

President's Message



**MELISSA
HICKS**

I cannot believe that this is my final newsletter as president of the Suffolk Chapter of the NYSSCPA. With that, I would like to start by saying thank you to everyone on the board, especially **Amanda Sexton** (past president) and **John Hermus** (president-elect)

for all of the help this past year. Because I welcomed my second little one into my family during my term, your help was more meaningful than you can imagine. John, you will see what I mean in the upcoming year as you welcome your first little one. Congratulations again!

Being part of this board over the last several years has meant more than just being a board member. I have developed true friendships with the entire board and I would not trade anything for the experience I have had with all of you.

It has been an eventful year and I have had the privilege to work with an extremely active board and committee chairpersons. Our NextGen Committee hosted some wonderful educational, social, and networking events, plus the annual Marine Corps' Toys for Tots Drive.

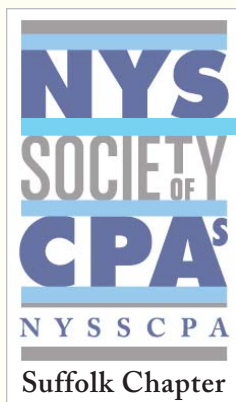
Our annual golf events, Banker/CPA networking events, as well as our annual Accounting and Auditing, Employee Benefit, and Tax Updates were all well attended. We will continue to bring these and other events to the Chapter in the upcoming year!

Again, I want to say congratulations to John Hermus, our incoming president, who, I know will be a great leader for our chapter during the upcoming year. And thank you to the entire board. It has been a pleasure working with all of you.

— Melissa Hicks

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Estate/Financial Planning

Forensic and Valuation Services

General Taxation

Golf Outing

Members in Industry

Membership

NextGen

Nominating

Not-For-Profit & Government

Accounting & Auditing

Public Relations

Small Business

Sponsorship

To contact a committee chair,
see page 8.

Farewell from the Newsletter Editor

As I am writing this message it is hard to believe another year with the NYSSCPA Suffolk Chapter has gone by. I am excited to step into my next role as Suffolk Chapter President-Elect for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. It has been a pleasure to serve the chapter as Vice President and Newsletter Editor over the last year.

I would like to thank our membership for everyone's continued hard work and dedication to make our chapter great. Your efforts to make our chapter run as it does are very much appreciated. Thank you to my fellow board members, committee chairs, and committee members for your articles, pictures, updates, and content for our newsletter over the past year.

There is one especially important person our chapter would like to acknowledge, **Flo Federman** of Marcum LLP. Flo puts forth an amazing effort to organize, design, and assemble our newsletter each issue. Flo, it has been a pleasure working with you this last year. Our committees

greatly appreciate your help in creating their flyers and promoting their events. Everyone who has worked with Flo can attest to both her creativity and lightning quick turnaround. Thank you so much.



I encourage everyone to continue to support the chapter newsletter and remain current with all our happenings - there are quite a few! I am certain our next editor and chapter Vice President, **Robert Huether**, will do a great job in the role.

Wishing everyone a great summer and I look forward to seeing you out at our chapter events. Please feel free to reach out to me with any chapter related questions, or just to say hello and catch up.

— Ken Laks

Committee Report: **Members in Industry**

The Suffolk Chapter NYSSCPA Members in Industry committee meets monthly from September through May. We welcome CPAs across all industries and practices. Our morning meetings start and end promptly, from 8 to 10 a.m. There are no entry fees and meetings earn two CPE credits. For more information: Janet Verneuille, JVerneuille@empirenb.com.

Marcum LLP graciously hosted our March joint session with the Nassau CFO committee. **Marie Elena Chindamo**, the president of ProTilly, Inc., spoke on the Seven Critical Factors of Leadership Intelligence.

Our April breakfast meeting was held at Empire National Bank with **Dawn Davidson Drantch, Esq.**, of AlcottHR presenting on HR Business Busters Impacting the Bottom Line.



