



News from Congresswoman

Nita M. Lowey

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Jay Heritage Center to Become Energy Efficient

Federal Funds Help Westchester National Historic Landmark Become Oldest Facility in NYS Using Geothermal Energy

RYE - Congresswoman Nita Lowey today marked the Jay Heritage Center's upcoming completion of an energy-efficient geothermal heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system in the Peter Augustus Jay House, partially funded by \$100,000 in federal funds that she secured. The 170-year-old building will be the oldest National Historic Landmark in all of New York State implementing this 21st century technology.

"I am delighted that the Jay Heritage Center is leading the way for National Historic Landmarks through its investments in energy efficiency," said Lowey. "Even landmarks from the 19th century can take advantage of 21st century technology by using clean and renewable energy sources. I am pleased to have helped secure funding for this important and worthwhile project."

In 2002, Lowey secured \$100,000 in a funding bill for the U.S. Department of the Interior for the Jay Heritage Center to make energy efficiency upgrades in the Peter Augustus Jay House. The Center matched this investment to pay for installation of a geothermal heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) system, which will be fully connected in October of this year. It is the first such system to be used in a National Historic Landmark in Westchester County, and the 170-year-old building will be the oldest National Historic Landmark in New York State implementing this 21st century technology.

"We are ecstatic to be using alternative energy in our restoration of the Jay House," said Suzanne Clary, President of the Jay Heritage Center. "Our partnership with Con Edison to develop programming for the diverse community of Westchester resonates on this site that has always been a place of inclusiveness and innovative American thinking."

The Jay Heritage Center manages the 1745 Jay Estate, boyhood home of first Chief Supreme Court Justice, John Jay and the 1838 Peter Augustus Jay House built by his son. Jay was the only Founding Father native to New York and served two terms as its Governor. The House is currently closed to the public but will re-open for programs in November 2008.

Promoting the use of alternative energy is part of a comprehensive strategy that Congresswoman supports to bring down the price of energy. Lowey supports driving down gasoline prices through increased supply, including releasing oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and drilling domestically on the more than 68 million acres of leased land already available for development. Lowey supports increasing regulation of energy speculators and Federal Trade Commission investigations of possible price manipulation.

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