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Established 1931

SOUTH FARMINGDALE

FARMINGDALE

75TH ANNIVERSARY

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NEW YORK

**Fall 2006 Volume 7 – No. 2** 

A Publication of the South Farmingdale Water District

# Meet The New Commissioner:

# As He Meets New Challenges...

Kurt Ludwig was named the new South Farmingdale Water District Water Commissioner this past June and by all standards, he's the right man for the challenging position. Kurt is a native Long Islander, having grown up in North Massapequa. He attended Farmingdale High School and later the State University of New York at Stony Brook. His love of the area led him to purchase a home in North Massapequa...only five

blocks from the house he grew up in!

Kurt and his wife Bonnie
were married in 1990 and
have two preschool-aged
sons, Kyle and Connor. Over
the years, Kurt has involved
himself in numerous charitable and civic endeavors, proving his great fondness
for the community

and a commitment to its well being.

He has

been a volunteer for the North Massapequa Fire Department since 1989, acting as a company Lead Engineer and a department Public Information Officer. He is on the Department's Training Committee and is an elected member of its Board of Directors. In addition, Kurt currently serves as the co-Race Director for the Annual Sleepy Hollow 5K Charity Run, which benefits the Hagedorn Little Village School for developmentally disabled children.

# A Wealth Of Local Experience

Kurt began his career as a reporter for local newspapers, which gave him great practical experience in understanding the workings of governmental issues. Since 1990 he has worked for the Town of Oyster Bay in the Public Information Office as a liaison between Town officials and the public. His knowledge of all levels of government is especially helpful as he serves residents of the South Farmingdale Water District.

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www.sfwater.com

# Water Emergencies: Actions Everyone Needs To Know

If there is a water emergency, SFWD wants public notification to occur immediately. To meet this obligation and to ensure notification in a quick and efficient manner, The District will install a "reverse 911" system. This system (the opposite of when someone calls 911 for help) will call every Water District customer. This advanced system has a pre-recorded message that automatically dials every household within minutes of the water emergency occurrence.

# Public Cooperation Is Crucial

The SFWD will soon be requesting key contact information from all its customers in order to meet water emergency notification laws. The most important information needed is a name and telephone number for the household so that water emergencies can be accurately reported. Emails would prove helpful as well.

you give us this information, it is for SFWD emergency purposes only!

Your personal information will never be used for solicitation purposes and will never be given to any other agency or company. This highly confidential information will be used only to make our current chain of water emergency communication more efficient and to ensure accurate notification.

Along these same lines, it is extremely important that you notify SFWD if you or anyone you know in The District has special needs for water, such as someone on kidney dialysis or with a similar medical situation

where water is crucial. We appreciate your support in providing this information.



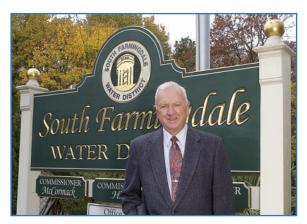
Please know that when

# Winterizing Solutions at Home

- Disconnect all outdoor hoses. Drain and store them in a garage, shed or basement.
- Turn off the water leading 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 your basement so pipes won't freeze.
- Cover your outdoor pool or hot tub to reduce wasteful evaporation.

For more winterizing solutions or water conservation tips, visit our website at www.sfwater.com.

# GERARD McCORMACK In Memoriam



The South Farmingdale Water District wants to express our fond remembrance of Gerard McCormack, whose dedication and unmatched work ethic brought integrity and leadership to SFWD. Gerard's 55 years of extraordinary public service showed he was a kind man of many facets and interests. His contributions to the residents and businesses on Long Island are innumerable, and he leaves behind a great legacy.

During his tenure on the Board of the South Farmingdale Water District new wells were developed for the growing community, older wells were updated and pumping equipment was modernized. Due to Gerard's military, governmental and civic background and his being a past Chief and Commissioner of the North Massapequa Fire Department, he proved invaluable to The District in many projects including the cleanup of past ground pollution that could have threatened our water supply. He helped the Board bring Grumman, the Navy and U.S. government agencies together to keep The District's wells full of high quality water.

Gerard tended the lives of the residents of South Farmingdale Water District with the same concern and caring he showed when tending his garden. As the life of Gerard McCormack bloomed so did the lives of those he touched. Gerard was a charter member of the Monsignor Delaney Council of the Knights of Columbus. He is survived by his lovely wife Patricia, their four sons, grandchildren and great-grandchild. Gerard will be remembered fondly.

For more information on this remarkable man please visit **www.sfwater.com**.

