

## COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

**KATE BROWNING**  
County Legislator, 3rd District  
Public Safety Committee, Chair



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### Media Release

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COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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## MASTIC BEACH RECOVERING ONE FAMILY AT A TIME

*Browning, Liberty Moving Help Relocate Displaced Family*



(Pictured from left to right: Liberty Movers and Storage employees Chris and Al, Legislator Kate Browning and the McInnis family standing in front of their new home after receiving donated mattresses and a sofa)

**Mastic Beach, NY** – Hundreds of families in Mastic Beach, Mastic and Shirley have been displaced by Hurricane Sandy. The impacts in the aftermath of the storm have been devastating, but the response to families in need has shown the strong resiliency of our communities, and by working together we will recover. As families begin to rebuild, many are in need of new homes, furniture and clothing. Legislator Kate Browning (WF-Shirley) has been working diligently to help all families that have come to her for help.

One such family, the McInnis's of Mastic Beach, lost their rental home and all of their belongings in the storm, but through Legislator Browning's efforts and the goodwill of Liberty Moving and Storage and the Islip Housing Authority, the family has been comfortably relocated in a new rental with donated furniture in Mastic Beach.

“This family has endured the ultimate tragedy, but within weeks the public and private sectors were able to come together and get them back on their feet,” stated Legislator Kate Browning. “Mrs. McInnis represents everything that is great about Suffolk County residents, and I am thrilled we were able to help her and her family so quickly. It would not have been possible without the generous donation of services and mattresses from Liberty Moving and living room furniture from the Islip Housing Authority.”

“I want to thank everyone for all their help during this difficult time,” stated Valerie McInnis. “My family lost everything, but with the help of Legislator Browning and Liberty Moving we are able to start rebuilding again.”

Valerie McInnis is an employee at the JJ Foley Skilled Nursing Facility in Yaphank. Even though her family of six was displaced and living in a local motel after the storm, Valerie still came to work at the nursing home during and after super storm Sandy to assist the 150 plus evacuees the came to the special needs shelter.

“Valerie McInnis came to the aid of those in need even after her own family was displaced by the storm and had nothing,” concluded Legislator Browning. “Her selfless act to put others before herself is a testament to the workers at the J.J. Foley Skilled Nursing Facility and residents of Mastic Beach. I knew I had to do all I can to help her family in their time of need.”

The McInnis family is still in need of clothing, kitchen appliances and bedding. Any donations that may be available can be brought to Legislator Browning’s attention at 631-852-1300.

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