Laura Morea, Dawn Davidson Drantch,
Janet Verneuille

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, May 15 at Empire National Bank with **Zachary Gordon** of Janover LLC discussing CPAs and the Cannabis Industry in NY. Sorry, no samples but plenty of uplifting information:

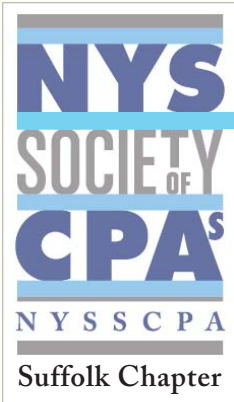
Wednesday, May 15, 8-10 a.m.

CPAs and the Cannabis Industry in NY

Speaker: Zachary Gordon, Janover LLC

Hosted by Empire National Bank, 1707 Veterans Highway, Islandia.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Mark Your Calendar...

MAY 15, 2019

Members in Industry Committee: CPAs and the Cannabis Industry in NY. Details on page 3.

JUNE 19, 2019

Employee Benefits Committee: Advanced Audits of 401(k) Plans. Details on page 5.

JULY 10, 2019

Forensic and Valuation Services and East End Committees: Nine and Dine Golf Outing. Details on page 6.

SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

Young Professionals Golf Classic. Details on page 7.

For up-to-the-minute
NYSSCPA Suffolk Chapter activities
[CLICK HERE](#)

Committee Chairs!
Make sure to get all
future meeting dates to
Ken Laks at klaks@avz.com

An Advanced Course...

The NYSSCPA Employee Benefit Committee,
in cooperation with the FAE, invites you:



Advanced Audits of 401(k) Plans: Best Practices and Current Developments

**Wednesday, June 19
8 am to 4 pm**

at the Hilton Long Island,
Melville

Auditors need to raise their game in order to provide the quality audits that plan stakeholders demand. The AICPA has reacted by issuing a proposed SAS that will significantly impact how audits of these plans will be performed. Now is the time to get up to speed on these significant issues and changes occurring in the world of 401(k) plan audits.

- Annual update of 401(k) plan changes
- Compliance issues
- Best practices
- Avoiding common mistakes
- M&A planning

Speaker:

Melissa Critcher — Surgent McCoy CPE LLC

By 5/29: \$229 member, \$329 non-member. **After 5/29:** Add \$50

8 CPE credits (course code 33111021)

RSVP HERE

Or contact Felicia Paura, fpaura@sheehancpa.com

Sponsored by:



Golfing This Summer...

The NYSSCPA Suffolk Forensic and Valuation Services and East End Committees invite you to the 6th annual



at Cherry Creek Golf Links
900 Reeves Avenue,
Riverhead

Nine holes of golf (with cart)
and practice at
the driving range.

NEW THIS YEAR:
Expanded BBQ dinner!
Plus beer/wine/soda.

Prizes: Longest drive, closest to pin (men/women)

For information:

John Spatola
631-756-9500, jspatola@nslpcpa.com

Proceeds to benefit:

The Long Island Coalition for the Homeless:
2019 Backpack Pirates Event.



See You in September...



The 24th Annual
**YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS
GOLF
CLASSIC**

**Tuesday,
September 24, 2019**

**Willow Creek
Golf and Country Club
Mount Sinai**

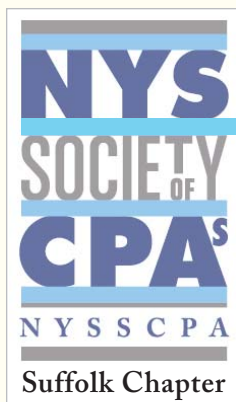
**SAVE THE DATE for the Suffolk Chapter NextGen Committee
at our annual event.**

7:00 a.m. Hot gourmet breakfast
8:00 a.m. Shotgun start
1:00 p.m. Cocktails, buffet, raffles

Fabulous raffle prizes!
Beat-the-hack competition!
Lunch at the turn!

PLAN TO JOIN US IN SEPTEMBER!

