

Summer 2014

Community Update

Legislator Muratore Joins Local Elected Officials and Community Leaders as Resolution 279 is Signed by County Exec Steve Bellone



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Selden, NY –Suffolk County Legislator Tom Muratore (R-Ronkonkoma) recently joined elected officials at a press conference at Brookhaven Town Hall for the signing of Resolution 279, adopted by the Legislature last month. The bill allows the purchase of a 15+ acre parcel behind Hawkins Path Elementary School in Selden for the development of parkland for community use.



Photo (left to right): Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone, Legislator Kara Hahn, Town of Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine, County Legislator Tom Muratore, Middle Country School District Superintendent Roberta Gerold, Brookhaven Town Councilman Kevin LaValle, and Brookhaven Councilwoman Valerie Cartright.



The 4th Legislative District is located in the Town of Brookhaven, which includes Farmingville, Selden, Centereach, the Brookhaven Town portion of Ronkonkoma and parts of Coram, Holbrook, and Port Jefferson Station.

Committees:

- **Vice Chair**-Public Works, Transportation and Energy
- **Member**-Environment, Planning and Agriculture
- **Member**-Veterans and Seniors

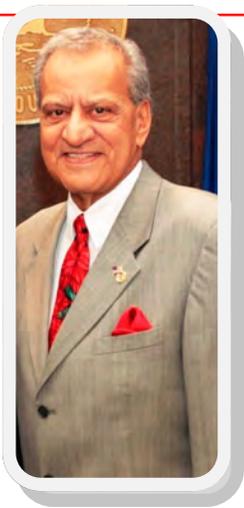
THE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE REPUBLICAN TASK FORCE ON TAXATION AND BUDGET HOSTED BY LEGISLATOR MURATORE IN CENTEREACH



Photo(Left to right): Suffolk County Legislators Kevin McCaffrey, Thomas Barraga, Tom Muratore, Tom Cilmi, John Kennedy (Caucus Leader), and Robert Trotta.

Suffolk County Legislator Tom Muratore (R-Ronkonkoma) recently hosted the second public hearing by the Republican Task Force on Taxation and Budget, which was held at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Tordik-Diederich Duffield Post No. 4927 in Centereach.

The Task Force is comprised of six members of the Suffolk County Legislature; Legislators Tom Muratore, Kevin McCaffrey, Tom Barraga (Task Force Chairman), Tom Cilmi, John Kennedy (Caucus Leader) and Robert Trotta. They listened to the community leaders and elected officials who participated and provided information and recommendations for economic stabilization in Suffolk County.



A Public Service Announcement

from

Legislator Tom Muratore:

“Safeguard Your Home”

Your home is most likely your biggest investment. As such, you need to keep it well protected so it can serve you in the years to come. Nobody wants to be the victim of a burglary.

Safeguarding your home goes far beyond installing an alarm system and keeping doors and windows locked. The Suffolk County Police Department has compiled a home security checklist that all homeowners should have in place. Don't wait until you are a victim-consider employing these useful tips before a burglar strikes. A few small investments now can prevent financial and emotional distress down the road.

HOME SECURITY CHECKLIST:

Doors

- ◆ *Door locks should be the dead bolt type.*
- ◆ *Are door jams strong and does the throw plate have 3” screws securing it?*
- ◆ *Do you have doors with glass that is within 40” of lock? If so, you may need a double cylinder dead bolt lock.*
- ◆ *Are your locks in good working order?*
- ◆ *Are hinges on the inside of your doors?*
- ◆ *Are all of your doors solid core?*
- ◆ *Do doors with no glass have a peep hole or 180 degree viewer?*
- ◆ *Have you avoided placing an extra key outside?*
- ◆ *Do your sliding glass doors have a pin or wood dowel in track?*
- ◆ *Can sliding glass doors be lifted out of the track?*
- ◆ *Have your locks been changed since you've moved in?*
- ◆ *Do not open the door to strangers. Ask for I.D. or verify their reason for being there.*

Windows

- ◆ *Double hung windows should be pinned.*
- ◆ *If you have Anderson type windows, did you remove the cranks?*
- ◆ *Are basement windows barred?*
- ◆ *Do you properly lock all first floor windows when not home or sleeping?*



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Landscaping

- ◆ Trim down high shrubs so there is no place to hide a criminal.
- ◆ Trim tree limbs away from house so they cannot be used to gain access to second floor roofs or windows.

Lighting

- ◆ Keep outside lights working properly.
- ◆ Is lighting installed properly?
- ◆ Use demand lighting that will turn on the lights when someone enters yard.

