



ALBERTSON

WATER DISTRICT NEWS

Volume 1, Number 2

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Hurricane Preparedness: *We Are Ready*

This isn't a list of cousins but the names of the first five hurricanes spawned in the Atlantic in 2010. Every hurricane presents a high potential for power outages, which could directly affect most Long Island Water Districts' ability to supply water. The Albertson Water District distribution system is an exception to that generalization thanks to our glacial heritage and some farsighted planning.

Unlike Long Island's low-lying south shore, Albertson's higher geographic elevation minimizes the likelihood of our wells flooding. Thank you, Mother Nature.

The rest is according to plan. The Albertson Water District has five well pump stations. At each location there is a standby generator sufficiently large enough to power the 100 HP electric well motors and the additional equipment necessary to continue to supply water.

Diversification:

Further, four of these generators are powered by natural gas. The most recently installed generator is at the newly constructed Well #1 Air Stripping Facility. This generator is diesel-powered. The District Commissioners chose diesel over natural gas because the diversification ensures that the District will not be dependent on one fuel source if either were to become unavailable for any reason.

John Rotolo inspecting a generator at Well #3.



In addition, the District has a diesel engine used to power a Booster pump at its Hollow Court water storage facility. This pump is capable of supplying an additional 1,000 GPM of stored water to the distribution system.

Regular Maintenance:

Regular maintenance of the District's standby power source is done by District personnel. This includes, but is not limited to, sampling of the engine lubricants to assure that no abnormal engine wear is occurring, changing of the lubricants and coolants when required, and running the engines regularly to ensure that they are ready to be put into service if needed. If, in the event, a repair outside of the District's realm of expertise is required, the same is done by a certified original equipment contractor.

Precautions:

When the District receives notice that a storm may affect the area, the District storage facilities are filled to capacity. During certain storm alerts, the news media advises residents to store water, though this may be done without consulting water authorities. Storage can be a good idea for drinking water, but the filling of bathtubs, buckets, and all other available reservoirs could strain the water supply due to the abnormally high consumption at one time. This could temporarily deplete the District's stored water reservoirs.

To summarize, due to standby generators at each of the AWD's pump stations and the versatility of different fuels, it is highly unlikely that the residents of the Albertson Water District would remain without water due to hurricane-caused or other power outages.

IN THIS *Newsletter*

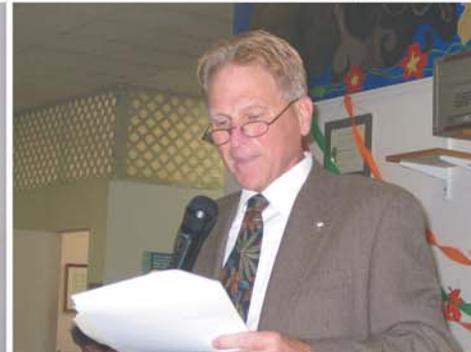
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Commissioners Visit Leisure Club

“Education’s purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one.”

-Malcolm Forbes

Keeping the public informed about the AWD is part of our ongoing outreach. On Thursday, October 7, Commissioners Howard Abbondondelo and Richard Ockovic visited the Herricks Community Center. Some 150 people were in attendance. Commissioner Abbondondelo spoke about Albertson’s history including the formation of the AWD in 1917 and the policy of preventive maintenance that the District follows. Commissioner Ockovic spoke about the District’s capital improvements projects and how and when to contact the District. The 45-minute presentation was followed by a Q&A session. The AWD wishes to thank Director Francis Kivatiski and members of the Herricks Leisure Club for their courtesy.



Local Control Keeps Decision-Making In Albertson

“Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night...”

The Albertson Water District has been dedicated to supplying a safe, plentiful water supply since 1917. Our personnel are on call 24/7, 365 days per year. And we scrupulously adhere to all applicable standards and are proactive at all times. So what are the advantages of consolidation? None.

Proponents may talk about saving money. We watch our budgets and tax rates because we’re Albertson residents ourselves, and we want the most for our tax dollars. AWD water rates remain BELOW the national average*. Further, surveys indicate that in a consolidated district reallocation of other districts’ financial burdens will likely cause tax rates to rise. And for the record, AWD water costs still represent only 2% of an average tax bill.

