



Joel Kessler Inducted as Plainview Water District Chairman



Plainview Water District Chairman Joel Kessler and Randy Glasser, partner at Guercio & Guercio

At a recent public meeting of the Plainview Water District Board of Commissioners, Joel Kessler was selected by the Board as its chairman. Commissioner Edward Shulroff was named secretary, and Commissioner Kevin Langberg, treasurer.

“I am honored that my fellow commissioners have selected me as chairman. I look forward to leading the Water District in the upcoming year,” said Commissioner Kessler. “The residents of Plainview-Old Bethpage have entrusted my fellow commissioners and me to represent the community with regard to water-related issues, and we take this responsibility very seriously. The Board’s top priority is protecting the quality of our water supply, and we will continue to do this by remaining proactive in our fight against threats to our water supply, including MTBE spills.”

According to Commissioner Kessler, Board goals for 2007 include continuing to hold petroleum companies responsible for spills that may affect our drinking water, extend security measures related to the water supply in light of America’s fight against terrorism, introduce technologies that will increase the efficiencies of the District, increase water-education efforts in the community and step up our water conservation initiatives to even greater levels.



Plant 2 Project Ahead of Schedule

As reported in the last issue of *WaterWorks*, the wellhead treatment and site upgrade construction at Plant 2 continues. The Plainview Board of Commissioners is pleased to announce that the project is progressing ahead of schedule; originally scheduled to be fully operational in April, Plant 2 is now expected to be completed by this month. The Water District has commenced start-up testing to ensure smooth operation, and looks forward to the unveiling of the upgraded facility.

Nassau Community College Environmental Science Students Take a Tour of the Plainview Water District

For years, longtime Plainview resident and professor of environmental science at Nassau Community College Ivan Kadar has accompanied his classes on trips to the Plainview Water District. On a recent trip, 12 students from NCC visited the Water District for a presentation on our water supply. Plainview Water District employees taught students about the source, quality and quantity of our water supply and its place in the environment.



Plainview Water District Commissioner Joel Kessler greeted the students and Professor Kadar. Water District Superintendent Paul Granger then provided a 45-minute computer presentation on Long Island's groundwater system. Superintendent Granger also gave a hands-on demonstration of the Long Island aquifer system with the use of a groundwater simulator, which enhanced the students' learning experience through the use of a visual working model.

"The Plainview Water District is always pleased to assist in helping students understand the important role that water plays in the environment. By seeing what our employees do to ensure a safe and healthy drinking water supply, students are given the chance to learn how our water system works," said Plainview Water District Commissioner Joel Kessler. The Commissioners and staff wish these students good luck, and look forward to future visits from Professor Kadar's classes.

Local Toy Drive a Great Success

Thanks to our Generous Community

In a hearty outpouring of kindness, Plainview Water District residents and employees generously participated in the John Theissen Children's Foundation 15th Annual Toy Drive, contributing to its tremendous success this year. The foundation, a nonprofit organization, collects new toys and distributes them to sick and underprivileged children all across Long Island.



Since the foundation's inception in 1992, over 400,000 toys have been

collected, and smiles doled out to children in more than 90 local hospitals, child-care facilities and shelters. In addition to spreading cheer for the holidays, the organization works yearlong to provide recreational and therapeutic equipment to hospitals and child-care facilities, and to help defray medical expenses for families in need.

Response from community members and Plainview Water District employees was terrific this year, and as a result we were able to donate generously to the foundation. On behalf of the entire Board of Commissioners, Joel Kessler thanked all who contributed to making this effort a success. Commissioner Kessler commented, "The John Theissen Children's Foundation is an excellent organization, and each year they do a phenomenal job of bringing joy to the less fortunate. We are excited to see that our community has helped brighten the holidays for these children."



Employee Spotlight



Plainview Water District Commissioners Joel Kessler, Edward Shulroff and Kevin Langberg are pleased to recognize Water Plant Operator Marie LaRocca for her contributions to the Water District. Ms. LaRocca assists with hydrant

maintenance and cleaning, and performs detailed painting and restoration work in all of our water plants; in addition, she assists with meter readings and meter installations.

For eighteen years, Ms. LaRocca has provided the Plainview Water District and the local community with exceptional service. "Marie is a diligent and hard worker who attempts and completes any task asked of her," said Superintendent Paul Granger, Ms. LaRocca's direct supervisor. "She performs her work efficiently and with care. Marie does a fantastic job with meter reading, facility restoration and painting."

Ms. LaRocca's exemplary skills continue to help provide quality water to the Plainview community.

