Farmingville, NY - On Friday, August 15, 2014, Supervisor Ed Romaine and Councilwoman Connie Kepert attended the Homecoming Celebration for Sgt. Kurt Schramm of the United States Marine Corps at Bartlett Pond Park in Middle Island. Sergeant Schramm, a 2008 Longwood High School graduate, was deployed to Afghanistan in September 2011 as a part of the CLB-1's wrecker section in charge of maintaining and operating the Marine Corps' Heavy Recovery vehicles, the M88A1 Hercules Vehicles. He was honorably discharged from 29 Palms, California this summer after two tours in Afghanistan. Sergeant Schramm's name appears on the Longwood Global War on Terror Memorial at Bartlett Pond Park. The memorial is dedicated to the brave men and women from Longwood who have served our nation in Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Joining in Friday evening's homecoming celebration were the Middle Island, Coram and Ridge Fire Departments, the local VFW, members of the Longwood Alliance, and Middle Island Pizza, which graciously donated dinner.

"It was an honor to join in the celebration welcoming Sgt. Schramm back home and I thank him for serving our country in defense of freedom," said Supervisor Romaine. "The men and women of the armed forces deserve all the accolades we can give them when they return, but what matters most is that they are safely back with their loved ones. I wish Sgt. Schramm and his family the best of luck in the future."

"Kurt Schramm is a Marine who served two tours of duty in Afghanistan and was recently honorably discharged. He arrived back home on Friday and, thanks to his wonderful parents, girlfriend, Stephanie Noulis, and the organizational abilities of Ms. Gail Bailey, his welcome home was nothing less than outstanding," stated Councilwoman Kepert. "The entire community came out to welcome Kurt home and thank him for his service. It was a wonderful home town event for a home town hero."

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