

DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

Established in 1931.

- Geographical areas serviced:
 - South Farmingdale
 - North Massapequa
 - Areas of Bethpage
 - Areas of Seaford
 - Areas of Massapequa
- The district encompasses:
 - 5.4 square miles
 - 44,700 people
 - 12,568 service connections
 - 1,290 fire hydrants
 - 122 miles of water mains (pipes)
- The district maintains 3.2 million gallons of stored water in three ground storage tanks and one elevated storage tank.
- The district has a pumping capacity of 20.5 million gallons of water per day.
- The district has six plant sites that include 11 water wells, 16 buildings, 22 employees and four gas generators that provide auxiliary electrical power.
- The district's annual operating budget is \$3.5 million.

Come Out and Vote

■ The South Farmingdale Water District's annual election is December 9, 2003. Voting will take place at the North Massapequa Fire Department headquarters, and the South Farmingdale Fire Department headquarters from 4 to 9 pm.

www.sfwater.com

From the TAP

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www.sfwater.com

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Gerard F. McCormack-Chairman
John Hirt-Treasurer
Ralph Atoria-Secretary

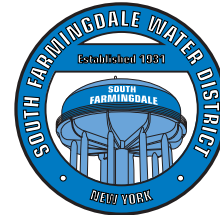
Leonard Constantinopoli-Business Manager
William Bier-Superintendent

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NEW WELL OPENS IN SOUTH FARMINGDALE WATER DISTRICT

■ After nearly five months of construction, the South Farmingdale Water District unveiled its new 600-foot deep well at Plant No. 2, located at Lourae Drive in early October. This new well features modern equipment, efficient operating motors and a greater depth for water retrieval.

The original well that "Well 2-3" replaces was built in 1955 at a depth of 300 feet and was in need of repairs and upgrades. The water district team evaluated the cost of repairing the existing well versus building a new, deeper well and found it to be more cost effective and productive for the community to build the new well.

"After a great deal of research we determined a new well was the way to go. We have been able to update



■ *SFWD Superintendent William Bier is presented with a plaque commemorating the opening of the district's new well.*



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and modernize the equipment to keep water quality good, and create a deeper well to secure the water supply that we draw from. All this was done without any break in service or increase in our rates," says Len Constantinopoli, South Farmingdale Water District Business Manager.

The Nassau Department of Health conducted extensive water quality tests on the water from the new well before it became operational. The new well was certified and the water quality was rated good to excellent. Prior to the installation of "Well 2-3" the district installed an iron removal filtration system on site.

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MEET THE COMMISSIONER

When he was the Fire Commissioner at the South Farmingdale Fire Department, John Hirt depended on water to save lives and property. He wasn't as concerned with its quality as much as its availability. Now, as Commissioner of the South Farmingdale Water District, water quality is foremost on his mind.

"Our local water quality goes through the most stringent testing in New York State in order to be deliverable to consumers," Hirt says. "And we've implemented several strategies that enable us to pass those tests and exceed our own expectations."

Being a resident of Farmingdale since 1958 this is important to Hirt who counts himself among the 44,700 consumers who rely on the utility for clean, clear water.

"It's not something we can take for granted," he says. "Water is a key component to our health, our lives,



John Hirt

and our livelihoods. That's the mindset I had when I first became Water Commissioner six years ago."

And John looks to extend this vision and mindset as he seeks re-election on December 9th. Under his tenure, the district has integrated a state-of-the-art iron filtration plant that has eliminated all but small traces of iron in local drinking water.

The district has also increased the efficiency of reading water meters

with more technically advanced field equipment.

What's more, John assisted in developing a multi-tiered strategy that was put in place following the September 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C.

"New technology, computerization, strategy and good people have certainly helped drive the success of the district over the last few years," Hirt says of the changes.