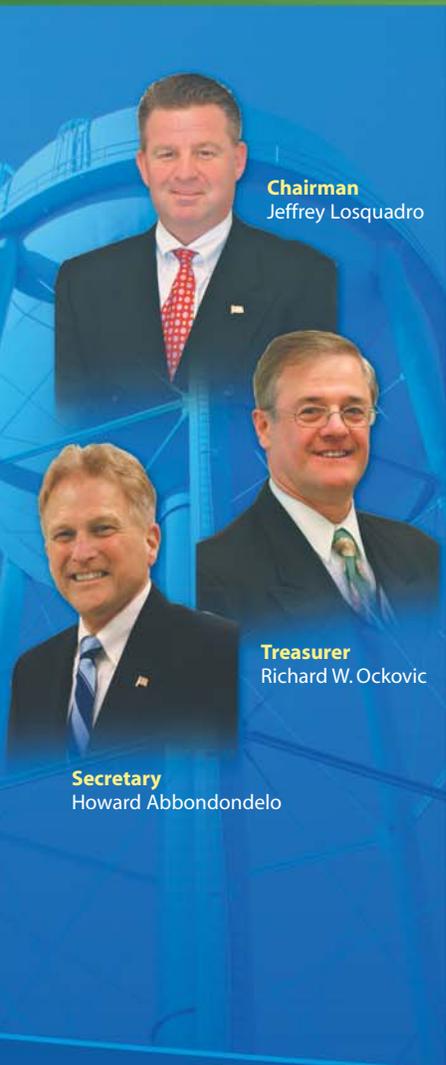
Commissioner Jeffrey Losquadro remarked, “With local control, tax dollars cover the delivery of high quality water exclusively for the AWD community. Not for another area of the county. And only ALBERTSON WATER DISTRICT residents vote on Albertson budgets, not people from forty miles away or others who have never even been to our community.”

Commissioner Ockovic noted, “Taxpayer dollars pay for services, new technology and infrastructure updates. All records of expenditures, income, distribution and management are public record.”

Commissioner Abbondondelo remarked, “Keeping control local right here in Albertson through public elections where every registered resident can vote, makes sense. It assures a level of dedicated involvement that others on the outside can never hope to match.”

Local control makes sense.

*Source: American Water Works Association



SwiftReach



Our new SwiftReach Emergency Notification System

alerts District consumers in the event of a water emergency.

As noted in our previous newsletter, it's free to all customers.

"But, of course," Commissioner

Jeffrey Losquadro said, "your telephone number has to be in our database.

Contact the District at (516) 621-3610 to be included.

All information is strictly confidential."



Welcome Aboard!

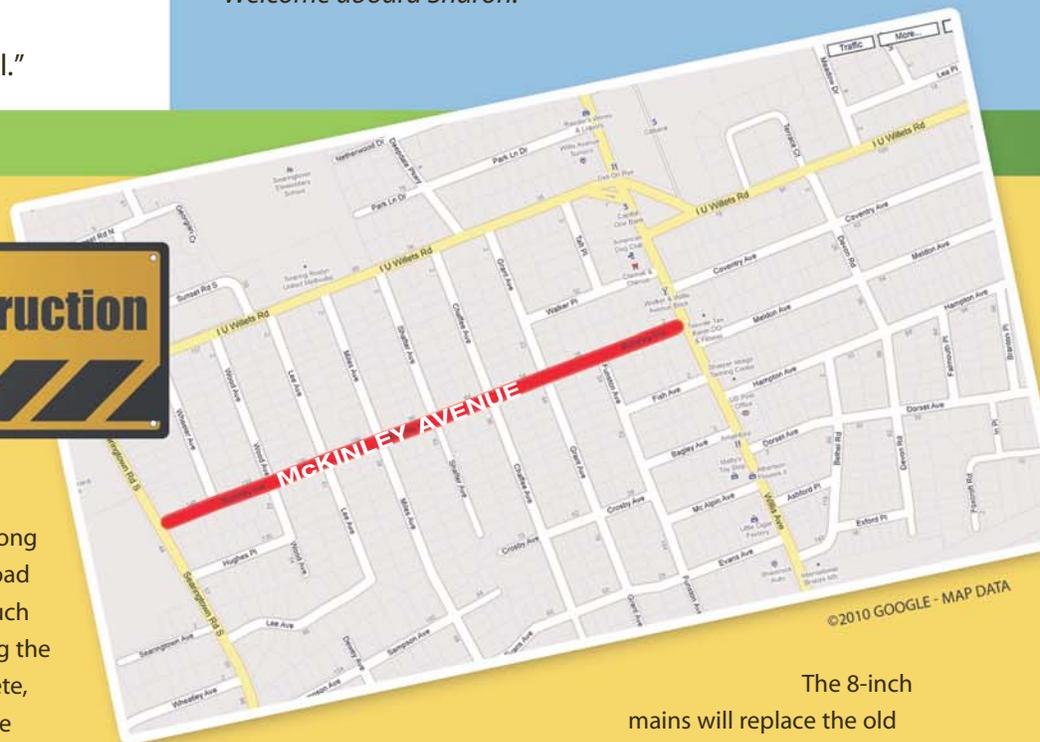
Meet Sharon, recently hired to fill the void created when Meg retired after 30 years on the job. Sharon is a graduate of Keene State College (New Hampshire) and is responsible for both accounting and clerical operations.