## **Meet The New Commissioner**

Continued from front cover

Kurt's familiarity with issues that affect South Farmingdale and North Massapequa, combined with his well-established relationships with community leaders and government officials, are significant attributes to The District.

"A safe and abundant water supply is a vital necessity," commented Kurt. "It is the lifeline of the community. My main goal is to continue the legacy set forth by my predecessors, who are legendary in their contributions to our District. I hope to keep our budget operations on course and utilize the technology needed to deliver one of the best water supplies in the nation." Technology and rapid advances in earth sciences are important to Kurt's way of thinking. He sees opportunities for safeguarding the water supply – both from manmade threats as well as natural – by staying on top of the latest developments. As water demands grow, the management and production of the supply becomes more and more critical.

# Emphasis On SFWD Employees

Upon assuming his new position,
Kurt made a strong issue about
the greatest resource that he, the
SFWD and the community has...the employees of the Water District themselves. He states,
"The team at the SFWD is a vast source of
knowledge, experience and expertise. I couldn't
imagine a better group to work with, and I feel
fortunate to be a part of an organization of
really great people."

"I love this community," Kurt concluded. "I've spent my whole life here, and I'm excited and honored that I am now in a position where I can play an active role in providing quality water service to the consumers."

# **UPDATE:**

# Superfund Site Activity

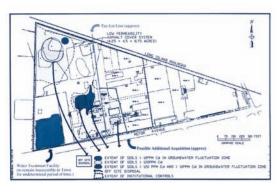
### **Liberty Aircraft Industrial Site**

The Liberty Aircraft Industrial Site has been the focus of cooperative activity for cleanup for well over a decade. The site is on the National Priorities List and has been declared a Superfund Site by the United States Government. Since the 1930s, untreated industrial wastes were deposited in leaching fields and unlined basins on the site.

During the past 10 years, six outpost monitoring wells have been installed to provide early warning if contaminants get into the main wells. This is a joint effort between the SFWD and the Massapequa Water District. So far, no wastes or contaminants have been detected over repeated samplings of the outpost monitoring wells.

The view of the SFWD is simple; the cost of these monitoring wells should be paid for by the principle responsible parties...not by the taxpayers. Therefore, the SFWD has taken the principle responsible parties to court in a legal effort to recoup the monies spent to install and operate the monitoring wells.

We are pleased to report that we are currently in court proceedings to satisfy this issue, and we anticipate a favorable outcome soon. Developments will be reported to you as soon as a verdict is delivered.



Map of the Liberty Aircraft Industrial Site in Farmingdale.

### **Grumman Aircraft Site**

As with the Liberty Aircraft Industrial Site, negotiations with the "principle responsible parties" have been ongoing, and again, we are optimistic that a favorable outcome will soon be reached.

The goal is to have the principle responsible parties pay for the entire filtration facility along with 30 years of maintenance. The facility will be located at Plant No. 1, Langdon Rd. South Farmingdale. If this action goes as expected, there will be no negative impact on taxes and it will not affect the lifestyle of our community.

We have the planning in place to build a new filtration facility to treat the water. This will keep the drinking water up to government standards, if not exceed them. The Commissioners have ordered increased testing of Plant No. 1 due to the plume threat.



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### **South Farmingdale Water District**

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### **BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

John Hirt-Chairman Ralph Atoria-Treasurer Kurt Ludwig-Secretary

**Leonard Constantinopoli-**Business Manager **William Bier-**Superintendent

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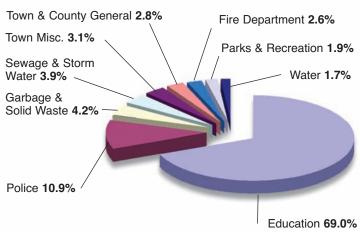
# Come Out and Vote

The South Farmingdale Water District's annual election is December 12, 2006. Voting will take place from 4 to 9 pm at the North Massapequa Fire Department headquarters located at Broadway and Albany Ave., and the South Farmingdale Firehouse, Station No. 2 at the corner of Merritts Rd. and Beverly Rd.

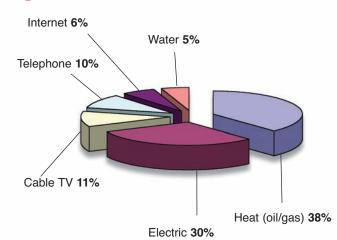


# 75 Years of Water Efficiency

# "Here's How Water Cost Stacks Up Against The Rest"



Breakdown of Nassau County Residential Taxes



Average Monthly Utility Costs for Nassau County Residents