



Suffolk County Legislator  
**TOM MURATORE**  
 Representing Suffolk's  
 Fourth District



**WINTER 2015**

## Legislator Muratore Helps Ronkonkoma Chamber of Commerce Secure a Grant for Downtown Revitalization

**Legislator Tom Muratore with  
 Ronkonkoma Chamber of  
 Commerce  
 President Denise Schwarz**



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### Committees:

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

**Selden, NY** – Legislator Tom Muratore (R-Ronkonkoma) recently co-sponsored Resolution #874 (IR#1810), adopted at the General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature on October 7<sup>th</sup>, which allocates and appropriates grant funds for the Suffolk County Downtown Revitalization Program.

Through the competitive application process, the Ronkonkoma Chamber of Commerce was allotted \$30,000 for the community. The Chamber plans to purchase and install decorative streetlights, as well as upgrading traffic signals on Hawkins Avenue from Lloyd Court to Division Street. “We’d like our downtown area safer for pedestrians and motorists, and to attract and retain more businesses in the area,” stated Denise Schwarz, President of the Ronkonkoma Chamber of Commerce. “I’d like to thank Legislator Tom Muratore for co-sponsoring this resolution.”

“I was delighted to secure County funding for a part of my district that needed attention,” stated Legislator Muratore. “Ronkonkoma is a vibrant community. The people who live and do business here will now have the means to revitalize, update and beautify. It’s a pleasure to work collaboratively with Denise and the Chamber on their many community endeavors.”



Winter is here! For tips on preparing for extreme cold and severe weather conditions, log onto: <http://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>

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.



## Legislator Muratore Receives 2014 Hero Award at the Guardians of Rescue's Paws of War Event



Photos: (Left) Legislator Tom Muratore (center) poses with Dori Scofield and Robert Misseri from Guardians of Rescue. (Right) Legislator Muratore with his wife, Linda Muratore.

**Selden, NY** –Legislator Tom Muratore (R-Ronkonkoma) recently attended the Guardians of Rescue's Paws of War Dinner Event, which was held at the Centereach VFW Hall.

The mission of Guardians of Rescue, a 501 © 3, is to facilitate and foster programs and activities that further the unique benefits of interaction between people and animals. They are all about *People Helping Animals* and *Animals Helping People*. Paws of War was created to suitably match pets, often left behind from war torn areas or United States kill shelters by pairing them with military veterans suffering from emotional effects of war such as PTSD, who seek the therapeutic and unconditional love only a companion animal can bring.

Legislator Muratore awarded Certificates of Recognition to the honorees at the event, only to discover that he too was given the 2014 Hero Award by Guardians of Rescue. "I'd like to congratulate all the honorees, and thank Guardians of Rescue for all of the work they do. As an owner of two rescue dogs, it's nice to know there is a program that helps both animals and our returning heroes of war."

## Legislator Muratore Supports the U.S. Marine Corp. Toys for Tots Drive to Help Children Have Toys for Christmas



Pictured, left to right: Gunnery Sgt. Turbeville Noriyuki, Legislator Tom Muratore, and Staff Sgt. Duehr Thorin

**Selden, NY** –Legislator Tom Muratore (R-Ronkonkoma) was recently visited by two U.S. Marines, who collected toys donated for his Toys for Tots Drive. Gunnery Sgt. Turbeville Noriyuki and Staff Sgt. Duehr Thorin were assigned with gathering local donations so that children in need will have toys in time for Christmas.

"I am grateful for the community members who so generously supported my toy drive," stated Legislator Muratore. "It was a pleasure to meet Gunnery Sgt. Noriyuki and Staff Sgt. Thorin, and personally thank them for serving our country. Not only do they protect our freedoms, but they are making the holiday season a little brighter for so many children. Wishing everybody joy and peace in the New Year!"

# Legislator Muratore Recognizes December 19th as Richard "Rees" Specht Day of Kindness



Photo (left to right): Suffolk County Legislator Tom Muratore, Samantha Specht, Richard E. Specht, Jr., and their children.

**Selden, NY** – At the December 15<sup>th</sup> General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature, Legislators Tom Muratore (R-Ronkonkoma) and Sarah Anker presented a proclamation to the Specht family of Sound Beach in memory of their young son, Richard "Rees" Edwin-Ehmer Specht.