**Garage**

- ◆ Do all locks work properly?
- ◆ Keep your garage locked at all times.
- ◆ Do you have dead bolt type locks on all doors?
- ◆ Do not leave your car keys in the vehicle while parked in garage.

Vacations

- ◆ Do you have someone to pick up your mail and papers?
- ◆ Do you notify a trusted neighbor to watch your home?
- ◆ Do you have someone take care of your yard in the summer or shovel your driveway in the winter?
- ◆ Do you set your lights on a timer?

Additional

- ◆ Are bikes, ladders, and equipment kept inside and not in yard?
- ◆ Have you marked all your property with I.D.?
- ◆ While you are in the yard, do you keep front doors and windows locked?
- ◆ Do not give information over the phone to strangers.
- ◆ If you have a mailbox, is it properly secured?
- ◆ Do you keep valuables in a safe deposit box?
- ◆ Do you keep a list of emergency numbers by your phone and teach your children to use them?

These recommendations are not a guarantee that a crime will not occur. However, when followed, they can help reduce your chances of becoming a victim. For more information, contact your local Suffolk County Precinct:

4th Precinct: 854-8400

6th Precinct: 854-8600

In the event of an emergency, or if you see or even suspect a crime, dial 911.

Legislator Muratore Honors Veterans on Memorial Day Weekend



Photo captions- (Upper Left) Legislator Tom Cilmi, Islip Town Councilman Anthony Senft, Village of Islandia Mayor Allan Dorman, New York State Assemblyman Al Graf and Legislator Tom Muratore at the Islandia Memorial. (Upper Right) Legislator Muratore (third from right) and Brookhaven Town Councilman Kevin LaValle (holding flag) attend the Centereach VFW Parade and acknowledge the VFW veterans from post#4927. (Bottom) Legislator Muratore rides in style at the Centereach parade

Legislator **TOM MURATORE** (R-Ronkonkoma) spent the Memorial Day weekend honoring veterans at various community events.

On Saturday, May 24th, Muratore joined Village of Islandia Mayor Allan Dorman to honor the fallen heroes of wars past and present at the Islandia Veterans Memorial Triangle. Sunday, May 25th he participated in the Centereach VFW Post 4927 at their Annual Memorial Day parade in Centereach. And on Monday, May 26th, he attended the Memorial Day Parade in Ronkonkoma.

“I cannot think of a better way to have spent this beautiful weekend than to honor the brave men and women of the armed forces who have served our country,” stated Legislator Tom Muratore. “Many have made the ultimate sacrifice, and we must never forget the price they have paid for our country’s freedom. God bless them and the United States of America.”

Legislators Muratore and Kennedy Hold Successful Women's Resource Fair in Centereach



Photo captions: (top left): Brookhaven Town Councilman Kevin LaValle, Legislator John Kennedy, Nan Lombardi, Chair of the Suffolk County Women's Advisory Commission, Lori Abbatepaolo from Long Island 2-1-1 Database, Arlene Hoffman, Suffolk County Women's Advisory Commission, Elizabeth Malafi of the Miller Business Resource Center, Sophia Serlis-McPhillips, Director, MCPL, Lauren Auerbach, Legislative Aide, Phyllis Hill, Suffolk County Youth Board appointee, and Legislator Tom Muratore.

(top right) Legislator John Kennedy and Legislator Tom Muratore with vendors. (bottom) Legislator Muratore greets vendors.



Legislator Tom Muratore, Legislator John Kennedy, and the Middle Country Public Library recently sponsored their First Annual Women's Resource Fair at the library's Centereach location. Nearly 40 vendors participated, offering goods and services geared specifically toward women. From spa services, health and wellness, legal assistance, and financial and career planning, many spectators browsed the library floor to see what vendors had to offer.

"This is the first of what I hope to be an annual event," stated Legislator Muratore. "The Women's Resource Fair was well attended, and identified the interests of a valuable demographic in our community. I'd like to offer a special thanks to Sophia Serlis-McPhillips, Director of the Middle Country Public Library as well as her dedicated staff, Arlene Hoffman, my appointee on the Suffolk County Women's Advisory Commission, and my colleague Legislator Kennedy for making this event the success that it was."

"I want to thank Legislator Muratore, Arlene Hoffman and the Suffolk County Women's Advisory Commission for allowing me to co-host this year's Women's Resource Fair," said Legislator Kennedy. "I hope that this can be the first of many more of these type of events, not just in our districts, but across Suffolk County."



Legislator Muratore – “Be Prepared for Hurricanes”

Selden, NY – With hurricane season upon us, Legislator Tom Muratore (R-Ronkonkoma) would like to remind residents of Hurricane Preparedness. Awareness and preparation can be very important in preventing loss of life and property damage from a hurricane, as we’ve learned from Super Storm Sandy.



