

Supervisor Lesko and Councilwoman Bonner Show Support for "Not on Your Life Program"

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Program seeks to end sale of alcohol and tobacco to minors



Pictured from left to right are Deputy Superintendent of Eastern Suffolk BOCES Dr. Julie Lutz; Suffolk County Police 7th Precinct Officer Daley; Suffolk County Legislator Sarah Anker; Kevin McCarrick, owner of McCarrick's Dairy; Supervisor Mark Lesko, Councilwoman Jane Bonner; Principal of Shoreham-Wading River High School Dan Holtzman; Assistant Principal of Rocky Point High School Susann Crossan; and ACES Project Director Lucille Buergers.

Farmingville, NY - On March 3, Supervisor Mark Lesko and Councilwoman Jane Bonner were on hand to help kick off the "Not on Your Life" program, which asks local businesses to sign a pledge not to sell alcohol and tobacco products to minors. The first local business to agree to the pledge was McCarrick's Dairy in Rocky Point. "Not on Your Life" is part of a larger effort called the Alcohol Coalition of Eastern Suffolk (ACES), which is sponsored by the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Student Assistance Program. The ACES project is funded by a grant from the United States Department of Education.

"It is vitally important that we do everything we can to make sure that our children aren't exposed to harmful products, which can lead to high risk behavior," said Supervisor Mark Lesko, "I'm proud to stand by ACES in their mission to get local businesses on record to say that they will be part of the effort to keep alcohol and tobacco out of the hands of our younger residents."

"We must continue to increase awareness about the dangers of underage drinking and smoking not only to minors, but also the businesses that sell these products," said Councilwoman Bonner, "I thank Kevin McCarrick and everyone at McCarrick's Dairy for signing the pledge and committing to this important cause."

As part of the program, teams of volunteers will reach out to vendors in the Rocky Point and Shoreham-Wading River area and ask them to agree not to sell alcohol and tobacco products to minors. These teams are made up of individuals from non-profit organizations, local government leaders, law enforcement members, parents, students, faith-based organizations, and local businesses. The teams will also be taking notice of the location of alcohol and tobacco advertisements in relation to schools in playgrounds. Local businesses will be encouraged to display posters that show they do not support the sale of these products to underage customers.

For more information about the "Not on Your Life" program, please contact Lucille Buegers, ACES Project Director, at the Eastern BOCES Student Assistance Office at (631) 289-0078.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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