Being the one to call the shots is nothing new for the 6-year commissioner. By day, John is Operations Manager, Federal Express at Kennedy Airport. And before that, he served as Assistant Fire Chief at Republic Airport in Farmingdale.

"Fortunately, I've been involved in leadership positions, and I believe that experience is very beneficial to the water district and our consumers."

GET READY FOR WINTER

MAKE SURE THOSE FIRE HYDRANTS ARE CLEAR

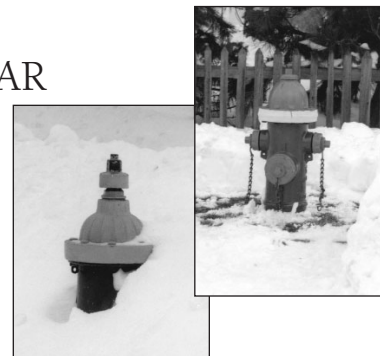
The next time your neighbor's kid offers to shovel snow from your driveway, give him/her a bonus if he/she clears snow away from the nearby hydrant too. It's a good idea.

This past winter was one of the worst in years, and it only takes one plow-through to cover up a life-saving piece of equipment like a fire hydrant. And there

are 1,290 of them in the South Farmingdale Water District.

It's also a good idea to assist the elderly and handicapped in your neighborhood during the winter. Be a good neighbor by clearing hydrants near their homes.

Spot a broken hydrant? Don't ignore it, and don't try to fix it either. Call the water district for assistance.



Keep those fire hydrants clear after a snowfall.

BLACKOUT OF 2003 PUT DISTRICT'S CONTINGENCY PLANS TO THE TEST

The water will be there without interruption if and when the power goes out. That's the message John Hirt, Water Commissioner for South Farmingdale Water District wants the utility's customers to know. And given its success during the August 14th blackout, the district appears to have its contingency plans well prepared and its backup systems properly equipped for such emergencies.

"The blackout we experienced in August put us in a position to implement our emergency response plan and it passed with flying colors," Hirt said. "Our backup generators kicked in to keep our water flowing, and our customers continued to receive the kind of service and quality they are accustomed to on a daily basis. I'm very proud of our response and of the people within the district who did their part to ensure it."

Contingency planning has been a key component within the district's culture since its formation in 1931, and it undergoes continuous upgrading in order to

remain viable at all times. In fact, the district runs routine drills to evaluate its responsiveness to potential emergencies, security threats, or catastrophic events. Some of the more recent protocols were implemented after the September 11 terrorist attacks on American soil. Security upgrades were implemented at all well sites, pumping stations, electrical facilities and water towers shortly after the district performed an extensive "Vulnerability Assessment."

"Day and night, 24/7, our teams are trained and prepared to handle any emergency situation," Hirt said. "If we suspect anything, a lock-down occurs immediately, and we survey our entire system to make sure everything is 100% secure."

"Much of the success of these plans is also attributable to the vigilance and cooperation of the district's customers," Hirt added. "In times of drought and other events, our consumers demonstrate their willingness to conserve water," he said. "That makes our job much easier."

Continued from cover

NEW WELL OPENS



Iron filtration system at the new well site.

It successfully filters out any excess iron. Small traces of iron were found, but they will not raise health concerns or pose any risk to consumers.

This new well marks the beginning of a series of water improvement initiatives the district is undertaking. In the spring of 2004, the district will begin work to replace water main lines throughout the district to improve water pressure. This project is expected to be complete in the beginning of the summer, 2004.

TIPS, FACTS AND STATS

WINTERIZING WATER TIPS.....WAYS TO PREPARE FOR THE WINTER AHEAD

Disconnect all outdoor hoses. Drain and store them in a garage, shed or basement.

Turn off the water that leads to the outside of your house.

Leave outside water faucets open. It allows any trapped water to expand after a freeze, and prevents broken pipes.

Be sure to stop all drafts in the basement area so pipes won't freeze.

Cover your outdoor pool or spa to reduce wasteful evaporation.