

NEWS FROM Legislator

# Lou D'Amaro



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## Legislator D'Amaro Reminds Students To “Be Pool Smart” This Summer



*Suffolk Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station) discusses important pool safety tips with students at Birchwood Intermediate School in Melville.*

*(HUNTINGTON STATION, NY... July 20, 2010)* –Suffolk Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station) recently met with students at Birchwood Intermediate School in Melville to discuss pool safety tips and honor participants from Suffolk County's 2010 “Be Pool Smart” poster contest. Established in 2007, the annual competition invites elementary school students to promote the importance of pool safety and prevent accidental drownings by creating a poster that illustrates one or more safety tips.

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Some of the safety tips that Legislator D’Amaro shared with the students included:

- Always swim with a buddy;
- Children younger than five years of age should always be within arms reach when in or near the water;
- Never push or jump on others;
- Always remove toys from the pool, which can be very tempting to young children;
- Tragedies can occur within seconds so never leave children of any age alone in or near the water;
- Children can drown in just a few inches of water so be sure to empty the pool cover;
- Keep a first aid kit stocked and available near the pool;
- Know how to dial 9-1-1 and how to get help in an emergency;
- Learn to swim!

The students also shared some of their personal experiences and own safety tips with Legislator D’Amaro.

In the “Be Pool Smart” poster contest, one entry is selected from all of those submitted Countywide to be used as a part of a seasonal safety campaign from the Suffolk County Department of Health Services. Students from schools in South Huntington, Half Hollow Hills, Deer Park and North Babylon School Districts were invited to participate in this year’s District 17 preliminary competition and more than 125 local youngsters submitted entries. Each participant received a Certificate of Distinguished Achievement and the local winner, Hannah Braun of Huntington Station, received a special Suffolk County Proclamation from Legislator D’Amaro.

“The students had some great safety tips which, combined with the tips being promoted by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, should go a long way toward ensuring an enjoyable summer season for all,” said Legislator D’Amaro. “Always remember, safety first!”