

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

**FALL 2016  
NEWSLETTER**



**Legislator Muratore 's  
Sponsored Bills:**



- **RESOLUTION NO. 604 -2016, A LOCAL LAW TO PROVIDE DESIGNATED PARKING FOR VETERANS AT COUNTY FACILITIES**
- **RESOLUTION NO. 476 -2016, DECLARING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER AS "SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST AWARENESS MONTH" IN SUFFOLK COUNTY**
- **RESOLUTION NO. 888-2016, HONORING AN AMERICAN HERO, ARMY RANGER SGT. JASON SANTORA, BY RENAMING A PORTION OF COUNTY ROAD 16**

*Right-Army Ranger Sgt. Jason Santora*



Resolution #888-2016, introduced by Legislator Tom Muratore and adopted unanimously before the Suffolk County Legislature, declared a portion of County Road 16 be renamed in honor of Army Ranger Sgt. Jason Santora. Sgt. Santora, a graduate of Sachem High School, gave his life in service to our nation on April 23, 2010 in Logar Province, Afghanistan. He was posthumously awarded the Silver Star, Purple Heart, Bronze Star Medal and the Meritorious Service Medals.

"There is no adequate way to repay Sgt. Santora for his selfless service and ultimate sacrifice," stated Legislator Muratore. "Renaming a portion of County Road 16 in his memory is a small way to say thank you and keep his memory alive."

Gary Santora, the father of Sgt. Jason Santora commented, "I'm truly honored that Legislator Muratore introduced this bill. I am so proud of my son, a true American hero. Seeing the sign that bears his name each day will remind people that freedom is not free."

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**Committees:**

- **Vice Chair**-Public Works, Transportation & Energy
- **Member**-Environment, Planning & Agriculture
- **Member**-Seniors & Consumer Protection



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, Holtsville and Port Jefferson Station.

# Legislator Tom Muratore Recognizes Selden Firefighter Robert McConville



**Legislator Tom Muratore (left) with Robert McConville of Selden**

At the October 5, 2016 General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature, Legislator Tom Muratore joined his colleagues in recognizing and presenting a proclamation to Robert McConville of Selden who recently retired as President of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York [FASNY]. Founded in 1872, FASNY represents the interests of more than 92,000 volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel in New York State.

Mr. McConville is a 30+ year member of the Selden Fire Department, and has served as Department Secretary, Treasurer, and New York State EMT for 27 years. He was elected as the Selden Fire District Commissioner in 2009 for a five year term, and then served as FASNY's President since 2014.

"I was happy to recognize and thank Robert McConville for three decades of selfless volunteer service," stated Legislator Muratore. His efforts and commitment to public safety, both in the local community and throughout New York State are greatly appreciated. I wish Mr. McConville all the best in his retirement years."

## Legislator Muratore Out and About in the Community



**Here are some recent events where Legislator Tom Muratore was spotted in his legislative district:**

Clockwise from top:

Legislator Muratore (1) at the Ronkonkoma Street Fair, (2) the Selden Senior Group, (3) Run the Farm Event at Bethel Hobbs Farm in Centereach, (4) a Ribbon Cutting for Kabobshak Mediterranean Grill in Selden, and (5) with Brookhaven Town Councilman Kevin LaValle at their Blood Drive at Ronkonkoma Fire Department.



# LEGISLATOR TOM MURATORE THANKS LOCAL BUSINESS FOR PROVIDING VETERANS PARKING



Suffolk County Legislator Tom Muratore was given a pleasant surprise while running a local errand. As he approached the Suffolk Federal Credit Union on Horseblock Road in Medford, the legislator noticed a sign designating the parking space for veterans only. This discovery was significant to Legislator Muratore because of a bill he introduced earlier this year, adopted as Local Law 21, "to provide designated parking for veterans at county facilities."

"Suffolk County has the largest population of veterans in New York State. I'd like to thank the credit union, a private company that took initiative on their own," stated Legislator Muratore. "They recognize the importance of helping and acknowledging our veterans, no matter how small a gesture, which was the intent of my bill. I hope to see other local businesses join this endeavor."

If you are a private business owner in Suffolk County with a designated veterans parking space, please send a photo of the sign with your company's name and address, and Legislator Muratore will feature it on his county web page. Email to [tom.muratore@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:tom.muratore@suffolkcountyny.gov) with "vets parking" in the subject line.

