

NEWS FROM Legislator

Lou D'Amaro



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For Immediate Release
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LEG. D'AMARO COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR 'EVERY CHILD'S DREAM'

Donations Needed For Drive to Benefit Needy Suffolk Children

(HUNTINGTON STATION, NY... June 20, 2012) -- A hot summer day on an Island filled with fun, adventure, mystery, treasure and yes even some learning! That is what a group of local volunteers have in store for hundreds of needy children ages 6 to 17 in Suffolk County later this summer, thanks to **Every Child's Dream** and the Suffolk County Legislature.

The children will spend a fun-filled day at Fire Island in the 6th Annual **Back Pack Pirates Summer Fest** in mid August. Upon their return, each child will receive a backpack filled with school supplies. Hundreds of back packs have been ordered and now donations of school supplies are NEEDED to finish filling them.

Invitations to the **Back Pack Pirates** event will be distributed to needy children at homeless shelters, local parish outreaches, and to families at Department of Labor sites across Suffolk County. Children will be "whisked away" via ferry to Fire Island for a day filled with activities including treasure hunts, swimming, nature walks through the "Sunken Forest," sand castle contest, volleyball games, visit to the nature museum, a barbeque lunch, entertainment and much, much more.

"These needy children don't often get a chance to experience this type of adventure," said Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station). "It will be fun and educational for them and in the end they

(more)

will walk away with a cool back pack filled with supplies they will need for school. Last year, more than 500 children attended so we need a lot of donations to fill that many backpacks, but I know that the community will come out and generously support this great program again.”

The Deadline for collecting donations is August 3rd. Legislator D'Amaro's office at 130 West Jericho Turnpike in Huntington Station is accepting donations between 9 am and 5 pm. Items needed include

- ◆ 4 oz Elmers Glue
- ◆ Glue Sticks
- ◆ Fiskars Children's Scissors
- ◆ Wide & Thin Crayola Washable Markers
- ◆ Folders with pockets
- ◆ Pencils
- ◆ Crayons
- ◆ Colored Pencils
- ◆ Composition Notebooks
- ◆ Pencil cases
- ◆ Index cards and boxes
- ◆ Pencil sharpeners
- ◆ Erasers
- ◆ Rulers
- ◆ Erasable pens
- ◆ Highlighters
- ◆ Book covers
- ◆ Baby wipes
- ◆ Ziploc Bags (sandwich and gallon sizes)

Anyone wishing to donate any of the supplies listed above or to send a monetary donation, please make checks payable to ***Every Child's Dream*** (put Back Pack Pirates in the Memo) and drop them off at Legislator D'Amaro's office by Aug. 3, 2012. For more information on ***Every Child's Dream*** or to volunteer to assist with this event, call (631) 365-6320.

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