Welcome aboard Sharon!

PREPARING FOR

McKinley Avenue Construction

McKinley Avenue is approximately a half mile long and runs from Willis Avenue to Searingtown Road in Albertson. Like the rest of Albertson and much of Nassau County, it had sewers installed during the 1960s. When the sewer installation was complete, many of the wood timbers used to shore up the trenches were buried in place and left to naturally decompose. A result of abandonment of the old trench shoring has caused significant road settling, which over the years has led to a number of water main breaks in that area. Currently in the planning stages, the Town of North Hempstead is looking at 2013 as a likely time for road repaving. The Albertson Water District will take advantage of that situation to install new water mains to minimize or eliminate potential future water main damage. New 8-inch mains are planned to be installed for approximately the entire length of McKinley Avenue.

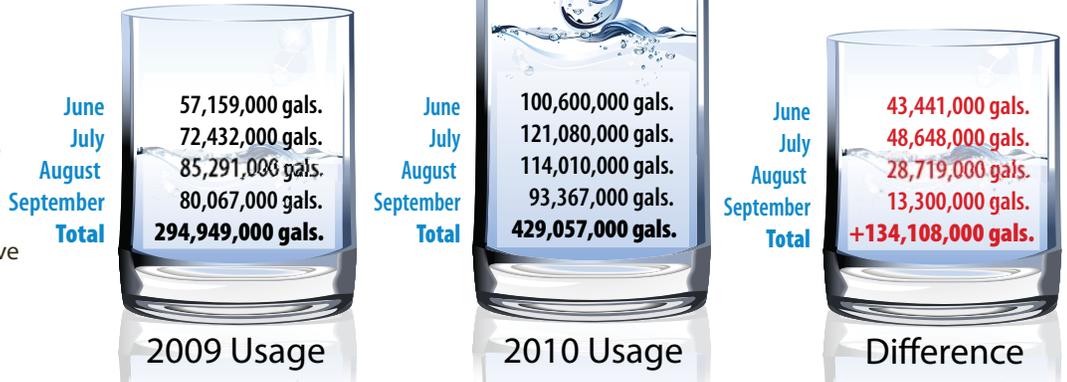


The 8-inch mains will replace the old 6-inch mains, thereby allowing for greater water volume capacity in the future. By planning this project in conjunction with the town's proposed repaving, the District will be able to save on the final road restoration portion of the project.

Currently, preliminary design drawings are being prepared to evaluate the feasibility of the construction and to estimate construction costs. There are some concerns about limited space within McKinley Avenue due to the presence of other underground utilities. The District's engineering firm, Dvirka and Bartilucci Consulting Engineers, is preparing preliminary design reports in order to establish the cost of the project which includes, but is not limited to, surveying of the road area.

2010 Water Usage SETS A RECORD

The long hot dry summer of 2010 had a dramatic effect on all Long Island water districts and AWD was no exception. Record pumpage in June, July, August and September totaled some 429 million gallons...a whopping 45% increase over 2009! In July alone, AWD customers used over 121 million gallons. The District was able to meet customer needs because our preventive maintenance program kept all our facilities up and running even as demand soared.



HYDRANTS: Why Red & White?

It's no accident that Albertson Water District hydrants are red with white reflective tops. They are that way for safety and immediate visual identification, day or night.



Every second is vitally important to firefighters putting out fires. The colors serve as a visual reminder to motorists not to park in front of a hydrant, which might slow or prevent water delivery. Blocked or limited access to hydrants could cost firefighters precious seconds that might save a building...or a life.

Adopt-A-Hydrant: Keep Them Clear At All Times

Long Island winters are unpredictable. No one knows when the cold weather will start or when we might get a sudden snowstorm that can make fire hydrants difficult to see. In the interest of public safety, the Commissioners request that AWD residents remove snow and ice around hydrants this winter to enable emergency personnel to readily see the hydrants from all directions.

