

Councilman Panico plays 3 on 3 basketball with local youths at the opening of the 2011 Safe Summer Youth Program in Mastic

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Mastic, NY - On Wednesday, July 6th Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico laced up his Nike's and played three on three basketball with the local youths from the Mastic/Shirley area to kick-off the 2011 Safe Summer Youth Program at the newly improved Mastic Recreational Complex across from William Floyd High School.

"I am pretty certain that the kids were pleasantly surprised to be able to play pick-up basketball against their Councilman," commented Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico. "I have placed a high priority on improving the parks and recreational opportunities in my entire district and I am proud to say that this new complex boasts a beautiful Aquatic Center, Keith Romaine Memorial Skate Park, and newly constructed basketball courts on which we played last Wednesday evening."

This site previously was the home of only the Mastic Pool, has been transformed into a recreational complex directly across from William Floyd High School.

"Since taking office a year ago, I worked hard to put everything in place to move this program into the center of the community and away from Smith Point County Park where despite the County's best efforts, the mosquitoes severely curtailed making this program the best that it could be. I have to thank everyone from the Suffolk County Police Department, Brookhaven Town Youth Bureau, and Parks Department for coming together to do something great for the youth of my district."

The Safe Summer Youth Program runs from July 6th through August 19th at the Mastic Recreational Complex on Wednesday through Friday nights from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. It is supervised by the SCPD and Brookhaven Town Staff.

"Finally, I want to thank my basketball teammates, Park Commissioner Ed "the natural" Morris and Chief of Operations Matthew "the spider" Miner who came down during a warm and humid evening. Despite having twice the average age of the kids that challenged us, we held our own and it was a fun night for all," concluded Panico.

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