

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

WILLIAM R. SPENCER
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATOR
EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT
15 Park Circle, Suite 209
CENTERPORT, NY 11721



CONTACT: **LIZ ALEXANDER**
CHIEF LEGISLATIVE AIDE
OFFICE: 631-854-4500

Elizabeth.Alexander@suffolkcountyny.gov

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Making a Difference Together

Legislator Spencer, Recipient of Long Islander News "Person of the Year," Shares Honor with Community

I am so thankful to have been selected as the Long Islander News 2014 "Person of the Year." Together, we have accomplished a great deal on issues affecting our health, human rights, public safety, our veterans, the environment, holding the line on taxes and much more. That has been my focus throughout my legislative career and I will continue to put all my effort into those goals throughout 2015. It is incredibly gratifying and deeply humbling to be recognized for serving the residents of the 18th Legislative District and all of Suffolk County! I share this honor with those that have taken a stand and have joined me on this journey to improve our communities.

2014 alone was action packed with doing the work of the people. Together we have made a positive impact on our future:

- We continued to protect the health of our youth by raising the age to purchase tobacco products to 21
- We banned the sale of the powdered caffeine (a deadly product) to minors
- We amended our human rights law to protect victims of domestic abuse from housing discrimination
- We continued safeguarding our waterways by banning the sale and use of hydraulic fracturing byproducts
- We gave back in meaningful ways with multiple drives including a food drive, school supply drive, personal care product drive, bone marrow and blood drive and the very successful Cell Phones for Soldiers Drive
- We have continued with our annual "Lead by Example" program that works with local businesses to give students real life work experience
- We held our first annual basketball tournament at the newly constructed neighborhood Coral Park
- Together, we have continued our message to the youth regarding the dangers of texting and driving and were able to administer the "Don't Text and Drive" pledge to high school seniors across the 18th Legislative District

- We worked collaboratively to pass a bipartisan local law, the “Steve Nelson Safety Act,” requiring carbon monoxide detectors be installed in all county facilities
- We completed the third year of our youth mentoring program at the Tri-CYA
- We allocated additional funding in our budget to address gang activity and enhance youth programs
- We allocated funding toward the dredging of Centerport Harbor
- We organized our 3rd annual Women’s Health and Information Fair

I am most proud of the trust and faith my legislative office has built within the community which is evident in the robust constituent services we provide. In 2014 alone we have assisted over 200 constituents, made up of business owners and residents, with various issues ranging from housing needs, health insurance and quality of life issues. People often turn to us for assistance and we are here to help.

You have reached out to me with your initiatives and goals throughout 2014 and I was happy to join you in more than 150 community meetings and events. This not only put a focus on our issues, but strengthened our relationships. The future of Suffolk County depends on us. Working together, we can accomplish great things!!

Thank you for standing with me throughout my tenure as Legislator. I am so grateful to work side-by-side with you in making Suffolk County a better place.

You can find the Long Islander edition out on newsstands now. You can also find the edition online at <http://www.longislandernews.com/the-long-islander-archives/persons-of-the-year-2014>

Best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year!!

Legislator William Spencer "Doc"

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