Remember To Vote

ON DECEMBER 14

The annual election of an Albertson Water Commissioner will be held on Tuesday, December 14. Voting will be at the Albertson Fire House, 100 I.U. Willets Road, Albertson, from 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Qualified voters must:

- Be a registered voter of the Albertson Water District
- Reside within the AWD at least 30 days prior to said election date



What's In Your Bottle?

Supermarkets today are truly international. They carry bottled water from Maine, Italy and places as distant as the Fiji Islands. Since there are so many brands of bottled water available, it's important to understand that virtually none of them receives the same extensive testing as your Albertson water does!



The fact is, the AWD tests over **50 samples each and every month**. Your tap water can stand up to any bottled water for taste and purity. Plus it costs a lot less...exactly \$14.08 for 8,000 gallons! Want to have the highest quality water direct from your tap and save a lot of money in the bargain?

Albertson Water is your best bet.

MAINTAINING OUR *Infrastructure*



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS 5-YEAR PLAN



Preventive maintenance is a key component of the AWD 5-year plan. It not only ensures the safe delivery of water that is tested regularly for purity, but it also controls costs, particularly for infrastructure. Commissioner Richard Ockovic pointed to the example of Well #3 and the well house building.

"Our infrastructure is sound, but like everything else, it has life expectancies. Recent engineering reports confirmed our concerns about the aging of Well #3. Although the pump is routinely serviced, the well casing and screen are showing signs of wear. The wear is not unusual for a well of this age and has brought the long term dependability of the well into question.

"The well has certainly done its job," Commissioner Howard Abbondondo agreed. "After all, the well was put into service in 1954 during the Eisenhower administration nearly 60 years ago. Considering the age and the long term dependability of the well, the decision was made to investigate potential replacement."

Well #3 is approximately 430 feet deep in the Magothy Aquifer. The new well will be drilled to the same depth and in the same vicinity and is planned to have the same capacity of 1,000 gallons per minute.

The well house building was also built in 1954. Similarly, it was judged by engineers to be in poor condition and not suitable to house the new equipment required. It will be necessary to demolish the existing building and replace it. Preliminary design plans are being prepared to accurately determine the cost of the project.

ALBERTSON WATER DISTRICT

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www.albertsonwater.org

Commissioners:
Jeffrey Losquadro, *Chairman*
Richard W. Ockovic, *Treasurer*
Howard Abbondandolo, *Secretary*

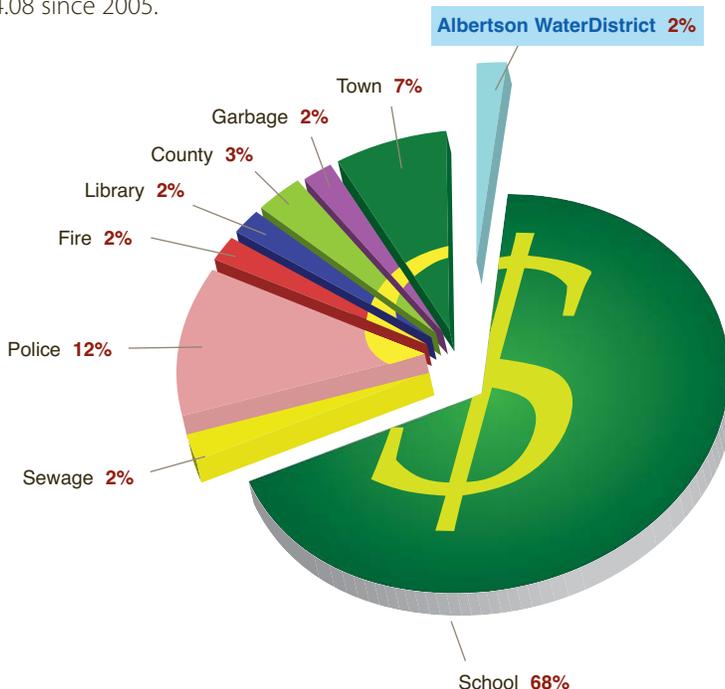
Superintendent:
Rudy Henriksen

Counsel:
Anthony J. LaMarca

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No Tax Increase in 2011

Thanks to diligent financial planning, there will be no increase in the tax rate or water rates despite increasing costs for 2011. In fact, the rate for the first 8,000 gallons of Albertson water has been \$14.08 since 2005.



Look for the
ALBERTSON
WATER DISTRICT **WEBSITE...**



ONLINE NOW!
www.albertsonwater.org