brown hair with slight frontal balding, a full dark beard, wearing a dark colored pullover hooded sweatshirt and blue jeans.

Detectives request anyone with information regarding this crime to contact Nassau County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-244-TIPS. All callers will remain anonymous.

Water Bay Offers Hot Tips for Keeping Cool this Summer

Young, casting is ignore it." about the area, but

"Dehydration is the most reported heat-related occurrence in the summer," Supervisor Venditto stated. "People become hot and perspire and don't drink enough fluids to replace what their bodies lose. Water and so-called sports

heat is a particular enemy of outdoor exercisers. Heavy sweating and a rapid rise in body temperature brought on by vigorous exercise can lead to heat exhaustion and, eventually, heat stroke, a true medical emergency that involves the breakdown of the body's heat-regulating system.

With heat exhaustion, the victim will be pale, the skin damp and the body temperature will be normal or modestly elevated...up to 102 degrees. There may be nausea, weakness, light-headedness and, in some cases, fainting. A person suffering from this condition should be moved to a cool, shady or air-conditioned place

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Nassau County Legislator Roger Corbin and his attorney, Thomas Liotti, address the media at a May 13 press conference outside the county's Supreme Court building.

Photo by Victoria Caruso-Davis

based Stoneridge Homes, is not named in the federal complaint.

Following news of Corbin's arrest, Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi told Anton Community Newspapers, "These are serious allegations that must go through the legal process. I have contacted the Corbin family and will pray for them during this difficult time."

Nassau County Deputy Presiding Officer Diane Yatauro (D-Glen Cove) echoed the sentiment, saying, "This is a sad time for a colleague and friend. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Corbin family."

Corbin made headlines back in late 2005 into early 2006 when he unsuccessfully attempted to oust former presiding officer Judy Jacobs and appoint himself to the helm of the legislature with support from Minority Leader Peter Schmitt (R-Massapequa). A representative from Schmitt's office said the Republican legislator was not commenting on the charges against Corbin.

"The people rightly expect their elected representatives at all levels of government to behave honorably, or at a minimum, lawfully," stated FBI Assistant Director-in-Charge Joseph Demarest. "This defendant put self-interest above public service. Public confidence in government depends on accountability for misconduct."

At a May 13 press conference outside the county's Supreme Court building in Mineola, Corbin was stoic as he addressed the media. "This matter should have been resolved civilly a long time ago and as a personal, private matter," he told reporters. "I take full responsibility for any mistakes that I may have made, but after more than 40

shouldn't be trying Corbin's case in the media. "...The government has pursued Roger Corbin because he is a public figure representing a minority district ... They have issued press releases and leaks to the press about a private, personal matter. Clearly, this is being done to embarrass and prejudice a fair review of the facts and circumstances of this case."

Corbin, who plead not guilty last week before United States Magistrate Arlene R. Lindsay and was released on his own recognizance, is scheduled to attend a hearing May 26. In the meantime, the Democratic legislator who has served the 2nd District (which includes all of Westbury, New Cassel and parts of East Garden City, East Meadow, Hicksville, Hempstead, Lakeview, Old Westbury, Uniondale and West Hempstead) since the county legislature's inception in 1995, remains in office and in his position as chairman of the legislative finance committee.

The government's case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys John J. Durham, Carrie N. Capwell, Steven D'Alessandro and Richard P. Donoghue. If convicted, Corbin faces up to five years in prison on the false statement charge and up to three years in prison for each of the false tax returns filed. He also faces a fine of up to \$250,000 on each count of conviction. A felony conviction would mean Corbin loses his seat on the legislature.

PLAINVIEW LACROSSE ROUND-UP

Hawks Soar on Mother's Day

The Plainview Hawks sixth grade lacrosse team took on Hicksville on a sunny Mother's Day afternoon. The Hawks brought the offensive pressure early but Hicksville's goalie made some key saves and sprung Hicksville for a clear resulting in Hicksville's first goal. The Hawks quickly answered back with Tyler "Playboy" Trembley putting one past the keeper to tie the game at one. After some strong defensive play by the Hawks three defensemen, Steve Rothman, Kevin Pasteir, and Josh Berson, Nick Godino snagged the first of his team leading nine groundballs and took off toward the Hicksville cage. Despite being slashed, drawing a delayed penalty, Big Nick powered through the Hicksville D and put one in the top of the cage to put the Hawks up 2-1. The Hawks would never trail again. Brian Cameron came alive in the 2nd quarter, scoring two back-to-back goals to put the Hawks up 4-1 at halftime. The Hawks dominated the first half on shots 15-4 and groundballs 30 to 8. Brian Ochs was solid for the Hawks in net the first half, only letting one Hicksville shot through.

Hicksville came out strong in the second half netting two in the third quarter to make the score 4-3 at the start of the fourth. But the Hawks were not to be denied. Matt Fede who had been robbed by the Hicksville keeper on several shots found the back of the net on a well-placed bouncer to start the 4th. A little more than a minute later Bryan Ochs buried one for Mom and the Hawks were up 6-3. The Hawks buckled down on D, and Ryan Schenck came up big in goal in the second half with 5 saves. But the save of the game was by Kevin Pasteir. When Ryan Schenck came out of net to try and stuff the shooter the shot just got off, Kevin cut quickly to the cage and picked off the shot that was headed for the top corner, saving a goal and springing the Hawks on a clear. Several Hawk players had big games with Richie "I'm Batman" Beck, coming up with seven groundballs and an assist; Alec Speller had a breakout game on defensive midfield; Alex Moskowitz looked very strong carrying the ball on several Hawks clears; and Mike Ciampo was relentless again coming up with five groundballs.