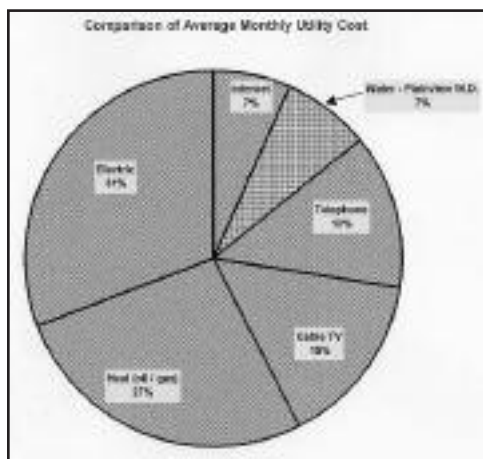
Plainview Water District Bill Among Lowest Monthly Utilities

Minimal Rate Increase is First in Four Years

Plainview Water District rates have been held constant for four years, despite increasing costs of energy, major infrastructure protection costs and water quality testing. However, stricter environmental and security regulations, as well as higher water quality standards and Water District capital improvement projects, have resulted in a minimal rate increase for 2007. The new rates, effective January 1, are as follows:

Gallons Used Quarterly	Old Rate	New Rate
Up to 10,000 gallons	\$6.50 minimum	\$7.00 minimum
10,000 to 40,000 gallons	\$1.05 per 1,000 gallons	\$1.15 per 1,000 gallons
40,000 to 100,000 gallons	\$1.30 per 1,000 gallons	\$1.60 per 1,000 gallons
Over 100,000 gallons	\$1.90 per 1,000 gallons	\$2.25 per 1,000 gallons

The average increase for a Plainview-Old Bethpage homeowner is approximately \$15 per year, or about \$1.25 per month. Despite these new rates, the water service still ranks as the least expensive common utility in the Plainview-Old Bethpage area at an average of only \$33 a month. In comparison, the approximate average cost for electricity usage is \$190, while heating costs can run as high as \$230 per month.



The Board of Commissioners of the Plainview Water District is committed to providing its residents with the highest quality and fairly priced water, while ensuring complete compliance with all state and federal environmental regulations.

How Can You Lower Your Energy Bill?

Well into winter and with oil priced at around \$63 a barrel, you're likely experiencing a significant spike in your energy bill. At this time of year, the largest portion of your energy bill can be attributed to the cost of heating water. By reducing hot water usage, you can expect your monthly costs to decline. Plainview Water District Commissioner Joel Kessler explains, "High energy costs are one of the biggest household concerns each winter. What many people don't realize is that by just taking a few simple steps to reduce hot water usage, we can avoid some unnecessarily high bills." The Board of Commissioners offers these few suggestions:

- ❖ Repair leaky faucets and install devices that regulate and restrict water flow, such as faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads.
- ❖ Opt for a shower instead of a bath; showers require up to a third less hot water than baths.
- ❖ On home appliances, such as washing machines and dishwashers, use the lowest temperature settings available, and only operate these appliances on full loads.

These simple steps can prove very helpful in reducing the hot water usage of a household. For more information on energy and water conservation, please contact the Plainview Water District Customer Service Department at 516-931-6469.

Fire Hydrant Awareness:

Plainview Water District Commissioners Stress the Importance of Keeping Fire Hydrants Accessible

The Plainview Volunteer Fire Department does an excellent job of protecting the lives and homes of our residents, and we must all keep in mind that fire hydrant accessibility is a primary factor in successful fire fighting. The Plainview Water District recognizes this, and would like to remind homeowners and local businesses to keep areas surrounding fire hydrants clear of snow this season so the fire department can connect its equipment without delays.

"For your own protection the Plainview Water District urges you to keep this responsibility in mind; please remember to remove any snow that surrounds fire hydrants in front of your property. It is not only an important way to help our firefighters, but people's lives may depend on it," said Plainview Water District Commissioner Joel Kessler.

Water District Commissioner Shulroff Elected Chairman of LIWC



Last December, Commissioner Edward Shulroff took his seat as Chairman of the Long Island Water Conference (LIWC). Composed of water suppliers, both public and private, across Long Island, the LIWC strives to provide and maintain an adequate and safe water supply.

Previously first vice chairman for the LIWC and an eight-year commissioner for the Plainview Water District, Commissioner Shulroff is more than equipped for the job, possessing a strong foundation of knowledge of Long Island's water supply. Among his endeavors for the Plainview Water District, he has focused on the unchecked land development and its impact on local water service and the community's precious resources.

Commissioner Shulroff's history of strong community involvement, includes 30 years of dedication to the Boy Scouts of America, serving as scoutmaster of Troop 13 in Plainview for 17 years. He has also held membership in several respected organizations, including the Jewish War Veterans, the Marine Corps League - Sunrise Detachment and the Plainview Jewish Center. For

his community service, Commissioner Shulroff has received numerous awards, including the President's Scout Masters Award of Merit and the Knights of Pythius Award for assisting the youth of Plainview-Old Bethpage.

A Plainview resident, Commissioner Shulroff takes great pride in contributing toward Long Island's excellent water supply.

Board of Commissioners
Plainview Water District
10 Manetto Hill Road
Plainview, NY 11803
(516) 931-6469
plwd@optonline.net

*Joel R. Kessler, Chairman
Edward Shulroff, Secretary
Kevin Langberg, Treasurer
Paul J. Granger, P.E., Superintendent*



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