

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:

CHAIRMAN– Ways & Means
VICE CHAIR – Parks & Recreation
VICE CHAIR – Economic Development
& Energy

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

The Heat is On! **Legislator D'Amaro Reminds Everyone To 'Be Pool Smart' This Summer**



Legislator D'Amaro shares important pool safety tips with students at DeLuca Elementary in North Babylon

(HUNTINGTON STATION, NY... July 16, 2013) – The heat is on and there's no better way to stay cool and comfortable than with a nice dip in the swimming pool. Before school was out and the temperature started rising, Suffolk Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station) met with students

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at John F. Kennedy Intermediate School in Deer Park and both DeLuca and Parliament Place Elementary Schools in North Babylon to discuss pool safety tips and honor those who participated in Suffolk County’s 2013 “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 drowning by creating a poster that illustrates one or more safety tips.

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 arm’s 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. Each participant received a Certificate of Distinguished Achievement. The local winner, Juliana Gentile of Deer Park, was named the All Suffolk Winner and her drawing will appear on the cover of future Suffolk County “Be Pool Smart” brochures.

“The students shared their own safety tips which, combined with the information provided by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, should go a long way toward ensuring an enjoyable and safe summer season for all,” said Legislator D’Amaro. “A few precautions now can help avoid a tragedy later.”