

Central County

GRAFTON

Town Wide BBQ

The Town of Grafton and Greywacke Meadows are planning a BBQ for town residents on Saturday, June 5 from 3 to 6 pm. The event will take place at Greywacke Meadows on Dunham Road. Music will be provided by the River Road Band as well as Grafton native Christina Reger and Friends.

Hamburgers, hot dogs and the like will be provided. There will also be a covered dish and dessert contest, with prizes handed out in each category.

NASSAU

Great Day For A Bike Rodeo



The Nassau Youth Committee and AMVETs sponsored a Bike Rodeo on May 23 from 1-3 pm at St. Mary's Church. Nassau resident and AMVET member Jacob M. Coons Jr. fixed up 36 bicycles with support from the AMVET commander Mike Lever and other post members in Nassau to donate to anyone who needs one. Pictured above are Jacob Coons and Mike Lever with some of their bicycles. Photo by Denise Wright.

BRUNSWICK

The Sun Rises For Tamarac Solar

by Doug La Rocque

The Brunswick Planning Board approved the site plan application and special use permit for Tamarac Solar to construct a commercial solar facility at 126 Brick Church Road (NYS Rt. 278) at their Thursday, May 20 meeting. This, as with all solar applications that have come before it, carried a number of conditions. Chief among them were the requirement for anti-glare to be placed on the panels and working out a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement with the town.

Glare was one of the concerns brought forth at the public hearing on the proposal, as was the project's visibility from the neighborhood. It was determined the visibility of the solar panels was no greater than the existing solar complex adjoining the Tamarac Solar land. As for glare, beside the coating, the panels for this project are tracking, meaning they move with the sun as it crosses the daytime sky.

Hannaford Created Traffic

One of the concerns planners have about the proposed new Hannaford Grocery Store off Lord Avenue is the traffic impact on both the adjoining neighborhood and Hoosick Road (NYS Rt. 7). Alanna Moran of engineering firm Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. presented a traffic study that claims the impact will be overall minimal, when compared to existing conditions.

Her figures claim at the most, there will be an additional 20 to 30 vehicles per hour during the peak travel periods perhaps using the Genesee Street to North Lake Avenue corridor to avoid the backup on Hoosick Road. She also said their estimate is that the new traffic light at Lord Avenue and Hoosick Road should only cause a 70 to 80 second additional backup.

Board member Don Henderson expressed his concern about the increased neighborhood traffic, noting the narrowness of many of these roads. Board Chair Russ Oster suggested they might be able to mitigate some of the perceived problem with signage, such as local traffic only.

The Board agreed to hold a joint public hearing on the project with the Zoning Board of Appeals at the June 17 meeting.

Yes Or No To A SEQRA Review

The old adage "to be or not to be" seems to sum up the requirement for an environmental review of the Atlas Renewables Solar Project on Oakwood Avenue. They hope to construct a ground-mounted solar array on a former landfill called a brownfield. Their attorney contends a State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) form is not required by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for projects constructed over a brownfield, calling them a Class 3 action, which is exempt. Planning Board Attorney Andy Gilchrist countered that since the Atlas application for brownfield recovery has not been acted on yet by DEC, Brunswick codes prevail and a SEQRA needs to be completed. The applicants also asked the planners to declare lead agency status on the SEQRA and the Board said they will send out the required notifications to all involved agencies, state, county and local. These agencies have 30 days to respond if they plan to seek that lead agency status.

Other Action

The Board approved a pair of Waivers of Subdivisions requests, the first by Charles (Butch) Farrell involving three lots at the Doubleday Estates Subdivision, as well as a request by Jeff Geene concerning property at 3 South Road.

BRUNSWICK

College Caravan Day

The College Caravan is an event put together by the Capital District Association of School Counselors, where many area institutions of higher learning visit a school to set up small displays and speak to 10th and 11th graders about their plans for continued learning. Tamarac High School recently hosted just such a day, and according to the school's administration, it was well received. Shown above are students visiting with some of the college representatives. Photo provided.



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