Farmingville, NY - Earlier this month, Councilwoman Valerie M. Cartright participated in the annual Nuclear Medicine Week Fun Walk in East Setauket. The purpose of the one mile long walk was to raise awareness about Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging techniques used by health care professionals in the diagnosis and treatment of many illnesses.

Among the walk participants were Dr. Peter Bruno, Medical Director of the Nuclear Medicine Department, Cardiologist, Dr. Michael Cesa, Katie VanBuren, Practice Administrator, and Mary Ciervo, Department Technical Director. Ms. Ciervo has been organizing the walk for four years.

"I appreciated the opportunity to participate in this walk for an extremely important cause. It is my hope that we will continue to raise public and community awareness about the importance of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging and I look forward to participating again next year," stated Councilwoman Cartright.

"I am thrilled that Councilwoman Cartright was able to join us at North Suffolk Cardiology's Nuclear Medicine Week Walk," stated Ms. Ciervo. "We gathered together to educate our community about the field of Nuclear Medicine and medical molecular imaging and its importance in healthcare. The money that is raised from this event is donated by North Suffolk Cardiology to the Professional Development and Education Fund which was created in 2001 by the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Technologist Section to provide a forum in which corporate entities could contribute financial support to technologist related programs and activities."

Hosted by the North Suffolk Cardiology Nuclear Medicine Department, Stony Brook Medicine, the event included complimentary breakfast treats for walkers, provided by Stone Soupe of East Setauket. The restaurant has generously supported the walk since the first year. In addition, over 20 handmade themed baskets were raffled off with the proceeds going to the department. Most of the baskets were made by individual teams within the department. Councilwoman Cartright was able to pay it forward by bidding on and winning a basket with a breast cancer survivor theme which she donated to a survivor/participant at a Town of Brookhaven "Turn the Town Pink" Breast Cancer Awareness seminar.