

NEWS FROM Legislator

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Legislator D'Amaro Informs Residents About Suffolk County Life Safety Programs

(HUNTINGTON STATION, NY... April 14, 2014) – Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station) would like to inform local residents about several County programs that help enhance emergency response, planning and communications with Suffolk County Emergency Management Officials.

Smart911 is a service that allows residents to create a free Safety Profile for their household. This profile can include any information you personally want 9-1-1 and first responders to have if an emergency situation arises. In the event that anyone in your household dials 9-1-1 from a phone associated with your Safety Profile, the information provided is immediately displayed to the 9-1-1 call taker, enabling the operator to customize and maximize response. Go to www.Smart911.com to sign up and create a Safety Profile for your household. It's private, secure and you control what information is included.

The **Suffolk County Emergency Preparedness Registry** was developed to expand the Special Needs Registry into a County-wide registry for ALL residents. This secured encrypted registry is voluntary and free. It is designed to assist first responders and emergency planners in identifying residents that may need assistance in evacuation and special sheltering during an

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emergency so that they may develop the necessary plans. It also aids emergency planners in the development of shelter plans for those residents with Special and Functional Medical Needs, while enhancing communication to the end user and their emergency contacts.

The **Suffolk County Mass Emergency Notification System** (also known as **Code Red**) is an extremely high speed telephone communication service that delivers customized pre-recorded emergency messages directly to Suffolk County homes and businesses at the proven capacity of millions of calls per day. In addition, **Code Red** has high speed email and text messaging capability. The system incorporates a mapping tool that will allow Suffolk Emergency Managers to send notifications to specific geographic areas by selecting them on a map.

The **Pulse Point Mobile App** alerts CPR-trained bystanders to someone nearby having a sudden cardiac event so that CPR can begin immediately. The App also directs citizens, with a live map, to the nearest Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). You can download the *PulsePoint* app in the Apple App Store (for iPhone) or on Google Play (for Android phones) and, after downloading and accepting terms and conditions, select “Suffolk County” to enable CPR notifications. In the event a 911 call is received by the Suffolk Fire Rescue and Emergency Services (FRES) Department where someone nearby likely needs CPR, FRES will both dispatch emergency resources as usual and send an alert to CPR trained and registered citizens in the area, providing the location of the nearest AED. This application assists in improving Sudden Cardiac Survival rates by empowering citizens to be able to respond and help.

“While there is no substitution for immediate assistance by trained medical experts, these programs can enhance the dissemination of information and improve response times,” said Legislator D’Amaro. “In emergency situations where every second counts, they may help save a life.”

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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 Budget & Finance committee and a member of the Education & Information Technology and Human Services committees of the Suffolk County Legislature.