

Around LI

ST. JAMES

Decision on carnival move postponed

The Smithtown Town Council will delay consideration of an application that would move a popular church carnival in St. James too close to homes for some residents' comfort, Town Supervisor Edward Wehrheim said.

Town officials will examine diagrams from organizers of the Sts. Philips and James Family Festival that show where stands and rides like a Ferris wheel would go on a church school parking lot near Tillotson Avenue homes, where residents said noise and parking could be problematic. Council members could vote on the application next month.

Officials said carnival organizers told them they wanted to move there from the larger parking lot in front of the 1 Carow Place church, off Route 25A, to free up parking space for weddings and funerals at the church during the carnival, which is scheduled to run evenings June 20-23. Councilman Thomas Lohmann said organizers told him the move would make it easier for them to downsize the event and discourage visitors from parking on busy Route 25A.

Wehrheim said that officials had learned of another complication: part of a municipal drainage system lies underneath the front parking lot and could be affected by heavy equipment parked there.

"We want time to discuss both sides," he said.

The decades-old carnival attracts hundreds of visitors a night. "We would love to make it amicable for everybody involved," said Virginia Portanova, the church business manager. — NICHOLAS SPANGLER

LONG BEACH

It won't get harder to set council agenda

Long Beach City Council members scrapped plans to rewrite city code on the requirements for setting items on a meeting agenda.

Council members had proposed that approval of the city manager and corporation counsel or a three-member council majority would be

needed to add an agenda item.

The current city code allows a single member to add an item to the agenda, but city officials said that rule has never been followed. Instead, agendas now are normally set by the city manager or by the consensus of three council members, officials said.

"The city code currently allows any member of the council, the city manager or corporation counsel to add an item to the council agenda," city spokesman Ryan McTiernan said.

An item on Tuesday's meeting agenda to set a public hearing for the code change was pulled.

City Council President Anthony Eramo said he heard concerns from residents and other council members the day before the meeting and pulled the item. — JOHN ASBURY

LINDENHURST

Firm hired to assess traffic flow, safety

Lindenhurst is hiring the same company chosen to develop its master plan to act as a traffic engineer.

The village board of trustees on Tuesday unanimously ap-

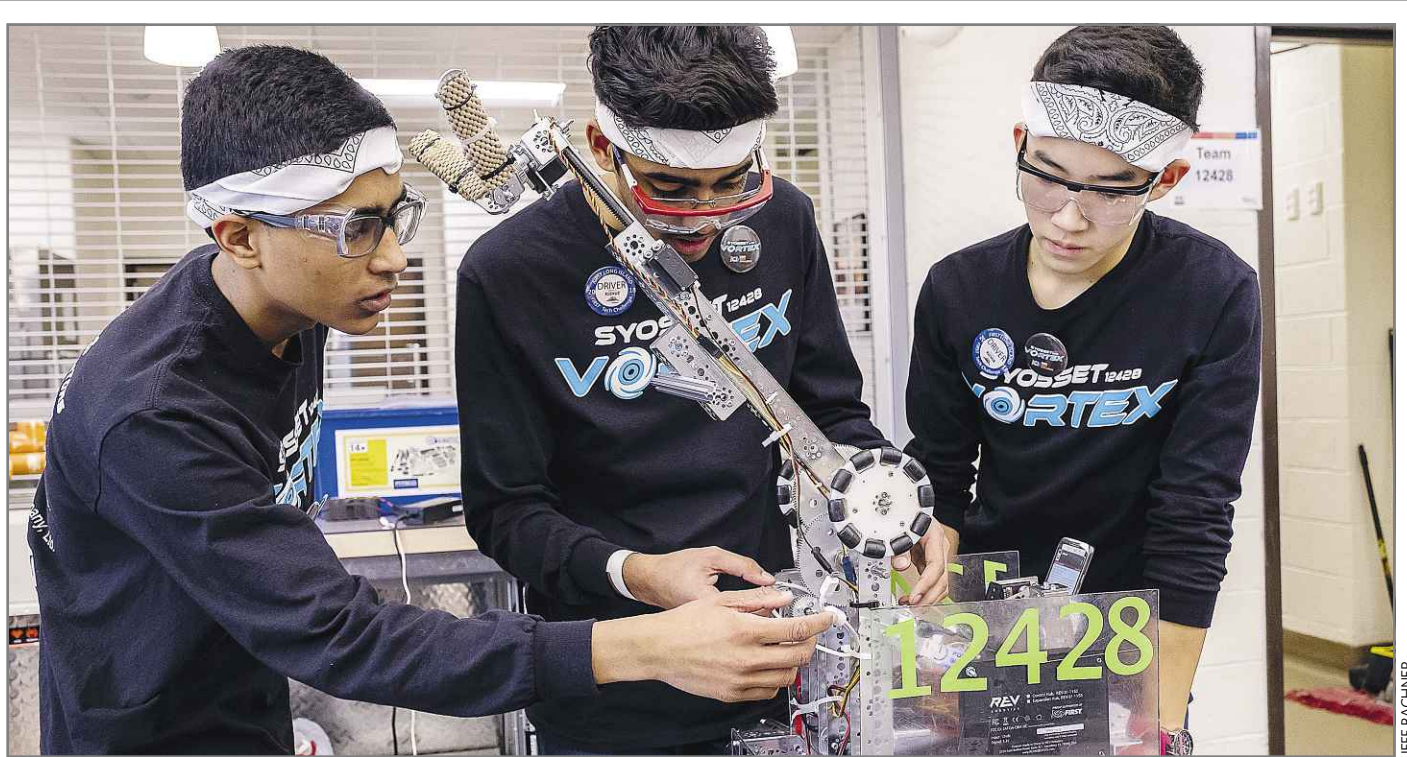
proved the hiring of Greenman-Pedersen Inc. of Babylon for traffic engineering services. The village will pay the company \$125 an hour for each senior engineer and \$75 an hour for each junior engineer.

