

NEWS FROM Legislator

Lou D'Amaro



SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
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For Immediate Release
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LEG. D'AMARO COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR NEEDY AND HOMELESS CHILDREN

Donations Needed For Annual "Back Pack Pirates" Drive

(HUNTINGTON STATION, NY... July 23, 2013) -- A fun summer day filled with adventure, mystery and 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 **The Long Island Coalition for the Homeless** who have partnered with **Holiday Magic**, **Every Child's Dream** and the **Suffolk County Legislature** to help needy children finish the summer with a blast.

According to Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station), the children will spend a fun-filled day at Dorothy P Flint 4-H Camp in Riverhead in the 7th Annual **Back Pack Pirates Summer Fest** in late August. At the end of the day, each child will receive a brand new 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 enjoy a day filled with fun camp activities including treasure hunts, swimming, nature games, a barbeque lunch, entertainment and much, much more.

(more)

“These needy children don’t often get a chance to experience this type of adventure,” said Legislator D’Amaro. “It will be a fun and educational event and every participant gets to walk away with a cool back pack filled with supplies they will need for school. Each year, hundreds of children attend so I am once again asking our local community to come out and generously support this great program.”

The deadline for making donations is August 20. 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)

For more information or to volunteer to assist with this event, call Greta Guarton at the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless at (516) 742-7770 X13.

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Suffolk County Legislator Lou D'Amaro represents the 17th Legislative District, which includes parts of Huntington, Huntington Station, South Huntington, Melville, West Hills, Cold Spring Hills, Dix Hills, Deer Park, North Babylon and West Babylon. He is chairman of the Ways & Means committee and vice chairman of both the Parks & Recreation and Economic Development & Energy committees of the Suffolk County Legislature.