The 15th Legislative District Office has moved to Wyandanch Plaza. The new address is 44 Station Drive. The office phone number, 631-854-1111, remains the same. As your Suffolk County Legislator and Presiding Officer, it is my privilege to share information with you about the many services and resources available to Suffolk County residents, so please peruse my latest newsletter and do not hesitate to call or stop by. Your concerns and feedback are important to me, and as always, my staff and I look forward to assisting you.

DuWayne Gregory, Presiding Officer
Suffolk County Legislature

Suffolk County Grant Awarded to Copiague

Presiding Officer Gregory was joined by members of the Copiague Chamber of Commerce to announce a $50,000 Suffolk County Downtown Revitalization Grant awarded to Copiague. The town of Babylon will serve as the lead Agency.

For the past 15 years, Suffolk County has made grant money available through the Department of Economic Development to enrich our downtowns, promote local economic growth and help our county to continue to thrive. This grant offers local municipalities and community groups an opportunity to partner on projects that will have a sustainable impact on downtowns and business districts. The grant will be used for infrastructure and streetscape improvements on Great Neck Road.
VFW Post #361 Hosts Veterans Services Seminar

Presiding Officer Gregory partnered with Wyandanch Memorial VFW Post #361 to host a Veterans Services Presentation with the Suffolk County Veterans Service Agency. Veterans and their families received detailed information about the services and benefits available to them, and how the agency can assist in obtaining them. More of these events will be held in the coming months. For immediate assistance, please call 631-853-VETS to speak with a Veterans Service Officer.

Local Naval Sea Cadet Honored

Presiding Officer Gregory was on hand to congratulate and present a proclamation to Lindenhurst resident and U.S Naval Sea Cadet Chief Petty Officer Greyson D. Sladic during his chiefs’ pinning ceremony at the Copiague Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9482.

The U.S Naval Sea Cadet Corps (USNSCC) is a youth organization supported by the US Navy and the US Coast Guard. Greyson completed several training and correspondence courses to join a very select group of cadets with the rank of Chief Petty Officer. There are currently roughly 14,000 cadets nationwide enrolled in the USNSCC and less than 0.5 percent of members earn this title.

#StockTheSocks Holiday Drive Nets Over 400 Pairs of Socks for Local Youth

During the holiday season, many clothing and toy donation drives take place, but socks are a major need that often goes overlooked. With this in mind, Presiding Officer Gregory partnered with Majority Leader Kara Hahn and the Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare to hold #StockTheSocks, a collection drive seeking donations of new socks for middle and high school-aged youth.

#StockTheSocks was organized by two college interns at Presiding Officer Gregory’s district office, Catherine Dunne and Rachael Torella. Over 400 pairs of socks were collected at numerous drop-off locations throughout Suffolk County. Donated socks were sorted and brought to Hope for Youth, where they will be distributed to young people who enter the organization’s homeless shelter.
**Upcoming Events:**

**Medicaid/Medicare Planning**

Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory is hosting a brief presentation to assist in planning for future healthcare needs. This workshop is for adult children of aging parents and family members as well as seniors and individuals approaching retirement. The presentation will discuss the basics about healthcare, benefits and available resources. All are welcome. Please call 631-854-1111 for further information.

**Annual Property Tax Grievance Forums**

In an effort to ensure that residents are aware of their right to challenge their property tax assessment, Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory is once again partnering with New York State Department of Taxation and Finance to present a pair of informational forums on the property tax grievance process. The forums focus on breaking down the steps by which residents can challenge the assessed value of their homes into an easy-to-understand, manageable process. For dates and locations, please call 631-854-1111. For additional information on the property tax grievance process, visit [townofbabyon.com](http://townofbabyon.com).

**Assisting Individuals and Families Affected by Substance Abuse**

Presiding Officer Gregory was honored by CN Guidance & Counseling Services at their annual Taste of Hope gala for his dedication to helping individuals and families affected by substance abuse and mental health issues, directly in line with the nonprofit’s mission.

Last year, Presiding Officer Gregory secured funding for Project Connect, a collaboration between CN Guidance and Northwell Health to immediately provide resources and referrals to patients in an emergency room following an opioid overdose. Call CN Guidance at 631-396-6111 to be connected with a counselor.

**Amityville Fire Department Hosts Car Seat Inspection Event**

Presiding Officer Gregory recently hosted a car seat inspection event at the Amityville Firehouse, teaming up with Amityville Fire and Police Departments, Suffolk County Police Department, Toys of Hope, AAA Northeast and EAC Network. Certified technicians provided free safety checks to assist parents and caregivers to correctly install and use child safety seats.

**Attention Parents: Test, Don’t Guess**

Drug/Alcohol Test Kits Are Available

I continue to support parents and children with “**Test, Don’t Guess**,” a program provided by Sheriff Toulon to raise awareness about teen alcohol and drug consumption. Drug and alcohol test kits are provided by the office of the Suffolk County Sheriff, free of charge to parents and guardians through my Hauppauge and Amityville offices as well as legislative district offices countywide. For more information, please visit: [https://suffolkcountysheriffsoffice.com/straight-talk-about-drugs](https://suffolkcountysheriffsoffice.com/straight-talk-about-drugs).
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For email updates, please contact: Michael.Madia@suffolkcountyny.gov