Rees' father, Richard E. Specht, Jr. established a 501 © 3 non-profit named Rees Specht Life, an organization committed to making the world a better place by asking the community to commit random acts of kindness in his son's name.

Resolution #685, introduced by Legislator Tom Muratore and adopted by the Suffolk County Legislature on September 9, 2014, declares that December 19<sup>th</sup> be designated as the Richard "Rees" Specht Day of Kindness in Suffolk County. "That day was chosen because December 19<sup>th</sup> was Rees' birthday," stated Legislator Muratore. "To honor the memory of Rees and the kindness he engendered, Suffolk County encourages acts of kindness towards loved ones and strangers every day of the year."

*For more information, visit [www.reesspechtlife.com](http://www.reesspechtlife.com).*

## Legislator Muratore Honors Centenarian Anthony DuBois, Sr. at the November General Meeting

**Selden, NY** –At the November 18<sup>th</sup> General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature, Legislator Tom Muratore (R-Ronkonkoma) recognized a former Suffolk County employee who reached a remarkable milestone- his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Anthony DuBois, Sr., a Medford resident, was born September 27, 1914 in Dominica, West Indies. He was the third of eleven children. Anthony served with the French Army from 1939-1941, the Merchant Marines, as well as the United States Merchant Marines from 1942-1972. This span of service covered World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars. In 1953, Anthony proudly became a United States citizen.

Mr. DuBois was employed by the Suffolk County Department of Public Works from 1972 -1984. He has also been employed by New York State and Town of Brookhaven, at times holding three jobs at once. He married his first wife Katherine in 1958. Together they had a son, Anthony Jr., born in 1959. He then married Georgette in 1992. Together, their beautiful blended family includes six children, 12 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces and nephews.

"It is an honor and privilege to recognize this man, not only for reaching his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, but for his many lifelong accomplishments. His loyalty to this country and Suffolk County is apparent by his many years of service to both," commented Legislator Muratore, who presented a proclamation to Mr. Dubois, and led the entire legislative auditorium in singing "Happy Birthday" to the centenarian.



Legislator Tom Muratore (right) with Dominic DuBois, Georgette DuBois, and Anthony DuBois, Sr.

# Muratore Reminds Residents of Carbon Monoxide Safety



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, non-fire-related carbon monoxide poisoning is responsible for approximately 15,000 emergency department visits and nearly 500 deaths annually in the United States.

Carbon monoxide is produced when elements such as gas, oil, kerosene, wood or charcoal are burned. When appliances are installed and maintained properly, the CO levels aren't hazardous.

"Carbon monoxide is often called the 'silent killer,' because it cannot be seen and is odorless," stated Legislator Muratore. "At moderate levels, carbon monoxide can cause headaches, dizziness, nausea and fainting. At high levels, a person could die in a matter of minutes."

Here are some vital "do's and don't's" to ensure your family's safety when using carbon monoxide detectors in your home. Information is provided courtesy of Vision Long Island:

## **Carbon Monoxide Safety and Awareness Tips**

### **Always Do**

- Install a UL certified battery-operated or battery back-up CO detector in your home and check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall. Remember that CO detectors do not serve as smoke detectors and vice versa.
- Carefully follow manufacturers' instructions for placement, use and maintenance.
- Have a high standard CO detector fitted outside sleeping areas, and main living areas on each level of the home.
- If the detector sounds leave your home immediately and call 911. Digital models offer the advantage of being able to observe levels that are below the alarm threshold.
- Recognize symptoms and seek prompt medical attention if you suspect CO poisoning.
- Adhere to manufacturer's instructions when using appliances such as furnaces, ranges, water heaters and room heaters; engine-powered equipment such as portable generators.

### **Regularly Do**

- Have a qualified technician fuel-burning appliances and chimneys at the beginning of each heating season to make sure they are operating properly.
- Have your vents and chimney checked and cleaned annually.
- Have an energy audit of your home done every five to ten years – not only will it identify carbon monoxide leaks (even at low levels,) but an audit can also lower your utility bills by identifying ways of improving your home's energy performance.

### **Never Do**

- Never use a generator, charcoal grill, camp stove, or other gasoline or charcoal-burning device inside your home, basement, garage or outside near a window.
- Never run a car or truck inside a garage attached to your house, even if you leave the door open.
- Never burn anything in a stove or fireplace that isn't vented.
- Never heat your house with a gas stove or oven.

Never sleep in a room with an un-vented gas or kerosene space heater.