Know Your Risk and What to Do

- Contact your local emergency management office to learn about evacuation routes and emergency plans.
- Get additional information from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (visit fema.gov and m.fema.gov from your mobile device for information), Ready Campaign (Ready.gov) Citizen’s Corps (citizencorps.gov), the American Red Cross (redcross.org) and NOAA’s National Hurricane Center (nhc.noaa.gov).

- **Buy flood insurance.** Anyone can get flooded, even if you don’t live in a designated flood zone. There is a 30-day waiting period before activation of flood insurance policies. Homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage.
- **Inquire about emergency plans and procedures at your child’s school and at your workplace.**
- Make a family disaster plan that includes out-of-town contacts and locations to reunite if you become separated. Be sure everyone knows home, work and cell phone numbers, and how to call 9-1-1.
- Assemble a disaster supplies kit with food, water, medical supplies, battery-powered radio and NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, batteries, flashlights, and other items that will allow you to get by for 3 days after a hurricane hits.
- Gather important documents such as birth and marriage certificates, social security cards, passports, wills, deeds, and financial and insurance records. Store them in a fire and flood safe location or safe deposit box.

Prepare Your Home before the Storm

- Install permanent wooden or metal storm shutters or board up windows with 5/8” marine plywood.
- Install metal straps or hurricane clips to securely fasten your roof to the frame structure.
- Trim trees and clear rain gutters and downspouts.

Plan ahead for protection of pets and livestock. For information go to www.fema.gov and search on “Pet Owners.”

As the Storm Approaches

- Remember that a **Hurricane Watch** means the onset of hurricane conditions is possible within 36 hours; a **Hurricane Warning** means the onset of hurricane conditions is likely within 24 hours.
- Have a full tank of gas in a vehicle, cash, and your disaster supplies kit ready to go.
- Make sure every family member carries or wears identification.
- Listen to the radio or television and NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards for current information and be prepared to act quickly.
- Turn refrigerator and freezer to maximum cold and keep closed.
- Secure your boat or move it to a safer mooring.
- Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water for bathing, flushing toilets, and cleaning, but do not drink this water.
- **Secure or bring inside such outdoor items as patio furniture, kids’ slides, and power mowers.**
- Turn off propane tanks. Shut off other utilities if emergency officials advise you to do so.

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(Hurricane Preparedness-continued)

Evacuate if You:

- Are directed by local authorities to do so. Be sure to follow their instructions.
- Live in a mobile home, a high-rise building, on the coast, a floodplain, near a river, or an inland waterway, or otherwise feel you will be in danger.

If You Are Told to Evacuate:

- Turn off all utilities if authorities advise you to do so.
- **Don't delay in evacuating once you get word to leave.**
- Stick to designated evacuation routes. If you need help, this is the most likely place to find it.
- Take your most reliable vehicle; avoid taking multiple vehicles, which could contribute to gridlock.

If You Cannot Evacuate and Are Staying in Your Home:

- Go to a safe indoor place for refuge, such as an interior room, closet, or hallway. Stay downstairs only if you are not in a flood prone or storm surge area.
- Do not go outdoors during the storm, even in its early stages. Flying debris is extremely dangerous.
- Close all doors, brace external doors, stay clear of windows and keep curtains and blinds shut.
- If necessary take cover under a heavy table, or under something protective.
- **Don't be tricked by a sudden lull in the storm, it may be the "eye" passing over. The storm will resume.**

Immediately After the Storm:

Use extreme caution going out of doors. Be alert for downed power lines, broken glass, and damage to building foundations, streets and bridges, and coastal or hillside erosion.

- Keep listening to radio, TV, or NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards.
- Watch for closed roads. If you come upon a barricade or a flooded road: *Don't Drown, Turn Around.*

Be Prepared to:

- Stay on firm ground. Moving water only 6 inches deep can sweep you off your feet.
- Standing water may be electrically charged from power lines.
- Once home, check gas, water, electrical lines and appliances for damage.
- Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Never use candles or other open flames indoors.
- **When using a generator, avoid electrocution hazards by following manufacturers' instructions and standard electrical code.**
- Do not drink tap water until you know it is safe.

The Suffolk County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services' Office of Emergency Management has a wealth of information to help you and your family prepare for the upcoming hurricane season, including sheltering information, preparedness plans, weather information, and pre-registration **for people with special needs.** Go to Suffolk County's webpage www.suffolkcountyny.gov, click on Department Directory, Fire Rescue & Emergency Services, Emergency Management. For any of your legislative needs, please contact the office of Legislator Tom Muratore at 631-854-9292 or email tom.muratore@suffolkcountyny.gov.