

NEWS FROM Legislator

Lou D'Amaro



SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
17th Legislative District
130 West Jericho Turnpike
Huntington Station, NY 11746
Tel: (631) 854-4433
Fax: (631) 854-4415
Lou.Damaro@suffolkcountyny.gov



COMMITTEES:

CHAIR- Ways & Means

VICE CHAIR – Environment,

Planning & Agriculture

VICE CHAIR – Budget & Finance

For Immediate Release
Contact: Karen Klafter (631) 854-4433

Move Over, Picasso

South Huntington Student Wins Suffolk Poster Contest; Artwork to be Featured in County Awareness Campaign



Suffolk Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station), second from right, recognizes Birchwood Intermediate School 3rd Grader Ashley Barker, center, on being named the winner of the Suffolk County Legislature's 2010 "Dump the Water" poster contest. Standing with them are Ashley's family and Birchwood Intermediate School Assistant Principal Steven Toto, far right.

(HUNTINGTON STATION, NY... March 30, 2010) – And the winner is Huntington's own Ashley Barker!

(more)

After advancing to the finals of the Suffolk County Legislature's 2010 "Dump the Water" poster contest, Ashley Barker, a third-grader at Birchwood Intermediate School in Melville, was named the winning artist in the County-wide competition. Ashley's masterpiece, which was first selected by Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station) from among the 78 entries submitted to him by students throughout the South Huntington School District will now be used by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services in its campaign to help spread the message about how stagnant pools of water become breeding grounds for mosquitoes and significantly increase the risk of spreading illnesses like West Nile Virus. In recognition of her achievement, the South Huntington resident, along with her family and school representatives, was invited by Legislator D'Amaro to March 23rd meeting of the County Legislature where she was received a Proclamation and was honored before the dozens of guests and elected officials in attendance.

In 2000, the Suffolk County Legislature created the annual Dump the Water Campaign. Each January, Legislature members invite elementary schools students in their district to participate in a poster contest to visually demonstrate reminders about the need to eliminate stagnant water. One poster is selected from all of those submitted to be used as a part of a countywide message from the Suffolk County Department of Health Services in its seasonal "Dump the Water" awareness campaign.

"It is my privilege to honor Ashley for creating a winning masterpiece which will help spread the message that we can take simple steps to directly reduce the transmission of mosquito-borne illnesses," Legislator D'Amaro said. "Ashley's entry was creative, yet direct and clearly illustrated the dangers associated with stagnant water. She clearly understood the message and beautifully conveyed it. Her artwork will be a tremendous asset to the County during our 2010 awareness campaign."

#