## Romaine, Losquadro, Panico Celebrate 125th Anniversary of Center Moriches Fire Department

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**Farmingville, NY -** Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine was joined by Highway Superintendent Dan Losquadro and Councilman Dan Panico in celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the Center Moriches Fire Department.

The first meeting of the Center Moriches Fire Department was organized on February 13, 1888 by John L. Havens, a local merchant who operated a general merchandise store, and later became a New York State Senator. The meeting was held in Elbert Ruland's Tin Shop, where the plans for the formation of the Hook & Ladder Co. were discussed. The first firehouse was built in 1889 at no cost to the taxpayers on the corner of Clinton Street and Main Street. This original firehouse may still be seen at the Fireman's Memorial Park in Ridge, where it is now used as a museum.

Pictured at the celebration are (I. to r.): Highway Superintendent Dan Losquadro; Councilman Dan Panico; NY State Senator Ken LaValle; County Clerk Judy Pascale, who presented the fire department with a copy of the original incorporation paperwork; and Supervisor Ed Romaine.

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