



Legislative Update

By Suffolk County Legislator
ED ROMAINE (1st District)
Lyme Disease Awareness

Lyme disease is becoming more and more prevalent in Suffolk County. One of the factors for the increase in the number of cases is the surge in the deer population. It has been reported that there are nearly 20,000 deer on Long Island. A single deer can carry 1,000 ticks.

I recently introduced a memorializing resolution in support of a United States Senate bill, co-sponsored by Charles Schumer, that will provide funding for federal prevention, treatment and research of Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases. The bill also establishes a Department of Health and Human Services advisory committee to facilitate communication between federal agencies as they attempt to raise awareness about, treat and cure tick-borne diseases. Additionally, the committee would compile local and state data to improve information about Lyme and other tick-borne diseases.

On the local front, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has approved the use of the "4-poster" deer feeding system on Fire Island and Shelter Island. The 4-poster system is designed to reduce the tick population, by treating feeding deer with a chemical known as

permethrin, which is toxic to ticks. On Shelter Island, the town's Deer and Tick Committee has recommended the use of the 4-poster machine and the town board has approved its use. I recently introduced a resolution to fund a pilot program to be administered by the



County Department of Health Services to use the 4-poster machine on Shelter Island. It is my hope that if this program is successful, it can be expanded to other areas of the county and eventually the rest of the state. In addition, I am putting together a resolution to create a county task force to look into other ways we can reduce tick-borne illnesses in Suffolk County.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office at (631) 852-3200 or e-mail me directly at Edward.Romaine@SuffolkCountyNY.Gov.

Local Amateur Boxer Has "Golden" Debut

by EDDIE "MIKE" MURPHY



Leon Green of Mastic-Shirley, who is a lifetime member of the Atlantic/Veterans Memorial Boxing Club in Shirley, won his first professional bout Friday (August 25) in Tucson, Arizona, at the Desert Diamond Casino.

Before leaving the amateur ranks Green won some prestigious titles, including the 2004 Empire State Games, 2004 Ringside World Champion, 2005 Empire State Games, 2006 Metropolitan Champion and 2006 Northeast Regional U.S. Champion. Green was ranked three in the nation when he turned pro.

Three-time World Champion "Sugar" Shane Mosely, a co-owner of Golden Boy Promotions (with Oscar de la Hoya, Bernard Hopkins and Marco Barrera) is also a major sponsor and active member of the Atlantic/Veterans Memorial Boxing Club.

Mosely noticed Green's potential early and joined me, Atlantic/Veterans owner and Green's manager and trainer, Eddie "Mike" Murphy in the young boxer's development.

Leon signed with Golden Boy Promotions and started his pro career against Tucson's hometown favorite Rigoberto Rangel. Friday's bout was broadcast on the Telemundo channel.

Rangel, 25, is originally from Mexico but took his career to Tucson about two years ago. Rangel began boxing at the age of 15, and compiled an amateur record of 35-5.

In their bout, Green dominated every round, staggering his opponent several times, but to Rangel's credit, the Tucson-based fighter showed the toughness of his heart and wouldn't fall. Green won every round according to all the judges, who scored

Do I Need a License to Drive a Boat?

by VINCENT T. PICA, II,
Flotilla Commander, 18-06 (1SR)
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary



Nothing seems more shocking to landlubbers than the fact that, up until relatively recently, all you need to drive a boat is the money to buy one and the starter-key. Improvements in hull- and engine-technology have created faster craft, while the rising population of boat owners has made the waters more crowded, especially with respect to personal watercraft, a.k.a., jet skis (boats under the law). As a result, boating safety courses are now required in a number of states, including New York.

All operators of PWCs, regardless of age, must take a New York State sanctioned boating safety course. The United States Coast Guard offers a number of such courses. If a Bay Constable, sea-going Town, Village or County Police boat stops you, and you don't have such a certificate, it will be a very expensive visit. Fines now run as much as \$350 for the first offense. Additionally, if your 16-year-old son or daughter takes the family boat out in the bay to go fishing, just as many of us did in years gone by, and they have not taken and passed one of these boating safety courses, they are in violation of New York State regulations as well. It is like driving a car without a license.

As written, the rules are as follows:

Laws for Youthful Operation
If you wish to operate a motorboat (including personal watercraft) and you are:

- Under 14 Years Old: You Must Have a Person 18 or Older On Board*
- 14 to 18 Years of Age: You Must Have a Person 18 or Older On Board, or hold a Safety Certificate
- 18 Years or Older: You may operate a motorboat alone (if you are alone, please wear your life-jacket at all times (author's plea). You may not operate a personal watercraft unless

you hold the above-referenced Safety Certificate.

*Until 2009, there is a phase-in period whereby, if you are between 10 and 13, have a safe boating certificate with you - and someone 18 years or older that is responsible for you is on another vessel and remains within 500ft of you at all times, you are OK. Got all that?

What Constitutes a Boating Safety Course?

The course, which must encompass at least eight hours from stem to stern, covers many boating skills and seamanship topics such as the Rules of the Road, how to read and use buoys, boat handling techniques, fire containment and suppression, and other boating safety topics. The courses are designed to be comprehensive. There are also courses out there that are less than eight hours and purport to be NYS compliant. They are not.

What to Do?

Note that all boaters are urged to take a safe boating course. So what can you do if you need to take such a course or simply want to? There are still a couple of months left in the Long Island boating season, and remember, it is never too late to get certified.

How do you find out when the classes are?

Go to <http://nws.cgau.org>, click on boating classes and follow the prompts.

Or you can email me at

USCGAUX2004@aol.com . Or you can go directly to the flotilla staff officer, Ed Wanamaker, in charge of boater education at uscgaux1806@yahoo.com.

We'll do it all online.

As the laws are now written, this certification is good for life. So, take a step towards better boating skills and seamanship - even if you don't need a license!

the bout 40-36 in Green's favor.

After the event Green and I were approached by one of the scoring judges who stated, "Leon reminded me of another up and coming fighter I judged early in my career, five-time champion "Sugar" Ray Leonard.

Green's next bout will be held at the MGM in Las Vegas on Saturday, September 16, as part of the undercard of HBO's Barrera v. Juarez title fight.

Leon Green signs with "Golden Boy" Promotions