Village Administrator Doug Madlon said the company is being hired to offer a second opinion on three areas of the village that have raised safety concerns among residents. The village had previously used consultant engineer Phil Cimino to evaluate the areas.

The areas being evaluated are: South Wellwood Avenue from Montauk Highway to the village marina; South Delaware Avenue from East Hoffman Avenue to Montauk Highway; and South Broadway from West Hoffman Avenue to Montauk Highway.

Madlon said the company will review the traffic flow in these areas and determine whether stop signs or other traffic-calming measures are needed and, if so, at which intersections. He said work will begin immediately.

Greenman-Pedersen is being paid \$80,000, using \$40,000 in state funds, to develop a master plan. In addition, the village hired the firm last year to do a walkability study. The study,



JEFF BACHNER

Robot ready for a Ruckus

FLORAL PARK. It was a battle of the bots Sunday at Sewanhaka High School, as the Syosset Vortex — the team of Aryan Ghotra, 16, left, Raj Sinha, 15, and Augustine Park, 15 — of Syosset Senior High School, prepared for a qualifying round of the FIRST Tech Challenge, Rover Ruckus, fought on a 12-by-12-foot field.

due to be completed in April, was paid for using a \$200,000 Suffolk County grant.

— DENISE M. BONILLA

ISLANDWIDE

Historians' group changes its name

The Association of Suffolk County Historical Societies, a networking group for historians, will now be known as Long Island Historical Societies.

The organization was founded by Robert David Lion Gardiner in 1969 with a focus on Suffolk County's historical societies. The name change is part of new plan developed by the organization's board of trustees to broaden its mission and reach, organization officials said in a news release.

Despite its former name, the organization includes Nassau County representatives such as North Hempstead Town historian Howard Kroplick

"Our expanded mission will aim to preserve local history, landmarks and historical buildings by supporting coordinating and unifying the historical societies located throughout Long Island" said Dr. Georgette Grier-Key, president of

the LIHS board and executive director of the Eastville Community Center.

Those interested in learning more about the organization can email tedmonds@southamptonhistory.org.

— VERA CHINESE

N. HEMPSTEAD TOWN

Great Neck woman is new comptroller

Great Neck resident Tania Orenstein was named comptroller for North Hempstead, officials announced last Monday.

Orenstein, a certified public accountant, will become comptroller Feb. 23. She currently works as chief deputy comptroller for the town. Orenstein had worked for auditing firm KPMG and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. Orenstein, who has accounting degrees from Yeshiva University and Queens College, joined the town in April 2017 and was promoted to her current job in March 2018.

Orenstein replaces acting comptroller Jessica Lamendola, who is moving to Kansas.

— KRISTOPHER J. BROOKS