

★ Osprey chicks rescued

Chief: Nest on pole caught fire after transformer overheated



BAY SHORE FIRE DEPARTMENT

1 Bay Shore firefighters put out a fire in an osprey nest on a power pole near Gilbert Park in Brightwaters.

BY RACHEL UDA

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Osprey chicks trapped in a burning nest atop a power pole in Brightwaters were rescued by volunteer firefighters.

About 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, firefighters arrived to see the nest near Gilbert Park slowly burning, according to Bay Shore Fire Chief John Ippolito Jr.

The nest caused a transformer on the pole to overheat, he said.

"It was burning from underneath, so we had to get the

chicks out of there before they were harmed," Ippolito said.

Firefighters responding to a call about a fire at the park spotted the burning nest at the end of South Windsor Avenue.

As Kyle Voges and Brian Ball approached the nest on a ladder, the mother bird flew off. After consulting with the Evelyn Alexander Wildlife Rescue Center in Hampton Bays, Voges and Ball doused the flames with a dry-chemical extinguisher and removed the four chicks. One was found dead, Ip-

politto said.

PSEG Long Island turned off power to the line, allowing Voges and Ball to hose down the nest and return the surviving chicks to their home. The chick that died was buried in the park.

Within minutes, the mother bird returned and was reunited with her chicks.

PSEG has de-energized the power line nearest the nest, and is planning to erect a pole nearby with a platform on top in the fall to encourage the birds to nest there, a spokeswoman said.



BAY SHORE FIRE DEPARTMENT

2 Firefighters removed four chicks from the nest. One was found to be dead and the three living chicks were then returned to the nest.



BAY SHORE FIRE DEPARTMENT

3 The mother osprey then returned to the nest.

Sex stereotypes seen on Facebook

BY RACHEL UDA

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Male Facebook users tend to swear and talk sports, while females on the site use warmer, more polite turns of phrase, a new study by a Stony Brook University professor has found.

Andrew Schwartz, a Stony Brook computer science professor, analyzed 10 million Facebook messages sent from more than 68,000 Facebook users over two years, with help from researchers at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Melbourne in Australia.

They found women used lan-

guage that was "interpersonally warmer, more compassionate [and] polite," whereas men used language that was more socially distant and argumentative, according to the study, which was published Wednesday in the scientific journal, PLOS One.

"We leveraged large data sets made available by social media to gain psychological insights into gender differences and language," Schwartz said. "Most other studies are limited to much smaller samples in a much more specific context. People talk about all sorts of things on Facebook and that provides us with a great opportunity."

Participants, ages 16 to 64, were recruited from MyPersonality, an application used by more than 4 million people.

Women in the study commonly expressed positive emotions, using words like "love," "wonderful" and "happy." Women also referenced their friends and families more than men and were more likely to use intensive adverbs like "soooo," "really" and "ridiculously."

Men often used words related to sports or politics, like "freedom," "win," "lose" or "fighting." They also were much more likely to use expletives, the study found.

In analyzing the millions of

messages, the team came across an interesting "surprise," Schwartz said. Though women communicated more "warmly" on average than men, they also used slightly more assertive language too — a finding that runs counter to expectations and previous research in the area, he said.

"In many ways, the topics most used by women versus men are not surprising — they fit common gender stereotypes," Margaret Kern, a psychology professor at the University of Melbourne, said in a news release. "The computational methods let us make visible what the human mind does to automatically categorize people."

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CORRECTIONS

The artist Crash painted the Coney Art Walls mural pictured in today's NYC Picks. The artist is misidentified in the caption; exploreLI was printed in advance.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1933 The Chicago World's Fair, celebrating "A Century of Progress," opened.

1936 Cunard liner Queen Mary left England on its maiden voyage to New York.

1937 The new Golden Gate Bridge connecting San Francisco and Marin County, California, was opened to pedestrian traffic; vehicles began crossing the next day.

1941 The British Royal Navy sank the German battleship Bismarck off France with a loss of some 2,000 lives, three days after the Bismarck sank the HMS Hood with more than 1,400 killed.

1962 A dump fire in Centralia, Pennsylvania, ignited a blaze in underground coal deposits that continues to burn to this day.

1985 In Beijing, representatives of Britain and China exchanged instruments of ratification for an accord returning Hong Kong to Chinese control in 1997.

1998 Michael Fortier, the government's star witness in the Oklahoma City bombing case, was sentenced to 12 years in prison after apologizing for not warning anyone about the deadly plot. Fortier was freed in January 2006.

2006 A 6.3-magnitude earthquake in central Indonesia killed 5,800 people.