

NEWS FROM Legislator

Lou D'Amaro



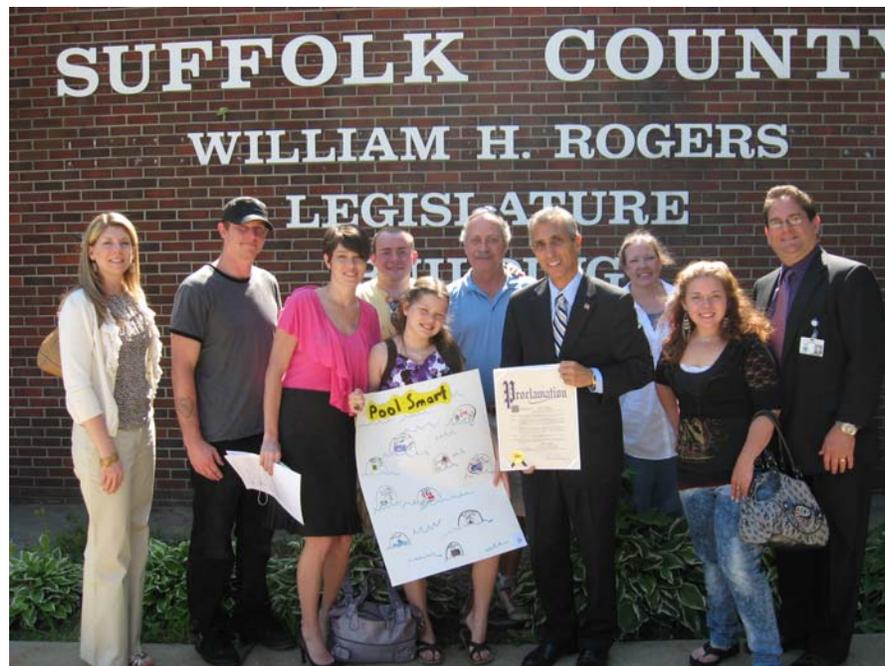
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Huntington Station Student Named Winner In Suffolk County “Be Pool Smart” Poster Contest *Honored by Legislator D’Amaro at General Meeting*



Flanked by teacher Kelly Crocco (left) and Birchwood Intermediate School Principal Anthony Ciccarelli (right), as well as her extended family, 10 year-old Keara Shea receives a Proclamation from Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station) for being named Suffolk County winner in the 2011 “Be Pool Smart” poster contest. Her winning drawing is being used in this year’s pool safety brochure.

(more)

(HUNTINGTON STATION, NY... July 19, 2011) – Birchwood Intermediate School student Keara Shea, 10, was recently honored by Suffolk Legislator Lou D'Amato (D-Huntington Station) before the entire Legislature for winning the County's 2011 "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.

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 safety campaign. Initially, the 4th grader from Huntington Station was named District 17 winner while her classmate, Deanna Tabibzada, received Honorable Mention. Each contest participant received a Certificate of Distinguished Achievement and Keara was awarded a special Suffolk County Proclamation from Legislator D'Amato at the Legislature's June meeting. She was joined by South Huntington School District officials and several family members at the presentation ceremony. Keara's poster has been incorporated into the County Health Department's 2011 *Pool Safety: Tips to Prevent Drowning* brochure.

"The 'Be Pool Smart' poster contest is a fun way to engage children in spreading the important message about how to be safe and smart when around swimming pools," said Legislator D'Amato. "While there were many great entries, Keara's stood out from the rest, and I was not surprised that the judging panel selected her poster as the County winner. I applaud Keara's creativity and thank her for using her talents to help make this a safer summer for everyone."

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