

constructed on properties owned by the village, Garant said.

## ISLANDWIDE

### Muslims observing Ramadan with fasts

Ramadan continues until sunset July 17 with observant Muslims refraining from eating or drinking during daylight hours.

But most Muslim restaurateurs on Long Island will be cooking and serving while they fast. "It's not easy, but we do it," said Doruk Duygun, whose parents, Funda and Tufan, own Ephesus Turkish restaurant in Massapequa.

Doruk Duygun noted that Muslim restaurateurs can't just sit down and have dinner as soon as the sun sets. "We'll have a glass of water or perhaps a piece of bread, but we won't really eat until later, when our customers go home."

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, commemorates the first revelation of the Koran to the prophet Mohammed.

Ramadan doesn't fall the same time every year. Every year, the Islamic calendar shifts 11 or 12 days in relation to the Western calendar with the result that holidays are not fixed to seasons.

When Ramadan falls in the winter, fasting is easier because the days are shorter. When Ramadan falls in the summer, fasting is more difficult. This year, the longest day of the year was Sunday, the third day of Ramadan.

— ERICA MARCUS

## HUNTINGTON

### Town adopts plan to cut greenhouse gases

The Huntington Town Board has voted to adopt a Climate Action Plan — its strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

"The Climate Action Plan highlights a number of the town's energy and sustainability initiatives — such as the installation of solar panels at town hall, the construction of alternative fuel stations, street lighting upgrades, single stream recycling, the Solarize Huntington program, and the residential energy efficiency retrofit program," said town board member Mark Cuthbertson, sponsor of the resolution.

"The Climate Action Plan will build on past successes and plan for the future."

Board members approved the measure 5-0 at their June 9 meeting.

Cuthbertson said Huntington is the first municipality on Long Island to adopt a Climate Action Plan.

In 2012, the town adopted the New York State Climate Smart Communities Pledge. Town officials said it's needed because a coordinated local, state and national response with respect to improving energy efficiency, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and making communities more resilient to the disruptions of climate change is the proper course of action.

The town's Climate Action Plan is part of the Climate Smart Communities pledge. Climate smart community participation helps the town apply for New York State Energy Research and Development Authority planning grants, town officials said.

— DEBORAH S. MORRIS

## NORTHPORT

### Summer concerts offered at VA center

Northport American Legion Post 694 launched its 10th year of Summer Concerts for Veterans & Community this month, a free event at the Northport Veterans Affairs center that features a different band every Wednesday.

The outdoor concert series draws an average of 150 people each week, officials said.

Susan Pisano, chief of the VA's recreation therapy service, said she developed the idea for the concerts in 2006 because it could be difficult to get veterans integrated in community events, and particularly hard for veterans with long-term therapy needs.

"No matter how homelike we make it — which is our goal — you still have limited resources," she said. "Bringing main events to the medical center . . . gives meaning to the day."

The fourth concert in the series will be tomorrow and feature Jukebox Explosion, a '60s tribute band. Concerts start at 6:30 p.m. at the hospital's Vietnam Veterans Memorial Garden. They run through Sept. 9. For more details, go to northportamericanlegion.com.

— VALERIE BAUMAN

## NASSAU COUNTY

# ADS FIGHT FORECLOSURE SCAMS

BY CARL MACGOWAN  
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New York Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman yesterday announced an advertising campaign intended to help victims of foreclosure scams.

The ads will appear on 120 buses in Nassau County — one of the areas where such scams are most prevalent, Schneiderman said during a news conference at a NICE bus depot in Garden City. The campaign also will appear in local newspapers in Queens, Brooklyn and the Bronx, where many homeowners have complained of being scammed, he said.

In a typical scam, a company promises to help bail homeowners out of foreclosures but fails to provide services after collecting exorbitant fees, Schneiderman said.

New York scam victims lose an average of \$4,183, about \$900 more than the national average, Schneiderman said, adding that about 35 percent of all statewide foreclosures are on Long Island.



State AG Eric Schneiderman

"The problem is growing," said Schneiderman, who was joined by elected officials including Nassau County Executive Edward Mangano. "They take victims and they re-victimize them. There's really nothing lower than that."

Ads direct consumers to a smartphone app, AGScamHelp, and to a website, AGHomeHelp.com, where homeowners will find information about free mortgage assistance, Schneiderman's aides said in a news release. Homeowners also may call the attorney general's foreclosure prevention hotline, 1-855-466-3456.

Statewide, the Lawyers Com-

mittee for Civil Rights has received more than 2,700 foreclosure scam complaints claiming at least \$8.25 million in losses from March 2010 to September 2014, Schneiderman said. New York ranks behind only California and Florida in the number of complaints reported to the state Loan Modification Scam Database, he said.

Lynbrook resident Gayle Fortunato, who appeared at Schneiderman's news conference, said she and her family endured a six-month nightmare two years ago when she paid a California company about \$6,000 to help her repay her mortgage after her bank foreclosed on her home.

Fortunato, a mother of two who works with special needs children, said the California company appeared to be legitimate when company officials asked for her bank information and other personal information, but they failed to help her repay her loan.

"They made it seem very legit," she said in an interview. "But when we talked to the bank, it turned out they did absolutely nothing."

She said her own lawyers later helped her save her home.

## NEW CASSEL

# Industrial fire hurts 2; 1 in critical

BY ELLEN YAN  
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Two people were hurt, one critically, in a New Cassel blaze that started when work done outside a large manufacturing plant ignited flammable aluminum, the Nassau County fire marshal's office said yesterday afternoon.

A worker was in critical condition with burns at Nassau University Medical Center and a firefighter also was rushed there after his leg was fractured by falling duct work, said James Hickman, head of investigations for the fire marshal's office.

The blaze was reported about 1:30 p.m. at Oerlikon on Prospect Avenue, a business that uses flammable metals to make parts and coatings, authorities said.

The worker, 46, went out-

side to fix a malfunction in a duct and machine unit that sends aluminum powder, a byproduct of the company's metallic coatings and machine parts, into a drum, fire investigators said.

The worker was using power tools in the rear of the facility, Hickman said.

"It looks like he accidentally ignited some metal dust," he said.

He was in critical but stable condition with second-degree burns over 25 percent of his body, including his head and stomach, Hickman said.

The firefighter, 27, a Westbury department volunteer, was in good condition just before surgery yesterday afternoon, he said.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is investigating, the fire marshal's office said.

Special fire extinguishers, which spray a dry chemical, had to be used by the fire marshal's hazmat team, Hickman said. Certain metals burn "vigorously" and react "nastily" to water, he said.

A drum of aluminum powder also caught fire and the contents had to be dumped out so the fire could be put out, authorities said.

The fire was confined to the outside and five departments helped contain it at 4 p.m., authorities said.

Next door, the Nassau BOCES offices for adult education told dozens of staffers to leave early, said accountant Eileen Goroteuschek, who was answering phones: "Everybody was let go for safety reasons."

She said a "sour" odor was in the air outside. School was out for the year, and night classes were canceled.