FOR INFORMATION: Robert Huether
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The NYSSCPA Suffolk Chapter has a few committees looking for a chair! Contact Melissa Hicks for info on:

- EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES
- ESTATE/FINANCIAL PLANNING
- MANAGEMENT OF AN ACCOUNTING PRACTICE
- SMALL BUSINESS

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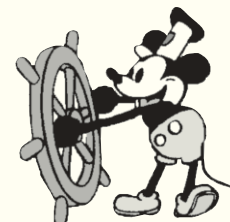
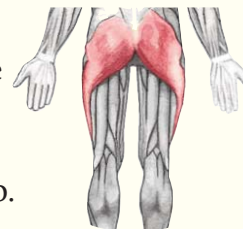
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Fun and Games – True or False

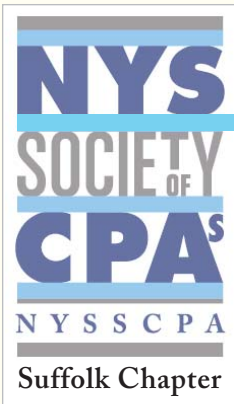


1. The biggest muscle in the human body is the gluteus maximus (buttock muscle).
2. The smallest country in the world is Monaco.
3. U.S. presidents originally lived in the "President's Palace," but the name was changed to avoid affectations of royalty.
4. Only Americans and Soviets have walked on the Moon.
5. Vampire bats feed on blood.
6. When Mickey Mouse debuted on screen in 1928, it was in a silent film.
7. A heptagon has six sides.
8. Lightning is seen before it's heard because light travels faster than sound.
9. Bollywood is the nickname of Britain's movie industry.
10. The Titanic had enough lifeboats to save almost everyone on board.

SOURCE: merriam-webster.com

Flip to see if you're right...

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>6. FALSE. Steamboat Willie was both Mickey's debut and the first megahit animated film, with fully synchronized sound.</p> <p>7. FALSE. That's a seven-sided object.</p> <p>8. TRUE. Distance from lightning can be measured by the delay between its visible flash and audible thunder; each mile is equal to roughly five seconds.</p> <p>9. FALSE. That's the name of India's thriving movie industry, which began in Bombay in the 1930s.</p> <p>10. FALSE. Though complying with laws of the day, the ship carried lifeboats for only some 1,100 of the 2,224 passengers.</p> | <p>1. TRUE. The gluteal muscles are critical to weight balance and hip rotation in the act of walking.</p> <p>2. FALSE. That would be the .2-square mile Vatican City; with a population of 800, the walled nation lies entirely within the city of Rome.</p> <p>3. TRUE. It was changed to "Executive Mansion" in 1810; it officially became the "White House" in 1902.</p> <p>4. FALSE. Twelve men have walked on the Moon (between 1969 and 1972), and all were Americans.</p> <p>5. TRUE. Though they don't "suck" blood, vampire bats do lap it up as it oozes from the sleeping prey they've bitten. Yuck.</p> |
|---|--|



Get Involved with NYSSCPA Suffolk

COMMITTEE SERVICE APPLICATION



Here's a way to get involved with NYSSCPA Suffolk and help make a difference! Please rank the top 3 committees in which you have an interest:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting & Auditing | <input type="checkbox"/> Estate/Financial Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Forensic and Valuation Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction Contractors | <input type="checkbox"/> General Taxation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperation with Attorneys | <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Outing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperation with Bankers and Other Credit Grantors | <input type="checkbox"/> Management of Accounting Practice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperation with Educational Institutions | <input type="checkbox"/> Members in Industry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CPE/Professional Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> East End | <input type="checkbox"/> NextGen (Young CPAs) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emerging Technologies | <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-Profit & Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employee Benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate & Construction |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business |

Please forward your response to:
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SUFFOLK CHAPTER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM



Here's your chance to make the most of your membership! SPONSOR ONE OF OUR EVENTS and get in front of colleagues, referral sources, and potential clients.

Step One: Choose the type of event based on your target audience.

- golf outings
- informational seminars
- networking events
- charitable events
- technical workshops

Step Two: Become a sponsor. At a cost of \$1,000 you receive:

- recognition in the Suffolk Chapter newsletter
- logo/recognition in all event flyers
- opportunity to speak at the event
- booth or table display space

To take advantage of this great offer, contact our Sponsorship Chair:
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