## Legislator Muratore Congratulates Dennis Sullivan, Newly Elected VFW State Commander



This past July, Legislator Tom Muratore attended an event in honor of Dennis Sullivan at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4927 in Centereach. Dennis was recently elected VFW Commander of New York, the highest elected post in the state. To commemorate the occasion, Legislator Muratore presented Dennis with a proclamation.

Mr. Sullivan joined the VFW in 1984 at Post 4927 in Centereach, where he is a Gold Legacy Life Member. He has served in many elected and appointed positions at the Post, County, District, Department and National levels. His special project is the Recycled Rides Car Program. As of today, 81 cars have been given to needy veterans. Dennis also serves on the veterans review board, giving away free homes to veterans returning from Afghanistan and Iraq.

"I consider myself fortunate to represent the community where Dennis Sullivan is active-he does more for veterans than anybody I know," stated Legislator Muratore. "It is a privilege to call Dennis my friend, and I congratulate him on his newly elected and well-deserved position as Commander of New York State."



## Legislator Muratore-“Schedule a Mammogram Today”

Recognizing October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Legislator Tom Muratore (encourages all women in recommended age and risk categories to get mammograms.

“I send this announcement out each year because it bears repeating. Many women put the health needs of family before their own. However, when you take care of yourself, you’re taking care of your family,” stated Legislator Tom Muratore. “Mammograms help detect breast cancer earlier, when treatments are more likely to be successful. I urge all women to consider their own health by scheduling routine mammograms. And men, please encourage your wives, mothers, sisters and daughters to do the same.”

If you have any questions or concerns about breast cancer, you may contact the Adelphi New York Statewide Breast Cancer Hotline and Support Program. It is comprised of specially trained volunteers to answer questions and provide emotional support. You may call them toll-free at 800-877-8077. Or, contact the American Cancer Society in Hauppauge at 631-436-7070, or nationally at 1-800-227-2345.

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## October is “SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST AWARENESS” Month in Suffolk County



Earlier this year, Legislator Tom Muratore sponsored Resolution #476, naming October as “Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness” Month in Suffolk County. It was adopted by the entire Legislature at their June 1, 2016 General Meeting.

Sudden cardiac arrest is a condition in which the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating, which prevents blood flow to the brain and other vital organs. According to the bill, symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest can be “immediate and drastic and often result in death,” and often occurs without any warning. The most common cause of sudden cardiac arrest is an arrhythmia, which is an abnormality in a person’s heart rhythm. Furthermore, risk factors for sudden cardiac arrest include a family history of coronary artery disease, smoking, high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, diabetes, obesity and a sedentary lifestyle.

“Sudden cardiac arrest claims more than 300,000 lives per year, and is the number one cause of death in women in the United States,” stated Legislator Muratore. “It’s important to increase awareness of the dangers associated with sudden cardiac arrest, so those at risk can seek professional medical care and possibly save their own life.”

# Be Prepared for Hurricanes



With hurricane season upon us, Legislator Tom Muratore would like to remind residents of Hurricane Preparedness. "Awareness and preventive measures are crucial for minimizing loss of life and property damage from a hurricane, as we've learned from past superstorms," stated Legislator Muratore.

## 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](http://fema.gov) and [m.fema.gov](http://m.fema.gov) from your mobile device for information), Ready Campaign ([Ready.gov](http://Ready.gov)) Citizen's Corps ([citizencorps.gov](http://citizencorps.gov)), the American Red Cross ([redcross.org](http://redcross.org)) and NOAA's National Hurricane Center ([nhc.noaa.gov](http://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.

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### **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](http://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.

### **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 may resume.**

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### **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 (FRES) 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 more. Visit:

<http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/FireRescueandEmergencyServices.aspx>

FRES has expanded the Special Needs Registry into a county-wide registry for ALL residents to include those with special and/or functional medical needs. This secured encrypted registry is voluntary and free. It is designed to assist first responders and emergency planners in identifying those residents that may need assistance in evacuating and special sheltering during an emergency so that they may develop the necessary plans. It will also aid 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.

To register, go to Suffolk County's webpage:

<https://oemapps.suffolkcountyny.gov/spns/>. For any of your legislative needs, please contact the office of Legislator Tom Muratore at 631-854-9292 or email [tom.muratore@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:tom.muratore@suffolkcountyny.gov).