

County to buy Lakeview?

Opposition mounting to condo plan

By Tim Gannon

JAMESPORT—A 34-acre farmland parcel that's being targeted for a 160-unit Lakeview condominium project may be preserved by the county.

County Legislator Mike Caracciolo (R-Baiting Hollow) last month submitted a bill that would authorize preliminary planning for acquisition of the property's development rights. The purchase would be made under the 1999 county drinking water protection program, which uses sales tax revenue to preserve land.

That bill was unanimously adopted by the legislature at its May 11 meeting and now awaits the signature of County Executive Steve Levy.

But that's only one of the movements under way to stop the development. Phil Barbato, one of the neighbors opposing the plan, presented the Town Board with a written protest at Tuesday night's meeting. He said it was signed by the owners of more than 20% of the land area immediately adjacent to the property in question.

Under state law, a zone change application could require a super-majority (majority-plus-one) vote if the pro-



Doug Schumejda (far left) and his brother Bernie (right) talked with Elizabeth Haile (left) and Becky Genia of the Inter-Tribal Historic Preservation Task Force Tuesday evening at the site of the proposed Lakeview development, which task force members believe may be the location of ancient Native American burial grounds.

News-Review photo by Barbaraellen Koch

posed amendment is the subject of such a protest.

"We will have enough signatures easily," Mr. Barbato said. Mr. Barbato said the land is surrounded by pre-

served farmland and should be preserved itself.

In addition, on Tuesday, Bernie Schumejda, an adjacent landowner, invited members of the Inter-Tribal

Historic Preservation Task Force to tour the site. That group, led by Becky Genia of the Shinnecock Tribe, was

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