

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE



Office of Legislator Robert Trotta

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Contact: Susan E. Eckert
Phone: 631-854-3900
Email: susan.eckert@suffolkcountyny.gov

Ready, Set, Go... Suffolk County Legislator Robert Trotta and Sweetbriar Release Rehabilitated Hawk



Suffolk County Legislator Robert Trotta takes the red-tailed hawk from Elizabeth Santosus, of Sweetbriar, to set it free and into the wild.

(Smithtown, NY)...On his way to work at the VA Hospital in Northport, John Ortiz came upon a hawk lying on the side of the road near the back entrance to the hospital. Having met Sweetbriar Nature Center volunteers at the hospital's annual harvest fair, he called

them for guidance. Elizabeth Santosus, Chairwoman of Sweetbriar's Board of Trustees, came to assist. She brought the red-tailed hawk back to Sweetbriar where volunteers rehabilitated the hawk that had been malnourished and too weak to fly.

After three weeks of rehabilitation and plenty of food, the hawk was ready to go back into the wild. As Suffolk County Legislator Robert Trotta represents the area where the VA hospital and Sweetbriar are located, he was invited to release the hawk into its natural habitat. Mr. Ortiz came by to say good bye to the hawk and to watch it fly onto a tree branch in the woods.

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Suffolk County Legislator Robert Trotta
59 Landing Avenue, Smithtown, NY 11787
(P) 631-854-3900 (F) 631-854-3903 (W) <http://legis.suffolkcountyny.gov/>