

Supervisor Romaine to Launch "Red Ribbon Week" During North Brookhaven Community Health Coalition Meeting on October 23

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Week-long campaign helps to raise awareness of drug prevention and education

Farmingville, NY - On October 23, Supervisor Ed Romaine will show his support for reducing drug and alcohol abuse by attending a meeting of the newly formed North Brookhaven Community Health Coalition to launch "Red Ribbon Week." The meeting will be held at the Port Jefferson Station Boys and Girls Club located at 324 Jayne Blvd. The coalition, whose mission is to help youth make good choices and encourage a drug free community, is a partnership between the Town of Brookhaven Youth Bureau and the Boys and Girl's Club of Suffolk County.

The Red Ribbon campaign was started in 1985 after drug traffickers in Mexico City kidnapped and murdered DEA agent Kiki Camarena. This tragic event began the continuing tradition of displaying Red Ribbons as a symbol of intolerance towards the use of drugs. It is now the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the nation. Each year, from October 23 through October 31, the campaign reaches millions of young people across the United States to help empower communities and individuals to take a stand for drug prevention and education.

The 2013 theme for Red Ribbon Week is "A Healthy Me is Drug Free." The campaign's goals are to raise awareness and promote the education of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use/abuse and encourage the implementation of effective strategies throughout the school and community that support and promote healthy, drug-free lifestyles. As part of Red Ribbon Week, the Town of Brookhaven is encouraging its own employees to wear red rubber bracelets imprinted with "TOB Red Ribbon Week" in support of substance abuse prevention. The bracelets are being donated by the Youth Bureau.

For more information on Red Ribbon Week, please visit www.RedRibbon.org .

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