

Supervisor Romaine Launches "Red Ribbon Week" October 23 to October 31 To Encourage a Drug Free Community

posted on 10/22/2014 5:09:49 PM

October 22, 2014

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

Farmingville, NY - On October 23, Supervisor Ed Romaine will further his efforts in reducing drug and alcohol abuse by continuing his support of the North Brookhaven Community Health Coalition and launching "Red Ribbon Week." The coalition's mission is to help youth make good choices and encourage a drug free community. The next scheduled meeting is on November 12 at 6:45 pm at the Boys and Girls Club located at 324 Jayne Boulevard in Port Jefferson Station.

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 2014 theme for Red Ribbon Week is "Love Yourself, Be 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. These can be obtained in the Youth Bureau office at Town Hall. There will also be a resource table located in the main lobby of Town Hall with information on substance abuse for individuals and families. Free drug testing kits continue to be available in the Youth Bureau office.

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

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